

**MARIN COUNTY**  
**WEST NILE VIRUS TASK FORCE MEETING**

**MINUTES**

**Monday, April 16, 2007**  
**10:30 AM – 12:00 PM**

**4<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room**  
**899 Northgate Drive, San Rafael, CA 94903**

*Attendees: Fred Schwartz MD (Chair), Celia Golden MD, Andrew Horvath, Shanna Cronan, Nancy Barnard, Marty Castro, Bobbi Kimball, Cindy Machado, Bruce Badzik, Fred Crowder, Stacy Carlsen, Ron Keith, Chris Bramham, Ed Schulze, Loretta Rogers (Secretary)*

*Handouts: Agenda, 4/16/07 WNV Surveillance Update, Board of Supervisors West Nile Virus and Mosquito & Vector Control Awareness Week Resolution*

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
Welcome and Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fred Schwartz opened the meeting and welcomed all attendees.</li> <li>• Fred Schwartz announced that Linda Ferguson had been in a serious auto accident over the Easter weekend. She is currently in Kaiser Hospital in San Rafael and doing well. A card was passed around for all to sign.</li> <li>• All attendees introduced themselves.</li> </ul>	None.
WNV Surveillance Update	<p><b>Andrew Horvath:</b>  <u>National:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The first slide shows WNV activity in the United States for 2006. Idaho had the most cases with 996, followed by Texas at 347 and then Colorado at 345. California had 278 cases which was a considerable decrease from previous years.</li> </ul>	

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	<p><u>California:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The second slide compares 2004, 2005 and 2006. It shows that infections decreased significantly in 2006, with 928 human infections in 2005 and only 292 in 2006.</li> <li>• The third slide shows infections by county in 2006. There were 36 counties in all with human infections. There were 292 total human infections with 7 deaths. The median age of fatalities was 82 years.</li> <li>• So far in 2007, there has been one equine case in Sonoma and six positive dead birds in Santa Clara County</li> </ul> <p><u>Marin:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The last slide shows West Nile Virus activity in Marin, comparing 2004, 2005 and 2006. So far, there has been no activity detected in Marin in 2007.</li> </ul> <p>Fred Schwartz reported the discovery of a red tail hawk, in residence at Walker Creek Ranch, which died in August 2006. It was tested and found to have West Nile Virus. This is an indication of WNV activity in our area.</p>	
<p>WNV Education and Public Information</p>	<p><b>Celia Golden</b> reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Linda Ferguson was the lead on this, but Celia Golden and Shanna Cronan will be taking over this item until Linda returns.</li> <li>• This year we will have the following:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ WNV brochures</li> <li>○ “Warm” line</li> <li>○ PSAs</li> <li>○ DEET training</li> <li>○ Participation in State conference calls each Tuesday</li> <li>○ Day labor outreach to West Marin which was not accomplished last year. Will work with David Escobar.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Ed Schulze reported that there will be a MSVCD open house on April 22, 2007 in Cotati. There will be displays for families and children.</p>	

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Late Breakers / Round Table	<p><b>Marty Castro:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• California’s revised WNV web site is up. Many people like it.</li> <li>• Passed around a copy of a new brochure: “Be A West Nile Watcher” which is posted on the State’s web site and can be downloaded. It is posted on Marin’s web site also.</li> </ul>	None.
Late Breakers / Round Table	<p><b>Nancy Barnard:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lab testing will proceed this year in the same way as last year.</li> <li>• Supplies came in last week. The lab is ready to go.</li> </ul>	None.
Late Breakers / Round Table	<p><b>Bobbi Kimball:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The new State WNV web site is great. Bobbi will publicize it in West Marin and work with Shanna and Celia on education efforts.</li> <li>• Mowing, drainage, etc. efforts will continue this year. West Marin will be working with the District.</li> </ul>	None.
Late Breakers / Round Table	<p><b>Shanna Cronan:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Calls regarding how to report dead birds are coming in. We are referring them to the toll-free number, online resources, etc.</li> </ul>	None.
Late Breakers / Round Table	<p><b>Cindy Machado:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We are reaching out to the horse-owner community, large animal vets, etc. to get horses vaccinated for WNV.</li> <li>• \$15,000 reward is being offered for information leading to the arrest of those who shot at cows on Mill Valley Road.</li> </ul>	None.
Late Breakers / Round Table	<p><b>Stacey Carlsen:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Last year, the Agricultural Commissioner’s office managed the budget and financial controls for the day laborer project. Our office would be willing to do that again this year.</li> </ul> <p>Celia Golden accepted the offer.</p>	The Agricultural Commissioner’s office will manage the budget and financial controls for the day laborer project in 2007.

