

2022

# ANNUAL REPORT



## TWIN FALLS COUNTY PEST ABATEMENT DISTRICT

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PREPARED BY

**BRIAN SIMPER**

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Employee water safety and rescue training for TFCPAD employees in the Highline Canal.

## Board of Trustees:

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**Cover Photo:** Mosquito habitat in Twin Falls County. Over irrigated pastures are one of the leading causes of mosquitoes in the county.

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# 2022 YEAR END REPORT

## Twin Falls County Pest Abatement District

### INTRODUCTION

The Twin Falls County Pest Abatement District was created by public vote in 2008 and commenced an integrated pest management (IPM) program in the spring of 2009.

\*The 2022 season started later than usual with cold temperatures until the first part of June. The late spring was followed by very hot temperatures for the Twin Falls County area (as well as most of southern Idaho). The season extended to the first weeks of October, which is later than the norm for the past five years.

\*The 2022 staff consisted of one full-time manager, a full-time technician, and during the spring/summer, three full-time seasonal employees and three part-time interns.

The main goal of the Twin Falls County Pest Abatement District is to protect public health and socioeconomic well being of citizens of Twin Falls County from harmful vectors and pests. This goal is accomplished by striving to implement environmentally sound and economically reasonable abatement practices.

The District carries out a three point plan consisting of educating the public, source reduction of mosquito and black fly habitat, and environmentally safe treatments of pests that vector disease. Currently the two major disease threats to the county vectored by mosquitoes is West Nile Virus, and black flies is Vesicular Stomatitis Virus.

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## Geographic Area

The Twin Falls County Pest Abatement District primarily conducts integrated pest management practices and education inside Twin Falls County. The county contains approximately 1,323,000 acres. Twin Falls County has a population of 88,576 (2021 Census). Work done by the District is targeted to areas that will produce the best results for the time and money expended.

Pest habitat inside of the county is made up of water sources both moving water (black fly habitat) and stagnant water (mosquito habitat). These habitats are largely created by the Snake river (which flows along the northern border of the county), the Twin Falls Canal system of 110 miles of major canals and over 1,000 miles of laterals, the Salmon River Canal system of over 300 miles of main and lateral canals, and the Roseworth Canal system containing over 10 miles of main and lateral canals.

Additionally, portions of coulee drainage systems such as Rock Creek, Deep Creek, Cedar Draw, Dry Creek, and Salmon Falls Creek all create sources of pest habitat in the county.

Other canal irrigation systems that directly impact pest populations near Twin Falls County include the Milner Irrigation Canal, the Northside Canal, among other smaller systems surrounding the county.

Twin Falls County contains lakes, ponds, and other water collection areas that create mosquito habitat.

Priority in treating these habitats is directed to locations where historically West Nile Virus was found, denser populated

areas, and recreational or high public use areas.

Due to the mobility of pests targeted by the District, the Abatement Plan allows for treatments to be conducted outside of the county. In general, the Snake River is the dividing line for treatments, but a few areas in adjacent counties were treated due to their impact on Twin Falls County citizens.

Clear Lakes HOA and Blue Lakes Country Club both contracted with the District for mosquito control, which directly benefited the citizens of Twin Falls County.

Limited mosquito surveillance was conducted in Jerome and Gooding counties throughout the 2022 season. This provided some mosquito pools that were tested for West Nile Virus (WNV).

