



MOSQUITO AND VECTOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
OF SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 8, 2026 at 1:00 PM

Santa Barbara City College Wake Campus, Room 21
300 N. Turnpike Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93111

President

Danica Taber, City of Goleta (through 1/1/28)

Vice President

Joseph Franken, City of Carpinteria (through 1/31/27)

Secretary

Russell Dahlquist, Santa Barbara County (through 12/31/26)

Trustee

Barbara Silver, Santa Barbara County (through 10/10/26)

Trustee

Robert Williams, Santa Barbara County (through 12/31/26)

Trustee

Dr. Teri Jory, City of Santa Barbara (through 1/4/27)

Trustee

Dr. Steven Gaulin, Santa Barbara County (through 12/31/27)

PARTICIPATION OPTIONS:

- **Attend in Person:** Attend in person at Santa Barbara Community College Wake Campus, Room 21, 300 N. Turnpike Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93111
- **Virtual Attendance:** Join the Zoom webinar by clicking on the following link:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87625781059> (Meeting ID: 876 2578 1059; Passcode: 534858)
- **Attend Via Phone:** Dial in For Audio Only: 1-669-900-6833 or 1-408-638-0968, (ID: 876 2578 1059#)

HOW TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT:

- **In Person:** Provide in-person public comment at the meeting (SBCC Wake Campus, Room 21, 300 N. Turnpike Road, SB 93111).
- **On Zoom/Virtual:** Use the “raise your hand” feature to notify staff that you would like to make a public comment during designated public comment times. Once it is your turn to provide a public comment, staff will unmute your microphone and you will be given a designated amount of time to comment. At the end of your comment, staff will once again mute you.
- **Written Comment:** Submit a written comment by 8:00 AM on the day of the meeting (as either a general public comment or on a specific agenda item) by either submitting your comment via (1) email to info@mvmdistrict.org, or (2) in a writing mailed to the District, attention Board Secretary. Please reference the agenda item to which your comment pertains. Although written comments become part of the record, they will not be read aloud at the meeting.

Please note that the District will make every effort to make the meeting accessible virtually; however, if the above virtual attendance/viewing or public comment options is unavailable due to technological issues, you are invited to take advantage of one of the other participation options outlined above. Additional options may be made available at the meeting.

Any materials which are distributed less than 72 hours prior to this meeting to all, or a majority of all, Trustees in connection with any agenda item (other than closed sessions) will be available for public inspection at the time of such distribution at the District's office located at 2450 Lillie Avenue, Summerland, CA 93067. Such records may also be posted on the District's website at www.mvmdistrict.org

1. ROLL CALL

2. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS REGARDING DISTRICT BUSINESS

A. Notice of upcoming board term endings.

Several board member terms will be ending in the next few months. If you haven't already done so, please notify GM Cabrera whether or not you intend to continue your service on the Board. If you plan to continue, please notify the County Supervisor's or City office where you applied for your current term to get the application process started. This will ensure you will be reappointed in a timely manner without any gaps in service.

B. Reminder for SB 827 fiscal responsibility training.

Trustees are required to take fiscal and financial training as required by SB 827. Several trustees still need to take this required training.

C. Remaining Board Meeting Dates for 2026. Start time is 1:00 PM.

1. Thursday, November 12	2. Thursday, December 10
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4. CORRESPONDENCE

A. Proclamation of a State of Emergency by Governor Newsom due to the developing 2026-2027 El Niño event. (Page 5)

Among other things, teleconferencing will be allowed, outside of traditional Brown Act rules, during a state of emergency as specified in SB 707.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

Time reserved for the public to address the Board of Trustees relative to matters of District business not on the agenda. Comment time regarding specific agenda items will be available during consideration of the particular agenda items.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

The following items can be approved by a single action of the Board. Items requiring additional discussion may be withdrawn from the listing and addressed in separate actions. If you wish to speak on a consent calendar item, please do so during the public comment period provided at the beginning of this item.

A. Approval of the Minutes of the September 10, 2026 Board Special Meeting (Page 11)

B. Approval of the September 2026 Disease Surveillance Reports (Page 14)

C. Approval of the September 2026 District Operations Reports (Page 17)

D. Accounts receivable contracts' status (Line item 5909 - Misc. Revenue) (Page 18)

7. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS/UPDATES

The Board will discuss and may take action on the following items:

- A. Report on the Voluntary 30-Day Public Comment Period for the Special Coastal Procedures to the District's Integrated Mosquito Vector and Management Plan ("IMVMP").
The administrative draft of the Special Coastal Procedures to the IMVMP was made available on September 10 for voluntary 30-day public review and comment. The public comment period ends on October 12.
- B. Receive and file September 2026 Financial Statements for County Fund FD-4160 (Page 19) and August 2026 Disbursement Report. (Page 22)
- C. Updates on the Australian backyard mosquito, *Aedes notoscriptus*, in the City of Santa Barbara and the yellow fever mosquito, *Aedes aegypti*, in Carpinteria.
- D. Request by Trustee Silver to appoint a treasurer as a board officer. (Page 27)
- E. Report on the District's opening of a California CLASS Enhanced Cash account.
Through the California Cooperative Liquid Asset Securities System, public agencies can invest funds that are managed in accordance with state law. More information can be found at <https://californiaclass.com/>

8. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

The Board will discuss and may take action on the following items.

- A. Consideration of potential action relative to the general manager's annual performance review and a salary increase.
- B. Discussion on sterile insect techniques for mosquito management. (Page 30)

9. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT (Page 44)

10. REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

11. TRUSTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

12. CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957

- A. Public comment on closed session agenda items.
- B. Temporary adjournment to closed session.
- C. PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT – EVALUATION OF APPOINTMENT OF A PUBLIC EMPLOYEE (Govt. Code section 54957)
 - i. Title: Operations Manager Biologist
- D. Reconvene to open session for closed session report.

13. ADJOURNMENT (Next scheduled meeting: Thursday, November 12 at 1:00 PM.)

Persons with disabilities who require any disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to participate in the meeting are asked to contact the District's General Manager at least three (3) days prior to the meeting by telephone at (805) 969-5050 or by email at gm@mvmddistrict.org.

PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS in the past several years, California has experienced increasingly severe and destructive storms, including atmospheric river events that have caused widespread flooding, mud and debris flows, landslides, high winds, power outages, road and highway closures, evacuation orders, damage to homes and critical infrastructure, and disruption of essential services; and

WHEREAS climate change is intensifying these weather and hydrologic extremes in California, contributing to increasingly severe swings between drought and flooding, and heightening the risks that extreme storms pose to communities, infrastructure, natural resources, and the economy; and

WHEREAS California is entering the 2026–2027 wet season amid the ongoing development of a strong and likely historic El Niño event in the Pacific Ocean; and

WHEREAS the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center, in its August 13, 2026, diagnostic report, found that the El Niño event is strengthening, with a greater than 90 percent chance of a very strong event during Northern Hemisphere fall and winter of 2026–2027; and

WHEREAS the Climate Prediction Center projected a 69 percent chance that the event will reach historic strength during the October through December 2026 season, defined as a three-month Relative Oceanic Niño Index, and exceeding the strength of all prior El Niño events in the historical record beginning in 1950; and

WHEREAS the National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center has found that atmospheric conditions over the tropical Pacific are consistent with a strengthening El Niño, including changes in equatorial winds and an eastward shift in enhanced convection and rainfall toward the central and eastern Pacific, making it more likely that at least some parts of California will experience stronger storms in coming months; and

WHEREAS elevated baseline coastal water levels, combined with high tides, large waves, high surf, and coastal storms, can increase risks of coastal flooding, beach erosion, bluff erosion, transportation disruption, and damage to public and private infrastructure; and

WHEREAS California has already begun to experience effects attributed to this El Niño event, including unusual precipitation and significant coastal flooding; and

WHEREAS historical experience demonstrates that very strong El Niño events do not produce uniform statewide outcomes, but can be associated with exceptionally wet and destructive winter conditions in California; and

WHEREAS California's recent experience with atmospheric rivers, debris flows following wildfires, flash flooding, coastal erosion, inundation, and damage to transportation and flood-control infrastructure demonstrates the importance of procuring and positioning resources, clearing waterways, and taking additional actions to prepare before severe storms arrive; and

WHEREAS areas affected by recent wildfires are particularly susceptible to flash flooding, mud and debris flows, erosion, sediment transport, and road closures during high-intensity rainfall; and

WHEREAS in light of that experience, local governments, local water agencies, and local flood control authorities have requested action now to enable them to move quickly to begin preparations for preventing and responding to the impacts of potential flooding; and

WHEREAS low-income communities, farmworker families, rural residents, seniors, persons with disabilities, residents with limited transportation access, people experiencing homelessness, and communities in flood-prone, coastal, or post-fire areas may face disproportionate risks; and

WHEREAS the demonstrated potential for a very strong or historic-strength El Niño event to cause elevated coastal water levels and high-impact storms in California warrants early, coordinated, and targeted preparedness actions to protect Californians, critical infrastructure, agricultural lands, natural resources, and the State's economy; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8558(b), I find that conditions of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property exist due to the developing El Niño event; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8558(b), I find that the developing El Niño event is likely to cause conditions that, by reason of their magnitude, are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of any single local government and require the combined forces of a mutual aid region or regions to appropriately respond; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8625(c), I find that local authority is inadequate to cope with the magnitude of the extreme peril posed by the developing El Niño event; and

WHEREAS under the provisions of Government Code section 8571, I find that strict compliance with various statutes and regulations specified in this Proclamation would prevent, hinder, or delay the mitigation of the effects of the developing El Niño event.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the State Constitution and statutes, including the California Emergency Services Act, and in particular, Government Code section 8625, **HEREBY PROCLAIM A STATE OF EMERGENCY** to exist statewide due to the developing 2026–2027 El Niño event.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. All agencies of the state government are to utilize and employ state personnel, equipment, and facilities for the performance of any and all activities consistent with the direction of the Governor's Office of Emergency Services and the State Emergency Plan. The Governor's Office of Emergency Services shall coordinate statewide preparedness activities for potential severe weather, flooding, coastal flooding, erosion, mud and debris flows, and related impacts associated with conditions resulting from the El Niño event, including atmospheric rivers and other severe storm systems. The Governor's Office of Emergency Services shall work with local and tribal governments to support emergency planning, resource coordination, and requests for state assistance. To protect their safety, all residents are to obey the direction of emergency officials with regard to this emergency.

2. As necessary to assist local governments and for the protection of public safety and the environment, state agencies shall enter into contracts to arrange for the procurement of materials, goods, and services necessary to quickly assist with the response to and recovery from the impacts of this emergency. Applicable provisions of the Government Code and the Public Contract Code, including but not limited to travel, advertising, and competitive bidding requirements, are suspended to the extent necessary to address the effects of this emergency.
3. The California Environmental Protection Agency and the California Natural Resources Agency, including boards, departments, and offices within those agencies, are directed to prioritize work to help local agencies prepare for anticipated impacts from the El Niño event. In particular, those state agencies are directed to prioritize permitting, consultation, and technical assistance to support local efforts to prevent or mitigate impacts from anticipated or potential flooding, landslides, and mud and debris flows, including local efforts to expedite levee and other flood management infrastructure repairs, vegetation management, debris removal, sediment management, bridge scour protection, and channel-capacity improvements. State agencies are directed to work with local agencies to issue any necessary permits or other approvals for such efforts as quickly as possible, including by identifying and invoking existing emergency authorities or other pathways for streamlined review. On or before October 16, 2026, the Secretary for Environmental Protection and the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency shall submit a joint recommendation to my office as to whether further action or emergency suspensions are necessary to support and expedite this work.
4. The Governor's Office of Emergency Services shall coordinate the State's preparation for and response to the developing El Niño event, including by working with the Department of Water Resources and other appropriate government agencies to prepare to pre-position personnel, equipment, supplies, commodities, and other resources based on forecast conditions, local needs, and identified risks. In particular, this work shall draw on the Department of Water Resources' guidance regarding flood-risk-reduction activities.
5. The Department of Water Resources shall take appropriate action to procure, maintain, stage, pre-position, distribute, and replenish flood-fight supplies, equipment (including, but not limited to, sandbags, riprap and other rock materials, plastic sheeting, and pumps), and other materials necessary to support statewide flood preparedness, response, and protective actions in connection with the El Niño event. The Department of Water Resources shall coordinate with appropriate government agencies to identify priority areas for flood-fight material staging and plans to make these materials available where they are needed, when they are needed.
6. The Department of Water Resources, through its Division of Safety of Dams, shall conduct outreach to owners of jurisdictional dams regarding potential severe conditions during the El Niño event and shall reiterate to dam owners their responsibilities to inspect, operate, maintain, repair, and safely manage their dams and appurtenant structures in accordance

with applicable law, permit conditions, emergency action plans, and directives of the Division of Safety of Dams.

