



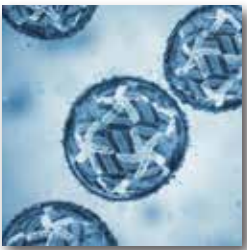
STATE OF MOSQUITO CONTROL IN CALIFORNIA

California mosquito and vector control districts remain vigilant in protecting residents from mosquito-transmitted diseases. Despite this ongoing commitment to safeguarding public health, mosquito districts throughout the state face mounting challenges year after year.



INTENSE WEST NILE VIRUS ACTIVITY

In 2023, California experienced record-breaking West Nile virus activity after experiencing heavy precipitation in the winter and spring. There were 402 human cases and 17 were fatal. A dormant lake in Tulare County refilled and controlled flooding of nearby residential parcels resulted in hundreds of new mosquito sources creating a public health emergency. State and federal funding and assistance with surveillance and control were needed as the majority of the area was not within a mosquito control district boundary and the scale of the emergency exceeded available local resources.



INVASIVE MOSQUITOES CREATE NEW PUBLIC HEALTH RISKS

Climate change has created more favorable environments for invasive mosquitoes to develop and they continue to spread throughout the state rapidly. This past summer, for the first time, there were two cases of locally transmitted dengue in southern California. While there have been travel-associated cases of dengue in the state, local transmission is now a new reality that mosquito districts have to contend with. Malaria is also a public health threat as last year, for the first time since 2003, the U.S. had locally acquired cases of malaria that were reported in Florida, Texas, Maryland, and Arkansas.



INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES LAG

Mosquito districts need new innovative technologies to augment traditional control efforts but they cost hundreds of thousands of dollars. In the past 10 years, no new tools have been approved in our state to assist mosquito control districts in fighting the spread of invasive *Aedes* mosquitoes. The timeframe it takes for disease-spreading mosquitoes to invade new regions is not in line with current regulatory standards for approval and these delays put our state very far behind.

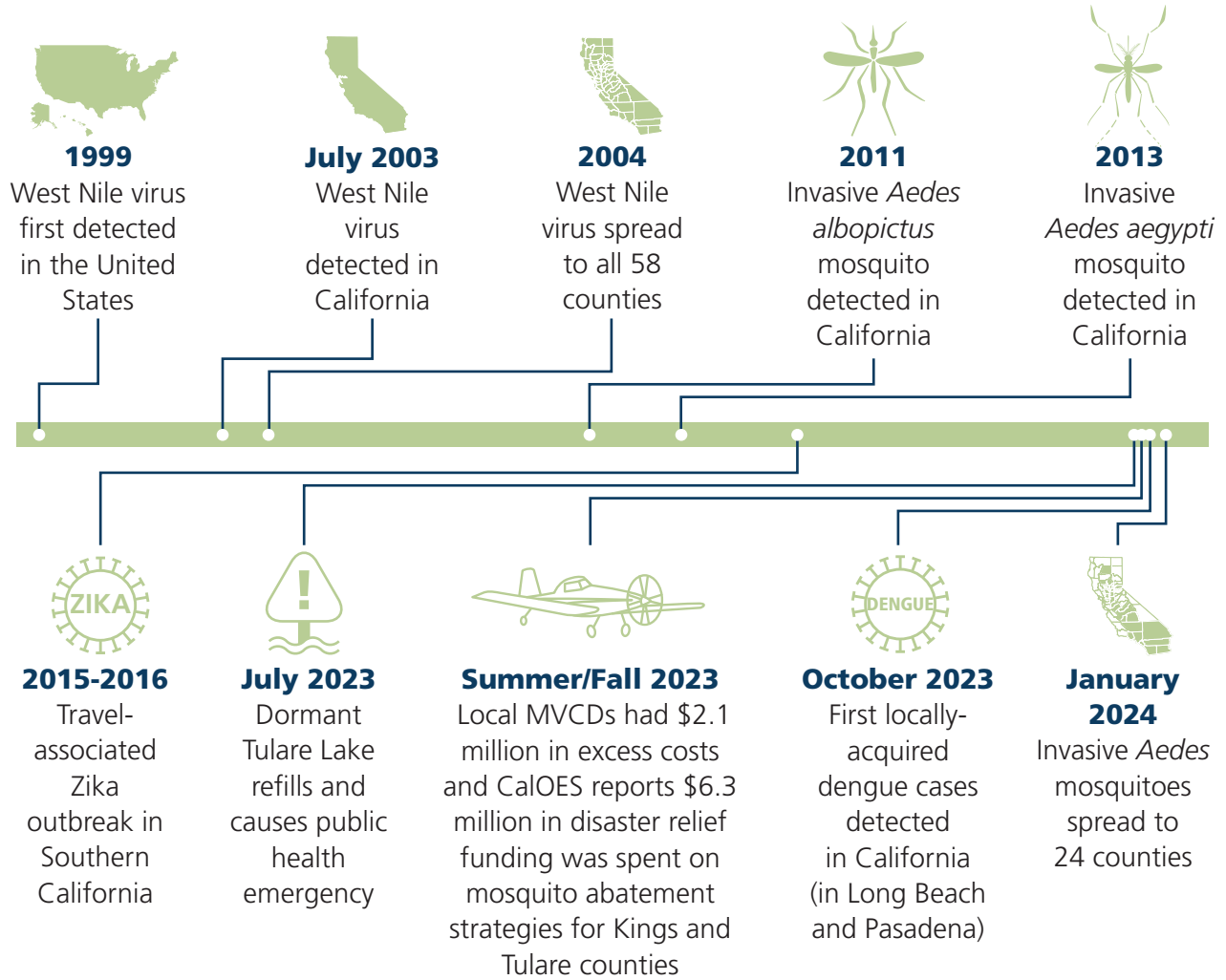


FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS SQUEEZING MOSQUITO DISTRICTS

Surveillance and treatment for invasive *Aedes* mosquitoes are very expensive and labor-intensive, and mosquito and vector control districts throughout the state are saddled with skyrocketing costs. While mosquito and vector control districts maintain reserves, some districts with invasive *Aedes* activity report spending nearly a half million dollars to control the spread of invasive mosquitoes and protect public health.

TIMELINE OF IMPORTANT MOSQUITO AND VECTOR CONTROL NEWS

Over 100 years ago, in 1915, the state enacted legislation (the Mosquito Abatement Act) to combat mosquito threats in California. The threats continue to grow and California mosquito and vector control districts are on the front lines protecting public health.



WHAT'S NEXT FOR MOSQUITO CONTROL IN CALIFORNIA?

Climate change is creating weather whiplash that facilitates the spread of invasive mosquitoes and intensifies the transmission of mosquito-borne diseases. Mosquito and vector control districts throughout the state are preparing for this new normal but anticipate that state funding and assistance will be needed to keep pace with increasing mosquito-related public health threats. We look forward to partnering with the state to ensure that we can respond to public health emergencies and keep residents throughout California protected.