



**MOSQUITO and VECTOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT  
of SANTA BARBARA COUNTY**

**DISEASE SURVEILLANCE REPORT**

**July 2025**

**Santa Barbara County Vector-borne Disease Surveillance**

Five dead birds from Santa Barbara County were reported to the state hotline in July. Weekends and holidays prevented four pick-ups. A sample was collected from one mourning dove, and it tested negative for West Nile virus (WNV). There have been no detections of WNV in the County in 2025. St. Louis encephalitis virus (SLE) and Western equine encephalitis virus (WEE) have never been documented in the County.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Number of Mosquitoes</b>	<b>Type of Trap</b>	<b># of Traps</b>	<b>Mosquitoes per Trap Night</b>	<b>Pools Submitted</b>	<b>WSW* Virus Test Result</b>
Shoreline/More Mesa, 93111	7/9-7/10	46	EVS	9	5.1	2	Negative
Shoreline/More Mesa, 93111	7/9-7/10	24	Gravid	2	12	2	Negative
Oceano, SLO County	7/15-7/16	502	EVS	6	83.6	9	Negative
Chumash Park, Pismo Beach, SLO County	7/15-7/16	25	EVS	3	15.7	0	--
Pismo Creek, Pismo Beach, SLO County	7/15-7/16	25	EVS	2	12.5	0	--
UCSB/SBAIR Bluffs	7/17-7/18	46	EVS	9	5.1	3	Negative
UCSB/SBAIR Bluffs	7/17-7/18	80	Gravid	3	26.7	2	Negative
Lake Los Carneros	7/22-7/23	20	EVS	7	2.9	2	Negative
Lake Los Carneros	7/22-7/23	30	Gravid	1	30	2	Negative
Evergreen Park, Goleta	7/22-7/23	19	EVS	4	4.75	2	Negative
Evergreen Park, Goleta	7/22-7/23	82	Gravid	1	82	3	Negative
Bella Vista Park, Goleta	7/22-7/23	2	EVS	1	2	2	Negative
El Estero Water Resource Center, Santa Barbara	7/29-7/30	26	EVS	6	4.3	3	Negative
El Estero Water Resource Center, Santa Barbara	7/29-7/30	58	Gravid	1	58	2	Negative
Andrée Clark Bird Refuge, Santa Barbara	7/29-7/30	6	EVS	6	1	1	Negative
Andrée Clark Bird Refuge, Santa Barbara	7/29-7/30	86	Gravid	2	43	3	Negative

BGS2=Biogents Sentinel 2; BGP=Biogents Pro; EVS=enkephalitis surveillance trap (CO<sup>2</sup>)

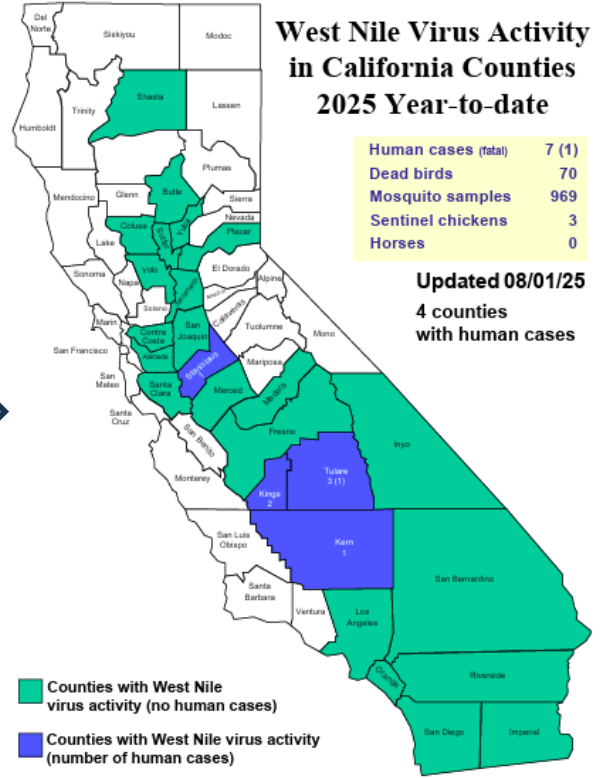
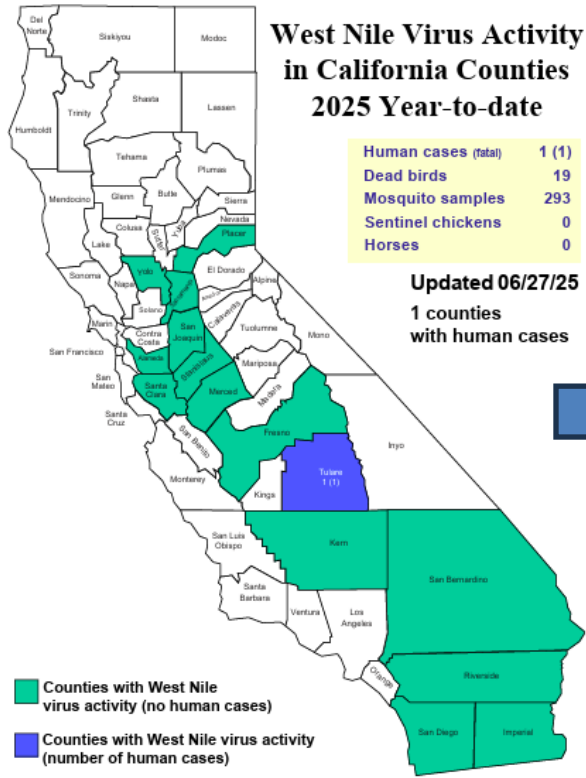
\*WSW=WNV, SLEV, AND WEE

