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SAC-YOLO MOSQUITO CONTROL RECEIVES TWO DISTINGUISHED COMMUNICATIONS AWARDS

ELK GROVE, Calif., April 24, 2007 — The Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District (District) announced today that both the International Association of Business Communicators (IABC) and the California Association of Public Information Officers (CAPIO) bestowed a marketing communications award on the District. The District received the prestigious Gold Quill Award from the IABC and an Award of Merit from CAPIO.

Both award programs are designed to recognize individuals and/or organizations for their continued commitment and dedication to the field of public relations, marketing communications and community outreach. The CAPIO award ceremony took place on Thursday, April 19, 2007 at CAPIO's 36th Annual Conference in Yosemite. IABC's award ceremony is scheduled for Monday, June 25 in New Orleans.

For **media inquires** please contact Jennifer Benito at 916.405.2082 or by e-mail at jbenito@FIGHTtheBITE.net.

West Nile virus

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), West Nile virus (WNV) is the leading cause of arboviral encephalitis in the United States. Originally discovered in Africa in 1937, WNV was first detected in the western hemisphere in 1999 in New York City. Since then it has caused seasonal epidemics of West Nile virus fever and severe neurological disease. West Nile virus is transmitted to humans and animals through the bite of an infected mosquito. Mosquitoes become infected with WNV when they feed on infected birds.

DAVID BROWN, MANAGER

2007 West Nile virus activity update

Level 1 - This year, 0 birds, 0 sentinel chickens, 0 horses, 0 mosquito samples and 0 humans have tested positive for West Nile virus to date.

2007 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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2006 West Nile virus activity

Sacramento County: 16 humans, 1 horse, 89 dead birds, 34 mosquito samples and 13 sentinel chickens tested positive for West Nile virus in 2006

Yolo County: 27 humans, 0 horses, 54 dead birds, 64 mosquito samples and 26 sentinel chickens tested positive for West Nile virus in 2006

To sign up for the District's **urban spray** notification via e-mail log onto FIGHTtheBITE.net/signup

To report a **dead bird or squirrel** call 1-877-WNV-BIRD (1-877-968-2473) or visit the California Department of Health Services online at westnile.ca.gov

The **Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District** provides mosquito and vector control services for Sacramento and Yolo Counties.

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