



Saguaro National Park News Release

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Saguaro National Park Prepares to Open New Section of the Carrillo Trail in the Rincon Mountain District (east)

Tucson, AZ--Saguaro National Park will open the newly re-routed section of the Carrillo Trail, located in the Cactus Forest area of the Rincon Mountain District (east) on Wednesday February 19, after the holiday weekend.

The previous Carrillo trail was in degraded condition and un-suitable for rehabilitation due to its location and orientation up the steep terrain.

“The steep portion of the old trail was deeply rutted because the trail tracks directly up a hill, without switchbacks to divert water off the path,” according to Brad Shattuck, Facilities Manager for Saguaro National Park. “This rutting increases erosion, decreases water quality, isn’t sustainable, and isn’t pleasant to walk in, especially when wet”.

Trail crews have been working for two weeks to prepare the new trail, which is located just to the east of the existing trail. The reroute of the Carrillo Trail will be 0.7 miles in length and provide more variety in scenery, and a more pleasant hiking, riding, and trail running experience.

The old trail will be closed and re-vegetated in order to stabilize area and prevent additional erosion when the re-routed section opens.

For more information on the change, please visit, www.nps.gov/sagu.

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