

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 26, 2008

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TWO MORE BIRDS TEST 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 **two more birds** tested positive for West Nile Virus bringing the total number of infected birds to five. The two new birds, a house finch and crow were found in the **Pocket** and **Oak Park** area of Sacramento County. “We are starting to see the virus amplify in our region,” said David Brown District Manager. “Of special concern is that we are finding activity in urban areas where residents can become infected.” As a response to the two new bird cases, the District will elevate efforts in the areas where the birds were found, continue trapping adult mosquitoes and treating any known mosquito breeding sources. “We urge residents to inspect their homes carefully and drain any standing water and to wear an effective repellent around dawn and dusk when mosquitoes are most active”, said Brown.

Since last week, the entire state has seen a rise in West Nile virus activity. Yesterday, the first horse infected with WNV died in Riverside County and last Friday, the first human case was reported in Tulare County. WNV is transmitted to humans and animals through a mosquito bite. Mosquitoes become infected when they feed on infected birds.

For the latest information on WNV throughout the state visit www.westnile.ca.gov

2008 West Nile virus activity update for Sacramento and Yolo counties

Level 2—**5 dead birds**, 0 sentinel chickens, **2 mosquito samples** 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. Call them at 1-800-429-1022 or visit www.FIGHTtheBITE.net

DAVID BROWN, MANAGER

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