7. The Governor's Office of Emergency Services, in coordination with the Department of Water Resources, shall conduct outreach to counties, cities, and relevant local agencies that are responsible for levees, flood-control facilities, and associated structures that may be vulnerable to impacts of the El Niño event to take appropriate actions to procure, maintain, stage, pre-position, distribute, and replenish flood-fight supplies, commodities, equipment, and materials necessary to support flood preparedness, response, and protective actions.
8. The Department of Water Resources, in coordination with the State Water Resources Control Board, shall conduct outreach and education to advance groundwater recharge projects and to use flood flows to recharge groundwater aquifers under existing law with the goal of reducing flood impacts and strengthening local water supplies.
9. Consistent with Paragraph 3 of this Proclamation, the Coastal Commission is directed to expedite review and action on proposed development by coastal communities to prepare for the impacts of this El Niño event. Coastal communities are encouraged to submit permit applications, as appropriate, to facilitate timely Coastal Commission review, technical assistance, and other support for El Niño preparations. After an application is received, the Commission shall respond with notification of any incomplete items within five days. After an application is complete, it shall be scheduled for hearing at the next Commission meeting. For emergency permit requests, the Commission shall accept both written and oral requests to its district offices. When necessary to address an urgent need related to this emergency, the Commission shall take action on emergency permit requests as quickly as possible and within twenty-four hours of receipt.
10. The California Department of Transportation and California State Transportation Agency shall identify those state highways, bridges, culverts, drainage facilities, slopes, and other transportation infrastructure most at risk of flooding, erosion, debris flows, rockslides, mudslides, or other significant impacts from severe storms caused by the El Niño event, and transmit to the Governor's Office of Emergency Services a prioritized list of projects to address such risks within 30 days of this Proclamation.
11. The California Department of Transportation shall develop plans to pre-position personnel and materials (including directional signage, traffic-control devices, road-closure devices, warning signs, delineators, emergency communications equipment, and other resources) at or near locations that may be identified as at risk of severe impacts from the El Niño event. This shall include plans to prepare and pre-position snow-removal, snow-control, and ice-control equipment as appropriate, including snowplows, snow blowers, graders, loaders, chain-control equipment, salt, sand, and other materials necessary to maintain safe travel and restore access on state highways during the El Niño event.
12. The Adjutant General and the California Military Department shall, in coordination with the Director of the Governor's Office of Emergency

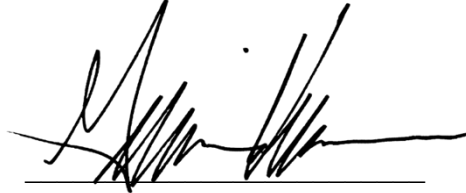
Services, identify California National Guard personnel, equipment, and capabilities that may be available to support state and local emergency operations, if activated or tasked, in relation to this El Niño event. Such planning shall include readiness for high-water vehicle operations; aviation operations, including reconnaissance, search and rescue, transport, and heavy-lift support, as appropriate; engineering support; emergency communications; transportation and logistics; evacuation support; flood-fight activities; debris removal and route clearance; commodity distribution; shelter support; and other life-safety and emergency-support missions.

13. California Volunteers, in coordination with the Governor's Office of Emergency Services and other appropriate agencies, shall prepare to mobilize volunteers and trained service members, consistent with their training, mission, safety requirements, and applicable law, to support state and local preparedness, response, and recovery activities in connection with the El Niño event.
14. The California Conservation Corps shall prepare to deploy Corpsmembers, consistent with its statutory mission, training, available resources, safety requirements, and applicable law, to support severe weather preparedness and response activities in connection with the El Niño event.
15. The California Energy Commission, the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety, and the State Water Resources Control Board and regional water quality control boards are directed, and the California Public Utilities Commission is requested, to coordinate, consistent with their respective authorities, with electrical, natural-gas, water, wastewater, telecommunications, transportation, and other critical-service providers to enhance readiness and support timely restoration of essential services following storm impacts.
16. The Governor's Office of Emergency Services, in consultation with relevant state agencies, shall expand accessible, multilingual public preparedness communications related to severe weather, flooding, emergency alerts, evacuation readiness, power outages, safe travel, disaster assistance, and household emergency planning.
17. Agencies under my direct authority shall cooperate in their response to this emergency. Other agencies are requested to assist in responding to this emergency, as appropriate.
18. The restrictions set forth in Penal Code section 396, which are automatically triggered upon proclamation of a state of emergency, are suspended, and no such restrictions are imposed, with respect to this El Niño event, at this time.

I FURTHER DIRECT that as soon as hereafter possible, this Proclamation be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this Proclamation.

This Proclamation is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have
hereunto set my hand and caused
the Great Seal of the State of
California to be affixed this 21st day
of September 2026.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Gavin Newsom", written over a horizontal line.

GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:

SHIRLEY WEBER, PH. D
Secretary of State

MOSQUITO AND VECTOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
of Santa Barbara County
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF TRUSTEES
September 10th, 2026

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Mosquito and Vector Management District of Santa Barbara County was held at 1:00 PM, on Thursday, September 10th, 2026 via teleconference and in person at the Santa Barbara City College Wake Center Campus, Room 21.

1. **ROLL CALL**

TRUSTEES PRESENT:

President Danica Taber
Vice-President Joseph Franken
Secretary Russell Dahlquist
Trustee Barbara Silver (remotely)
Trustee Steven Gaulin
Trustee Robert Williams
Trustee Teri Jory

Trustee Silver participated remotely, under just cause per SB 707, due to health reasons, with no one over the age of eighteen present at her location.

TRUSTEES ABSENT:

None.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Brian Cabrera, General Manager
Jessica Sprigg, Administrative Assistant
Carrie Troup, CPA
Jena Acos, Attorney, Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck
Kendra Wopat, Biologist, Rincon Consultants

2. **CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA**

-No changes requested.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS REGARDING DISTRICT BUSINESS**

A. Remaining Board Meeting Dates for 2026. Start time is 1:00 PM.

1. Thursday, October 8	2. Thursday, November 12	3. Thursday, December 10
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4. **CORRESPONDENCE**

-None.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Time reserved for the public to address the Board of Trustees relative to matters of District business not on the agenda. Comment time regarding specific agenda items will be available during consideration of the particular agenda items.

-None.

6. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

The following items can be approved by a single action of the Board. Items requiring additional discussion may be withdrawn from the listing and addressed in separate actions. If you wish to speak on a consent calendar item, please do so during the public comment period provided at the beginning of this item.

- a. Approval of the Minutes of the August 20, 2026 Board Special Meeting
- b. Approval of the August 2026 Disease Surveillance Report
- c. Approval of the August 2026 District Operations Report
- d. Accounts receivable contracts' status (Line item 5909 - Misc. Revenue)
-Trustee Williams made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. Motion seconded by Secretary Dahlquist and passed 7-0-0 by roll call vote.

7. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS/UPDATES

The Board will discuss and may take action on the following items:

- A. Receive and File and Open the Voluntary 30-Day Public Comment Period for the Special Coastal Procedures to the District's Integrated Mosquito Vector and Management Plan ("IMVMP"). The administrative draft of the Special Coastal Procedures to the IMVMP is now available for voluntary 30-day public review and comment. Kendra Wopat, biologist from Rincon Consultants, Inc. will give a presentation summarizing the key aspects of the Special Coastal Procedures.
-Trustee Gaulin recused himself from commenting or participating in this matter to avoid any potential conflict of interest, but remained in the room for informational purposes. Kendra Wopat discussed the development of the document and answered questions from trustees. Public comment was received from Marc Chytilo and Mark Holmgren. Vice-President Franken made a motion to receive and file the IMVMP and open the 30-day comment period. Motion seconded by Trustee Williams and passed 6-0-1 by roll call vote, with Trustee Gaulin abstaining.
- B. Receive and file August 2026 Financial Statements for County Fund FD-4160 and August 2026 Disbursement Report.
-Vice-President Franken made a motion to approve the financial statements and disbursement report. Motion seconded by Trustee Gaulin and passed 7-0-0 by roll call vote.
- C. Updates on the Australian backyard mosquito, *Aedes notoscriptus*, in the City of Santa Barbara and the yellow fever mosquito, *Aedes aegypti*, in Carpinteria.
-District technicians have continued trapping and canvassing the areas where detections were made. No additional specimens of Aedes aegypti have been detected in Carpinteria. Trustee Williams made a motion to accept and file the update. Motion seconded by Vice-President Franken and passed 7-0-0 by roll call vote.

8. CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957

- A. Public comment on closed session agenda items.
-Marc Chytilo noted that the timing of the closed session was inconvenient to members of the public with interest in items later in the agenda.
- B. Temporary adjournment to closed session.
-Board entered Closed Session at 2:00. Trustee Gaulin recused himself for review of legal counsel and left the meeting room. He returned for the General Manager Evaluation of Performance at 2:51.
- C. PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT – EVALUATION OF PERFORMANCE (Govt. Code section 54957)
 - i. Title: District legal counsel
 - ii. Title: General Manager

- D. Reconvene to open session for closed session report.
-Returning to open session at 3:02, the Board announced that there was no reportable action.

9. **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

The Board will discuss and may take action on the following items.

- A. Update on Operations Manager Biologist hiring process.
-The interview process will conclude on Monday, September 14th and the ad-hoc hiring committee will convene on the 15th. A hiring decision is expected to be made within a month. Trustee Williams made a motion to receive and file the update. Motion seconded by Secretary Dahlquist and passed 6-0-1 by roll call vote, with Trustee Gaulin abstaining.
- B. Consider and approve the amended Special District Risk Management Authority Health Benefits MOU and Resolution 26-07: “A Resolution of the (Governing Body) of Mosquito and Vector Management District of Santa Barbara County Approving the Form of and Authorizing the Execution of a Memorandum of Understanding and Authorizing Participation in the Special District Risk Management Authority's Health Benefits Program Life Insurance Benefits for Represented Staff”. Life insurance was added as a benefit to the MOU executed in 2021 between the District and the Employees Union. The original MOU and resolution (22-24) were approved by the District Board in December 2023. The approved amended MOU and resolution are due to SDRMA by November 1.
-Trustee Gaulin made a motion to approve the MOU and adopt Resolution 26-07. Motion seconded by Secretary Dahlquist and passed 7-0-0 by roll call vote.

10. **GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT**

-GM Cabrera discussed upcoming presentations being given at the Goleta Slough Management Committee and a mosquito and vector management course at Cal-Poly SLO.

11. **REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

-None.

12. **TRUSTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

-Trustee Silver noted that she viewed a presentation given by Mark Holmgren on behalf of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society.

