



**TWIN FALLS COUNTY
PEST ABATEMENT DISTRICT**

**ANNUAL REPORT
2020**

**PREPARED BY
BRIAN SIMPER**

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Geographic Area	4	Sherry Olsen-Frank, C.P.A., E.C.S., President
Collaborative Agreements	5	Cory Doggett, Secretary
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Black Fly Adult	6	Don Morishita
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Mosquito Larval	8	Erik J. Wenninger, Ph.D. University of Idaho
Disease Testing	8	Logan Hudson, South Central Public Health District
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Source Reduction	9	Leading Edge Technologies, INC. This Unmanned
Larval Control	10	Aerial System (UAS or Drone) assisted in conducting
Black Fly	10	mosquito habitat surveillance and treatment. This
Mosquito	10	was the District's first year operating a UAS. Our
Natural Predators	11	licensed operators logged over 300 flights and
Pesticide Use Totals	12	treated over 700 acres.
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Annual Financial Statement	16	507 Grandview Dr. S.
Emergency Fund Policy	17	Suite A
		Twin Falls, ID 83301
		<u>Phone/Email/Website:</u>
		Office 208-733-2338
		tfcpad@qwestoffice.net
		www.tfcpad.org

Mission Statement: To protect the health and socio-economic well being of the citizens of Twin Falls County from harmful vectors and pests, employing environmentally sound abatement practices.



2020 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 2020 season, marked by challenges due to COVID-19, successfully introduced the use of an unmanned aerial system (UAS or drone) to the District's IPM program. This tool effectively treated mosquito habitats of rough terrain, and added greater efficiency to our small team this year.


The 2020 staff consisted of one full-time manager, a full-time technician, and during the

spring/summer two full-time seasonal employees and one part time seasonal employee.

The main goal of the Twin Falls County Pest Abatement District is to protect public health and socio-economic well being of citizens of Twin Falls County from harmful vectors and pests. This is accomplished by implementing environmentally sound abatement practices.

The District carries out a three point plan consisting of educating the public, source reduction, and environmentally safe treatments of pests that vector disease.

2020 Team: Tanner Henke (Seasonal Technician), Brock Palen (Full-time Technician), Christian Sharek (Seasonal Technician), Brian Simper (Manager), and Jafina Tubbs (Part-time Seasonal Technician)



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 86,878 (2019 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 standing 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 2020 season. This provided some mosquito pools that were tested for West Nile Virus (WNV).

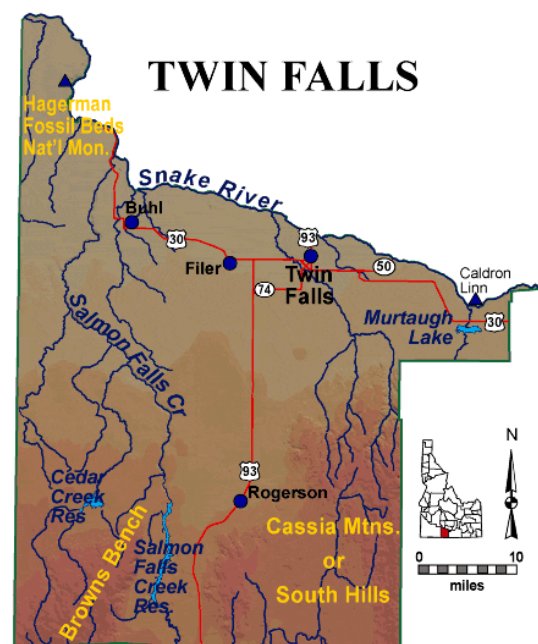
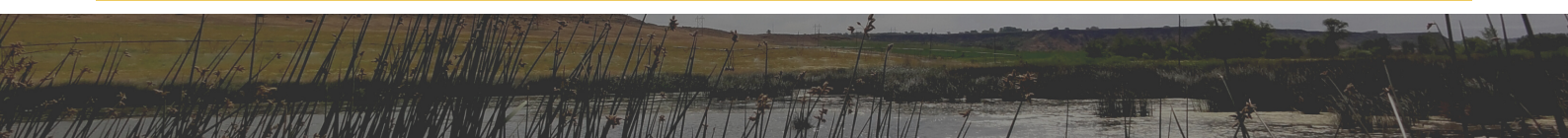


Photo 1: Twin Falls County major water systems.