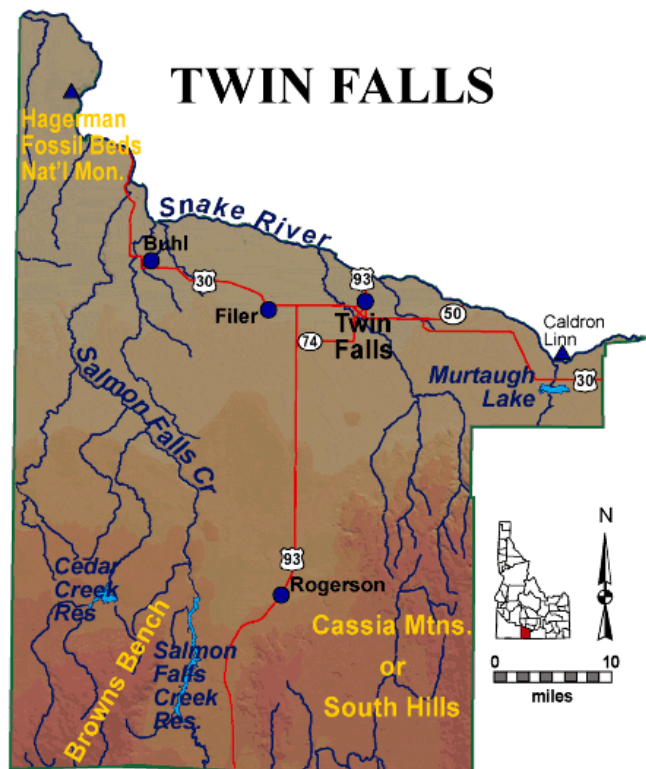


Image 1: Twin Falls County's major water systems.



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## Collaborative Agreements

The District welcomes partnerships and the sharing of information and resources in order to fulfill our mission. All parties worked with previously continued in assisting the District. Some of the more significant collaborators are noted.

Idaho Department of Health & Welfare provided lab supplies as well as funds for mosquito surveillance through a grant. This money was used to purchase new surveillance equipment, supplies, and to perform additional surveillance in surrounding counties for West Nile Virus. The State Lab also provided confirmative virus testing.

\*The College of Southern Idaho provided three interns to the District funded by the INBRE and SARE Programs. These interns were able to complete research projects related to mosquito surveillance and control.

The Twin Falls Canal Company, Salmon Falls Canal Company, Milner Irrigation District, North Side Canal, Idaho Power, and USGS provided canal information, water flow rates, and data and access to their waterways for treatments.

Salmon River Canal Company has been engaged in lining sections of their canal system to help increase water use efficiencies. The District is helping to fund some of these efforts as the long-term results will be less black fly and mosquito habitat to treat and cost

savings to the District.

\*This year, the District contributed \$7,500 to a specific section of canal and laterals that will be piped to eliminate loss of water due to leaks or blow outs.

Clearlake's HOA contracted to have mosquito surveillance and control. This resulted in treatments that benefited Twin Falls County residents in adjacent area as well as the homeowner's association.

Blue Lakes Country Club contracted to have mosquito control conducted. This is directly across from Centennial Park and provided a direct benefit to the public at the park.

Tubbs Berry Farm collaborated with the district to present an educational workshop for members of the community at their Spring Bee Day, and Fall Pumpkin Patch event.

The District worked closely with city street departments from Buhl, Filer, Twin Falls, and Kimberly sharing information related to habitat sanitation in storm drains. Collaboration was also done with Twin Falls City and County Parks Department on adult pest activity.

\*Jerome County contracted with the District for winter black fly surveillance and treatment. Sites along the Milner-Gooding Canal were inspected and treated. This agreement has benefited both counties because black flies have a flight range of 10-20 miles.

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# Surveillance

## Black Fly Adult

Black flies (BF) are also commonly referred to as biting black flies, or buffalo gnats throughout the county. Adult surveillance of BF is conducted using EVS All Weather Light Traps with carbon dioxide attractant. The traps are not intended to remove or catch all the BF, rather they provide a measurable comparison from year to year and from site to site.

Primary reasons for treatment of BF populations are to reduce the economic impact to livestock and to reduce the potential for transmitting Vesicular Stomatitis Virus (VSV). In Idaho this year, VSV was not detected.

*Simulium vittatum* is the predominate species of BF found throughout the county. This species does not generally bite humans; it prefers to feed on livestock, and is a concern for its potential to transmit disease and its negative effect on livestock behavior. When people notice BF swarming in their face, it is generally this species.

*Simulium bivittatum* is a very small species of BF that has a similar lifecycle and habitat preferences to *Simulium vittatum*. One distinct characteristic of the *Simulium bivittatum* is that it bites both people as well as livestock. This species is smaller, and therefore harder to see.

Locals often refer to this species of BF as no-see-ums. Populations of *bivittatum* are generally more numerous on the west side of the county.

\*This year, black fly populations were lower than the past three years due to a reduction in river and canal flows directly related to reservoir levels and the drought situation Idaho faced this year. Migrating black flies were also observed in trapping surveillance.



