



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2007 PROJECT SUMMARY**

Name(s) Michelle A. Stukenberg	Project Number J1435
Project Title What's in Your Ocean?	
Abstract Objectives/Goals My goal for my project was to find out how polluted the local beaches were. Also, if the pollution or bacteria in the water is harmful to humans. Methods/Materials First, I gathered water from the twelve different beach locations. Next, I put the water samples in Petri dishes with sterile cotton swabs. Then I put them into a cabinet in my garage. I would then watch them, log how the bacteria changed, and take pictures. Finally, when I was done logging my data, I disposed the Petri dishes. I used 12 Petri dishes, 10 different ocean water samples, and 10 sterile plastic containers to collect my water samples. Results My results were as I expected. There was a large amount of bacteria in my ocean samples. After I had finished my 7 day logging, I took samples of the bacteria and put it under a microscope. What I saw in the bacteria from the Huntington Beach Pier- After Rain was disturbing, I saw Fecal Coliform. This kind of bacteria proves that if the bacteria levels get high enough the bacteria can cause serious illnesses. Conclusions/Discussion I concluded that our oceans from Huntington Beach Pier to Balboa Pier are very polluted and full of bacteria. Also, if we don't do anything to reduce the bacteria amount in our oceans; they will become so polluted with bacteria that they will become untouchable. Finally, if everyone were to know about the conditions of our ocean water, I believe that more people would try and help to stop the continual growth of bacteria.	
Summary Statement My project is about ocean water bacteria and pollution, and whether or not it hurts the human body.	
Help Received My father drove me to the different beaches to get my water samples.	