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 four BG Sentinel Traps as well as funds for mosquito surveillance through a grant. This money was used to purchase new virus testing equipment, supplies, and additional surveillance in surrounding counties for West Nile Virus. The State Lab also provided confirmative virus testing.

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.

Twin Falls Canal Company is creating settling ponds to collect wastewater. These ponds are easier, and more feasible to treat than the swampy or marshy areas that existed previously. The District is helping to fund these projects by contributing \$5,000 that will go toward the creation of new ponds near Rock Creek and Meander Point, and the maintenance of ditches across the county.

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 \$3,500 that will be matched with grant money toward the Smart Water Grant.

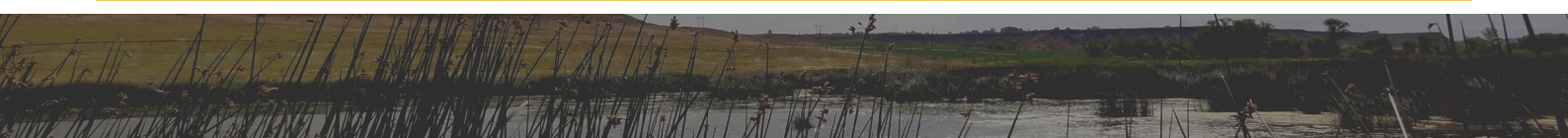
Clearlake's HOA contracted to have mosquito surveillance and control. This resulted in treatments that benefited Twin Falls County residents in adjacent area as well as the homeowner's association.

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 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. This agreement has benefited both counties because black flies have a flight range of 10-20 miles.



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. However, VSV outbreaks were detected in Arizona, Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas (USDA).

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.



Photo 2: Black fly adult under a microscope. Characteristically referred to as buffalo gnats for their humpbacked appearance.

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.



Photo 3: Black fly larvae surveillance along Snake River to determine treatments.

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 268 trap nights were recorded, producing a total of 1,822 female mosquitoes that were identified to species as part of the surveillance.



Photo 4: Technician setting an All Weather LED EVS Trap.

Trap results were used to identify areas of concern and conduct treatments. Culex tarsalis and Culex pipiens 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.

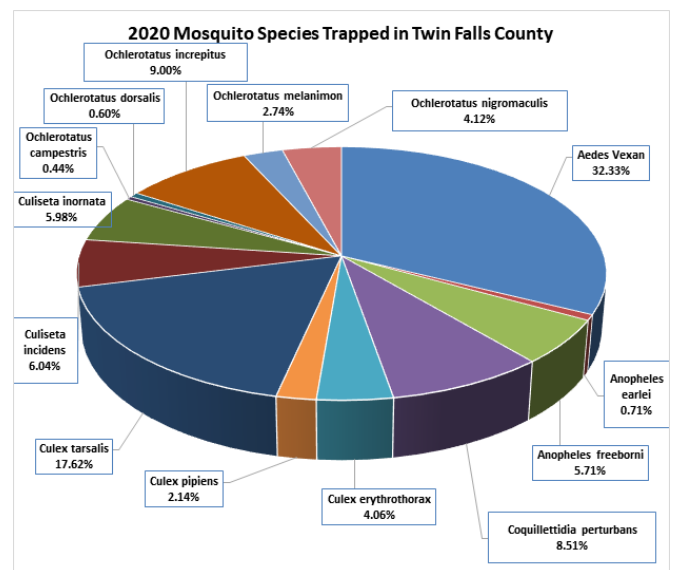


Figure 1: 2020 mosquito trapping data by species.

Using archived data, surveillance was conducted in three ways: targeted surveillance of high priority areas, random sampling to locate new areas in need of treatment, and abundance trapping to provide data of populations over time. Based on historical data the District established an operations guide, treatment thresholds, and procedures specific to Twin Falls County. The goal of surveillance is to find potential problem areas quickly so that mosquito populations can be maintained below disease-transmitting thresholds.