Image 2: Black fly size comparison to a penny.

## Black Fly Larval

Surveillance for black fly larvae in canals is done by hanging yellow sample ropes from bridges. A six inch section is marked on the rope and larvae found on that section were monitored. Other waterways were also monitored by pulling up vegetation and rocks to observe for larval presence.



# Surveillance

## Black Fly Larval (cont.)

In fluctuating river and stream flows, BF larvae relocate often, searching out the optimal attachment sites. Frequent relocation renders rope surveys less effective. Some waterways are surveyed year round, and surveillance of larvae is done to gauge instar stage and growth so treatment can be conducted where needed and at the optimal larval stage for control.

## Mosquito Adult

\*Adult mosquito trapping was conducted on a weekly basis during the season (April-October). All-Weather LED EVS Traps with carbon dioxide attractant were primarily used for general surveillance. Traps were set in the evening and collected the following morning. A total of 384 trap nights were recorded, producing a total of 7,004 female mosquitoes that were identified to species as part of the surveillance.



Image 3: Lab technician speciating mosquitoes.

Trap results were used to identify areas of concern and conduct treatments. *Culex tarsalis* and *Culex pipien* mosquitoes identified from trapping were tested for West Nile Virus (WNV). Mosquito testing was conducted in-house with confirmation of test results conducted by the State Lab.

## \*Mosquitoes by Species

Mosquito Species	Total	Percentage
<i>Aedes vexans</i>	3879	55.38%
<i>Anopheles earlei</i>	9	0.13%
<i>Anopheles freeborni</i>	805	11.49%
<i>Anopheles punctipennis</i>	5	0.07%
<i>Coq. perturbans</i>	147	2.10%
<i>Culex erythrothorax</i>	480	6.85%
<i>Culex pipiens</i> (P)	111	1.58%
<i>Culex tarsalis</i> (T)	1096	15.65%
<i>Culiseta incidens</i>	271	3.87%
<i>Culiseta inornata</i>	24	0.34%
<i>Ochlerotatus dorsalis</i>	1	0.01%
<i>Ochlerotatus increpitus</i>	13	0.19%
<i>Ochlerotatus melanimon</i>	26	0.37%
<i>Ochlerotatus nigromaculis</i>	91	1.30%
Males	23	0.33%
Unknown	75	1.07%
<b>Total</b>	<b>7004</b>	<b>100%</b>

Image 4. Total number of mosquitoes by species.

Over half of the mosquitoes collected were *Aedes vexans*, a nuisance mosquito that is not known to vector WNV in Idaho. *Culex* species made up 24.08% of all mosquitoes trapped this year, with *Culex tarsalis* being the majority at 15.65% with 1,096 *C. tarsalis* mosquitoes identified.

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# Surveillance

## Mosquito Larval

Surveying for mosquito larvae is done by dipping for larvae in standing water sources such as ponds and water retention areas. A mosquito larva is commonly referred to as a wiggler, for the way it moves through the water. Both larvae and pupae can be surveyed by dipping. Results from dipping directly dictates whether treatment is needed or can be postponed.



Image 5: Mosquito larvae resting near the surface.

## West Nile Virus Testing

West Nile Virus (WNV) is considered endemic in Idaho. The District's goal is to reduce the likelihood of virus transmission by limiting the primary vectors in Twin Falls County- *Culex tarsalis* and *Culex pipiens* mosquitoes.

\*This year 114 pools of mosquitoes were tested in-house as part of routine surveillance. Each pool tested contained 1 to 50 mosquitoes of the *Culex* species per location. The District uses a rapid immunochromatographic

system for screening samples (referred to as a RAMP test). It provides quick and accurate testing of samples.

In some cases, samples fall within a range where additional testing is required. When needed, the State Lab provided more advanced confirmative testing.

\*WNV in Twin Falls County was detected in the District Lab on August 17, 2022 and September 2, 2022. Gooding County reported one horse infected with WNV this year.

Species identification also indicates what type of habitat could be found in the field. Most nuisance species are found in flood water pastures while most vector species are found in permanent water sources.

*Culex tarsalis* are most often found in ponds and permanent water sources. *Culex pipiens* are typically found in small containers and storm drains that hold water.

