

# >> State of Oregon West Nile Virus Summary Report



# Acknowledgments

This report was prepared by:  
Emilio DeBess, DVM, MPVM  
Cedric Cicognani, BS  
Chris Colasurdo, BS

Acute and Communicable Disease Prevention

800 N.E. Oregon St., Suite 772  
Portland, OR 97232

Phone: 971-673-1111

Fax: 971-673-1100

This report is possible because of the input and hard work of all Oregon vector control districts and the Oregon State University Oregon Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory.

For more information, contact [Emilio.E.DeBess@state.or.us](mailto:Emilio.E.DeBess@state.or.us).

Please cite this publication as follows:

*Oregon Public Health Division. State of Oregon West Nile virus summary report 2017.  
Oregon Health Authority. Portland, OR. 2018 April.*

# Contents

» Acknowledgments .....	ii
» Contents.....	iii
» Executive summary.....	iv
» Introduction.....	1
» WNV surveillance and related activities .....	3
» Human surveillance.....	3
» Veterinary surveillance .....	4
» Avian surveillance .....	4
» Sentinel chicken surveillance.....	6
» Mosquito surveillance .....	6
» Vector control districts in Oregon .....	10

## List of tables

<b>Table 1.</b> Confirmed WNV infections by species, Oregon, 2004–2017 .....	iv
<b>Table 2.</b> Trend data for Oregon residents who contracted WNV in Oregon, 2004–2017.....	3
<b>Table 3.</b> Positive equine WNV test results, Oregon, 2017 .....	4
<b>Table 4.</b> Avian WNV test results by county, Oregon, 2017.....	5
<b>Table 5.</b> Avian WNV tests and trend of positive test results, Oregon, 2004–2017.....	5
<b>Table 6.</b> WNV-positive mosquito pools, Oregon, 2017.....	6
<b>Table 7.</b> Total female mosquitoes collected for surveillance purposes by Oregon VCDs, 2017.....	7
<b>Table 8.</b> Female mosquito pools collected by Oregon VCDs and tested for WNV at Oregon State University, 2017 .....	7
<b>Table 9.</b> Trend data, WNV-positive mosquito pools*, Oregon, 2004–2017 .....	8

## List of figures

<b>Figure 1.</b> Number of positive WNV tests, Oregon, 2017.....	iv
<b>Figure 2.</b> Map of Oregon with shaded counties reporting WNV, 2017 .....	2
<b>Figure 3.</b> Potential Oregon vectors of WNV based on laboratory vector competence studies.....	9
<b>Figure 4.</b> Oregon counties with participating vector control districts (VCDs) and their activities .....	10

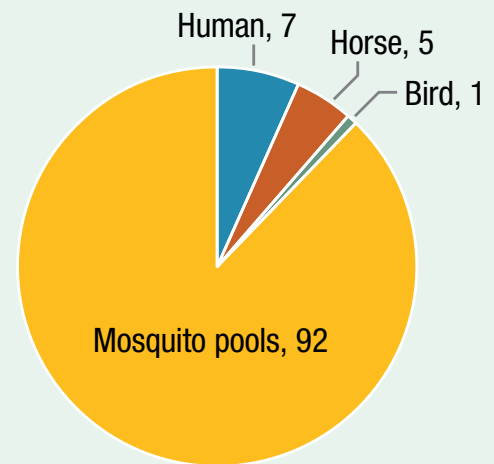
# Executive summary

## 2017 program highlights

Oregon’s surveillance for West Nile virus (WNV) in 2017 identified the following:

- 7 human cases
- 5 equine cases
- 1 avian case
- 92 positive mosquito pools

Figure 1. Number of positive WNV tests, Oregon, 2017



Source: Oregon State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory and Oregon local health authorities

Table 1. Confirmed WNV infections by species, Oregon, 2004–2017

Group	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Human	5	8	73	27	16	12	0	0	12	16	8	1	3	7
Horse	32	46	35	16	0	5	0	2	2	6	3	6	6	5
Bird	23	15	25	52	2	16	0	0	2	2	7	11	12	1
Mosquito	0	11	22	28	16	262	4	3	71	89	58	59	51	92
Sentinel chickens	0	15	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Source: Oregon State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory and Oregon State Public Health Laboratory

# Introduction

Oregon launched a West Nile virus (WNV) surveillance program in 2001. The virus was first identified in humans, birds and horses in Oregon in 2004. Our peak year followed two years later when 73 human cases were reported.