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.



Photo 5: Mosquito larvae in dipping cup outlined in red.

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 113 pools of mosquitoes were tested in-house as part of routine surveillance. Each pool tested contained 1 to 50 mosquitoes of the *Culex* species from one trapped 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 not detected in any District or State Lab test results this year. Gooding County reported one human case of WNV, and Owyhee County reported two human cases of WNV in 2020.

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

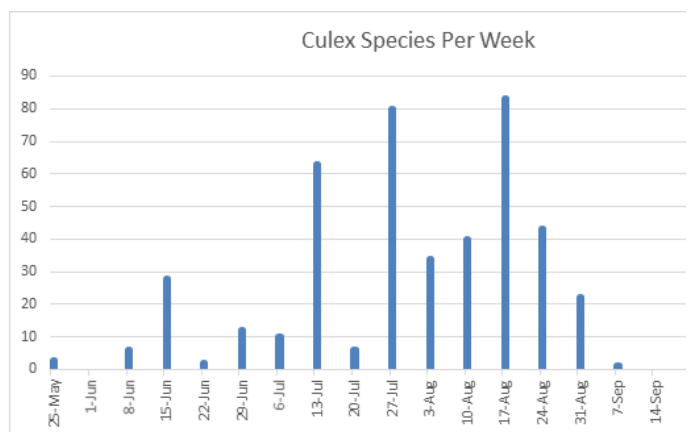


Figure 2: Culex species per trap week. Cooler weather in June along with treatments helped keep Culex mosquitoes from reproducing exponentially this season.

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.

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 standing water.



Photo 6: Horse trough holding large amounts of mosquito larva.

The District helped promote two Tire Amnesty Days (June 6th, and October 3rd) 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.



Photo 7: Tires holding water along a road created excellent habitat for mosquitoes.

Other educational public service announcements were produced and aired during the summer months on social media, local radio, and television stations. Two billboards were leased to create awareness to eliminate mosquitoes this year. A public notification app was utilized to help connect the District to needs of the public in regards to mosquito control.

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 adaptation 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

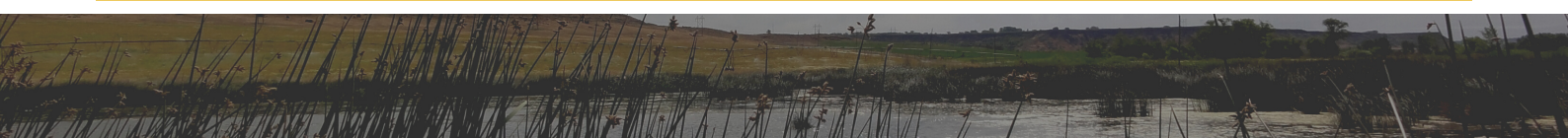
populations don't grow drastically overwinter, it allows for the early colonization of areas when spring comes. During the winter, most canals are dry so overwintering habitat is limited. The concentration of BF larva in select water systems allows winter treatments to be very effective at a lower cost 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. This year, river flows were restricted the first week of July to minimal discharges from the Milner Dam to the Salmon Dam. This allowed for an extra treatment at a low cost, as well as created slack water where BF larva cannot survive.

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.



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 2,000 storm drains were treated in Twin Falls County this year. Additionally, product was supplied to local municipalities to use in retreating drains when they are cleaned during the summer. All products used in treatments are listed on the District website, www.tfcpad.org

This year, the District utilized the PV35 UAS to treat for mosquito larvae. The PV35 allowed for treatments over difficult and otherwise inaccessible terrain. Another rewarding feature of the PV35 was the high level of accuracy when applying treatments at specific rates.

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, due to COVID-19 restrictions, volunteers were not invited to help with fish collection. KMVT and the Times News covered the event of collection and stocking so that people in the community would be aware of the District's efforts. After the first day of collecting and stocking bluegill, community members across the county contacted the District recommending locations of potential mosquito habitat. Another bluegill collection and stocking day was scheduled to fill the permit and take advantage of the public's insight on potential ponds.