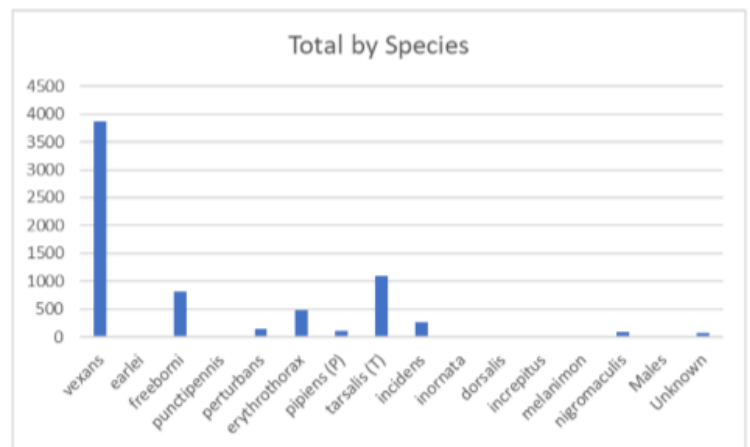


Image 6: Total number of mosquitoes by species.



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## Mapping

FieldSeeker is the geographic information system (GIS) software used by the District to provide accurate records of habitat locations, and treatments applied. Data collected is reviewed each year to correlate trends and possible future events. This system preserves knowledge from year to year allowing new personnel to adapt quickly.

\*This year, the team was able to use iPads in place of Mesa Tablets, which helped with efficiency in the field for logging treatments, and finding mosquito sites.

## Source Reduction

The most consequential long-term impact toward source reduction is through education. Educational efforts to reduce potential pest habitat is an important part of the District's IPM plan. Education is done one on one with homeowners, speaking to groups, or working with schools. District personnel cannot find every source in the county, but when landowners know what to look for, they can help immensely by draining or flushing stagnant water.



Image 7: TFCPAD presenting to local schools at Rock Creek Park.

\*The District helped promote two Tire Amnesty Days (May 7th, and October 1st) facilitated by Southern Idaho Solid Waste. Educational efforts by the District encourages the public to dispose of old tires that could potentially become a habitat for mosquitoes.

Other educational public service announcements were produced and aired during the summer months on social media, local radio, and television stations.

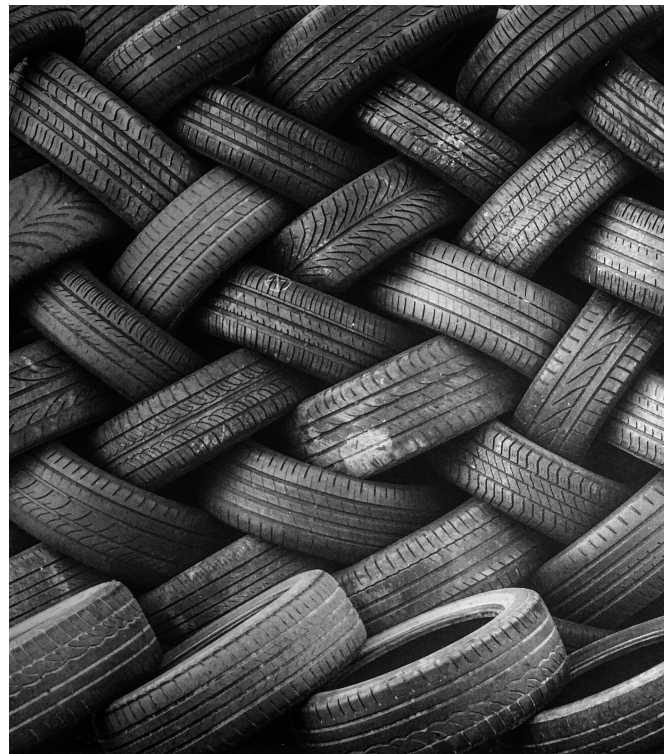


Image 8: Large pile of mosquito habitat also known as old tires.

Tires are excellent producers of mosquitoes, especially exotic species such as *Aedes aegypti* that are capable of transmitting the Zika Virus.

