Methods

Various beaches are around Cape Town are divided up into 'cleared' and 'non-cleared' sections. These were sampled for POM content in the soil by collecting soil samples perpendicular to shore, the area covered was divided up into 5 sections according to the length of the transect on that particular sampling occasion. Soil samples 20cm deep were taken each time. Each sample was weighed, dried, re-weight, placed in a muffle furnace and finally re-weighed. The differences between the weights is how you get the an estimate of POM content.

Aim

To determine if the removal of kelp from beaches affected the POM content in the soil.

Ecological impact