\*\*Color indicates the virus-transmitting ability of some or all of the mosquito species caught in the traps:

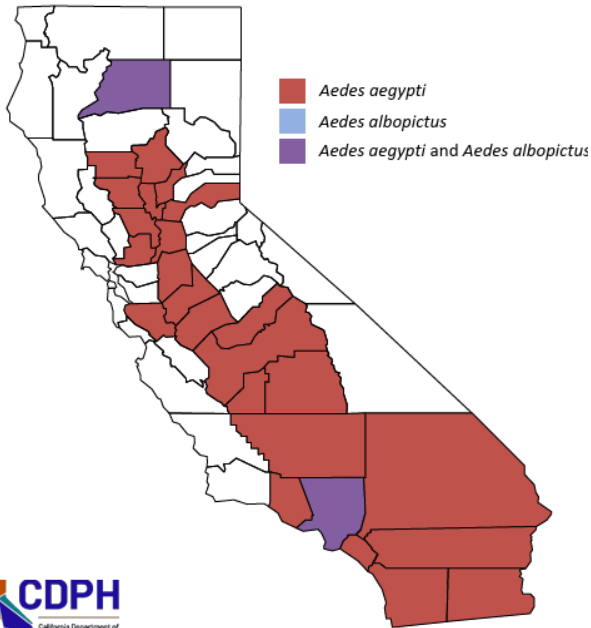
Purple = high (example: *Aedes aegypti*, *Culex tarsalis*); Aqua = moderate; Tan = low.

For specific trap collection data, please email a request to: [info@mvmdistrict.org](mailto:info@mvmdistrict.org).

# California Vector-borne Disease Surveillance: Change in WNV activity from June to July



Updated August 8, 2025



## Update on Invasive *Aedes* Mosquito in California

No invasive *Aedes* species have been detected in Santa Barbara County since May 2021. *Aedes aegypti* is found in 26 California counties (increased from 23), and *Aedes albopictus* is found in two.

In 2024, there were **18** locally-transmitted cases of dengue virus in California: Los Angeles County (12), San Bernardino County (1), and San Diego County (4). Non-native *Aedes* mosquitoes, capable of vectoring dengue, Zika, chikungunya, and yellow fever viruses, are common in the Greater Los Angeles area. As of August 6, 2025, there have been 65 travel-related human dengue cases in California; there have been four travel-related cases of chikungunya virus and two cases of Zika virus. There were five cases of travel-related dengue in Santa Barbara County last year. The current number of worldwide dengue cases is above average but lower than it was at this time last year.



*Aedes taeniorhynchus* adult female emerging from pupa.  
Photograph by James M. Newman, University of Florida.

## **The Black Salt Marsh Mosquito** *Aedes taeniorhynchus*

The black salt marsh mosquito, *Aedes taeniorhynchus*, is an aggressive, day-biting mosquito. A small number of host-seeking females can seem like a swarm! The adult has white stripes on its legs and abdomen and a white ring around its proboscis (the needle-like “beak”).

A black salt marsh mosquito lays eggs on moist soil around the pickleweed and salt grass of tidal marshes. The eggs hatch when the area is flooded by the high tides that coincide with the full and new moon phases. Staff inspects local salt marshes, from April to October, about 3 days after tides above 6 feet. At the edges of the marshes, water gets impounded in low spots that do not drain at low tide and remain stagnant for about 2 weeks. Time from egg to adult mosquito is 5 to 15 days. Some low spots are man-made, such as ditches and bulldozer tracks from the early 1900s. Occasionally, changes in the natural topography of the marshes create more pools of impounded water.

Black salt marsh mosquitoes can fly up to 25 miles in search of a blood meal. Recently, traps set near Santa Monica Creek north of Foothill Road caught *Aedes taeniorhynchus* mosquitoes from the Carpinteria Salt Marsh.

Santa Barbara County is the northern limit of the black salt marsh mosquito’s range. WNV has been detected in this species, but it is not considered to be a good vector.

In recent years, the Goleta Slough has been closed to tidal flow by a sand berm at the beach several times. This means no black salt marsh mosquitoes! However, this also creates breeding habitat for other species of mosquitoes, like those that vector West Nile virus and avian malaria.



Photo of *Aedes taeniorhynchus* mosquitoes taken under the District’s microscope