



**WEST NILE VIRUS
 ACTIVITY SUMMARY #5
 (June 25, 2004)**

First human case of West Nile fever identified in Los Angeles County!

The first Los Angeles County case of West Nile fever for this season has been identified. The case is an elderly man who resides in the eastern region of our county; he was not hospitalized and has since recovered. With this case, the current state total of human cases is now 10; the majority of these cases are residents of San Bernardino County. In addition, since numerous WNV-infected dead birds already have been recovered, especially in eastern cities of Los Angeles County, West Nile virus is now considered enzootic in southern California. Dead bird collection by the Health Department will be discontinued in 63 ZIP code areas as confirmation of the virus is now well established for those locations. However, phone reports of dead birds are still important and will continue to be received since this provides valuable information for WNV surveillance.

**Important changes in the testing and reporting of human cases are described at:
www.lapublichealth.org/acd/VectorWestNile.htm**

POSITIVE WNV TESTS, YEAR-TO-DATE, 2004*

	Human Cases	Equine Cases	Environmental Surveillance		
			Dead Birds	Sentinel Chicken Flocks	Mosquito Pools
Los Angeles County	1	0	207**	2	21
California	10	0	492	7	59

* As of 6/25/04—data are provisional and subject to change.

** As noted below, bird collection has been discontinued in many Los Angeles areas; as such, this frequency underestimates the number of WNV-infected dead birds occurring in our county.

CESSATION OF DEAD BIRD COLLECTION:

In many Los Angeles areas, dead bird collection by the Health Department has been discontinued since confirmation of the virus has been already well documented in those locations. In some special circumstances, local Vector Control may still decide to collect and test dead birds. Phoned reports of dead birds are still very important and will continue to be received since these reports they provide an on-going indicator of presumed West Nile virus activity and help focus containment activities. The termination of dead bird collection by the Health Department is only for the following 63 ZIP code areas listed below.

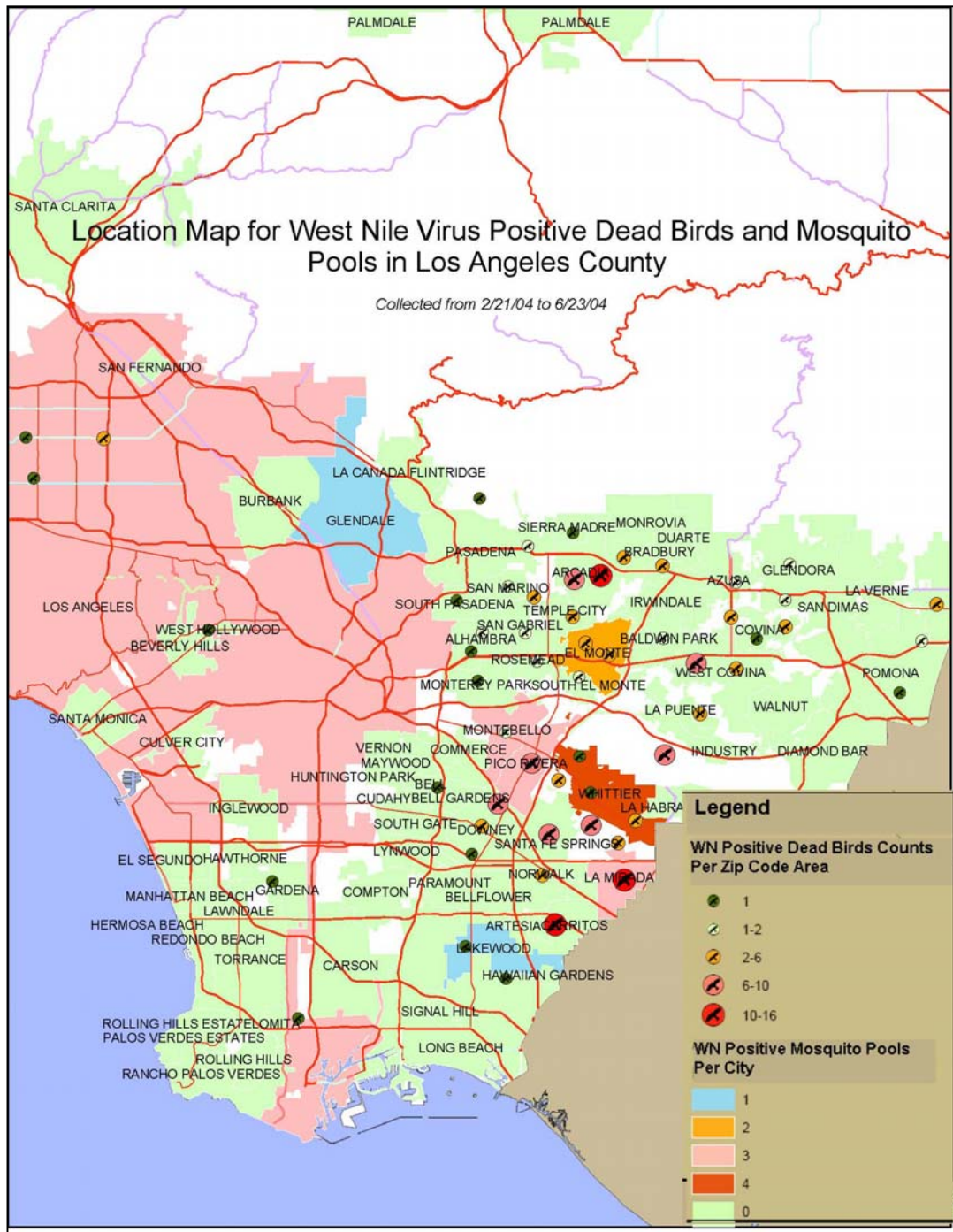
**ZIP code areas where dead bird collection has been discontinued.
 (6-25-04)**

