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|  | **What I Found**  Unfortunately, my experiment did not turn out the way that I had expected or hoped. The simulation trials between the normal and El Niño weather patterns were very similar in every test, despite the change in ocean surface temperature. According to simulated results, El Niño will not have a dramatic effect on the California coast. This is the opposite of my prediction on this experiment.  Part two of the experiment had much better data, because it was actual as opposed to simulated. Unfortunately, the actual data taken during El Niño does not match up with the simulated Niño data. It does however show that the prediction was correct and that an El Niño did effect the coast a great deal. There is a definite difference in the actual data and the calculated average rainfall of the area. In the first few months of the year, rainfall is at more that two hundred percent of its annual average. This amount of excess water is definitely a result of the event happening in the pacific. On a monthly basis, February �98 had 335% of its average rainfall. This kind of evidence supports the hypothesis a great deal, and is much more significant than the simulation.  The project as a whole was successful, despite its sections of poor data. I was able to test my hypothesis completely, as well as research meteorology and environmental issues. I feel that this is a subject that, given more time, could be researched in more detail. Research in this area could be very helpful to farmers and environmentalists alike. Being able to predict the effects of events such as these could limit the damage done by them by preparing the environment for what lies ahead. |

*This Web Site is Best viewed with 256 or more colors.*

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