



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2005 PROJECT SUMMARY**

Name(s) Chelsey M. Bittar	Project Number J0606
Project Title Nitrates from Reservoirs to Your Faucet	
Abstract Objectives/Goals My objective was to discover the drinking water source with the highest nitrate level. I hypothesized that Lake Hodges would have the highest nitrate level due to the fact that its sole source of water is run-off. Methods/Materials Three local water sources were tested, 21 trials each, using a nitrate color chart test kit bought at a local fish store. I took a sample of water and added nitrate test powder. The test powder reacted with the nitrates in the water and changed the color of the water if nitrates were present. I compared the color of the water to the color chart to determine the nitrate level. This process was completed over a two week period. Results Results showed that Lake San Vicente had the highest level of nitrates. Its nitrate level was 7.5 ppm. Tap water had the lowest nitrate level with 2 ppm. Lake Hodges had a 5 ppm nitrate level. For water to be drinkable, the nitrate level must be no more than 10 ppm. Conclusions/Discussion The results of this experiment did not support my hypothesis. In conducting this experiment, I learning about the affects of nitrates on people and nature.	
Summary Statement This experiment was conducted to discover the nitrate levels of three local water sources.	
Help Received My father helped obtain water samples. My mother helped type the report. My teacher, Ms. Gross, helped with organization and the presentation.	