Incidence of human WNV disease remained low in Oregon in 2017. Seven human cases, one bird, five horses and 92 mosquito pools tested positive for WNV in 2017 (Figure 2).

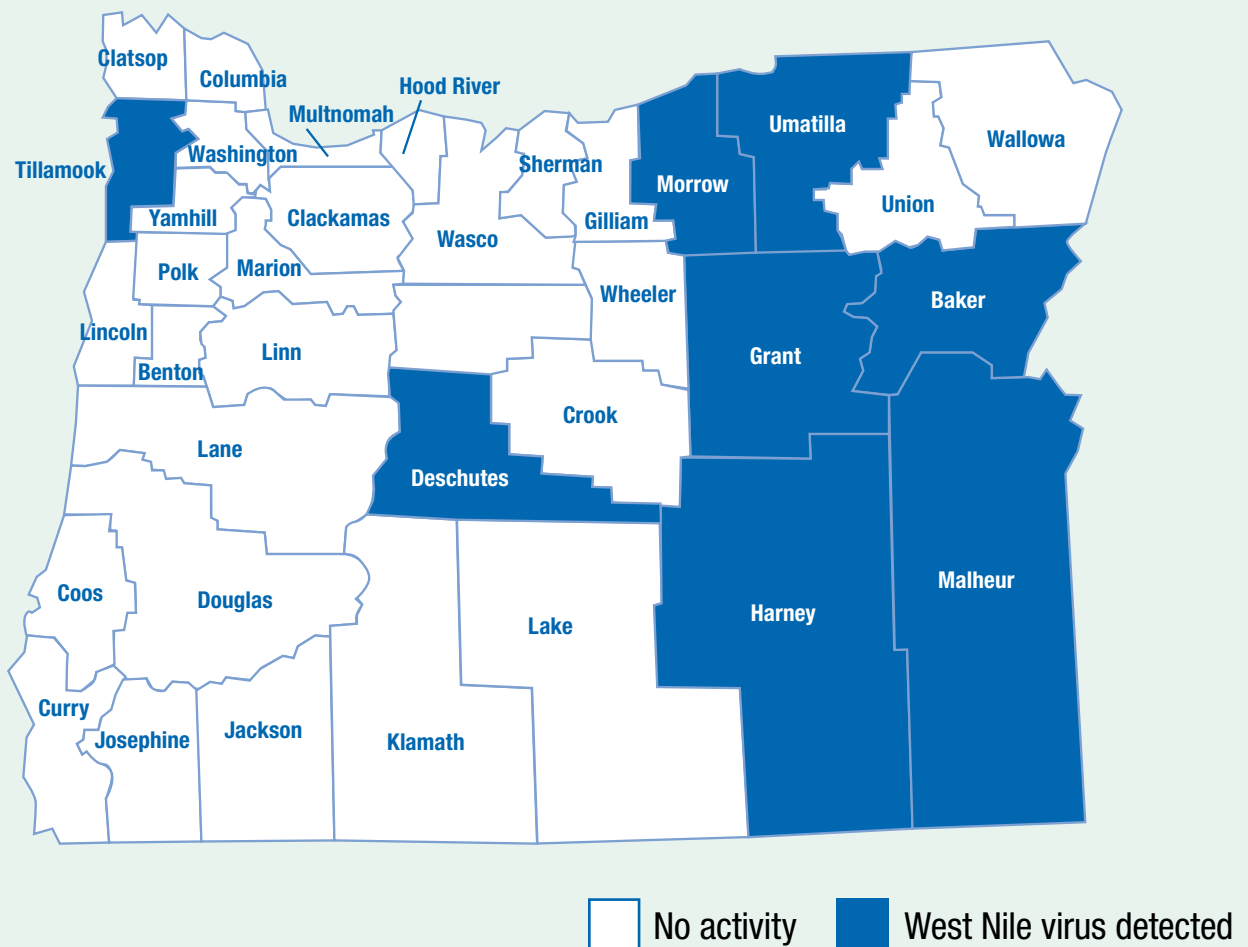
Thirteen vector control districts (VCDs) collect, identify and test mosquitoes and dead birds for WNV surveillance (Figure 4). Some VCDs conduct initial WNV tests for mosquito pools and dead birds using the Rapid Analyte Measurement Platform (RAMP). The Oregon State Public Health Laboratory (OSPHL) performs confirmatory testing of WNV for human specimens.

