

Sky Island Science Investigators – Species, Slope, & Soil Follow-up Analysis

Plot # _____

Journal Writing:

List three facts you learned about Tumamoc during your field class.

Write a short description about the scientific work you did during your field class.

Describe and draw each plant species within your plot. Did the plants in your plot look healthy? Why or why not? What might cause stress in plant species (i.e: not enough water, animal disturbances, ETC)?

Analysis:

1. Graph your data on an x-y graph, where x axis is the plant species and the y axis is the number.
2. What are the most abundant/scarce species in each plot? What factors do you think contribute to the abundance or scarcity? Does your soil and slope analysis support your theory? Why or why not?
3. Tumamoc is the world's oldest restoration ecology site, where nature has been permitted to re-inhabit the landscape, without human disturbance since 1903. Describe any animal disturbances you observed within your plots. Where the disturbances adjacent to any plant species? If so, which ones? Why might particular animal species have their homes close to plants?
4. Vegetation and slope stability are interrelated by the ability of the plant life growing on slopes to both promote and hinder the stability of the slope. What is the average slope of your plot?
5. Compare your data with the other student's data. What conclusions can you draw about the differences and similarities between the plots?