

Heal the Ocean Water Sampling

For several years, Heal the Ocean has conducted widespread water sampling on South Coast beaches from Goleta Beach to Carpinteria. Samples were analyzed for bacteroides (enteric virus) and human enterovirus (Hepatitis A) by Dr. Jed Fuhrman, McCulloch-Crosby Chair in Marine Biology, University of Southern California. The results of those analyses are shown below.

It is interesting to note that in several cases there was a positive result for Hepatitis A., yet there was a negative result for enteric bacteria. In other words, there may be viruses present in the ocean water even when evidence of fecal bacteria is not found. This is important because the current standards for beach closures to protect human health are based only on the presence of fecal indicator bacteria and not on the presence of viruses.

	Hepatitis A						Enteric Bacteria					
	Summer 2005	Summer 2001	Winter 2000	Summer 2000	Winter 1999	Fall 1999	Summer 2005	Summer 2001	Winter 2000	Summer 2000	Winter 1999	Fall 1999
Arroyo Burro Beach	neg	pos	neg	neg	neg	neg	neg	neg	neg	neg	pos	neg
Arroyo Burro Creek	neg	neg					neg	neg				
Butterfly Beach	neg	pos	neg	pos	neg		neg	neg	neg	neg	pos	
Carp State Beach	neg	neg	neg	pos	neg		neg	neg	neg	neg	pos	
El Estero		neg	pos			pos		pos				pos
Goleta West						neg						pos
Goleta East						pos						neg
Goleta Beach	neg	neg	neg	neg	neg		neg	pos	neg	neg	neg	
Golita Sanitary District		neg				neg		pos				pos
Golita Slough	neg	neg					neg	neg				
Hope Ranch Beach	neg	neg		neg	neg	neg	neg	neg		neg	neg	neg
Hope Ranch Culvert	neg						neg					
Hope Ranch Creek					neg	pos				neg	neg	
Leadbetter Beach	neg	pos	neg	neg	neg	pos	neg	pos	neg	neg	neg	pos
Summerland Beach	neg	pos	neg	pos	neg		neg	neg	neg	neg	pos	
Mission Creek Beach	neg			pos		neg	neg		neg			pos
Mission Creek					neg						pos	
Mirimar/Hammonds	neg						neg					
Haley Drain	pos						neg					
Mission Creek at Gutierrez	neg						neg					
Old Mission Creek	neg						neg					