

# CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2005 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

Hillary Crouch; Tor Skeen; Jordan Vieira

**Project Number** 

**J0908** 

**Project Title** 

**How Clean Is Your Water?** 

#### **Abstract**

## **Objectives/Goals**

Our project was to see how water quality changes in a pristine mountain stream as it travels through elevations, distance from source, and through populated areas.

#### Methods/Materials

Water conductivity was measured over a variety of points along the Kaweah River. The points represented stream conductivity over elevational change and distance from source. The points began inside Sequoia National Park and sampled the stream through a local town, man made reservoir and ended in the San Joaquin Valley.

#### **Results**

When we got to lower elevations and farther from the source conductivity increased significantly between each sampling point. The largest increases occurred just down stream from the town and at the reservoir.

### **Conclusions/Discussion**

Our conclusion is that the water quality degrades as it travels through elevation, farther from its source with significant quality changes as it travels through populated areas.

## **Summary Statement**

Testing water purity through conductivity.

### Help Received

Partner's parent loaned us equipment to test conductivity and showed us how to use it, and helped with graphs. My parent showed me how to make maps on computer.