

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

**MINUTES**

**Monday, August 20, 2007**  
**10:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

**EOC Conference Room, Room 266**  
**Civic Center, San Rafael, CA 94903**

*Attendees: Fred Schwartz MD (Chair), Anju Goel, Nancy Barnard, Marty Castro, Bobbi Kimball, Cindy Machado, Linda Ferguson, Ed Schulze, Jim Wanderscheid, Bruce Badzik, Shanna Cronan, Loretta Rogers (Secretary) Members of the Public: Sandy Ross, Stacey Henderson*

*Handouts: Agenda, WNV 2007 Epidemiology Update, U.S. as of 8/14/07 and California as of 8/17/07.*

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action
Welcome	<b>Fred Schwartz</b> opened the meeting and welcomed all attendees.	None.
WNV 2007 Epidemiology Update	As Andrew Horvath was ill, <b>Anju Goel</b> presented the WNV 2007 Epidemiology Update, as follows: <u>National:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In 2007, there have been human cases in 27 states. Bird, animal or mosquito infections have been detected in 40 states.</li> </ul> <u>California:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The table shows 120 human infections in California in 2007, covering 21 counties. There have been seven fatalities.</li> <li>• So far, there have been 11 positive horses, 641 positive dead birds, 590 positive mosquito pools, 136 positive sentinel chickens and eight positive squirrels.</li> </ul> <u>Bay Area:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There has been one human case in Sonoma County. Fred</li> </ul>	None.

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	<p>Schwartz added that the person had spent time in Kern County so it is possible this person became infected there.</p> <p><u>Marin:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No WNV activity has been detected so far in 2007. This could change any day.</li> </ul>	
Introductions	Each member of the committee and members of the public introduced him- or herself.	None.
Mosquito Surveillance and Control Update	<p><b>Jim Wanderscheid</b> reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Mosquito control:</u> MSMVCD is running 8 – 15 traps per day, Monday through Thursday in Marin and Sonoma. There has been one positive dead bird in Sonoma. The hot spots are Petaluma and San Rafael. A lot of positive feedback has been received from Marin residents. <i>Culex pipiens</i>, a night-biting mosquito, is a major source and can be hard to find. MSMVCD is working on a system now to use larvicide in pipes. A heat wave is anticipated in the next few weeks which should result in more mosquito activity.</li> </ul> <p><b>Fred Schwartz</b> asked about the status of a red tail hawk kept at Walker Creek Ranch which died in August 2006 and tested positive for WNV. Jim Wanderscheid stated that trapping and testing have been done at Walker Creek Ranch, West Marin, Tomales, etc. There are mosquitoes there, but nothing positive so far.</p>	None.
Mosquito Surveillance and Control Update	<p><b>Shanna Cronan</b> asked about spraying being done in Contra Costa County. Jim Wanderscheid stated that the spraying is all truck-mounted. Only Sacramento is doing aerial spraying which generated a lot of controversy as people don't like it. On the other hand, an elderly lady in Chico sued the City and County for lack of mosquito control which resulted in the death of her husband and illness in herself. She won the suit.</p>	None.
Mosquito Surveillance and Control Update	<p><b>Marty Castro</b> stated that there are known problem sites which are generally covered by MSMVCD. However, the main problems are backyards. People are losing their houses and not taking care of their</p>	None.