13. **ADJOURNMENT**

As there was no further business to be brought before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

I certify that the above minutes substantially reflect the actions of the Board:

APPROVED:

Danica Taber
Board President

Russell Dahlquist
Board Secretary



MOSQUITO and VECTOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT of SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

DISEASE SURVEILLANCE REPORT

September 2026

Santa Barbara County Trapping

Location	Date	Number of Mosquitoes	Type of Trap	# of Traps	Mosquitoes per Trap Night	Pools Submitted	WSW* Virus Test Result
Lake Los Carneros	9/1-9/2	89	EVS	9	9.9	4	Negative
Lake Los Carneros	9/1-9/2	0	Gravid	3	0	--	--
Stow Grove Open Space, Goleta	9/1-9/2	3	EVS	6	0.5	1	Negative
200 block, Salinas St, Santa Barbara	9/1-9/2	6	EVS	2	3	2	Negative
Club House Road, Lompoc Valley	9/2-9/3	7	EVS	4	1.75	1	Negative
Titan St., Lompoc Valley	9/2-9/3	18	EVS	5	3.6	1	Negative
Mission Hills Community Service District	9/2-9/3	18	EVS	5	3.6	1	Negative
S. Vallecito Rd, Carpinteria†	7/28-9/14	6††	IN2C	1		--	--
S. Vallecito Rd, Carpinteria†	7/28-9/24	9††	IN2C	1		--	--
S. Vallecito Rd, Carpinteria†	9/16-9/24	7††	BGS2	3	0.3	--	--
Carpinteria Creek	9/22-9/25	14	Gravid	3	2.3	--	--
UCSB/SB Airport Bluffs	9/24-9/25	188 400 biting midges	EVS	10	18.8	2	Pending
800 block, Mission St., Santa Barbara	9/18-9/25	7✧✧	BGS2	1		--	--
Kenwood Rd., Santa Barbara✧	9/23-9/30	2	BGS2	2	0.13	--	--
Ripley Ave, Noleta	9/29-9/30	1	EVS	1	1	1	Pending
El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant, Santa Barbara	9/29-9/30	16	EVS	6	2.7	2	Pending
Sycamore Creek, Santa Barbara	9/29-9/30	2	EVS	3	0.7	1	Pending

† Area where *Aedes aegypti* was found

✧ Area where *Aedes notoscriptus* was found

†† *Ae. aegypti* collected

✧✧ *Ae. notoscriptus* collected

BGS2=Biogents Sentinel 2; BGP=Biogents Pro; EVS=enkephalitis surveillance trap (CO₂); IN2C=In2Care Station

*WSW=West Nile (WNV), St. Louis Encephalitis (SLE), AND Western Equine Encephalitis (WEE)

**Color indicates the virus-transmitting ability of some or all of the mosquito species caught in the traps:

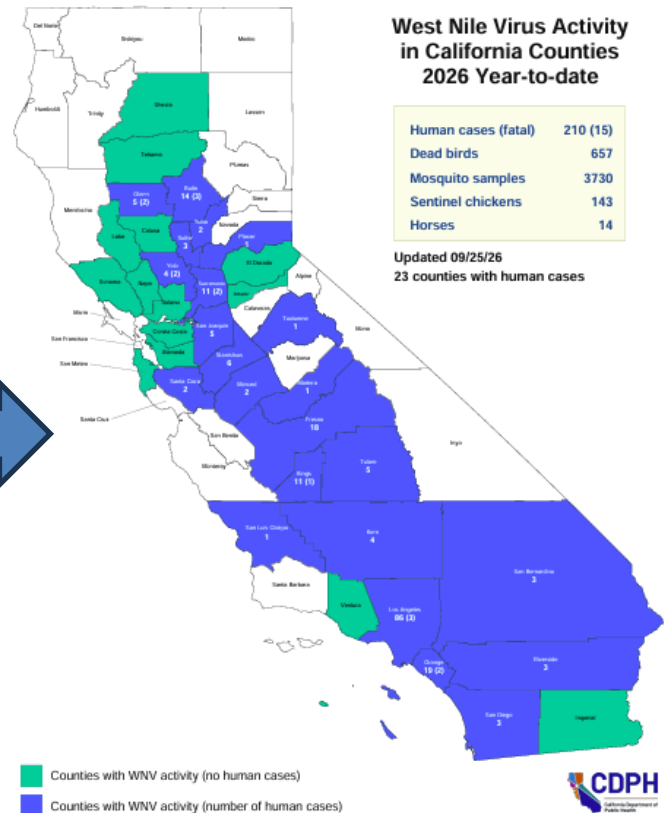
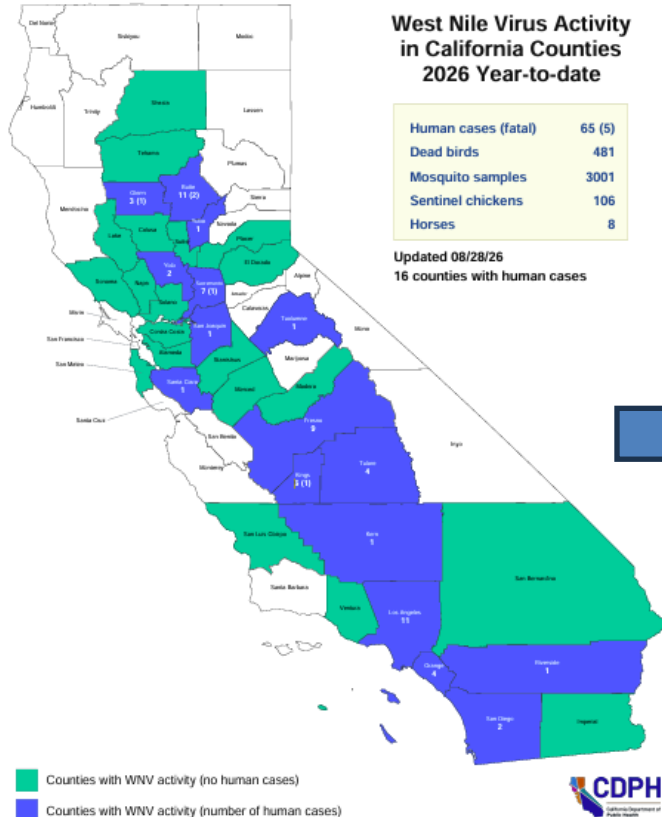
Purple = high (example: *Aedes aegypti*, *Culex tarsalis*); Aqua = moderate; Tan = low.

For specific trap collection data, please email a request to: info@mvmddistrict.org

Santa Barbara County Vector-borne Disease Surveillance

One bird out of the 10 reported dead birds was accepted by the West Nile Virus Dead Bird Hotline for testing in September; it tested negative for West Nile Virus (WNV). The other birds were not in a suitable condition for testing or were a species not accepted.

California Vector-borne Disease Surveillance



Update on Invasive *Aedes* Mosquito in California

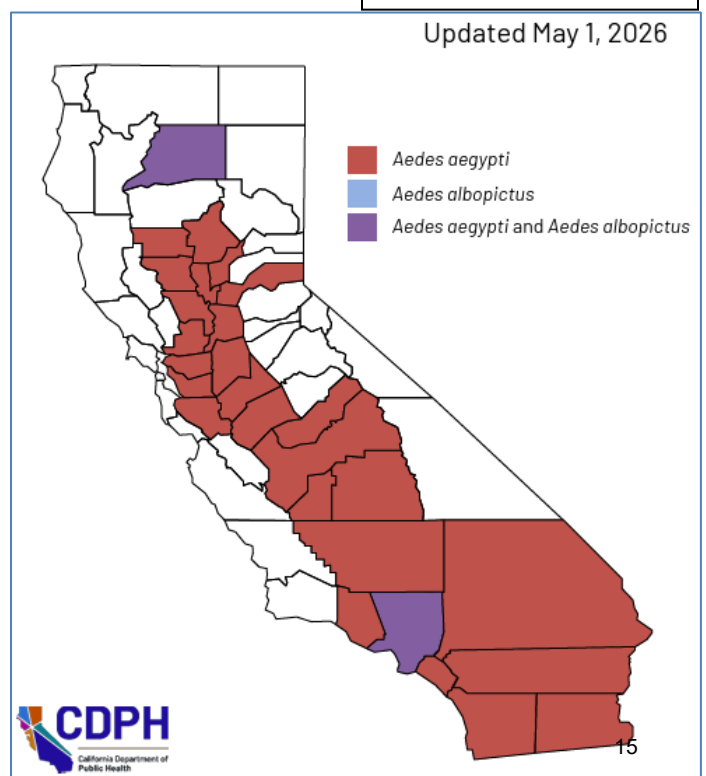
On July 14, the District received photos of an *Aedes aegypti* from a resident of Carpinteria. ID was confirmed after examining the specimen in the lab. Residents in the area have been notified, and many have allowed us to place *Aedes*-specialized traps on their property. One adult female and 15 larvae have been collected.

Invasive *Aedes notoscriptus*, the Australian backyard mosquito, was identified from a residence in Santa Barbara's Westside neighborhood on March 12. The District has identified a total of 63 female and 9 male adult *Aedes notoscriptus*. Staff also discovered more than 24 larvae from two In2Care stations that were placed in the neighborhood.

In 2025, the CA Dept. of Public Health reports 6 locally-transmitted cases of dengue virus in California. *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes, capable of vectoring dengue, Zika, and chikungunya viruses, are

No recent update available

Updated May 1, 2026



common in the Greater Los Angeles area. One mosquito sample collected in Greater L.A. has also tested positive for dengue virus. This is the first official record ever of dengue virus identified from a mosquito collected in California. In 2024, there were 18 locally-transmitted dengue cases. As of September 1, there have been 36 travel-related human dengue cases (2 in Santa Barbara County), three chikungunya cases, and no cases of Zika virus in California this year. *Aedes aegypti* is found in 28 California counties and *Aedes albopictus* is found in two.



Photo CDPH

Yellow Fever Mosquito *Aedes aegypti*

The yellow fever mosquito, *Aedes aegypti*, is native to Africa but has been invading much of the world, including California. In Santa Barbara County there is currently an outbreak in Carpinteria. In 2020-2021 this species appeared at two sites in the City of Santa Barbara. It is important to battle invasive species like this before they can establish a population. Yellow fever mosquitoes are small, dark mosquitoes with bright white markings and display a lyre-shaped pattern on the thorax. They preferentially feed on people (especially ankles), aggressively biting during the day. *Ae. Aegypti* lay eggs in containers associated with people such as potted plant saucers, bird baths, rain gutters, drains, tires, and buckets. The eggs can remain viable on the dry surface for many months and hatch when the container collects water. Larvae develop in as little as seven days. *Ae. aegypti* typically stay within 150 meters (492 feet) of their development site. This species is capable of carrying and transmitting Zika virus, dengue virus, yellow fever virus, chikungunya virus, and Mayaro virus to people. Because of this threat, many agencies are using innovative control measures like sterile insect technique (SIT), specialized traps, and human-scented lures.