Photo 8: Abatement technicians use a net at Dierke's Lake to collect bluegill.

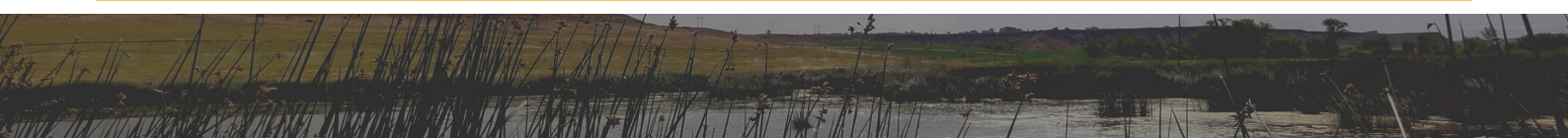
Under the Idaho Fish & Game permit, the District was able to collect 910 bluegill and stock them in ponds across Twin Falls County.

Pesticide Use Totals

TFPAD PESTICIDE USE TOTALS				
Product	EPA Reg. #	Quantity Used 2018	Quantity Used 2019	Quantity Used 2020
Altosid P35	89459-95	none	none	35 pounds
Altosid Briquet (180 day)	2724-421	1,685 each	2,167 each	2,689 each
ATSB (adult sugar bait)	Exempt	61.64 gallons	2.9 gallons	8.65 gallons
CocoBear (larvicide oil)	8329-93	10.7 gallons	1.06 gallons	3.24 gallons
FourStar (45 day)	83362-3	38 each	3 each	None
FourStar (90 day)	83362-3	1,487 each	340 each	62 each
FourStar (180 day)	83362-3	6,754 each	3,361 each	5,005 each
Four Star CRG	85685-2	4,853.86 pounds	4,839.43 pounds	3,280.59 pounds
Fourstar MBG	85685-3	323 pounds	382.34 pounds	147 pounds
MetaLarv S-PT	2724-448	none	40 pounds	1,119.973 pounds
Naturlar (180 day)	8329-84	940 each	161 each	130 each
Naturlar G30	8329-83	458.15 pounds	172.85 pounds	209.85 pounds
Vectobac 12AS	73049-38	14,948.15 gallons	11,063.82 gallons	8,741.19 gallons
Vectolex WSP	73049-20	27 each	none	731 each
Vectomax FG	73049-429	987.16 pounds	1,414.2 pounds	2,057.71 pounds

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 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 it breaks down quickly in the environment. Garlic is microencapsulated in a sugar bait. When ingested by mosquitoes, the garlic acts as a gut toxin.



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) was used to target adult mosquitoes. This was generally used as a buffer when mosquitoes were migrating from untreated areas into our county. As of this year, production of ATSB has ended. A similar product labeled, Final Feed Mosquito Bait is available for future use.

While some traps are used for surveillance, others are used to capture adult mosquitoes in a specific area.

These traps are capable of collecting mosquitoes for 3 to 7 days at a time. Real time data on number of mosquitoes collected is available through the District's BG Counter Trap.

Gravid traps are employed by the District to monitor and capture the emerging *Aedes aegypti* which vectors Zika Virus. This is the third year that the District has used Gravid traps. 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 - 25 traps are set per week for surveillance.



