West Side Mosquito & Vector Control District 2012 NPDES Annual Report

1. Annual Report

a. <u>Executive Summary</u>

West Side Mosquito Abatement & Vector Control District (District) complied with the applicable components of the General NPDES Permit for Biological and Residual Pesticide Discharges from Vector Control Applications (General Permit). The District is a member of the MVCAC NPDES Permit Coalition and the Coalition conducted all required chemical and physical monitoring. The results of the Coalition's monitoring will be included in the Coalition Annual Report that will be sent separately to the SWRCB and Regional Boards.

The District made 10 applications to areas that were initially thought to be Waters of the U.S. between April and July of 2012. The District made visual observations of 10% of those applications and noted no observable changes in water quality between the background, event, and post event time periods. The SWRCB notified the permit holders in a letter to MVCAC dated July 13, 2012 that because the visual monitoring requirements were "interfering with the need for maximal efficient application to adequately protect human health from vector-borne diseases like West Nile Virus," that the visual monitoring was no longer required by individual Districts. In addition, the District later received clarification on the definition of Waters of the U.S. and determined that its prior applications and visual observations were made on sites that were not actual U.S. Waterways as per Clean Water Act definitions (sites were man-made agricultural ditches with no ties to natural creeks, streams, rivers or waterways). As such, the District did not perform any further visual monitoring after July of 2012.

The District did not make any applications to Waters of the U.S. during the 2012 calendar year. The only designated Waterway of the U.S. within District boundaries (that remains accessible and serviceable by the District) is the Kern River, which remained dry during the 2012 calendar year due to drought-like conditions in the area. The majority of the area serviced by the District is arid, with scattered agricultural and rural sources that are not connected to major waterways or tributaries. The District continued to follow the guidelines of its Pesticide Application Plan (PAP) during the 2012 calendar year.

b. Summary of Monitoring Data

The District began the year by making preparations to conduct visual monitoring in order to satisfy the requirements of the permit. Initially the District was unclear in regard to the exact definition of U.S. Waterways. In order to ensure compliance with the permit, the District adopted a loose interpretation of what defined Waters of the U.S. and made Visual Monitoring Observations of 10% of individual application sites that were viewed as "possible" U.S. Waterways. After receiving clarification and reviewing the Clean Water Act definitions the District determined that only the Kern River was an actual U.S. Waterway. As mentioned previously, the Kern River (within District boundaries) remained dry during 2012 resulting in no treatments or adulticide applications to U.S. Waterways.

c. **BMP Identification**

BMP's used by the District are outlined in the District's PAP. These include; emphasis on reducing mosquito breeding habitat through non-chemical means, training employees to prevent spills, applying appropriate amounts of chemical in each treatment area, calibration of all application equipment, and careful assessment of each site for appropriate treatment response and selection.

d. <u>Violation Discussion</u>

No violations of the General Permit by the District were observed.

- e. <u>Map of Applications</u> The District made no applications to Waters of the U.S. during 2012.
- f. <u>Log of Applications made to Waters of the U.S.</u> The District made no applications to Waters of the U.S. during 2012.
- g. <u>General Information on Applications</u> The District made no applications to Waters of the U.S. during 2012.
- h. <u>Visual Monitoring Data</u> The District made no applications to Waters of the U.S. during 2012.
- i. <u>BMP, PAP, Monitoring Program Recommendations</u> No recommendations are being proposed to improve the current BMP's, PAP, or monitoring plan. Any changes to the Coalition Monitoring Plan will be highlighted in the Coalition Monitoring Annual Report.
- j. <u>Pesticide Application Log made to Waters of the U.S.</u> The District made no applications to Waters of the U.S. during 2012.
- 2. Updated PAP Components N/A
- 3. Self Monitoring Reports N/A
- 4. **Monitoring Reports** The Coalition Monitoring Annual Report will summarize all physical measurements and chemical monitoring done for 2011 and 2012.