



With the many days of rain lately, the river level has maintained quite high for this time of the year (many days above seven feet). As mentioned in the last Board report, it is too early to rely on the forecasts for the Columbia River's discharges in May, but we might expect the river above seven feet for more than 1.5 months in May-June which might not be good for us. A few rounds of helicopter treatment may be needed.

Below please find a general report on our different departments/activities.

- **Administration:**

- **County**

- We asked if it was possible to "refresh" one room in the old building to make extra working area for the lab. We want to test this new "lab" this year by doing our RAMP tests and assess how it would work for future PCR testing. The County agreed that we can clean the room, repaint it and lay a new floor. Everything should be ready for the beginning of the season. We will use the money planned in the Capital expenditures for the improvement of the building.

- **Clark County Public Health (CCPH)**

- Nothing to report.

- **County Treasurer**

- Nothing to report.

- **TDJ CPA**

- Nothing to report.

- **Operations**

- For family reasons, Douglas Nelson left his position of Field Supervisor on March 10th. On the same day, Rick Westre, our Lab Supervisor announced that he would not be back this year after accepting a full-time job with C-Tran.
 - Mark Newman from Ohio will be our new Field Supervisor. Mark brings with him four years of experience as a Field Supervisor with Clarke Mosquito Control. He already stopped by the office on March 18th to visit and he is very excited about the new challenge. Mark will start his position with us on April 23rd, 2025.
 - Wade Holbrook, one of our Lab technicians over the last three years has been promoted as our new Lab Supervisor. Wade knows everything about the position, and he is also backed up by his many years of experience in the mosquito industry.
 - We also learned that two of our "returning" seasonal employees of the last years will not be returning this summer. We will have to hire more new seasonal employees to fill those positions.

- I contacted Ms. Sarah Kohout, the District Director for Congresswoman Gluesenkamp's office on March 3rd, 2025. We already met last year, and I wanted to know if it was possible to meet with her again and/or Congresswoman Gluesenkamp to discuss about how they could help with the ongoing (and lengthy) process with the National Wildlife Refuges. Unfortunately, as of March 24th, I have not heard anything from them yet.
- On March 19th, I met with Ms. Caitlin Harrington, the Southwest Washington Director working for Senator Murray. We had a tour of our district building, and I introduced her to who we are and what we do. She learned a lot and was impressed by all the things we are doing. The main goal of the meeting was to talk about money appropriation in 2026 to secure money for the CDC for vector-borne diseases and to continue to operate the VectorSurv software used by many districts across the US to manage our mosquito surveillance programs. I also asked if some money was available at the Federal level in case an emergence occurs (outbreak of diseases) and she said she would look at it and get back to me.
- On March 12th, 2025, I contacted Mr. Ken Morris, the Conservation Planner for the US Fish and Wildlife working on the IMM program for both refuges. I wanted to know where they were in the process since we are directly involved in the outcome of this process and with the potential impact on our constituents again in the summer 2026. No call or email back from Mr. Morris yet. Last time we heard from them, it is very unlikely that the final approval of their IMM will happen for our spring treatments usually performed in May and June. If they have their IMM approved this summer, we will see if there will be a possibility to treat the areas flooded on purpose every fall for duck hunting.
- The Congested Area Plan (CAP) we need to fly the helicopter for the aerial larvicide applications has been filed with the FAA by our contractor. He is expecting the approved and signed CAP by the end of March. We are planning to fly with their pilots at the end of March when the river level is high to show the areas of concern and for them to learn more about the process since this will be first year they are flying for us and for mosquito control in Clark County.
- One of our new foggers was calibrated with the new VeeMAC software in March. We have three more foggers to calibrate and test before the beginning of the season.

- **Lab**

- Wade, as the new lab supervisor, is familiarizing himself with his new position and is preparing the training for two new seasonal employees that will start in April. His priority is also to get familiar with the VeeMAC software (lab module) and be ready for our trapping season starting in April.
- We are still waiting for the DNA results of the larvae of *Culex pipiens* sent to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). They mentioned they are a little bit behind schedule with the many changes that have happened at the CDC recently.