

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2006 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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Project Number

S1915

Project Title

Catostomus santaane: The Santa Ana Sucker

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

Our Project was to determine if the Santa Ana River is suitable for the Santa Ana Sucker fish based on the dissolved oxygen content, pH, and temperature compared to the controlled artificial stream. We believe that the Santa Ana River does not correspond with that tested in the artificial stream.

Methods/Materials

We tested three different locations; two different spots of the Santa Ana River and one in the artificial stream at the Riverside Water District. At each location we used three different probes connected to a graphing calculator that measured dissolved oxygen content, pH, and temperature. We tested six different locations at each site and used test tubes to take samples of the water from each area of the various sites.

Results

The average pH from the first sampling site was almost identical to the average at the second sampling site (control). The temperature was ideal throughout all sampling (under 30 degrees C). The dissolved oxygen was significantly less at the first sampling site compared to the other two.

Conclusions/Discussion

The average pH from the first sampling site was almost identical to the average at the second sampling site (control). The temperature was ideal throughout all sampling (under 30 degrees C). The dissolved oxygen was significantly less at the first sampling site compared to the other two.

Summary Statement

Our project was to determine whether or not the Santa Ana River is a suitable habitat for the Santa Ana Sucker fish based on dissolved oxygen content, pH, and temperature.

Help Received

Bonnie Nash at the Orange County Water District helped us get into the sites and supervised testing.