

Project Information for the Freshwater Sponges Project

Project Details

Principal Investigator: Emily Stuart

Project Description: Inventory of park freshwater sponges

Project Dates: **Start Date:** 6/1/2014 **End Date:**

Protocol: Sponge searches involved looking at large stream rocks. Portions of sponges are removed by scraping, placing in jars and/or vials and identified in the lab.

Project Notes: This is a new group of animals never officially found in the park waters before. They are in the phylum Porifera. Most species are marine. The class Demospongiae inhabits fresh waters. Hopefully this is only the beginning of a thorough investigation into the park sponge fauna.

Summary: This year (2014) LMU student, Emily Stuart and her advising professor, Dr. John Copeland, decided that there was enough cause to do a search through the park's warmer waters to find the elusive freshwater sponge. After searching weeks they were finally successful in one watershed.

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Data Summary

Data Collection Year(s): 2014 to 2014

Number of Sites Sampled:	2
Number of Samplings:	2
Number of Orders Identified:	1
Number of Families Identified:	1
Number of Species Identified:	2
Number of Specimens Identified to Species:	2
Number of Specimens not Identified to Species:	0
Total Number of Individuals Counted (actual or estimated):	12
Number of Genera Identified:	2
Percentage of Major Watersheds Sampled:	2 %