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## Larval Control

Almost all control efforts focused on the larval stage of both mosquitoes and black flies. At this stage of the lifecycle, they are confined to a smaller nursery and treatment is safe and effective. Studies suggest that larviciding 1,000 acres is equivalent to 72,000 acres of adulticiding (Valent 2013). There is no efficient method to control BF adults without treating a large geographic area.

One mile of fast-moving water in a river or large canal can produce over 1 billion BF per day; hence it is best to treat the source.

The primary larvicide used is *Bacillus thuringiensis* v. *israelensis* (BTi) is a product of a natural soil bacteria. Other larvicide products used by the District similar to BTi is *Bacillus sphaericus* (Bsph) and Spinosad. Methoprene is a juvenile growth hormone specific to the fly family of insects. These products have little to no effect on non-target species and do not persist in the environment.

### **Black Fly**

Black fly applications treat the volume of water. BF reproduction continues even during the winter. Larvae grow slowly but have a special adaption that allows them to emerge as adults and immediately lay eggs without feeding or mating during warmer winter days. Although BF populations don't grow drastically over winter, it allows for the early colonization of areas when spring comes.

During the winter, most canals are dry so overwintering habitat is limited. The

concentration of BF larva in select water systems allows winter treatments to be very effective at a lower cost than spring and summer treatments.

The Snake River is one of the largest BF habitats in our area. The cost of treating BF larvae is directly correlated to water flow.

Most years, the Snake River releases a high volume of water during the Salmon Water Release (first week of May to the first week of June) and for Idaho Power to produce more electricity (first week of July to mid August). Due to dry conditions, the river volume aside from these two events were minimal. Treatment quantities are directly related to the volume of water, and so less VectoBac 12 AS was needed overall for this year's treatments. Due to high summer temperatures, black flies were still observed although their habitat was limited.

Flight range for BF adults is 10-20 miles. Although winter treatments and actively treating in the spring and summer wipes out most BF in Twin Falls County, BF can still migrate from untreated neighboring counties into Twin Falls County.

### **Mosquito**

Mosquito larvae were controlled in several ways this year. Early in the season, catch basins, storm drains, and some water retention ponds were treated using one of several slow release products that last from 45 - 180 days depending on the type of location treated.



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## Larval Control

### Mosquito (cont.)

The slow release formula allows these early season treatments to last during the summer. Even when water dries up, the product remains ready for the next time the catch basin fills with water. This treatment is ideal for storm drains where we do not have the man power to check and treat each storm drain at monthly intervals during the summer.

\*Over 2,230 storm drains were treated in Twin Falls County this year.

\*CSI's INBRE Intern, working with a CSI SARE Intern, conducted a study of the efficacy of a potential carnivorous plant, the Common Bladderwort, for mosquito control. More research on location and the plant's ability to adapt and compete with native plants will need to be conducted. Another SARE Intern conducted a study of a dynamic gravid trap. Gravid traps employed by the District to this point have been static (no active or electronic trap mechanism). This study used an intense lure specifically for pregnant *Culex pipien* mosquitoes. The initial results were very low, but toward August through the end of the season, several traps were catching adult mosquitoes and thousands of larvae in the container part of the trap. This helped reduce mosquito populations.

### Natural Predators

Stocking of bluegill for mosquito larval control continued this year. Bluegill were collected from Dierkes Lake and distributed to ponds across the county. Many of the

locations that received fish are seasonal ponds and will need to be restocked on a yearly basis. The fish have proven to be a valuable part of the District's IPM approach.

\*This year, volunteers were invited to help with fish collection. Volunteers helped the District net, identify, measure and count bluegill from Dierkes Lake.

KMVT and KSAW covered the event of collection and stocking so that people in the community would be aware of the District's efforts.

\*Under the Idaho Fish & Game permit, the District was able to collect 989 bluegill and stock them in ponds across Twin Falls County.



Image 9: TFCPAD collecting bluegill at Dierkes Lake.

