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Students share Salton Sea research

Teens submit ideas for solving environmental health problems

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Cathedral City High School students showed off their expertise Tuesday on the Salton Sea.

The Salton Sea “could be so much for the economy and the state,” said Abraham Perez, 15, one of the sophomores who presented some of his research during a Salton Sea forum the school hosted.

Sixty-two sophomores who are a part of the high school's Health and Environmental Health Academy of Learning researched the Salton Sea and investigated their ideas for solving the environmental health problems associated with the sea.

They used the forum as an opportunity to share what they learned not only with their classmates but with valley leaders, including Pat Cooper, a field representative with State Sen. Denise Ducheny's office.

Perez told the audience how during the 1960s the sea was a boon for the community. If problems with the sea — such as the smell generated by hot temperatures and dying fish — were addressed, then the sea could provide plenty of use to the community.

“I never thought the Salton Sea was so beautiful,” said Jamie Reddick, 16, also a sophomore. Reddick and her classmates got the opportunity to see the sea during a field trip in February.

During the trip, the students took water samples and analyzed them in the classroom. Students from the school's Digital Arts and Technology Academy joined the sophomores and took photos to document the project.

School officials hope to turn the forum into an annual event where business and industry leaders come to discuss issues involving the Salton Sea.
