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## IN-VITRO RECONSTITUTION OF SULFITE REDUCTASE FROM *PSEUDOMONAS AERUGINOSA*

Aubree Honcoop, Department of Biological and Physical Sciences, Montana State University-Billings, Billings, MT. 59101

Shauna Newton, Department of Biological and Physical Sciences, Montana State University-Billings, Billings, MT. 59101

Angela Glassing, Department of Biological and Physical Sciences, Montana State University-Billings, Billings, MT. 59101

Tom Lewis, Department of Biological and Physical Sciences, Montana State University- Billings, Billings, MT. 59101

Recent work has established a link between a ferredoxin:NAD(P)H oxidoreductase (FprA) and sulfite assimilation in members of the genus *Pseudomonas*. This suggested that FprA is a component of a novel sulfite reductase enzyme. That hypothesis is consistent with the fact that only one component of the well-characterized *E. coli* a8 $\beta$ 4 sulfite reductase has been identified in *Pseudomonas* genomes; i.e the  $\beta$  siroheme subunit CysI is present but not the  $\alpha$  flavoprotein subunit CysJ. This led to the hypothesis that FprA is a component of a novel sulfite reductase enzyme. Our aim is to test that hypothesis by in-vitro reconstitution using the purified proteins CysI and FprA. We have successfully overexpressed and purified FprA from *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. The strategy for production of purified CysI has been complicated by the requirement for concomitant expression of CysG (siroheme synthase). We are also investigating the possibility that a downstream, overlapping reading frame (PA1837) may also be necessary for functional CysI production.