



The long-term forecasts (for the next 4 months) for the level of the Columbia River indicate that the river will remain above eight feet for nearly the entire forecasted period. This suggests that some areas may be flooded, potentially requiring the use of helicopters to address these areas effectively. However, these early forecasts are not always accurate.

Below please find a general report on our different departments/activities during the month of February and March, 2026.

- **Administration:**

- **County**

- Nothing to report.

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

- Our Mosquito District met with the Communications Manager of Clark County Public Health, the Multnomah Mosquito Control District, and their Public Health Information Officers to discuss the FAA's new requirement that property owners of areas identified as potential zones to be treated with helicopter aerial larvicide be notified by the district. Communication strategies such as daily newspapers, letters, radio stations, TV, and social media were discussed. One representative from Multnomah County will contact the FAA to present the options discussed and determine if they meet their requirements.
- On March 30th, we sent a letter to all our constituents that own property within the map of planned helicopter-based larvicide treatment. In this letter, we explained that this treatment may or may not happen this season. We provided information about the treatment schedule calendar, which will be updated on our website. We explained that the treatment areas were selected because they are areas that are typically subject to flooding due to either the Columbia River or multiple rain events. We also provided information about the treatment product, VectoBac G. Lastly, we provided our main line phone number and info@ccmcd.org email for any follow up questions.

- **County Treasurer**

- Nothing to report.

- **TDJ CPA**

- Nothing to report.

- **Operations**

- We have hired six new seasonal employees to assist with our operations (field and lab) next summer. As mentioned in our last report, three of our seasonal employees from last year will also return for the 2026 season. Similar to last year, we will have a team of 17 employees this summer. Seasonal employees will work from the last week of April until possibly late October, depending on our needs this fall.

- All the permits required to operate this summer on various agencies' properties (State Parks, Fish and Wildlife, Refuges, etc.) have been renewed.
- Six of our employees attended the American Mosquito Control Association meeting held in Portland from March 24 to 26. It was a great opportunity for our employees to participate in the largest mosquito meeting in the U.S. and attend highly informative educational sessions on various topics, presented by top leaders in the field. This was likely the only chance to send so many employees since we only had to cover the registration fees (no hotels, airfare, per diems, etc.).
- Our three Congested Areas Plans (CAP), which are required to operate the helicopter for aerial larviciding treatments, have also been renewed.
- We have not received any new information about the Refuges' Integrated Mosquito Management (IMM) plan. Therefore, it is quite unlikely that we will be able to carry out any aerial larvicide treatments in the areas of concern this season. However, the 2026 Special Use Permit (SUP) issued annually by the Refuge Administration is allowing us to use the drone for treatment. They also allowed a new zone for treatment in Ridgefield and an extra trapping site at the Steigerwald Lake site.
- We will have training for our employees on different topics (operations, safety, etc.) at the Columbia Drainage Mosquito District in St. Helens, OR on April 9th. With the help of technical representatives from different companies, we will also calibrate our foggers at the same time to be ready for the season.

- **Lab**

- We finally received our PCR machine. A representative came here for a full week in early March to train our employees on how to use the PCR. The Washington State Public Health will also send us some samples to practice and test our equipment (validation) before testing our mosquitoes. Again, the PCR will allow us to get more accurate results on our West Nile virus (WNV) tests, and we will also be able to simultaneously test for two other viruses similar West Nile virus (Western equine encephalitis and St. Louis encephalitis).
- Madeline Lueck, one of our lab technicians from last year, was also trained in the use of PCR, and she will return on April 13th to work in the lab until the end of October.