# Larval Control

## Pesticide Use Totals

Product	EPA Reg No	Quantity Used 2021	Quantity Used 2022
Agnique MMF	53263-28	0.68 gal	1.21 gal
Agnique MMF G PAK 35	53263-30	240 packets	40 packets
Altosid Ingot XR Briquet	2724-421	240 briquets	2235 briquets
Altosid P35	89459-95	1743.1 lbs	1055.14 lbs
ATSB Terminix	N/A	280 fl oz	0 fl oz
Cocobear	8329-93	2 gal	0 fl oz
Final Feed Mosquito Bait	N/A	160 fl oz	128 fl oz
Four Star MBG	85685-3	266.5 lbs	392.75 lbs
FourStar 180	83362-3	3808 briquets	3908 briquets
FourStar 45	83362-3	46 briquets	580 briquets
FourStar 90	83362-3	413 briquets	323 briquets
FourStar CRG	85685-2	2262.46 lbs	139.21 lbs
MetaLarv S-PT	73049-475	1162.55 lbs	2350.22 lbs
MetaLarv XRP	73049-475	505 briquets	388 briquets
Natular G30	8329-83	208.55 lbs	291.9 lbs
Natular XRT	8329-84	3132 briquets	53 briquets
Stop the Bites	N/A	306 fl oz	210 fl oz
VectoBac 12AS (Black Fly)	73049-38	7645.02 gal	7525.35 gal
VectoMax FG	73049-429	1038.99 lbs	1870.45 lbs
VectoPrime FG	73049-501	232.61 lbs	210.24 lbs

The active ingredients in products used by the District include Bacillus thuringiensis subspecies israelensis (BTi), Bacillus sphaericus (Bsph), Spinosad, Methoprene, mineral oil, and garlic. BTi, Bsph, and Spinosad are all biologically derived from

naturally occurring soil bacterium that causes mortality to mosquito larva after ingestion. BTi is used specifically for black fly control, causing larval mortality after ingestion.

Methoprene is an insect growth hormone



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## Larval Control

regulator that mimics the juvenile growth hormone of mosquitoes, not allowing them to fully develop into adults. Mineral oils cause suffocation of mosquito larvae and pupae and are selected because they break down quickly in the environment. Garlic is microencapsulated in a sugar bait. When ingested by mosquitoes, the garlic acts as a gut toxin. Stop the Bites, a barrier spray product used by the District, yielded good results in reducing adult mosquitoes. Stop the Bites is made up of lemongrass oil, cedarwood oil, castor oil, corn oil, geraniol, and sodium lauryl sulfate. This product has been found to also control ticks and other pests.



Image 12: Mosquito larval habitat due to poor drainage.

Larvicide selection depends largely on the mosquito larval habitat. Some habitats are permanent (i.e. lakes, and ponds) and all larvicides used by the District can be used on these types of habitats. Other habitats such as livestock troughs,



Image 13: Livestock troughs produce thousands of mosquitoes.

pastures, seeps, and some marshes transition from dry to wet several times throughout the summer and only larvicides that have the ability to dry down and become active again when water is present are preferred for these types of habitats.

A key to integrated pest management is being able to use the right tool for the right pest/habitat. The District strives to use as many tools as possible that are environmentally safe to control mosquito populations and to limit potential disease transmission.



# Control of Adult Populations

## Adult Mosquito Control

The most effective control of adult mosquitoes is accomplished by controlling the larvae. Control of adult mosquitoes by fogging was not conducted. The District has an emergency aerial contract in place in the event that aerial adulticiding is needed.

In some areas, Attractive Targeted Sugar Bait (ATSB), Final Feed (similar to ATSB) and Stop the Bites were used to target adult mosquitoes. These products were generally used as a buffer when mosquitoes were migrating from untreated areas into our county.

Two types of gravid traps were employed by the District to monitor and capture the emerging *Aedes aegypti* which vectors Zika Virus. The traps performed well and caught mosquitoes. No exotic species were found.

The majority of the District's trapping is done with All Weather LED EVS (Encephalitis Virus Survey) Traps. These traps use light and carbon dioxide (dry ice) as attractants. A fan pulls the mosquito into the net and maintains it until collection. 10 - 35 traps are set per week for surveillance.

The BG Yeast producing CO2 trap was employed and very successful. The yeast formulation has multiple types of yeast in order to produce CO2 for 10-16 hours.

As stated previously, weather conditions this year included a very cold, wet spring that lasted into June. A rapid increase in temperature from the end of June created a tough mosquito season that lasted into October this year. Below is a graph of Growing Degree Days that impact plant and insect growth. GDD is calculated by average of the daily high and low temperatures and then subtracting a base temperature number (50 degrees).