Oregon State University's (OSU's) Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory performs WNV testing of mosquitoes, dead birds, horses and other mammals.

The following sections summarize Oregon WNV surveillance findings for humans, horses, birds and mosquitoes in 2017.

Figure 2. Map of Oregon with shaded counties reporting WNV, 2017

County	Mosquitoes	Birds	Horses	Human
Umatilla	5	0	0	0
Baker	9	0	0	0
Malheur	25	0	1	5
Morrow	53	0	0	0
Harney	0	0	4	0
Grant	0	0	0	1
Tillamook	0	0	0	1
Deschutes	0	1	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>



See <https://public.health.oregon.gov/DiseasesConditions/DiseasesAZ/Pages/disease.aspx?did=8> for more information about West Nile virus.

# WNV surveillance and related activities

## Human surveillance

In 2017, seven Oregon residents tested positive for WNV by immunoglobulin M (IgM) antibody; four had neuroinvasive disease. Illnesses related to neuroinvasive disease are usually characterized by the acute onset of fever with stiff neck, altered mental status, seizures, limb weakness, cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) pleocytosis or abnormal neuroimaging. Acute flaccid paralysis (AFP) may result from anterior (“polio”) myelitis, peripheral neuritis or post-infectious peripheral demyelinating neuropathy (i.e., Guillain-Barré syndrome). Less common neurological manifestations, such as cranial nerve palsies, also occur.

**Table 2. Trend data for Oregon residents who contracted WNV in Oregon, 2004–2017**

Year	All cases	Neuroinvasive	Deaths
2004	5	0	0
2005	8	1	0
2006	73	13	1
2007	27	7	1
2008	15	3	0
2009	8	0	0
2010	0	0	0
2011	0	0	0
2012	12	1	0
2013	16	8	0
2014	8	2	0
2015	1	0	0
2016	3	1	0
2017	7	4	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>3</b>

Source: Oregon local public health authorities and State Public Health Laboratory

## Veterinary surveillance

WNV surveillance in Oregon’s equine population resulted in five positive tests. Table 3 summarizes positive test results by county. No other mammals tested positive for WNV in 2017.

**Table 3. Positive equine WNV test results, Oregon, 2017**

County	Horses tested for WNV	Horses with positive WNV test results
Clackamas	1	0
Clatsop	1	0
Deschutes	2	0
Grant	1	0
Harney	6	5
Jackson	3	0
Jefferson	1	0
Lake	1	0
Linn	1	0
Union	2	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>5</b>

Source: Oregon State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

## Avian surveillance

WNV surveillance in Oregon’s avian population resulted in one positive test result out of 27 birds tested by OSU’s Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory and the VCDs. Of the 27 birds collected, 17 were of the family Corvidae (aka corvids), while the remaining 10 were American species other than corvid. Table 4 shows Oregon’s avian species collection totals by county for 2017. Table 5 presents trend data for avian WNV testing and positive test results for Oregon counties for the years 2004–2017.



**Table 4. Avian WNV test results by county, Oregon, 2017**

County	Corvids tested	All other species tested	Total positives
Baker	1	1	0
Benton	1	0	0
Clackamas	1	0	0
Clatsop	1	0	0
Deschutes	0	2	1
Jackson	1	0	0
Klamath	0	1	0
Lane	4	0	0
Malheur	0	3	0
Morrow	1	0	0
Multnomah	6	0	0
Umatilla	0	2	0
Wasco	1	0	0
Yamhill	0	1	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>

Source: Oregon State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

**Table 5. Avian WNV tests and trend of positive test results, Oregon, 2004–2017**

Year	Number tested	Number positive	% positive
2004	448	23	5%
2005	298	15	5%
2006	212	25	12%
2007	246	55	22%
2008	117	2	2%
2009	90	16	18%
2010	24	0	0%
2011	20	0	0%
2012	35	2	6%
2013	22	2	9%
2014	35	7	20%
2015	36	11	30%
2016	44	12	27%
2017	27	1	4%

Source: Oregon State University Veterinary Laboratory and Oregon vector control districts

## Sentinel chicken surveillance

Sentinel chicken surveillance was discontinued in 2011.

