

Results of 2020 Saguaro Census on Plot 23, Rincon Mountains

Dale's Dedicated Cacti Counters, January 25th, 2020

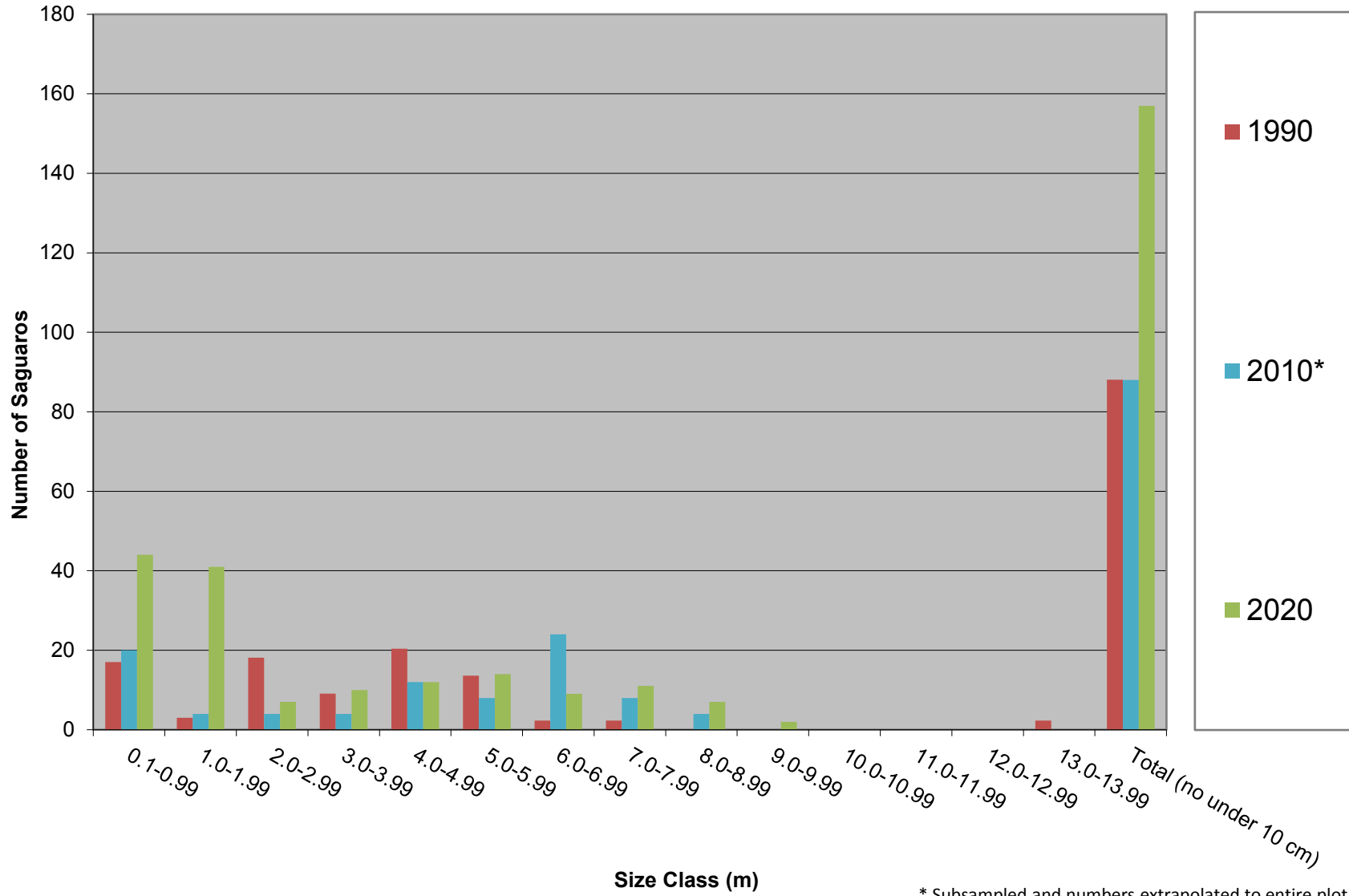


This plot was inspired by Dale Turner (left side of photo), who co-led the 2000 Saguaro Census with Carianne Campbell. Dale and Carianne turned this biological monitoring effort into the Citizen Science project that it is today, and they continue to help bring great volunteers to the park. On January 25 we had a small but enthusiastic multi-generational group that range from high school students to senior citizens.

Plot 23 is one of the most difficult plots in the Saguaro Census, on the side of a steep canyon far from any trail. This group completed about 1/3 of it on January 25th. We brought out a group of staff to finish the plot on March 21st.

This is the first the plot has been fully resurveyed since it's establishment in 1990. In 2010, due to time constraints, we subsampled this plot (surveying only ¼). Compared to the 1990 data, this plot has close to double the number of saguaros. In 1990 there were a total of 88 saguaros documented and this year, we counted and measure 159! The largest differences are seen in the smallest height classes.

Saguaro Plot #23



* Subsampled and numbers extrapolated to entire plot