91801	Alhambra	90242	Downey	90640	Montebello	91108	San Marino
91803	Alhambra	91010	Duarte	91754	Monterey Park	90670	Santa Fe Springs
91001	Altadena	91731	El Monte	91343	North Hills	91024	Sierra Madre
91006	Arcadia	91732	El Monte	91324	Northridge	91030	South Pasadena
91007	Arcadia	90249	Gardena	91325	Northridge	91780	Temple City
90701	Artesia	91740	Glendora	90650	Norwalk	91401	Van Nuys
91702	Azusa	91741	Glendora	91402	Panorama City	91722	West Covina
91706	Baldwin Park	91745	Hacienda Heights	91107	Pasadena	91790	West Covina
90201	Bell Gardens	90710	Harbor City	91108	Pasadena	91791	West Covina
90703	Cerritos	90716	Hawaiian Gardens	91766	Pomona	90069	West Hollywood
91745	City of Industry	91706	Irwindale	91767	Pomona	90602	Whittier
91711	Claremont	90712	Lakewood	91335	Reseda	90603	Whittier
91722	Covina	90638	La Mirada	91770	Rosemead	90604	Whittier
91724	Covina	91744	La Puente	91748	Rowland Heights	90605	Whittier
90240	Downey	90808	Long Beach	91775	San Gabriel	90606	Whittier
90241	Downey	91016	Monrovia	91776	San Gabriel		

Confirmation of WNV also has been well established in three additional areas (**90660–Pico Rivera, 91733–South El Monte, 90670–Whittier**). However, dead bird collection will continue in these three areas in collaboration with statewide surveillance and research.

West Nile virus-infected dead birds:

Often, the first sign that WNV is prevalent in an area is a die-off of wild birds from the corvid family—especially crows. Statewide, nearly half of the WNV-infected dead birds have been recovered from Los Angeles County, and most of those from eastern cities. In addition, since mosquitoes are vectors for disease transmission, mosquito pools are also tested for the presence of WNV. To date, 21 WNV-positive pools have been identified. And similar to the dead bird surveillance, most of those have been from the eastern areas of our county.



To report dead birds or other animals with encephalitis (e.g., horses) contact:
Los Angeles County Department of Health Services, Veterinary Public Health Program
Toll free hotline: 1-877-747-2243

OR

West Nile Virus Dead Bird Surveillance Program, California Department of Health Services
Toll free hotline: 1-877-WNV-BIRD (877-968-2473)