

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2013 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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Project Number

S1199

Project Title

Bioremediation in the Santa Ana River

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

My objective was to determine if bioremediation occurs in the riparian zone of the Santa Ana River and if there is a seasonal difference.

Methods/Materials

I went to four specific locations along 75 miles of the Santa Ana River and collected water samples in all four spots in both the summer and winter. I used test kits to measure levels of iron, phosphate and nitrate, among other things. I also used B.A.R.T. test kits to measure levels of nitrifying and denitrifying bacteria.

Results

Water tested in the riparian zone proved to have the lowest levels of contaminants. In the summer, the warmer temperatures aided bioremediation.

Conclusions/Discussion

Riparian zones play an important role in bioremediation and should be expanded and/or developed near the ocean as well as in places like the concrete-lined LA River.

Summary Statement

The role of riparian zones and the associated bacteria in the bioremediation of the Santa Ana River.

Help Received

Parents drove me to locations and purchase testing materials.