Mosquito and Vector Management District of Santa Barbara County

Report of District Operations - September 2026

Location	Mosquito					Bees & Wasps			Rats & Mice		Surveillance			Other		Total
	Inspection Hours	Treatment Hours	Service Requests	Fish Requests	Standing Water Reports	Inspection Hours	Treatment Hours	Service Requests	Inspection Hours	Service Requests	WNV Bird	Chickens	Mosquito Pools	Bedbugs	Misc. Requests	Total hours devoted to zone
Goleta	26.0	12.0		1					0.5				8.0			46.5
Goleta Valley	54.0	19.0	1	2					2.5	1			8.0			83.5
Rancho Embarcadero	2.0	1.5														3.5
Isla Vista	2.5	1.0											6.0			9.5
Hope Ranch	1.0	1.0							9.0							11.0
Hidden Valley																0.0
Santa Barbara area	75.5	11.0	6	3	6				17.0	3			31.0			134.5
Mission Canyon																0.0
Montecito	7.5	1.0		5	1											8.5
Summerland	3.5	0.5	1	1					9.5							13.5
Carpinteria	17.0	6.0	2										25.0			48.0
Carpinteria Valley	8.0	1.0	1						4.0	1						13.0
Carp Salt Marsh	12.5	6.0														18.5
Camino Real	2.0	1.0														3.0
Storke Ranch	2.5	1.0														3.5
Goleta Sanitary																0.0
City of Goleta	5.0	1.5														6.5
UCSB	5.0	0.5														5.5
Santa Barbara Airport	14.5	3.0														17.5
City of Santa Barbara	11.5	3.0														14.5
SoCalGas																0.0
South County total	250.0	70.0	11	12	7	0.0	0.0	0	42.5	5	0.0	0.0	78.0	0	0	440.5
Unincorporated North County	6.0		1		1						4.0		11.0			21.0
North County total	6.0		1		1						4.0		11.0			21.0
Pismo Beach																0.0
Oceano Dunes																0.0
San Luis Obispo																0.0
SLO County total	0.0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0.0
Monthly Totals	256.0	70.0	12	12	8	0.0	0.0	0	42.5	5	4.0	0.0	89.0	0	0	461.5
Year to Date	1638.0	518.0	91	97	40	23.5	0.0	4	106.0	17	8.5	0.0	375.5	0	9	

	This Month	Year to Date
Total Inspection Hours	298.5	1767.5
Total Treatment Hours	70.0	518.0
Total Mileage	2,873.0	17895.0

Contract Status as of October 2, 2026

Account	MOU Maximum	FYE27	FYE26	FYE25	MOU Status
Wynmark	\$2,207	\$ 430	\$ 2,053	\$1,221	FYE28 submitted to Wynmark for approval
Goleta Sanitary District	\$7,149	\$ 926	\$ 1,236	\$6,019	FYE28 approved by GSD board, waiting for final signature
Goleta, City of	\$11,605	\$ 1,109	\$ 5,975	\$6,739	FYE27 completed
Oceano Dunes District	\$22,728	\$ 10,041	\$ 20,136	\$12,345	CY24-CY28 completed
Pismo Beach, City of	\$9,353	\$ ---	\$ 3,499	\$2,808	FYE27 completed
Santa Barbara Airport	\$108,146	\$ 24,436	\$ 80,822	\$61,865	FYE27 submitted to SBA for approval
Santa Barbara, City of	\$7,785	\$ 2,613	\$ 8,104	\$5,986	FYE27 completed
SoCalGas	\$4,000	\$ 894	\$ 1,553	\$3,339	Submitted Mosquito Management Plan
Cal-Storke, LLC	\$2,612	\$ 453	\$ 1,533	\$1,397	FYE27 completed
UCSB	\$44,794	\$ 6,416	\$ 22,478	\$40,754	FYE 2028 completed
San Luis Obispo, County of	---	---	---	---	No contract for FY 25-26
	\$ 220,378	\$47,319	\$147,389	\$142,473	

Total Amount Billed for All Contracts and Amount Budgeted for Fiscal Years Ending 2015 through 2027

Fiscal Year Ending	Billed amount as of 9/3/2026	Budgeted
2027	\$ 47,319	\$ 160,000
2026	\$ 147,389	\$ 160,000
2025	\$ 142,473	\$ 160,000
2024	\$ 178,387	\$ 160,000
2023	\$ 172,986	\$ 130,000
2022	\$ 154,358	\$ 120,000
2021	\$ 111,621	\$ 110,000
2020	\$ 133,309	\$ 105,000
2019	\$ 129,219	\$ 100,000
2018	\$ 96,290	\$ 70,000
2017	\$ 129,280	\$ 105,000
2016	\$ 58,200	\$ 115,000
2015	\$ 64,697	\$ 120,000

COSB - Budget vs Actual - with Adopted Budget (Financial Status)

Period FY 2026-27 - Sep
Fund FD-4160 Mosquito & Vector
Mgt District

As of: 09/30/2026 (25% Elapsed)

Accounting Period: Open

	06/30/2027	09/30/2026	06/30/2027	
	Fiscal Year Adopted Budget	Year-To-Date Actual	Fiscal Year Variance	Fiscal Year Percentage of Budget
Ledger Account				
Revenues				
6000:Taxes	698,327.00	1,431.42	(696,895.58)	0.21%
6050:Fines, Forfeitures, and Penalties	80.00	0.23	(79.77)	0.29%
6150:Use of Money and Property	61,000.00	0.00	(61,000.00)	0.00%
6200:Intergovernmental Revenue-State	2,075.00	0.00	(2,075.00)	0.00%
6250:Intergovernmental Revenue-Other	22,375.00	0.00	(22,375.00)	0.00%
6300:Charges for Services	812,803.00	(551.75)	(813,354.75)	(0.07%)
6350:Miscellaneous Revenue	166,500.00	73,328.94	(93,171.06)	44.04%
Total Revenues	1,763,160.00	74,208.84	(1,688,951.16)	4.21%
Expenditures				
7010:Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,271,273.00	236,627.27	1,034,645.73	18.61%
SC-7005 Advertising/Marketing Expense	15,000.00	5,160.36	9,839.64	34.40%
SC-7030 Clothing and Personal	6,400.00	1,253.70	5,146.30	19.59%
SC-7050 Communications	7,000.00	2,342.70	4,657.30	33.47%
SC-7070 Household Supplies	3,800.00	957.00	2,843.00	25.18%
SC-7090 Insurance	28,000.00	26,426.47	1,573.53	94.38%
SC-7120 Equipment Maintenance	9,000.00	2,671.31	6,328.69	29.68%
SC-7121 Operating Supplies	8,400.00	1,674.69	6,725.31	19.94%
SC-7124 IT Software Maintenance	38,000.00	8,224.85	29,775.15	21.64%
SC-7200 Structure & Ground Maintenance	20,000.00	560.00	19,440.00	2.80%
SC-7430 Memberships	19,000.00	0.00	19,000.00	0.00%
SC-7450 Office Expense	5,330.00	595.24	4,734.76	11.17%
SC-7460 Professional & Special Service	75,000.00	3,035.31	71,964.69	4.05%
SC-7508 Legal Fees	300,000.00	87,074.70	212,925.30	29.02%
SC-7546 Administrative Expense	13,500.00	2,141.30	11,358.70	15.86%
SC-7650 Special Departmental Expense	80,000.00	6,832.00	73,168.00	8.54%

COSB - Budget vs Actual - with Adopted Budget (Financial Status)

Period FY 2026-27 - Sep
Fund FD-4160 Mosquito & Vector
Mgt District

As of: 09/30/2026 (25% Elapsed)

Accounting Period: Open

	06/30/2027	09/30/2026	06/30/2027	
	Fiscal Year Adopted Budget	Year-To-Date Actual	Fiscal Year Variance	Fiscal Year Percentage of Budget
Ledger Account				
SC-7653 Training Fees & Supplies	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00	0.00%
SC-7730 Transportation and Travel	7,000.00	100.99	6,899.01	1.44%
SC-7731 Gasoline-Oil-Fuel	12,800.00	2,741.60	10,058.40	21.42%
SC-7760 Utilities	5,500.00	1,672.28	3,827.72	30.41%
SC-7901 Oper Trf (Out)	12,354.00	0.00	12,354.00	0.00%
SC-8200 Structures&Struct Improvements	22,000.00	0.00	22,000.00	0.00%
7020:Services and Supplies	693,084.00	153,464.50	539,619.50	22.14%
Total Expenditures	1,964,357.00	390,091.77	1,574,265.23	19.86%
Other Financing Sources & Uses				
6400:Other Financing Sources	201,197.00	0.00	(201,197.00)	0.00%
Total Other Financing Sources & Uses	201,197.00	0.00	(201,197.00)	0.00%
Net Financial Impact	0.00	(315,882.93)	(315,882.93)	0.00%

COSB - Cash Balances

Starting Date	9/1/2026
Ending Date	9/30/2026
Fund	FD-4160 Mosquito & Vector Mgt District
	FD-4161 SB Vector-Cap Asset Reserve

Fund	09/30/2026 Ending Balance
FD-4160 Mosquito & Vector Mgt District (Operating Funds)	\$2,425,281.82
FD-4161 SB Vector-Cap Asset Reserve	\$751,505.23
Total	\$3,176,787.05

Supplier Payments

Company Mosquito and
Vector
Management
District of Santa
Barbara County

Start Date 9/1/2026

End Date 9/30/2026

Payments

Transaction	Payment Date	Status	Supplier	Payment Type	Payment Amount
90555097	9/1/2026	Complete	ATKINSON ANDELSON LOYA RUUD ROMO	Check	212.63
EFT-0045203	9/1/2026	Complete	BROWNSTEIN HYATT FARBER SCHRECK LLP	ACH	59,355.16
EFT-0045272	9/2/2026	Complete	CITY EMPLOYEES ASSOC LLC	ACH	36.00
EFT-0045292	9/2/2026	Complete	SBCERS CONTRIBUTIONS	ACH	22,834.61
EFT-0046543	9/15/2026	Complete	VISION SERVICE PLAN-CA	ACH	66.59
EFT-0046546	9/15/2026	Complete	ZWORLD GIS	ACH	1,615.00
EFT-0046548	9/15/2026	Complete	CITY EMPLOYEES ASSOC LLC	ACH	36.00
EFT-0046549	9/15/2026	Complete	ALLIED ADMINISTRATORS FOR DELTA DENTAL	ACH	871.89
EFT-0046551	9/15/2026	Complete	BIG GREEN CLEANING COMPANY	ACH	319.00
EFT-0046712	9/16/2026	Complete	MCCORMIX CORPORATION	ACH	772.18
EFT-0046713	9/16/2026	Complete	MISSION LINEN SUPPLY	ACH	557.20
90555748	9/16/2026	Complete	TECHEASE COMPUTER SOLUTIONS LLC	Check	464.00
EFT-0046878	9/17/2026	Complete	CIVICPLUS LLC	ACH	360.50

Supplier Payments

Company Mosquito and
Vector
Management
District of Santa
Barbara County

Start Date 9/1/2026

End Date 9/30/2026

Payments

Transaction	Payment Date	Status	Supplier	Payment Type	Payment Amount
EFT-0046879	9/17/2026	Complete	EDUCATED CAR WASH	ACH	134.41
EFT-0046880	9/17/2026	Complete	SPECIAL DISTRICT RISK MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY	ACH	124.22
EFT-0046877	9/17/2026	Complete	TWO TRUMPETS COMMUNICATIONS LLC	ACH	1,050.00
EFT-0047476	9/24/2026	Complete	CALIFORNIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM	ACH	13,837.16
EFT-0047668	9/25/2026	Complete	THE GAS COMPANY	ACH	24.88
EFT-0047789	9/28/2026	Complete	MONTECITO WATER DISTRICT	ACH	85.12
90556194	9/28/2026	Complete	SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON	Check	420.18
90556261	9/29/2026	Complete	COX BUSINESS	Check	543.95
EFT-0047985	9/29/2026	Complete	CITY EMPLOYEES ASSOC LLC	ACH	36.00

Account Number :
Unique ID:
MVM DISTRICT
Statement Date : 09-22-2026



Page 1 of 4

Corporate Account Summary		Payment Information	
Previous Balance	\$2,035.92	Amount Due	\$3,126.55
Purchases and Other Charges	\$3,126.55	Payment due in accordance with your agreement with U.S. Bank.	
Cash Advances	\$0.00	QUESTIONS OR TO REPORT A LOST OR STOLEN CARD, CALL CUSTOMER SERVICE1-800-344-5696	
Cash Advance Fees	\$0.00		
Late Payment Charges	\$0.00		
Credits	\$0.00 CR		
Payments	\$2,035.92 PY	To overnight or courier a payment, please send to: Corporate Payment Systems 3180 Rider Trail S, Department 790428 Earth City, MO 63045-1518	
New Balance	\$3,126.55		
Disputed Amount	\$0.00		

Corporate Account Activity	
MVM DISTRICT	Total Corporate Activity
Account Number:	\$2,035.92 CR
Unique ID:	

Post Date	Tran Date	Reference Number	Transaction Description	Amount
09-01	09-01	747982662440000000000012	PAYMENT - 006215 00000 A	2,035.92 PY

New Activity	
VESNA IBARRA	Purchases \$52.16
Account Number: [REDACTED]	Cash Advances \$0.00
Unique ID: [REDACTED]	Cash Advances Fees \$0.00
	Credits \$0.00 CR
Total Activity \$52.16	

Post Date	Tran Date	Reference Number	Transaction Description	Amount
09-07	09-04	24431056248355967398604	O'REILLY 3770 GOLETA CA	30.42
09-14	09-11	24431066255503655114218	BEST BUY 0001391 GOLETA CA	21.74
				(transactions continued on next page)

Payment may be made electronically or by check made payable to Corporate Payment Systems.