## Mosquito surveillance

In 2017, the VCDs conducted WNV surveillance in Oregon’s mosquito population. Figure 4 (page 10) shows the counties with participating VCDs and their activities. Statewide, 225,116 mosquitoes were sampled (see Table 7, page 7). Of those, 151,520 mosquitoes in 3,788 mosquito pools were tested for WNV (see Table 8, page 7). The tested mosquitoes comprise 14 mosquito species. OSU conducted polymerase chain reaction (PCR) testing, and some VCDs performed RAMP. Table 6 below displays the number of Oregon mosquito pools by species that tested positive for WNV in 2017. Table 9, page 8 displays Oregon mosquito species between 2004 and 2017 found positive for WNV. Figure 3, page 9 indicates the efficiency of vector transmission for various mosquito species (information obtained from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention).

**Table 6. WNV-positive mosquito pools, Oregon, 2017**

VCD	Mosquito species	Number of positive mosquito pools	Collection date
Baker	<i>Culex tarsalis</i>	9	7/10-9/5
Malheur	<i>Genus culex</i>	25	7/18-8/17
Morrow	<i>Culex pipiens</i>	48	7/31-9/12
Morrow	<i>Culex tarsalis</i>	4	7/31-9/5
Umatilla	<i>Culex pipiens</i>	1	8/8
Umatilla	<i>Culex tarsalis</i>	2	6/21, 8/29
Umatilla	<i>Genus Culex</i>	3	8/17
<b>Total</b>		<b>92</b>	

Source: Oregon vector control districts

**Table 7. Total female mosquitoes collected for surveillance purposes by Oregon VCDs, 2017**

	<i>Aedes cinereus</i>	<i>Aedes dorsalis</i>	<i>Aedes inaequalis</i>	<i>Aedes melaninon</i>	<i>Aedes nigromaculis</i>	<i>Aedes nipadopsis</i>	<i>Aedes species</i>	<i>Aedes sierrensis</i>	<i>Aedes sticticus</i>	<i>Aedes vexans</i>	<i>Aedes /Oc. washinoi</i>	<i>Anopheles species</i>	<i>Anopheles punctipennis</i>	<i>Anopheles freeborni</i>	<i>Coquillettidia perturbans</i>	<i>Culex erythrothorax</i>
Clackamas					4				2,815				724			8
Columbia		3,834				524						522	19	3,478		
Crook													790			
Deschutes									4,220				1,130			
Jackson		9	3,206	43	22		337	3	544			215	438	632	143	
Klamath		603		772	75				679				4,187			
Lane																
Malheur									1,736				112			
Morrow		14	671		14				344			53	3,180	10		
Multnomah									63	443		997	55	121		
Umatilla																
Union									2,330				569			
Washington	17					6	19		859	294		631	168	116		
<b>Total:</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>626</b>	<b>7,711</b>	<b>815</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>880</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>19,279</b>	<b>957</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,477</b>	<b>11,372</b>	<b>4,357</b>	<b>151</b>

**Additional Mosquito species**

	<i>Culex pipiens</i>	<i>Culex restuans</i>	<i>Culex species</i>	<i>Culex stigmatosoma</i>	<i>Culex tarsalis</i>	<i>Culex territans</i>	<i>Culiseta incidens</i>	<i>Culiseta inornata</i>	<i>Culiseta mimmesotae</i>	<i>Culiseta moristans</i>	<i>Culiseta pariceps</i>	<i>Ochlerotatus dorsalis</i>	<i>Ochlerotatus nigromaculis</i>	<i>Ochlerotatus sierrensis</i>	<i>Ochlerotatus sticticus</i>	<b>Total mosquitoes collected</b>	
Baker	134			23,310			1,885				6,283	11,926				<b>47,077</b>	
Clackamas	753	8	1	95	617								11	1		<b>1,781</b>	
Columbia	840			1,274	79				209							<b>12,579</b>	
Crook	147			2,018			285									<b>3,240</b>	
Deschutes	420			2,210			2,256									<b>10,236</b>	
Jackson	10,717	44		6,411	59	131			82							<b>23,036</b>	
Klamath				9,332			1,546									<b>17,194</b>	
Lane	201			1,380												<b>7,266</b>	
Malheur		3,526					222				731	952				<b>7,279</b>	
Morrow	34,155			7,773	4	1,684										<b>47,902</b>	
Multnomah	2,669			6,123	865	870	612	7					82	38		<b>12,945</b>	
Umatilla	5,934	2,671		5,047						11						<b>13,663</b>	
Union	2,446			4,313			199									<b>9,857</b>	
Washington	6,562		1	1,020	969	75	293	11	14	2						<b>11,061</b>	
<b>Total all species:</b>	<b>64,978</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6,249</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>70,306</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,593</b>	<b>9,153</b>	<b>905</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>7,014</b>	<b>12,878</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>225,116</b>

