

Results of 2020 Saguaro Census on Plot 34, Tucson Mountains

Adventure Scientists, January 18th, 2020



One the second of two days with Adventure Scientists, we surveyed plot 34, one of the most difficult plots in the Tucson Mountains because it is on two sides of a steep canyon. The plot has a lot of loose rocks so footing was an issue, but our group was sure-footed and fantastic in every way. Thanks to their skills we were able to complete the plot in a single day!

This beautiful plot has more than 325 saguaros. The number dipped during the last survey in 2016, probably due to death of older individuals after a major freeze in 2011, but is now back up to nearly what it was in 2010. As in most plots in the park, overall there has been a great increase since it was first surveyed in 1990. If you look at the numbers on the left side of the graph on the next page, you can see that many of the saguaros on this plot are younger and there is a very wide size/age distribution, which suggests a pretty healthy population.

Saguaro Plot #34