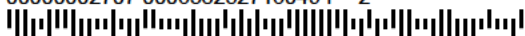
CORPORATE PAYMENT SYSTEMS
P.O. BOX 6343
FARGO, ND 58125-6343

Account Number:
Unique ID:
Amount Due: \$3,126.55

Amount Enclosed \$ [REDACTED]

If paying by check, include coupon with payment to address below.

00000002707 000638252716049 P 2



MVM DISTRICT
ATTN BRIAN CABRERA
PO BOX 1389
2450 LILLIE AVE
SUMMERLAND CA 93067-1389

CORPORATE PAYMENT SYSTEMS
P.O. BOX 790428
ST. LOUIS, MO 63179-0428

Account Number :
Unique ID:
Statement Date : 09-22-2026

New Activity cont

JESSICA E SPRIGG	Purchases	\$682.38	Total Activity	\$682.38
Account Number: [REDACTED]	Cash Advances	\$0.00		
Unique ID: [REDACTED]	Cash Advances Fees	\$0.00		
	Credits	\$0.00 CR		

Post Date	Tran Date	Reference Number	Transaction Description	Amount
08-26	08-25	24431066237492999319845	FEDEX96641235 901-397-3889 TN	289.79
08-26	08-25	24431066237493156016489	CLERK OF THE BOARD SANTA BARBARA CA	50.00
09-07	09-03	24231686247883750761693	ALBERTSONS #0355 CARPINTERIA CA	5.19
09-10	09-09	24431066252502077243558	FEDEX97355123 901-397-3889 TN	290.40
09-14	09-11	24137466255001566741038	USPS PO 0513320113 CARPINTERIA CA	13.07
09-14	09-11	24137466255001566741111	USPS PO 0513320113 CARPINTERIA CA	19.11
09-18	09-17	24692166260403149608393	VERIZONWRLSS*RTCCR VB 800-922-0204 FL	14.82

ROBBY R SHARP	Purchases	\$543.66	Total Activity	\$543.66
Account Number: [REDACTED]	Cash Advances	\$0.00		
Unique ID: [REDACTED]	Cash Advances Fees	\$0.00		
	Credits	\$0.00 CR		

Post Date	Tran Date	Reference Number	Transaction Description	Amount
08-25	08-24	24231686237871451524074	SMART AND FINAL 391 SANTA BARBARA CA	70.68
08-25	08-24	24445716236300586957650	RALPHS #0680 SANTA BARBARA CA	51.28
08-27	08-26	24231686239873798560744	SMART AND FINAL 391 SANTA BARBARA CA	146.27
09-02	09-01	24445716244300658996248	RALPHS #0680 SANTA BARBARA CA	116.56
09-02	09-01	24692166244408310878601	SQ *KENNEDY'S SMOGS / HTT SANTA BARBARA CA	35.00
09-03	09-02	24445716245300571531543	RALPHS #0680 SANTA BARBARA CA	123.87

KAREN EGERMAN-SCHULTZ	Purchases	\$130.13	Total Activity	\$130.13
Account Number: [REDACTED]	Cash Advances	\$0.00		
Unique ID: [REDACTED]	Cash Advances Fees	\$0.00		
	Credits	\$0.00 CR		

Post Date	Tran Date	Reference Number	Transaction Description	Amount
08-28	08-26	24231686239874174693984	ALBERTSONS #0355 CARPINTERIA CA	12.27
09-03	09-01	24231686245881315699525	ALBERTSONS #0355 CARPINTERIA CA	13.21
09-14	09-10	24231686254891878487927	ALBERTSONS #0355 CARPINTERIA CA	11.70
09-16	09-14	24801976258896529161012	SUMMERLAND FUEL DEPOT SUMMERLAND CA	92.95

(transactions continued on next page)



Account Number :

Unique ID:

Statement Date : 09-22-2026

New Activity cont

BRIAN J CABRERA	Purchases	\$1,718.22	Total Activity	\$1,718.22
Account Number: [REDACTED]	Cash Advances	\$0.00		
Unique ID: [REDACTED]	Cash Advances Fees	\$0.00		
	Credits	\$0.00 CR		

Post Date	Tran Date	Reference Number	Transaction Description	Amount
08-27	08-26	24692166238402696750367	SQ *KENNEDY'S AUTOMOTIVE SANTA BARBARA CA	802.14
09-02	08-31	24071056244627105735353	CALIFORNIA SPECIAL DIS 916-4427887 CA	825.00
09-07	09-06	24793386249000622183080	ADOBE INC 800-8336687 CA	29.99
09-14	09-13	24011346256100140238364	ZOOM.COM 888-799-9666 ZOOM.US CA	16.99
09-14	09-14	24204296257000302968217	MICROSOFT-G184720904 701-2817490 WA	44.10
Department: 00000				Total: \$3,126.55
Division: 00000				Total: \$3,126.55

STAFF REPORT

DATE: October 2, 2026
TO: The Board of Trustees
FROM: Staff
SUBJECT: Request to Appoint a Treasurer as a District Officer

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended the District board does not need to appoint a Treasurer since Santa Barbara County's Treasurer is the District's Treasurer.

BACKGROUND

Legal expenses have increased dramatically since March 2024, mostly due to expenses incurred responding to the concerns raised by the Santa Barbara Audubon Society over the District's mosquito management activities at the Goleta Slough. Legal costs have gone into, among other things, addressing two public records requests, producing a written report for the California Coastal Commission on the impact of the District's activities at the Slough, revising several MOUs with entities the District has contracts with to provide mosquito management services, and the drafting of a District-wide Integrated Mosquito & Vector Management Plan.

Although monthly legal costs are included in the financial reports provided to the Board and reviewed at the monthly board meetings, a board trustee feels this is inadequate and the monthly invoices need to be thoroughly examined when received by the District to find out the breakdown of the charges, i.e., determine exactly what each itemized charge is for. The trustee is proposing such action would be the responsibility of a District treasurer.

ANALYSIS

Board Officers and Treasurer as Described in the California Safety Code

The and Safety Code § 2027 ("Officers), sub. (b) and (c), provides:

(b) The officers of a board of trustees are a president and a secretary. The president shall be a trustee. The secretary may be either a trustee or a district employee. A board of

trustees may create additional officers and elect members to those positions. No trustee shall hold more than one office.

(c) Except as provided in Section 2077, the county treasurer of the principal county shall act as the district treasurer. The county treasurer shall receive no compensation for the receipt and disbursement of money of the district. (Statute attached.)

Consistent with H&S Section 2027, the only officers mentioned in the District's Revised Rules for Proceedings (Reso. No. 08-07) are the President, Vice President, and Secretary. (See Section 2(B)(5).)

The "Except as provided in Section 2077" phrase in Section 2027 refers to the ability of a district with greater than \$250,000 in total annual revenues to withdraw its funds from the control of the county treasurer pursuant to the procedure in that Section 2077. (This procedure requires the board to adopt a resolution that (1) states its intent to withdraw its funds from the county treasury; (2) adopts a procedure for the appointment of a district treasurer, which may consist of the board appointing the treasurer or delegating the appointment to the general manager [the treasurer may be a member of the board of trustees, the secretary of the board of trustees, the general manager, or a district employee]; fix the amount of the bond for the district treasurer; adopt a system of accounting and auditing per GAAP [Generally Accepted Accounting Principles]; adopt a procedure for drawing and signing warrants; and, designate a bank or S&L as the depository of district funds. The District's Board of Trustees and the County Board of Supervisors must agree on a mutually acceptable date for withdrawal of district funds from the County treasury.)

The Board still retains some authority over District finances, such as by annually adopting the District's budget and appropriations limit (H&S Code §§ 2070, 2072). In addition, the Board is empowered to establish one or more restricted reserves (funds expended for certain exclusive purposes; see H&S Code § 2071) and may accept any revenue, money, grants, goods, or services from any federal, state, regional or local agency or from any person for any lawful purpose of the District (H&S Code §2074).

Review of Invoices

Monthly invoices are received and reviewed by the District General Manager and then submitted to the District's accountant before they are entered into the County Treasury's financial system for processing and payment. Trustees can also review invoices upon request (Note: invoices for legal services are protected under attorney-client privilege).

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends no action on this request. Santa Barbara County's Treasurer is the District's Treasurer and District trustees can review invoices on their own, thus providing additional oversight already performed by the general manager and District accountant.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Cabrera

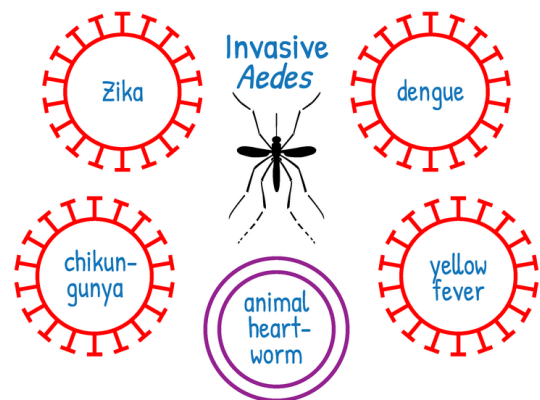
General Manager



INNOVATIVE TECHNIQUES NEEDED TO CONTROL INVASIVE MOSQUITOES

Invasive *Aedes* mosquitoes are rapidly spreading across California although they are not native to the state and don't have a place in our ecosystem. These mosquitoes are hard to control and can become resistant to commonly-used insecticides. Female *Aedes* mosquitoes lay their eggs in small water sources in front yards, backyards, and patios, areas where mosquito control agencies can't easily inspect or control. Also, their eggs are resistant to drying out and can survive for many months.

Invasive *Aedes* mosquitoes are more than a nuisance - they are a serious public health threat and California's mosquito and vector control agencies need new ways to control them.



There are three different innovative technologies being considered in California: self-limiting mosquitoes, *Wolbachia*, and irradiation. These technologies will be used as part of an overall Integrated Vector Management program.



**INTEGRATED VECTOR
MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

Finding environmentally friendly mosquito control tools is a priority. Innovative technologies will not replace traditional mosquito control methods but will be another Integrated Vector Management tool used to protect public health.

**To learn more please visit:
mvcac.org**

LEARN HOW THE DIFFERENT TECHNOLOGIES WORK



Self-limiting mosquitoes

Self-limiting mosquitoes are produced in a laboratory and carry two types of genes:

- A self-limiting gene that prevents female mosquito larva from surviving to adulthood.
- A fluorescent marker that glows under a special red light. This allows researchers to identify self-limiting mosquitoes in the wild.

