

## Results of 2020 Saguaro Census on Plot 39, Tucson Mountains

Adventure Scientists, January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020



A group of volunteers from Adventure Scientists came to the park for two days on January 17-18. On day one we nearly completed Plot 39, a tough plot with lots of saguaros near Picture Rocks Road. We are so grateful for these folks who were strong in the field and learned very quickly – we filled out 29 data sheets and think we counted more saguaros than on any other survey this year! We were really pleased to find a few small ones. The plot was completed on January 23 by the Arizona Conservation Corps.

This plot has seen increases in the number of saguaros since the first survey in 1990. In 1990, there were 417, in 2010, there was 715, and this year, we found 776. In comparison to the 2010 data, we observe an increase in nearly all of the height classes except for the under 1m category. Though we would like to see increases in the shortest height class, we can at least say that there is some recruitment over the last 10 years (germination of saguaros) and that the saguaros that were present in 2010 are surviving and growing (hence the increasing numbers in the larger height classes).

### Saguaro Plot #39