Source: Oregon vector control districts

**Table 8. Female mosquito pools collected by Oregon VCDs and tested for WNV at Oregon State University, 2017**

	<i>Aedes dorsalis</i>	<i>Aedes increpitus</i>	<i>Aedes sticticus</i>	<i>Aedes vexans</i>	<i>Anopheles freeborni</i>	<i>Anopheles punctipennis</i>	<i>Coquillettidia peturbans</i>	<i>Culex pipiens</i>	<i>Culex tarsalis</i>	<i>Culiseta incidens</i>	<i>Culiseta inornata</i>	Family culicidae	Genus Aedes	Genus Culex	<b>Total mosquito pools</b>
Baker							1	539							<b>540</b>
Columbia					6	78	17	24							<b>125</b>
Deschutes			31	10			4	22		22					<b>89</b>
Jackson			12				305	193							<b>510</b>
Klamath	8		16	44				74		13		21			<b>176</b>
Lane			204				12	40							
Malheur													237		<b>237</b>
Morrow		13	3				810	272					2		<b>1,100</b>
Multnomah					5	1	22	69	5						<b>102</b>
Umatilla							81	71					23		<b>175</b>
Union			61				51	143							<b>255</b>
Washington			15		17	3	156	32							<b>223</b>
<b>Total:</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>1,459</b>	<b>1,479</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>3,788</b>

Source: Oregon vector control districts and Oregon State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

Table 9. Trend data, WNV-positive mosquito pools\*, Oregon, 2004–2017

Year	Mosquito species	Number of positives
2004	-	-
2005	<i>Culex tarsalis</i>	11 pools
	<i>Culex stigmatosoma</i>	
	<i>Culex pipiens</i>	
2006	<i>Culex tarsalis</i>	22 pools
2007	<i>Aedes vexans</i>	8 pools
	<i>Culex pipiens</i>	2 pools
	<i>Culex tarsalis</i>	23 pools
2008	<i>Aedes vexans</i>	5 pools
	<i>Culex pipiens</i>	3 pools
	<i>Culex tarsalis</i>	8 pools
2009	<i>Aedes vexans</i>	1 pool
	<i>Anopheles freeborni</i>	1 pool
	<i>Anopheles punctipennis</i>	1 pool
	<i>Coquillettidia perturbans</i>	1 pool
	<i>Culex pipiens</i>	75 pools
	<i>Culex tarsalis</i>	131 pools
	<i>Culex</i> sp.	52 pools
2010	<i>Culex pipiens</i>	1 pool
	<i>Culex tarsalis</i>	2 pools
	<i>Culex</i> sp	1 pool
2011	<i>Culex</i> sp.	3 pools
2012	<i>Culex pipiens</i>	53 pools
	<i>Culex tarsalis</i>	3 pools
	<i>Culex</i> sp.	15 pools
2013	<i>Culex pipiens</i>	14 pools
	<i>Culex tarsalis</i>	74 pools
	<i>Anopheles freeborni</i>	1 pool
2014	<i>Aedes vexans</i>	4 pools
	<i>Culex pipiens</i>	13 pools
	<i>Culex tarsalis</i>	41 pools
2015	<i>Culex pipiens</i>	20 pools
	<i>Culex tarsalis</i>	35 pools
	Genus <i>Culex</i>	4 pools

\*1 pool ≈ 40 mosquitoes

Year	Mosquito species	Number of positives
2016	<i>Culex pipiens</i>	21 pools
	<i>Culex tarsalis</i>	28 pools
	Genus <i>Culex</i>	2 pools
2017	<i>Culex pipiens</i>	49 pools
	<i>Culex tarsalis</i>	15 pools
	Genus <i>Culex</i>	28 pools