Only male *Aedes* mosquitoes that have a self-limiting gene are released because male mosquitoes don't bite. When they mate with wild females their offspring inherit a copy of the self-limiting gene. This prevents female offspring from surviving to adulthood, ultimately reducing the number of biting female mosquitoes. These mosquitoes only mate with their own species, and their self-limiting gene can't establish in the ecosystem.



Wolbachia

Wolbachia are bacteria naturally found in about 60 percent of insects around the world like butterflies, dragonflies, moths, and beetles.

There are different types of *Wolbachia* associated with different types of insects. This bacteria can be used to reduce disease-spreading mosquitoes.

Male *Aedes* mosquitoes are raised in a lab with a specific type of *Wolbachia* that they do not normally have. All male mosquitoes do not bite. These male *Aedes* mosquitoes are released to mate with wild female *Aedes* mosquitoes that have a different type of *Wolbachia* or none at all.

During mating, the mismatched *Wolbachia* bacteria causes the eggs not to hatch.



Irradiation

Irradiated mosquitoes are raised in a laboratory where the male mosquitoes are separated from the females. Male mosquitoes, which don't bite, are sterilized using the same radiation found in x-rays and Gamma rays. The sterile male mosquitoes are released to mate with wild females. The resulting eggs do not hatch. This can reduce the overall number of mosquitoes over time.



Frequently Asked Questions About Sterile Insect Technique & Other Innovative Mosquito Control Efforts

Why are new mosquito control techniques needed?

Two invasive urban mosquitoes are spreading in California, the yellow fever mosquito, *Aedes aegypti*, and the Asian tiger mosquito, *Aedes albopictus*. First detected in 2013, these mosquitoes are now found in more than 300 cities and 22 counties throughout the state. Invasive *Aedes* mosquitoes spread viruses that cause Zika, dengue, chikungunya, and yellow fever. There are no human vaccines for many of these mosquito-borne diseases, and these diseases can have long-term health consequences. These mosquitoes can also spread the parasite that causes heartworm in dogs, cats and other animals, which can lead to severe disease in pets.

Invasive *Aedes* mosquitoes are harder to control because they have become resistant to commonly used insecticides. They lay their eggs in small, hidden water sources in people's front yards, backyards, and patios — areas where mosquito control agencies can't easily inspect. Due to the difficult nature of controlling invasive *Aedes* mosquitoes and the public health risks they pose, mosquito and vector control agencies need additional control methods. Many agencies are exploring the use of Sterile Insect Techniques (SIT) and other innovative technologies to help reduce the population of disease-transmitting mosquitoes.

What innovative technologies are being considered in California?

There are currently three different technologies that mosquito control experts are evaluating: *Wolbachia*, irradiation, and self-limiting mosquitoes.

- [*Wolbachia*](#) are bacteria naturally found in about 60 percent of insects around the world like butterflies, dragonflies, moths, and beetles. With this technique, male *Aedes* mosquitoes are raised in a lab with a specific type of *Wolbachia* that they do not normally have. These male *Aedes* mosquitoes are released to mate with wild female *Aedes* mosquitoes that have a different type of *Wolbachia* or none at all. During mating,

the mismatched *Wolbachia* bacteria causes the eggs not to hatch. This can reduce the overall number of *Aedes* mosquitoes over time.

The [Consolidated Mosquito Abatement District](#), in partnership with [Verily](#) and [MosquitoMate](#), recently completed a successful three-year pilot project called [DeBug Fresno](#), which used *Wolbachia* male mosquitoes to reduce populations of *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes by 95% in tested residential communities in Fresno County.

- [Irradiated mosquitoes](#) are raised in a laboratory where the male mosquitoes are separated from the females. Then, radiation found in x-rays and Gamma rays is used to sterilize male mosquitoes. Females that mate with sterile males lay eggs that do not hatch, which reduces the number of mosquitoes within the treated area. Irradiated *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes are currently being evaluated as a control method in Florida and this method has been used to control [other types of mosquitoes in Italy](#).
- Self-limiting mosquitoes are being developed by [Oxitec](#), a company that recently conducted a pilot project in the Florida Keys. When Oxitec's Friendly™ *Aedes aegypti* male mosquitoes mate with wild females, their offspring inherit a copy of the self-limiting gene, which prevents female offspring from growing and surviving to adulthood. Oxitec's mosquitoes only target their own species, and their self-limiting gene can't establish in the ecosystem.

Oxitec has received approval from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for a pilot project in California that is being planned in partnership with the Delta Mosquito and Vector Control District in Tulare County. The company needs to receive approval from the California Department of Pesticide Regulation before it can begin the project.

Can modified mosquitoes bite people and alter their DNA?

No, SIT and other innovative technologies only involve releasing **male mosquitoes, which do not** bite people and cannot alter people's DNA.

Will these techniques replace traditional mosquito control efforts?

No, SIT and other innovative technologies will not replace traditional mosquito control methods. If used, they will be part of an Integrated Vector Management approach, which is an evidence-based, data-driven decision-making tool used to suppress mosquito-borne diseases. There are many decisions that are made to determine which mosquito control technique will be most effective in different areas and conditions to protect public health. These decisions are

made at a local level and any emerging technology that is used to protect the public from mosquito-transmitted diseases would be used in conjunction with traditional control methods.

Will SIT and other innovative technologies harm the environment or other insects?

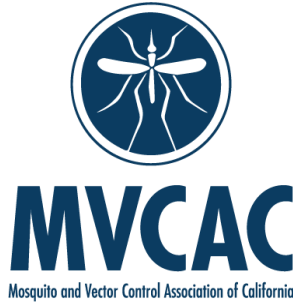
No, these technologies specifically work to control invasive *Aedes* mosquitoes which are not originally found in California and don't have a place in our natural ecosystem. Reducing or controlling these mosquitoes will not harm insect-eating animals that are native to California.

Is Sterile Insect Technique a new technology?

No, SIT was first developed in the USA and some forms have been used successfully for more than 60 years to control different kinds of insects and agricultural pests that can damage crops and livestock. The [California Department of Food and Agriculture](#) successfully used SIT to control Mediterranean fruit fly infestations in citrus and other fruit trees. The [United States Department of Agriculture](#) also successfully used SIT to control screwworms, a type of fly that can be devastating to cattle.

Will the public have any input about the use of SIT or other innovative technologies?

Mosquito and vector control agencies work to not only educate the public about mosquito bite prevention and residential mosquito control, but also to solicit public feedback. Local agencies that decide to pursue SIT or other technologies will determine the best way to conduct public outreach and seek input.



2026 SIT Talking Points - Debug EUPs

Main Themes

- Growing mosquito-borne disease threats.
- Need for innovation.
- California districts' leadership in evaluating science-based solutions.
- The role of SIT and Wolbachia as part of an integrated vector management program.

Overarching Messages

- California continues to face threats from both invasive *Aedes* mosquitoes and disease-carrying *Culex* mosquitoes.
- Mosquito-borne disease risks are increasing and mosquito control agencies need access to a toolbox of effective control methods to help protect public health.
- MVCAC supports the continued research, evaluation, and responsible deployment of innovative technologies that can help reduce mosquito populations and protect communities from mosquito-borne diseases.
- New technologies should be science-based, transparent, and integrated into comprehensive integrated vector management programs.
- California Mosquito and Vector Control Districts are using SIT, both [Wolbachia](#) and [Irradiation](#), to target *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes - that can transmit Zika, dengue, chikungunya and yellow fever.
- The Debug (Google) SIT program submitted an experimental use permit with the EPA to use Wolbachia to target *Aedes albopictus*, commonly known as the Asian Tiger mosquito, which can transmit dengue fever, yellow fever, and chikungunya in California, New Jersey, and Florida in 2027 and 2028.
- The Debug (Google) SIT program also submitted an experimental use permit with the EPA to use Wolbachia to target *Culex quinquefasciatus*, commonly known as the southern house mosquito, which can transmit Saint Louis Encephalitis and West Nile virus in California and Florida in 2027 and 2028.
- Debug has not publicly shared where in California and which District or county vector program they will be working with for the SIT experimental use permits.

About Wolbachia SIT

Wolbachia are bacteria naturally found in about 60 percent of insects around the world like butterflies, dragonflies, moths, and beetles. There are different types of Wolbachia associated with different types of insects. This bacteria can be used to reduce disease-spreading mosquitoes. Male *Aedes* mosquitoes are raised in a lab with a specific type of Wolbachia that

they do not normally have. All male mosquitoes do not bite. These male *Aedes* mosquitoes are released to mate with wild female *Aedes* mosquitoes that have a different type of Wolbachia or none at all. During mating, the mismatched Wolbachia bacteria causes the eggs not to hatch.

About MVCAC

The [Mosquito and Vector Control Association of California](#) (MVCAC) is the statewide voice for mosquito and vector control professionals. The association provides public health information, expertise, mosquito and vector-borne disease surveillance, innovative research, professional training, effective legislative and regulatory advocacy on behalf of California public agencies.



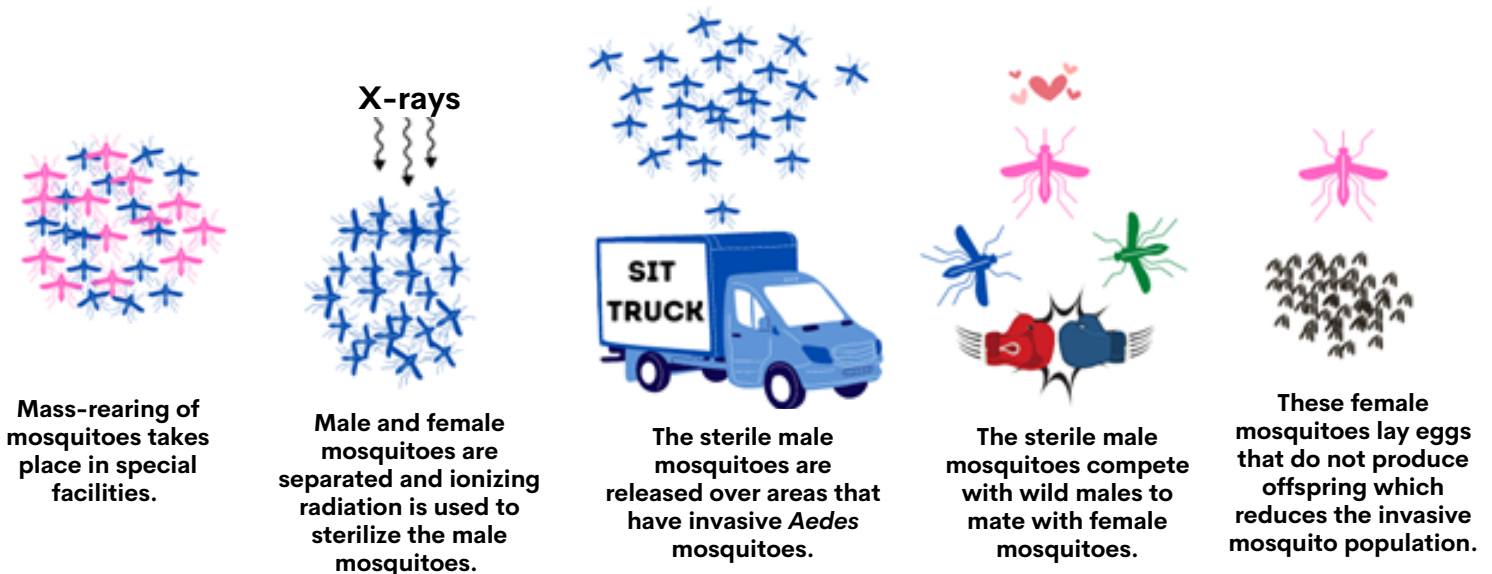
CALIFORNIA MOSQUITO CONTROL DISTRICTS USE IRRADIATED MOSQUITOES TO PROTECT PUBLIC HEALTH

A growing number of mosquito and vector control districts in California are turning to innovative technologies, specifically irradiation, to reduce the population of *Aedes* mosquitoes in their communities. *Aedes* mosquitoes are aggressive daytime biters and can spread pathogens that cause diseases like dengue, Zika, and chikungunya in people, and animal heartworm in pets.