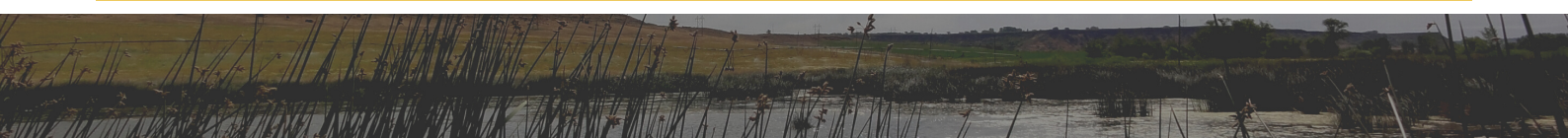
Photo 9: BG Counter Trap



Photo 10: Gravid Trap



Photo 11: EVS All Weather Trap



CERTIFICATIONS

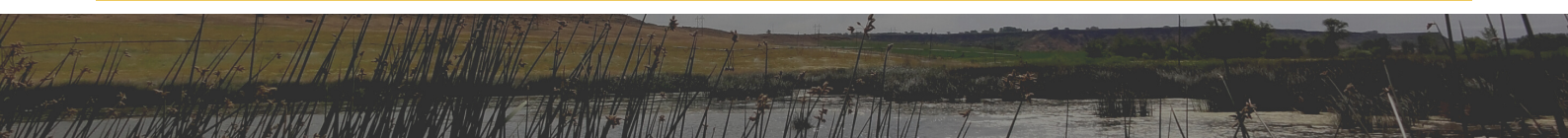
Professional Applicator Licenses were maintained by all applicators. In-house training was conducted on defensive driving, water safety, ATV, equipment calibration and use, emergency procedures for spills and insect identification. The water safety training provides each employee practice in self rescues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

- Jan 13th - Salmon River Canal Company Annual Meeting (Hollister, ID)
- Jan 14th - Twin Falls Canal Company Annual Meeting (Twin Falls, ID)
- Jan 15th - ISDA Records Inspection for TFCPAD (Twin Falls, ID)
- Feb 13th - Simplot Grower's Meeting (Twin Falls, ID)
- Feb 25th - 71 Livestock Meeting (Hagerman, ID)
- Feb 26th-28th - North American Black Fly Association (Mobile, AL)
- Apr 24th-25th - Leading Edge Aerial Technologies Inc. UAS Flight Training (Twin Falls, ID)
- May 28th - Water Safety Training (Hagerman, ID)
- Jun 23rd - Idaho State Department of Agriculture Pesticide Credits Seminar (Twin Falls, ID)
- Oct 21st - Adapco Virtual Educational Event (Online - Twin Falls, ID)

PUBLIC EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

The following is a list of educational events attended:

- Jan 10th West End Men's Club (Keynote Speaker)
 - Feb 5th Kimberly Road Department (Keynote Speaker)
 - Feb 7th 1310 KLIX Radio discussed mosquitoes and black flies in Twin Falls County
 - Feb 11th CSI's Geographic Information Systems classes presentation (Keynote Speaker)
 - Feb 14th - 16th Home & Garden Show (Educational Booth)
 - Feb 17th KLIX Radio discussed the District's UAS program for the 2020 season
 - Feb 18th Jerome County Commissioners Mosquito & Black Fly Presentation (Keynote Speaker)
 - Apr 21st Twin Falls Rotary Club Virtual Mosquito Presentation (Keynote Speaker)
 - Apr 21st CSI Rodeo Team Virtual Black Fly Presentation (Keynote Speaker)
 - Jun 6th Tire Amnesty Day
 - Jun 23rd - Jul 9th Twin Falls Public Library Mosquito & Black Fly Display
 - Jun 26th UAS Demonstration Elmore County Mosquito Abatement District & Commissioners
-



Jul 9th – Aug 6th Kimberly Public Library Mosquito & Black Fly Display

Aug 18th ISDA UAS Application Inspection

Sep 2nd CSI Drone Class Demonstration

Information is also available on Facebook, YouTube and our website. The District's website, TFCPAD.org was redesigned this year with the help of Desert Creative Group.

Links to TFCPAD related news stories from TFCC, KMVT, and Times News

<http://twinfallscanal.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Final-Newsletter-2020.pdf>

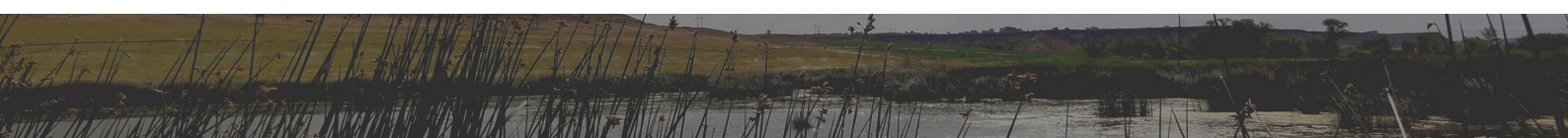
Twin Falls Canal Company's Ditch Writer Article, Here's to an irrigation season with fewer mosquitoes! Distributed April 2020