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	<p>pools. Jim Wanderscheid stated that MSMVCD has done fly-overs of Marin and Sonoma to locate these sites.</p>	
<p>Approval of Minutes</p>	<p>The participants reviewed the minutes of the June 18, 2007 West Nile Virus Task Force Meeting. There were three corrections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On page 3, in the action item for “Mosquito Surveillance and Control Update,” the spelling of Luke McCann’s name needs to be corrected.</li> <li>• On page 3, under “WNV education and Public Information,” the first bullet, the first sentence should read, “Last year, outreach was done to the Spanish-speaking and Maya community through the farmer’s market and day laborers in the Canal, San Rafael and Novato.”</li> <li>• On page 3, under “WNV education and Public Information,” the second bullet, the first sentence should read, “This year, the effort will be expanded.”</li> </ul> <p>The minutes were approved with the above corrections by nine “yeas,” zero “nays” and two abstentions.</p>	<p>Loretta Rogers will make the three requested changes and post the approved minutes on the WNV web site.</p>
<p>Risk Communication Committee Update</p>	<p><b>Shanna Cronan</b> reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The original plan was to have a program teaching WNV prevention measures to Spanish-speaking and Mayan-speaking people in San Rafael, Novato and West Marin, as they are at greater risk for more severe disease as these ethnic groups have higher incidence of hypertension and diabetes. This year, the program has been expanded and more people have been trained.</li> <li>• To date, three outreach workers have been trained for San Rafael, one of whom will work in Novato, two in Marin City and another will be trained for West Marin. They have been talking to day laborers, going to churches, schools, senior centers, and distributing materials in Spanish and English.</li> <li>• David Escobar and Anju Goel helped with the training. Good feedback has been received from the outreach workers.</li> <li>• David Escobar will contact the MSMVCD to get funding to replace broken and missing screens in Marin City and the Canal area.</li> </ul>	<p>Shanna will talk to Brian Waterbury about incorporating outreach workers into the MMRC.</p> <p>Shanna will ask Barbara Clifton Ghilotti of <i>First Five</i> for the outreach data to report to the WNVTF.</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• David Escobar is working with “<i>promotores</i>” or “health promoters” to get out WNV prevention information.</li> <li>• David Escobar reported that at the last Farmer’s Market, the WNV booth was the most popular. Many English-speaking people were interested in the materials. Therefore, in future an English-speaking outreach plan should be considered.</li> <li>• <u>Budget</u>: <i>First Five</i> donated \$1,529.00. Other donors are Agriculture, Environmental Health, Board of Supervisors and Public Health. <u>Total budget</u>: \$2,314.50</li> <li>• Shanna will talk to Brian Waterbury about incorporating outreach workers into the MMRC.</li> </ul> <p><b>Linda Ferguson</b> reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>First Five</i> is collecting data on the effectiveness of outreach i.e. how many people are getting the information, etc. No data was collected last year.</li> <li>• Barbara Clifton Ghilotti of <i>First Five</i> is collecting questionnaires, compiling the data and creating a report. Shanna will ask her for the information to report to the WNVTF.</li> <li>• David Escobar plans to prepare a presentation for the Board of Supervisors on the outreach project.</li> <li>• Mirta Cuevas also did training of outreach workers in Spanish.</li> </ul> <p><b>Marty Castro</b> reported that MSMVCD has put out a “West Nile Rap” as part of its public education program. It was created by Maverick Media and is very well done.</p>	
Meeting Schedule Review	<p><b>Fred Schwartz</b> reviewed the meeting schedule for the rest of 2007, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>September 17, 2007</u>: This meeting is tentatively scheduled and will be held if circumstances warrant. If it is held, Dr. Goel will chair this meeting as Dr. Schwartz will be on vacation.</li> <li>• <u>October 15, 2007</u>: This meeting will probably be the last of the year.</li> </ul>	Members are asked to hold these meeting dates open: September 17, 2007 and October 15, 2007.

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Late Breakers/Roundtable	<p><b>Marty Castro:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Governor made various funds available for WNV surveillance and control this month.</li> <li>• Some money was given to Public Health to develop materials for public education, including information for real estate managers regarding WNV and pools. Marty passed this information around.</li> </ul>	None.
Late Breakers/Roundtable	<p><b>Jim Wanderscheid:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MSMVCD is signing an agreement with West Marin. Agnique, a pupacide, will be used in certain areas in West Marin.</li> </ul>	None.
Late Breakers/Roundtable	<p><b>Ed Schultze:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complimented the district on its media coverage. It is money well spent.</li> </ul> <p>Fred Schwartz reported that there was a good article in the Marin IJ about WNV a week ago.</p>	None.
Late Breakers/Roundtable	<p><b>Cindy Machado:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marin Humane Society (MHS) is holding barn meetings with owners. Three have been held so far. The purpose is to educate owners regarding vaccinations and West Nile Virus. MHS recommends vaccinations twice per year. This is voluntary.</li> <li>• MHS is also urging owners to develop a disaster plan so that they are more self-sufficient in emergencies.</li> </ul>	None.
Late Breakers/Roundtable	<p><b>Shanna Cronan:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Six calls have been received regarding birds. The carcasses were sent to the State lab for testing. So far, there has been no true positive.</li> </ul>	None
Late Breakers/Roundtable	<p><b>Bobbi Kimball:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcomed back Linda Ferguson.</li> <li>• West Marin is looking good. The residents are doing their part.</li> </ul>	None
Late Breakers/Roundtable	<p><b>Fred Schwartz:</b></p>	None.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seven Health and Human Services staff people participated in the Marin Century Bike Ride on August 4, 2007, including Dr. Schwartz. Dr. Schwartz did not observe mosquitoes at any of the rest stops along the way. There were over 2,500 riders.</li> </ul>	
Open Time for the Public	<p><b>Stacey Henderson:</b> There are few mosquitoes in Bolinas. So far, it is a good year. No requests to pick up dead birds have been received in West Marin. Keep up the good work.</p>	None.
Adjournment	<p><i>The next WNVTF meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, September 17, 2007, from 10:30 am to 12:00 noon, depending on circumstances. The location will be the fourth floor conference room at 899 Northgate, San Rafael, CA 94903. Dr. Anju Goel will chair the meeting as Dr. Fred Schwartz will be on vacation.</i></p>	Adjourned at 11:30 AM.