Irradiation is a type of Sterile Insect Technique (SIT) that targets specific mosquitoes while reducing the use of traditional insecticides and the chance of insecticide resistance in mosquitoes. Irradiation and other innovative technologies can augment traditional mosquito control methods and are part of an Integrated Vector Management program.

HOW IRRADIATION WORKS

Irradiated mosquitoes are raised in a laboratory where the male mosquitoes are separated from the females. Male mosquitoes, which don't bite, are sterilized using the same radiation found in X-rays. The sterile male mosquitoes are released to mate with wild females resulting in eggs that do not hatch. This can reduce the overall number of disease-spreading mosquitoes over time. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, irradiated mosquitoes cannot make people or animals like fish, birds, or pets sick.





Currently, four mosquito and vector control districts in Southern California are using or evaluating irradiation to complement their traditional mosquito control efforts



West Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District

- Using irradiation as part of their Integrated Vector Management Program



Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District

- Conducting an irradiation pilot program to test for effectiveness and efficiency



Orange County Mosquito and Vector Control District

- First irradiated male mosquito releases expected in Fall 2024 or Spring 2025



Coachella Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District

- Completing laboratory assessments on the usefulness of irradiating male mosquitoes

Since 1996, the Mediterranean Fruit Fly Preventive Release Program has successfully used irradiation to reduce the number of medflies. This same technique is now being used to reduce mosquitoes.

Irradiation is part of an evidence-based, data-driven decision-making approach to suppress mosquito-borne diseases called Integrated Vector Management. Local mosquito and vector control districts determine which mosquito control techniques will be most effective to protect public health in their areas. Innovative technologies are often used in conjunction with traditional mosquito control methods to protect the public from mosquito-transmitted diseases.

To learn more about irradiation and other Sterile Insect Techniques visit mvcac.org.

Lee County Mosquito Control District's Pioneering Sterile Insect Technique Program for *Aedes aegypti*

by Rachel Morreale, Steven Stenhouse, Johanna Bajonero,
James Dunford, Aaron Lloyd, David Hoel

The Challenge of *Aedes aegypti* in Southwest Florida

Aedes aegypti is an aggressive daytime biter with larvae that thrive in water-holding artificial containers, including flowerpots, bird baths, discarded tires, and even bottle caps. While conventional mosquito control techniques effectively reduce populations of other mosquitoes, *Ae. aegypti* is extremely challenging to control as they rest in cryptic indoor and shaded outdoor locations, inhabit containers too small and numerous to feasibly treat, and have developed insecticide resistance in many populations (Foley et al. 2021, Guedes et al. 2020, Morreale et al. 2024, Wang et al. 2023).

Beyond being a nuisance, *Ae. aegypti* is the primary vector for dengue, Zika, chikungunya, and yellow fever viruses, placing it squarely in the crosshairs of health agencies worldwide (Lwande et al. 2020). With local dengue transmission documented in southern Florida in recent years, vector control districts in the region have faced increasing pressure to find solutions that go beyond conventional larviciding and adulticiding. For Lee County Mosquito Control District (LCMCD), that pressure became the catalyst for pursuing novel approaches to tackle the growing threat posed by *Ae. aegypti* (Morreale et al. 2025b, Stephenson et al. 2022).

Recognizing the limitations of conventional tools against *Ae. aegypti*, former LCMCD directors Wayne Gale

and David Hoel made a pivotal decision in 2016 to explore the sterile insect technique (SIT) as an additional, non-chemical arrow in their intervention quiver. The District forged a partnership with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna, bringing international expertise to a local problem (Morreale et al. 2025ab).

What Is the Sterile Insect Technique?

The concept of SIT is simple: mass-rear male insects in the laboratory, sterilize them so that they cannot produce viable offspring, and release them in large numbers to compete with wild males for mates. When a wild female mates with a sterile male, she lays sterile eggs, gradually suppressing the population over successive generations. Male mosquitoes do not bite, and only males are released, so the method poses no threat to the public. Because it exploits the insect's own biology rather than chemistry, insecticide resistance is not an issue.

SIT has a long and distinguished history in agricultural pest management and is most notably credited with the eradication of the New World screwworm fly from North America beginning in the 1950s (Baumhover et al. 1955, Bushland 1975). Its application to mosquito control is newer but growing rapidly worldwide. LCMCD's program stands out as one of the most rigorously documented county-led SIT efforts targeting *Ae. aegypti* in the United States (Bouyer 2024, Morreale et al. 2025b).

Building the Program from the Ground Up

LCMCD's SIT program uses X-ray irradiation to sterilize male *Ae. aegypti*. Using eggs collected from SIT surveillance efforts in Lee County, the LCMCD founded a colony of *Ae. aegypti* to help ensure that the released males are adapted to local environmental conditions and compatible with their wild counterparts. Eggs are collected from the colony and hatched using standard rearing techniques. Then, larvae are transferred to specialized larval rearing racks (Fig. 1) (Wolbaki Biotech, Guangzhou, PRC) and reared in the LCMCD's insectary until pupation begins, after which they are drained. Male pupae are then separated from females by size, an essential step since releasing even a small number of biting females would undermine public confidence and increase the biting pressure (Morreale et al. 2025b). Initially, pupal separation was performed manually using Fay-Morlan glass plate separators, which was a major bottleneck until automated separators (Wolbaki Biotech, Guangzhou, PRC) greatly increased efficiency and output (Fig. 2).

The separated males are placed in release containers, and the water is removed once emergence is complete. The adult males are then chilled, compacted, and exposed to a calibrated dose of X-ray radiation that sterilizes them without significantly impairing their ability to seek out and mate with wild females (Tussey et al.

2023). Quality assurance is central to the operation: the nine-person SIT team, including a technician dedicated exclusively to assessing quality control parameters, such as female contamination, pupal weights, hatch percentage, mating competitiveness, and longevity, among others, for every release. These assessments are not optional checkboxes; they are the backbone of a program that meets rigorous scientific standards for publication in peer-reviewed journals.

An overview of the program's structure, staffing, rearing protocol, and quality assurance framework is available, providing key information for other organizations considering an SIT program (Morreale et al. 2025b).

Captiva Island: The Pilot Study

Laying the Groundwork:

Baseline Data

Before releasing a single sterile male, the LCMCD invested years in understanding the local *Ae. aegypti* population. From June 2017 to June 2020, the District collected baseline entomological data from trapping stations deployed across Captiva and neighboring Sanibel Islands, characterizing seasonal abundance patterns, species composition, and population dynamics (Morreale et al. 2024).

That baseline work (Morreale et al.

2025a) revealed seasonal fluctuations in *Ae. aegypti* abundance, with populations low during the dry winter season from October through April and surging during the warm, wet summer months from May through September. The data provided an essential foundation for timing releases, setting release rates, and evaluating the impact of the SIT program against a documented pre-intervention baseline (Morreale et al. 2024).

Mark-Release-Recapture: Knowing the Enemy

Before operational releases could begin, LCMCD and IAEA researchers needed to characterize the biology of the target population. In 2019 and early 2020, the research team conducted a series of seven mark-release-recapture (MRR) studies across a 47-hectare portion of Captiva Island, roughly one-fifth of the island's 230-hectare total area, to measure population size, male dispersal, and released-male survival (Carvalho et al. 2022).

Over the course of those studies, 190,504 sterile marked males were released (Fig. 3). Recapture data revealed that the local *Ae. aegypti* strain dispersed a mean distance of 202 meters from the release point, with a maximum observed dispersal of 405 meters. The released males had a daily survival probability of 0.67,



Fig. 3. Releasing sterile *Aedes aegypti* males on Captiva Island.

yielding an average field lifespan of 2.5 days. Combined with a population-size estimate derived from the MRR data, these parameters enabled the team to calculate the sterile-to-wild ratio needed to achieve meaningful suppression, providing critical planning input in full-scale operations (Carvalho et al. 2022).

Operational Releases: From Captiva to Fort Myers

With baseline data established and population parameters in hand, our SIT team at the District launched operational SIT releases on Captiva Island in June 2020, continuing through



Fig. 1. Larval rearing racks for mass production of mosquitoes.



Fig. 2. Automated separation units for separating male and female mosquito pupae.

September 2022 across three distinct phases that progressively expanded the treatment area up to 142 hectares. In total, just over 24.1 million sterile male *Ae. aegypti* were released during that span, a logistical undertaking that required consistent colony production, quality assurance testing, and field deployment week after week through three Florida summers (Morreale et al. 2025a).

In the primary intervention area, wild adult populations were suppressed by up to 79%, and egg densities as measured by oviposition traps declined by 59% compared to the pre-intervention baseline and to simultaneously monitored non-intervention sites. However, the program was not without complications. An influx of wild females from untreated surrounding areas, a phenomenon called "immigration pressure", posed challenges in zones adjacent to the intervention boundary, underscoring the importance of treating sufficiently large, geographically discrete areas to minimize reinvasion. The results reinforced the case for an area-wide integrated pest management (AW-IPM) approach rather than SIT as a

standalone tool (Bouyer et al. 2020, Morreale et al. 2025a).

In September 2022, Hurricane Ian made landfall near Fort Myers Beach, devastating Captiva and Sanibel Islands with storm surge, high winds, and flooding. The destruction altered island landscape and human occupancy, making continued SIT field trials there impractical. We concluded the Captiva pilot and transferred the program's operational focus to Fort Myers, applying the accumulated knowledge from the island trials to an urban mainland context.

Building on the information from Captiva, we began population surveillance to build an entomological baseline. After a year of consistently monitoring *Ae. aegypti* activity in an intervention and non-intervention area using BG Sentinel traps and oviposition cups, we began releasing sterile males in Fort Myers. Since releases began in February 2024, LCMCD has released over 44 million sterile males over 228 hectares. Releases followed a phased strategy, similar to the approach on Captiva, with the intervention area expanding based on sterile male production. In the initial phase, there

have been clear signs of population reduction in Fort Myers as evidenced by both adult and egg surveillance (Fig. 4).

The intervention area in Fort Myers presents even greater challenges than those of Captiva. Baseline collections showed there was a higher *Ae. aegypti* population in Fort Myers compared to Captiva before sterile male releases (Fig. 5). Also, while there was essentially only *Ae. aegypti* on Captiva with only a few *Aedes albopictus* collected over the years, Fort Myers has an overlap of both container breeding species. This complication requires stricter oviposition monitoring with the necessary hatching of eggs to determine the species. Additionally, species co-occurrence raises questions regarding possible niche replacement as *Ae. aegypti* are removed from the area, an issue we will investigate as the releases continue. Fort Myers is fundamentally different from Captiva, as it lacks the geographical isolation that Captiva offers. This allows immigration of wild *Ae. aegypti* into the treatment area, necessitating a greater focus on boundary areas to maintain suppression.