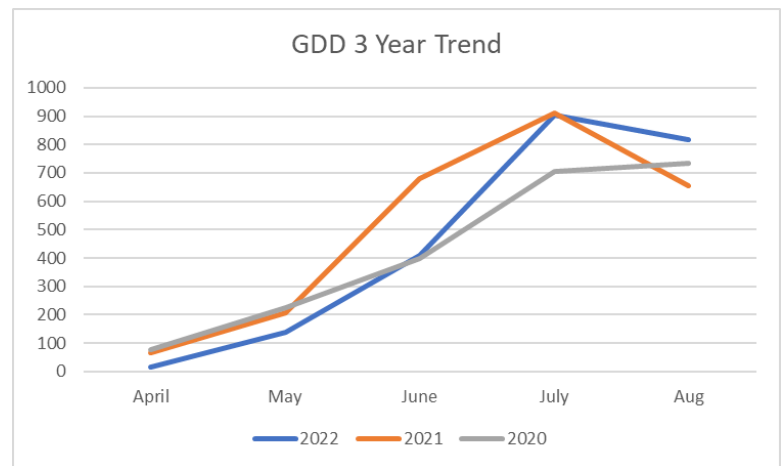


Image 14: A comparison of Growing Degree Days (Units) in Twin Falls County.



Image 15: BG Sentinel Trap



Image 16: Gravid Trap



Image 17: EVS All Weather

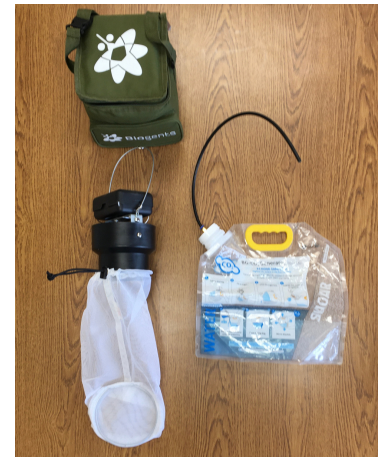


Image 18: BG Yeast Trap

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## Certifications

Professional Applicator Licenses were maintained by all applicators. In-house training was conducted on defensive driving, water safety, ATV, equipment calibration and use, emergency procedures for spills and insect identification. The water safety training provides each employee practice in self rescues in a swift water environment.

The following is a list of public education, trainings, and important meetings attended.

Jan 11th - IMVCA Meeting (Nampa, ID)  
Jan 24th - Regional UAS Meeting (Pasco, WA)  
Feb 11th-13th - Home & Garden Show (Twin Falls, ID)  
Feb 14th - Twin Falls Pollinator Council Meeting (Twin Falls, ID)  
Feb 14th - CSI's GIS Class Recruitment (Twin Falls, ID)  
Feb 17th - UAS Webinar Training Leading Edge Aerial Technologies (Online)  
Feb 22nd - Valent BioScience UAS Characterization Training (Online)  
Mar 3rd - CSI's Honor Class Recruitment (Twin Falls, ID)  
Mar 8th - 71 Livestock Meeting (Filer, ID)  
Mar 10th - Idaho Dept of Water Resources Meeting (Online)  
Apr 13th-14th - NWMVCA Annual Meeting (Boise, ID)  
Apr 22nd - Sustainability Fair (Twin Falls, ID)  
Apr 26th - Murtaugh/Hansen Elementary Field Day (Stricker Ranch)  
May 7th - Tire Amnesty Day (Twin Falls, ID)  
May 11th - IMVCA Technician Training (Twin Falls, ID)  
May 17th - Filer Elementary Field Day (Twin Falls, ID)  
May 25th-26th - Swift Water Training for District Employees (Twin Falls & Hagerman, ID)  
May 27th - West End Men's Club Keynote Speaker (Buhl, ID)  
June 23rd - ISDA Applicator Recertification Class (Twin Falls, ID)  
July 11th - Bluegill Fish Day (Twin Falls County)  
July 21st - SARE Poster Presentations (Online)  
Aug 4th - INBRE Poster Presentations (Online)  
Sept 14th - UAS Training at CSI (Twin Falls, ID)  
Oct 7th - CSI Mosquito Management Training (Twin Falls, ID)  
Oct 19th - Natural Resource Career Fair (Twin Falls, ID)  
Oct 25th-27th - GEM3/SARE Conference (Boise, ID)  
Dec 8th - Pesticide Training  
Dec 19th-20th - IMVCA Annual Meeting (Boise, ID)

# Other Business

## Board meeting Dates

All Board meetings were announced and open to the public. The following is a list of Meeting dates in 2022.