<https://www.kmvt.com/content/news/Twin-Falls-Pest-Abatement-District-utilizes-drone-tech-in-mosquito-control--570223821.html> Twin Falls Pest Abatement District utilizes drone tech in mosquito control Posted May 5, 2020

<https://www.kmvt.com/2020/07/07/twin-falls-pest-abatement-district-uses-blue-gill-to-control-mosquitoes/> Twin Falls County Pest Abatement District Uses Bluegill to Control Mosquitoes Posted July 7, 2020

https://magicvalley.com/news/local/the-mosquito-assassins-pest-abatement-district-stocking-ponds-with-bluegill-to-slow-spread-of-west/article_562ec713-ec71-5e9a-870d-944924f7bae9.html The Mosquito Assassins: Pest Abatement District Stocking Ponds with Bluegill to Slow Spread of WNV Posted July 10, 2020

<https://www.kmvt.com/2020/09/28/twin-falls-pest-abatement-discusses-west-nile-virus-after-case-found-in-gooding-county/> Twin Falls Pest Abatement discusses WNV after case found in Gooding County Posted September 28, 2020



Board meeting Dates

All Board meetings were announced and open to the public. The following is a list of Meeting dates in 2020.

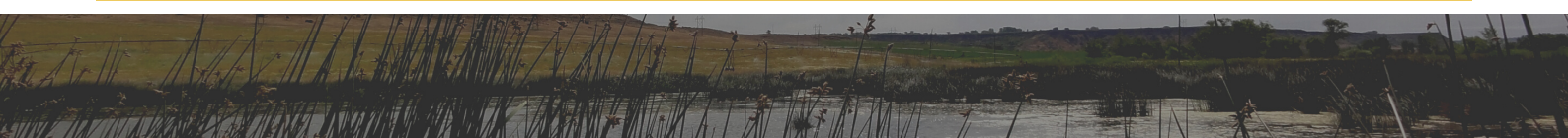
1/13/2020	1/21/2020	2/10/2020	3/9/2020
6/15/2020	8/10/2020	9/14/2020	11/9/2020

Annual Financial Statement

TWIN FALLS COUNTY PEST ABATEMENT DISTRICT

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and
Changes in Fund Balance - Budget and Actual
General Fund
Year Ended September 30, 2020

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget: Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenues:				
Property taxes	\$ 642,600	\$ 642,600	\$ 656,559	\$ 13,959
Abatement services	-	-	10,370	10,370
Grants	6,000	6,000	4,600	(1,400)
Interest income	27,000	27,000	12,805	(14,195)
Miscellaneous	\$ -	-	-	-
Total revenues	675,600	675,600	684,334	8,734
Expenditures:				
Integrated pest management	472,300	472,300	410,533	61,767
Administration	14,775	14,775	10,122	4,653
Salaries & wages	130,200	130,200	118,341	11,859
Payroll taxes & benefits	63,960	63,960	44,176	19,784
Building expenses	27,430	27,430	23,686	3,744
Insurance expenses	3,600	3,600	2,427	1,173
Vehicle expense	20,400	20,400	9,866	10,534
Travel	5,850	5,850	1,736	4,114
Training	2,770	2,770	1,705	1,065
IT & communications	9,530	9,530	7,706	1,824
Community outreach	18,785	18,785	17,088	1,697
Total expenditures	769,600	769,600	647,386	122,214
Other financing sources (uses)				
Transfers in	-	-	-	-
Transfers out	-	-	-	-
Proceeds from long-term debt	-	-	-	-
Proceeds from the sale of capital assets	-	-	-	-
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures and other sources (uses)	(94,000)	(94,000)	36,948	130,948
Fund balance - beginning	974,000	974,000	1,049,355	75,355
Fund balance - ending	\$ 880,000	\$ 880,000	\$ 1,086,303	\$ 206,303



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.

