

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SECOND MOSQUITO SAMPLE TESTS POSITIVE FOR WEST NILE VIRUS **--Virus Activity Continues Throughout Sacramento County**

Elk Grove, Calif.—The Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District (District) received confirmation today that a **second mosquito sample has tested positive for West Nile virus (WNV)**. This mosquito sample was collected in the **Antelope** area of Sacramento County where earlier this month an infected dead bird was also found. “The intense mosquito season has started and West Nile virus is clearly active in our area,” said David Brown, District manager. “Once we see a few positive mosquito samples, the virus tends to amplify quickly and it becomes even more important for residents to take this seriously and do everything they can to protect themselves.” In response to the emergency response plan established by the District, open areas and parks are being treated and additional adult mosquito traps are being set to continue surveillance efforts.

Late last week, the first human case of West Nile virus was confirmed in California for 2008. A Tulare County woman tested positive for the infection though she was not hospitalized and is recovering. “Eliminating all sources of standing water and using an effective mosquito repellent continue to be key in order to protect yourself,” said Brown.

To date, West Nile virus activity has been detected in 19 counties throughout the state including various neighboring counties. WNV is transmitted to humans and animals through a mosquito bite. Mosquitoes become infected when they feed on infected birds.

2008 West Nile virus activity update for Sacramento and Yolo counties
Level 2—**3 dead birds**, 0 sentinel chickens, **2 mosquito sample** and 0 humans have tested positive for West Nile virus to date.

Practice the District D's of Mosquito Prevention:
DRAIN standing water that may produce mosquitoes.
DAWN and **DUSK** are times to avoid being outdoors.
DRESS appropriately be wearing long sleeves and pants when outside.
DEFEND yourself by using an effective insect repellent. Make sure to follow label directions!
DOOR and window screens should be in good working condition.
DISTRICT personnel are also available to address any mosquito problems.

DAVID BROWN, MANAGER

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