Source: Oregon State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory

\*1 pool ≈ 40 mosquitoes

Figure 3. Potential Oregon vectors of WNV based on laboratory vector competence studies

Species	Association with other viruses <sup>a</sup>	Host preference	Activity time	Flight range	Vector competence for WNV <sup>b</sup>	Field isolations of WNV <sup>c</sup>	as a	
							Enzootic vector <sup>d</sup>	Bridge vector <sup>e</sup>
<i>Ae. aegypti</i>		Mammals	Crepuscular/day	200 m	+++ , 3	+	0	+
<i>Ae. albopictus</i>	EEE	Opportunistic	Crepuscular/day	200 m	++++ , 3, 6	+	+	++++
<i>Ae. vexans</i>	EEE, WEE, SLE	Mammals	Crepuscular/night	>25 km	++ 1, 5, 8	+++	0	++
<i>Cq. perturbans</i>	EEE	Opportunistic	Crepuscular/night	5 km	+, 4	+	+	+
<i>Cs. melanura</i>	EEE	Birds	Crepuscular/night	9 km	+, 8	++	++	0
<i>Cs. inornata</i>	WEE	Mammals	Crepuscular/night	2 km	+++ , 5	+	+	++
<i>Cx. stigmatosoma</i>	SLE	Birds	Night	1 km	+++ , 5	0	+++	+
<i>Cx. erythrothorax</i>	WEE	Opportunistic	Crepuscular/day	<2 km	++++ , 5	0	++	+++
<i>Cx. nigripalpus</i>	EEE, SLE	Opportunistic <sup>f</sup>	Crepuscular	5 km	++ , 4	+++	+++	++
<i>Cx. pipiens</i>	SLE	Birds	Crepuscular/night	2 km	+++ , 1, 3, 5	++++	++++	++
<i>Cx. quinquefasciatus</i>	SLE	Birds	Crepuscular/night	2 km	+++ , 4, 5	0	++++	++
<i>Cx. restuans</i>	SLE	Birds	Crepuscular/night	2 km	++++ , 4	+++	++++	++
<i>Cx. salinarius</i>	EEE, SLE	Opportunistic	Crepuscular/night	10 km	++++ , 4	+++	+++	++++
<i>Cx. tarsalis</i>	WEE, SLE	Opportunistic <sup>f</sup>	Crepuscular/night	>6 km	+++ , 5, 7	++++	++++	+++
<i>Oc. atropalpus</i>		Mammals	Day and night	1 km	+++ , 3	+	+	++
<i>Oc. canadensis</i>	EEE	Mammals	Day	2 km	++ , 8	+	0	++
<i>Oc. cantator</i>	EEE	Mammals	Day	>10 km	++ , 8	+	0	++
<i>Oc. dorsalis</i>	WEE	Mammals	Day and night	5 km	+++ , 5	+	0	++
<i>Oc. japonicus</i>	JE?	Mammals	Crepuscular/day	unk	+++ , 2, 3	+++	+	++++
<i>Oc. melanimon</i>	WEE	Mammals	Day and night	>10 km	+++ , 5	0	0	++
<i>Oc. sierrensis</i>		Mammals	Crepuscular/day	1 km	+, 5	0	0	+
<i>Oc. sollicitans</i>	EEE	Mammals	Crepuscular/night	>25 km	++ , 1, 3	+	0	+
<i>Oc. taeniorhynchus</i>	EEE	Mammals	Day and night	>25 km	+, 1, 3	+	0	+
<i>Oc. triseriatus</i>		Mammals	Day	200 m	+++ , 8	++	0	+++
<i>Ps. ferox</i>	SLE	Mammals	Day	2 km	0, 8	+	0	0

Distribution and bionomics based on and generalized from information in Carpenter and LaCasse (1955), Darsie and Ward (1981), and Moore et al. (1993).

<sup>a</sup> Known association with other viruses with a similar transmission cycle. EEE, eastern equine encephalomyelitis virus; JE; Japanese encephalitis virus; SLE; St. Louis encephalitis virus; WEE; western equine encephalomyelitis virus. Based on Karabatsos (1985).