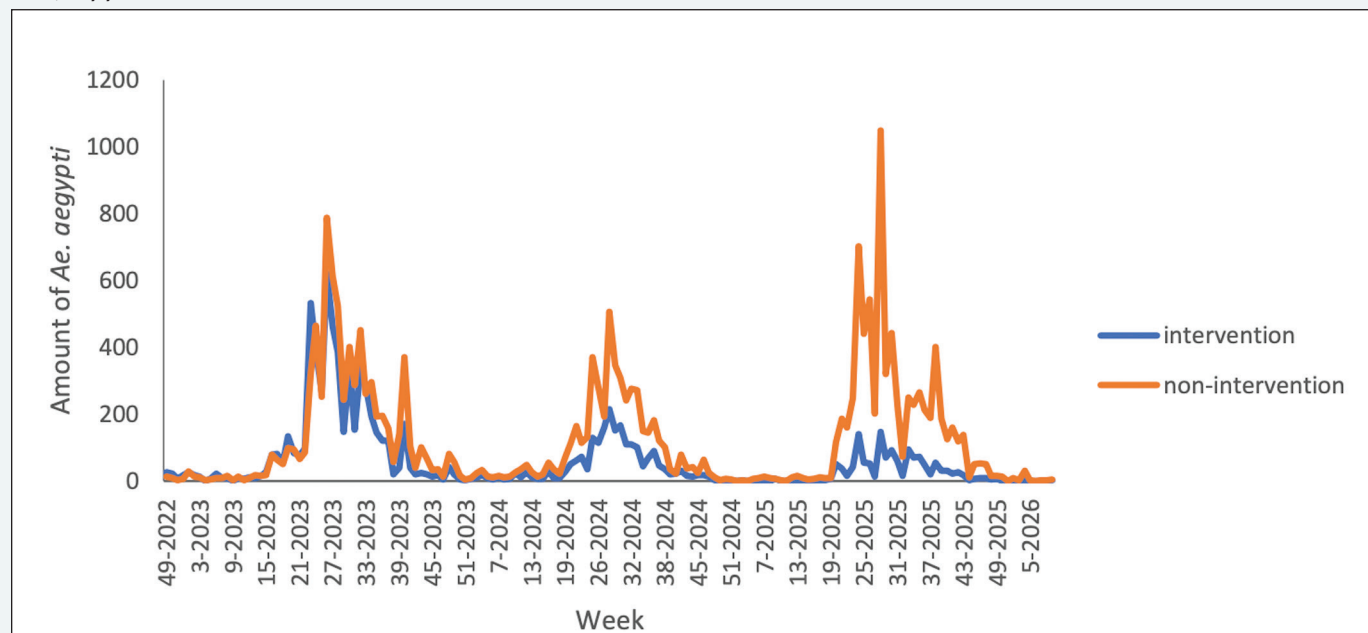


Fig. 4. Total number of *Aedes aegypti* adults collected per week in the initial intervention and non-intervention areas in Fort Myers, FL.

The transition from Captiva to Fort Myers illustrates a broader lesson the SIT team has drawn from our experience: SIT programs must be adaptive. Infrastructure, population parameters, release logistics, and even the physical geography of the target area can change, and a program built on rigorous science with documented protocols, trained staff, and ongoing quality assurance is far better positioned to adapt than one relying on informal institutional knowledge.

SIT Within the Integrated Mosquito Management Framework

While SIT is an effective way of suppressing *Ae. aegypti*, it is no magic bullet. We designed the program as a complement, not a replacement for conventional Integrated Mosquito Management (IMM) tools. Remember that SIT is one component of a broader toolkit that includes surveillance, larval source reduction, community engagement, and targeted chemical applications.

That integration extends to the District's area-wide management

philosophy. Over the years, LCMCD has woven novel ideas, collaborative partnerships, and data-driven decision-making into an operation that manages over fifty mosquito species across a diverse and complex county geography (Foley et al. 2021).

Community acceptance has also been a priority. LCMCD informed residents, business leaders, scientific organizations, and tourists on Captiva Island about the SIT program. Emphasizing that only non-biting x-rayed males were released provided a straightforward, reassuring public communication point. Building and maintaining public trust is recognized as essential to the long-term viability of novel vector control approaches, and our experience on Captiva Island offers a useful case study for other districts contemplating similar programs.

Partnerships That Made It Possible

The LCMCD SIT program is a model of productive collaboration between a local operational agency and international and academic research institutions. The IAEA's Insect Pest

Control Subprogramme provided technical guidance on mass-rearing, quality control, and irradiation protocols, grounded in decades of global SIT experience across multiple pest species. The University of Florida contributed expertise in project guidance, ecological statistics, X-ray machine calibration, mosquito sterilization dose, and the transition to adult irradiation. The CDC's Division of Vector-Borne Diseases also contributed to the program's evaluation.

This collaborative structure enabled us to implement the SIT program in Lee County. As we gained insight from experienced colleagues, the program also allowed partners to investigate pressing questions regarding SIT and mosquito production *in situ*.

Looking Forward

The body of peer-reviewed research now emerging from our SIT program, papers that provide baseline ecology, population parameter estimation, operational suppression results, and program overviews (Carvalho et al.

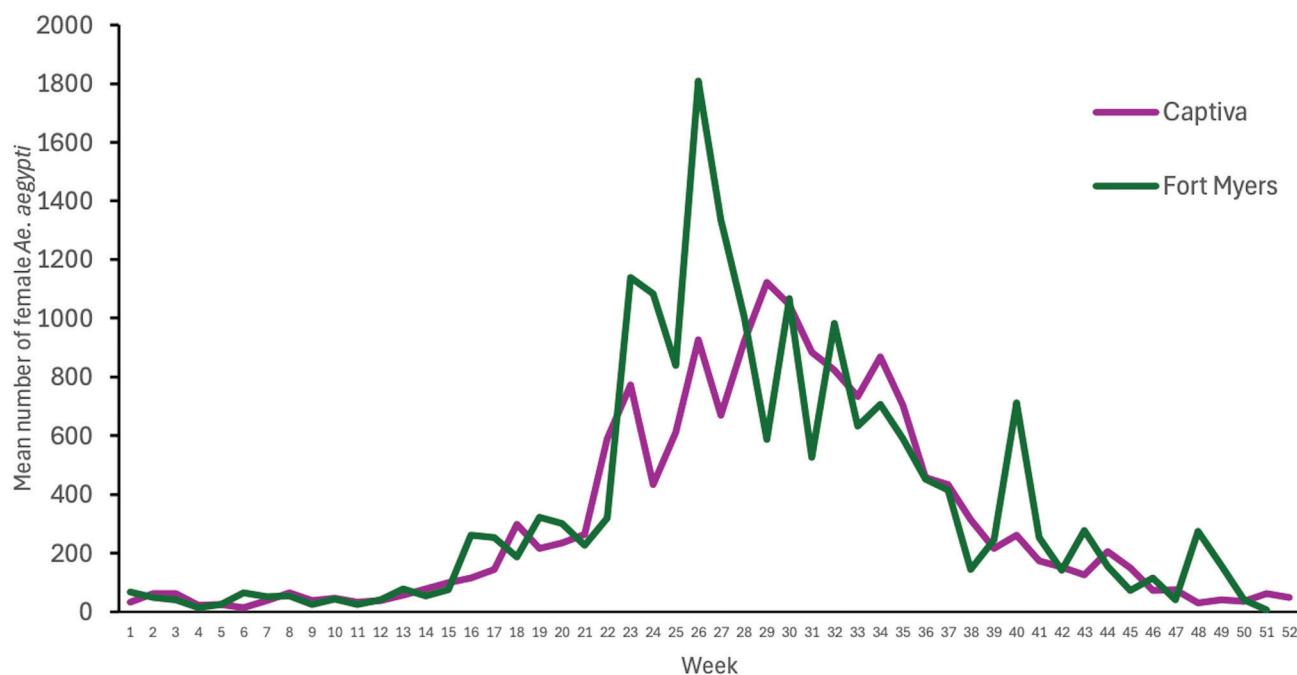


Fig. 5. Weekly comparisons of the mean number of *Aedes aegypti* adults collected through entomological baseline surveillance between Captiva and Fort Myers, FL.

2022, Morreale et al. 2024, Morreale et al. 2025ab), delivers the most comprehensive publicly available documentation of a municipal *Ae. aegypti* SIT program in the United States. The lessons learned from the pilot program on Captiva Island, especially the 79% adult suppression, provide a valuable framework for mosquito district managers considering SIT.

Dengue transmission continues to be recorded in Florida, and as insecticide resistance in *Ae. aegypti* populations become more widespread, the pressure to develop and validate non-chemical control tools will only intensify. In response, we are actively expanding the SIT program to increase production scale and the release area. The SIT program has helped ensure that this technology will be ready when that pressure peaks. As more people move to Lee County and development pushes into previously undeveloped habitats, the mosquito population will shift from floodwater to container breeders. There is a clear and growing need for SIT, and LCMCD is proactively working towards suppressing *Ae. aegypti* and protecting the public from mosquito-borne illnesses.

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General Manager's Report for September 2026

- Website visit data from the District's Google Analytics account:

Top ten locations in California where visitors to the website were viewing from:

City	Active	New
Los Angeles	69	62
Santa Barbara	38	38
San Jose	22	23
San Francisco	16	14
Goleta	11	9
Summerland	9	0
Eastern Goleta Valley	6	6
Anaheim	5	5
San Diego	5	1
Santa Clara	5	5
Total =	186 (192*)	163 (155*)
Not set**	232	215

*Total from previous month.

**Not set means the users browser settings do not allow the city of origin to be identified.

Other locations: Santa Maria (4, 3), Long Beach (3, 3), SLO (3, 1), Burbank (2, 2), Glendale (2, 1), Lompoc (2, 2), Moorpark (2, 2), Oxnard (2, 2), Santa Ynez (2, 2), Montecito (1, 0); Ventura (1, 0)

Top Ten pages on the website visited:

	Page path and screen class	↓ Views	Active users	Views per active user	Average engagement time per active user
	Total	3,986 100% of total	3,150 100% of total	1.27 Avg 0%	18s Avg 0%
1	/mosquito-hawks-giant-mosquitoes-nope-they-re-crane-flies	915 (22.96%)	833 (26.44%)	1.10	26s
2	/	449 (11.26%)	295 (9.37%)	1.52	18s
3	/board-meetings	87 (2.18%)	67 (2.13%)	1.30	27s
4	/availability-of-draft-special-coastal-procedures-for-the-integrated-mosquito-and-vector-management-plan	82 (2.06%)	48 (1.52%)	1.71	40s
5	/contact-us	79 (1.98%)	64 (2.03%)	1.23	1m 02s
6	/integrated-mosquito-vector-management-plan-in-development-with-updated-timeline	79 (1.98%)	40 (1.27%)	1.98	1m 15s
7	/invasive-mosquitoes	65 (1.63%)	60 (1.9%)	1.08	22s
8	/fungus-gnats-mosquito-look-alikes	63 (1.58%)	59 (1.87%)	1.07	16s
9	/aw-rats-when-nights-are-cold-rats-look-warm-places-to-nestle-in-like-car-engines	57 (1.43%)	54 (1.71%)	1.06	46s
10	/mosquitoes-of-santa-barbara-county	55 (1.38%)	46 (1.46%)	1.20	41s

Item 2: / means this is the Home page.

2. Instagram posts @mosquitosantabarbara on September 8, 18, 23 and 30:



3. The fifth issue of the Itching Post was released on 9/15: <https://www.mvmdistrict.org/the-itching-post>



4. GM Cabrera gave a presentation on "Mosquito Management at the Mosquito & Vector Management District of Santa Barbara County" at the September meeting of the Goleta Slough Management Committee on 9/17.

5. V.Ibarra viewed a webinar by Gulf South VECTOR on “Communication Strategies in Mosquito Abatement”. 9/21
6. GM Cabrera gave a presentation on “Mosquito & Vector Management in the Public Sector” to students and instructors participating in a Cal Poly San Luis Obispo Epidemiology Experience Field Course. 9/28.

Upcoming:

1. Public comment period for the Special Coastal Procedures section of the District’s Integrated Mosquito & Vector Management Plan ends on 10/12.