January 24, 2022    April 18, 2022    June 27, 2022    August, 22 2022

September 26, 2022    October 3, 2022    November 14, 2022    December 19, 2022

## Budget

### TWIN FALLS COUNTY PEST ABATEMENT DISTRICT

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and  
Changes in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual  
General Fund  
Year Ended September 30, 2022

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget: Favorable (Unfavorable)
<b>Revenues:</b>				
Property taxes	\$ 655,490	\$ 655,490	\$ 684,563	\$ 29,073
Abatement services	18,500	18,500	13,773	(4,727)
Grants	4,000	4,000	6,200	2,200
Interest income	3,000	3,000	2,602	(398)
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>680,990</b>	<b>680,990</b>	<b>707,138</b>	<b>26,148</b>
<b>Expenditures:</b>				
Integrated pest management	390,250	390,250	414,315	(24,065)
Administration	14,000	14,000	9,558	4,442
Salaries & wages	136,500	136,500	122,625	13,875
Payroll taxes & benefits	58,775	58,775	52,671	6,104
Building expenses	28,415	28,415	23,739	4,676
Insurance expenses	3,000	3,000	3,029	(29)
Vehicle expense	25,050	25,050	18,486	6,564
Travel	4,800	4,800	746	4,054
Training	2,800	2,800	554	2,246
IT & communications	12,400	12,400	12,315	85
Community outreach	15,350	15,350	9,614	5,736
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<b>691,340</b>	<b>691,340</b>	<b>667,652</b>	<b>23,688</b>
<b>Other financing sources (uses)</b>				
Transfers in	-	-	-	-
Transfers out	-	-	-	-
Proceeds from long-term debt	-	-	-	-
Proceeds from the sale of capital assets	-	-	-	-
<b>Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures and other sources (uses)</b>	<b>(10,350)</b>	<b>(10,350)</b>	<b>39,486</b>	<b>49,836</b>
Fund balance - beginning	1,121,261	1,121,261	1,121,261	-
<b>Fund balance - ending</b>	<b>\$ 1,110,911</b>	<b>\$ 1,110,911</b>	<b>\$ 1,160,747</b>	<b>\$ 49,836</b>



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# Other Business

## Emergency Abatement Fund Policy

Twin Falls County Pest Abatement District Emergency Abatement Fund Policy Position  
January 7, 2016

The Twin Falls County Pest Abatement District is charged with protecting the health and welfare of the citizens of the county from pests and vectors which carry disease or which might have a negative impact on social and economic well-being of the citizens. The primary focus of the district's activity is to proactively abate mosquitoes and black flies in the county before they reach numbers that could cause harm. The district must, however, also be prepared to react to threats that are currently not an issue. To those ends, the district has worked to accumulate monies into an Emergency Abatement Fund. When the District was formed, there were no monies allocated to fund emergency abatement. The financial target for the Emergency Fund is approximately one fiscal year worth of tax collections. This amount should allow a reasonable and non-excessive response to an emergency. At the time of the district's formation, it was decided that money should be set aside each year from a line item on the budget and that any unspent operating money should also be added to the fund, until such time that the budget target was reached.

Due to State of Idaho statutes for taxing districts, in order to make the Emergency Fund money available for use, the money in the Emergency Fund must be shown on the annual budget. The result of this is that the annual budget for the Abatement District rose steadily and significantly each year through 2015. It was anticipated that when the fund target was reached the district budget will be approximately two (2) times the annual tax revenue collection. Through organized budgeting and spending discipline the Emergency Fund target was reached and for fiscal 2015 it was decided by the board to use the money that had been going into the fund for a second full time district employee. This decision will reduce the risk of institutional knowledge loss and provide better continuity of activities from one season to the next. Fiscally the goal now will be to efficiently abate and educate within the district to the extent possible with the tax monies annually collected.