

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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HIGH TEMPERATURES MAY HELP SPREAD WEST NILE VIRUS
--Two More Positive Mosquito Samples Found in South Sacramento County

Elk Grove, Calif.—A new study indicates that warmer temperatures can have an effect in the transmission of West Nile virus. These findings from the University Of California come as the Sacramento-Yolo Mosquito and Vector Control District (District) received confirmation that **two more mosquito samples have** tested positive for West Nile virus. Both samples were found in southern Sacramento County. “We continue to see virus activity spreading throughout our area and it is imperative that residents continue to protect themselves,” said David Brown, District Manager. “The very hot July temperatures will be upon us quickly and we all need to take extra precautions in order to protect our health.”

The study, which was published in the June 27th issue of the journal *PLoS Pathogens* showed that temperature increases of just a few degrees, due to global warming, could accelerate the transmission of the virus and possibly lead to more severe epidemics of West Nile virus. In the last weeks, virus activity has been constant throughout the state. Thus far, activity has been registered in 19 counties throughout California including the first human case.

For a complete copy of the article, go to:
<http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/news/article/18110>

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, **4 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

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DAVID BROWN, MANAGER

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