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<p>Mosquito Surveillance and Control Update</p>	<p><b>Ron Keith:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regarding the red tail hawk at Walker Creek Ranch that tested positive for WNV, MSVCD did not do any trapping at the time of the report and completion of testing, as by then it was too late in the season. It had not been reported to the WNV hotline, but rather went through a local veterinarian who sent it to the Fresno lab, which is standard procedure absent the WNV program. This season, we will survey that area extensively. MSVCD's report will be made to Walker Creek Ranch and to Marin Office of Education (Luke McCann and Mary Jane Burke). Preventative measures and notification requirements were discussed.</li> <li>• Regarding the horse case, the horse resided in Santa Rosa near the fairgrounds. It had no travel history. The vaccination history was not complete. MSVCD did trapping in the area.</li> <li>• So far in 2007, there have been no dead birds or mosquito pools, positive for WNV.</li> <li>• The sentinel chicken flocks arrived about two weeks ago. There are seven flocks of 11 birds each. They are all pre-bled. They are located throughout the county.</li> <li>• MSVCD is starting its control efforts. MSVCD technicians are locating the species of mosquito which are the major vectors for WNV: <i>culex pipiens</i>, <i>culex tarsalis</i>, <i>culex erythrothorax</i>, and <i>culex stigmatosoma</i>. All of these species are out now and reproducing.</li> <li>• MSVCD is also working to control tree mosquitoes, <i>Aedes siarensis</i>.</li> <li>• Two weeks ago, the Leguna de Santa Rosa Foundation put on a scientific conference regarding the Laguna de Santa Rosa issue at Sonoma State University for three days. Many scientists, wetlands scientists, environmentalists, and restoration biologists attended, discussing how to restore and enhance this waterway. After two years of this project, there has been a tenfold reduction in the number of mosquitoes in this area. This reduces the need for pesticides and other chemical controls</li> <li>• The district report is not yet ready for publication.</li> <li>• MSVCD applied with the National Park Service for permission to do surveillance at Pt. Reyes. The application was rejected. A reply</li> </ul>	<p>Loretta Rogers will provide Ron Keith with contact information for Luke McCann and Mary Jane Burke.</p>

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	<p>was sent and MSVCD are now awaiting NPS's response.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Today, there is a meeting with the West Marin Mosquito Control Committee regarding the use of monomolecular film for mosquito control.</li> </ul>	
WNV Awareness Week, BOS Resolution	<p><b>Ron Keith</b> will go to the next meeting of the Board of Supervisors and present the resolution for WNV Awareness week. A copy of the resolution was passed out to all participants.</p>	<p>Ron Keith will present the resolution to the Board of Supervisors.</p>
Discussion of meeting schedule	<p><b>Fred Schwartz</b> stated that in view of the decreased WNV activity in 2006, it was suggested at the last meeting that the Task Force meet bi-monthly instead of monthly in 2007. An on-line survey of participants was conducted. There were 15 respondents. 10 people voted in favor of having bi-monthly meetings. 5 people voted in favor of monthly meetings.</p> <p><u>MOTION:</u> Ron Keith motioned that the WNVTF meet bi-monthly, the next meetings being in June and August. The WNVTF will meet in July and September, if needed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cindy Machado seconded the motion.</li> <li>• The motion passed unanimously.</li> </ul> <p><u>MOTION:</u> Shanna Cronan motioned that the August 2007 WNVTF meeting be made open to the public.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ed Schulze seconded the motion.</li> <li>• The motion passed unanimously.</li> </ul>	<p>The WNVTF's next scheduled meetings will be in June and August 2007, with meetings in July and September, if needed.</p> <p>The August 2007 meeting of the WNVTF will be open to the public.</p>
Adjournment	<p><i>The next WNVTF meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 18, 2007, from 10:30 am to 12:00 noon, at 899 Northgate Drive, San Rafael, CA 94903, 4th floor conference room. Dr. Fred Schwartz will chair the October 2006 meeting if it is held.</i></p>	<p>Adjourned at 11:50 AM.</p>