<sup>b</sup> Efficiency with which this species is able to transmit WNV in the laboratory. 0, incompetent; +, inefficient; +++++, extremely efficient vector. Based on 1 (Turell et al. 2000), 2 (Sardelis and Turell 2001), 3 (Turell et al. 2001), 4 (Sardelis et al. 2001), 5 (Goddard et al. 2002), 6 (Sardelis et al. 2002), 7 (Turell et al. 2003), or 8 (present study).

<sup>c</sup> Relative number of WNV-positive pools detected. 0, none; +, few; +++++, many.

<sup>d</sup> Potential for this species to be an enzootic or maintenance vector based on virus isolations from the field, vector competence, feeding behavior, etc. 0, little to no risk; +++++, this species may play a major role.

<sup>e</sup> Potential for this species to be an epizootic or bridge vector based on virus isolations from the field, vector competence, feeding behavior, etc. 0, little to no risk; +++++, this species may play a major role.

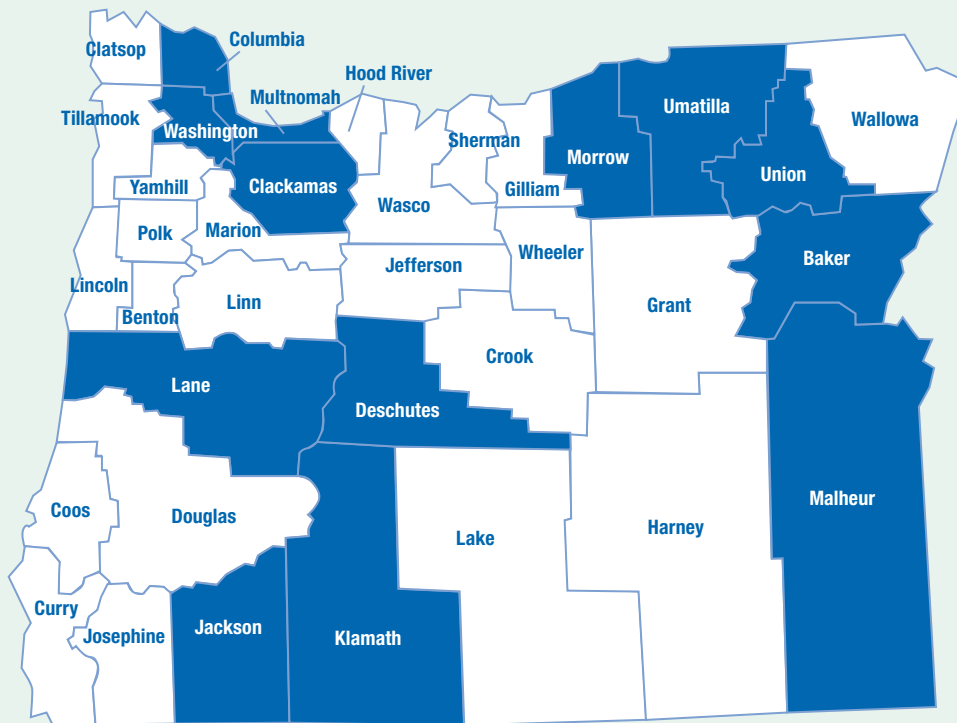
<sup>f</sup> Feeds primarily on avian hosts in spring and early summer and mixed between avian and mammalian hosts in late summer and fall.

Reference: Turell MJ, Dohm DJ, Sardelis MR, Oquinn ML, Andreadis DJ, Blow JA. An update on the potential of North American mosquitoes (Diptera: Culicidae) to transmit West Nile virus. *J Med Entomol* 2005; 42: 57–62. Used with permission.

# Vector control districts in Oregon

Figure 4. Oregon counties with participating vector control districts (VCDs) and their activities

County	Mosquito collection	Bird collection
Baker	YES	YES
Clackamas	YES	YES
Columbia	YES	YES
Crook	YES	YES
Deschutes	YES	YES
Jackson	YES	YES
Klamath	YES	YES
Lane	YES	YES
Malheur	YES	YES
Morrow	YES	YES
Multnomah	YES	YES
Umatilla	YES	YES
Washington	YES	YES



Source: Oregon Health Authority



PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION  
Acute and Communicable Disease  
Prevention Program  
Phone: 971-673-1111  
Fax: 971-673-1100

You can get this document in other languages, large print, braille or a format you prefer. Contact the Acute and Communicable Disease Prevention Program at 971-673-1111. We accept all relay calls or you can dial 711.