

CVAS Big Bend National Park Outing

Join CVAS members for an outing on **March 6-7. We will camp at Chisos Basin Campground** on Friday night, with a pot luck group meal on Saturday night. Saturday morning, a trip is planned to Swirl Tenaja (tin-ah-hah), approximately 18 miles west of Panther Junction. A tenaja is a natural or geologic cistern which retains water. This large site has 350 features and is not known to the public. A national park archeologist noted the most post hole mortars on a single site he has seen. There is not a trail, so from the paved highway, we will take an easy, flat cross-country hike for 7/10 mile.

Saturday afternoon, we will travel to Study Butte to private property and climb up to several rock shelters. If time allows, a side trip may be made to nearby Indian Head Springs, where the easy walking trail is approximately 1/4 mile roundtrip. See the Dec CVAS newsletter for a detailed site description of this large and complex site.

Sunday morning, a cross-country moderately physical hike will be made to Neville Springs Cavalry Outpost, near Panther Junction. Other possibilities are to hike the Lost Mine or Window Trail, near Chisos Basin, or stop and make a short hike across from Persimmon Gap Ranger Station to observe geologic formations on the trip out of the park. As usual, sturdy hiking boots, walking stick, and a pack for carrying water and snacks is recommended.

For details, call Jack Woodrow 325-942-9153