



# Supporting Mosquito Surveillance and Research: AB 320 & Ongoing State Budget Support

## CALSURV GATEWAY

The California Vectorborne Disease Surveillance Gateway, known as the CalSurv Gateway, was started in 2006 through a partnership of the University of California, Davis, more than 60 mosquito and vector control agencies, and the California Department of Public Health.

The CalSurv Gateway is critical for public health and vector control programs in California because it provides tools for real-time data collection, visualization, and analysis that allow agencies to make informed decisions on interventions. The system tracks disease-spreading mosquitoes – where they are, where they've been, where they may be heading, and where new diseases might be emerging.

Since 2011, mosquito control professionals in California have been working to slow the spread of two invasive mosquito species, *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus*. These species are significant public health concerns, as they can transmit tropical viruses such as Zika, dengue, and chikungunya that frequently are introduced into California by international travelers.

At the same time, California continues to combat West Nile and St. Louis encephalitis viruses. West Nile virus activity was detected in 41 counties in California in 2018 and over the last 10 years, more than 4,000 human disease cases were reported, including 211 deaths. There are no vaccines for any of these viruses, which are costly to treat and can have long-term health and financial consequences.

Since its launch in 2006, the CalSurv Gateway has been sustained through a series of short-term research grants to faculty at UC Davis, which are not adequate or reliable enough to meet the growing needs of such a mission-critical resource for our state.

AB 320 (Quirk) would identify the CalSurv Gateway in statute as the statewide surveillance database that enables public health and vector control agencies to track and predict the emergence of invasive species and mosquito-borne diseases and to facilitate efficient response. **The Mosquito and Vector Control Association of California urges you to support this important program by voting Yes on AB 320.**

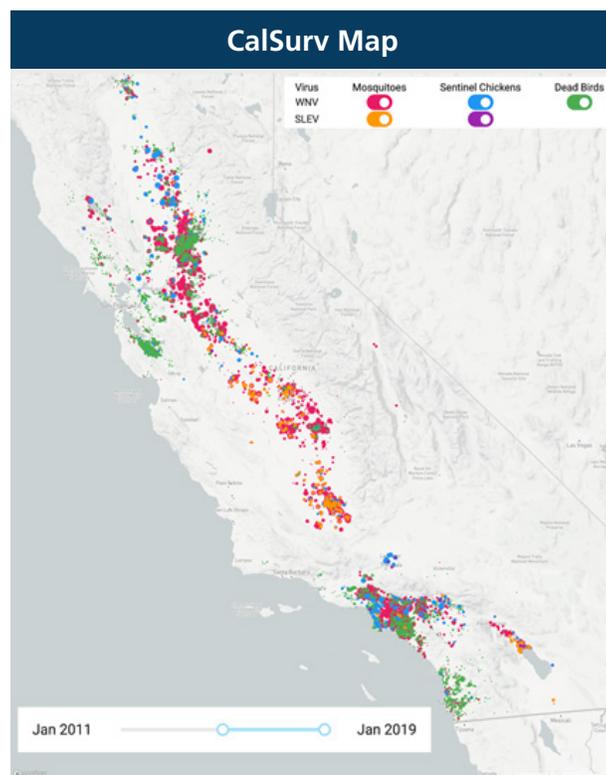


Figure 1. CalSurv map showing mosquito-borne virus activity detected by surveillance, 2011-2018.

### STATE BUDGET

MVCAC is urging support for a statewide mosquito and disease prevention program that specifically would:

- Work in tandem with AB 320 (Quirk) to officially recognize the CalSurv Gateway in statute.
- Establish a reasonable funding level to sustain the CalSurv Gateway and allow for development of new capabilities as an essential research and surveillance tool for California.

As evidence of the impact of this support, last year's one-time funding for 2018-2019 has enabled hiring of new staff and development of the following new features:

- Interactive maps and graphs of mosquito and virus activity
- Improved statewide tracking of insecticide resistance
- Scalable software services that allow local agencies to interact with data and define custom reports

### SURVEILLANCE CAN HELP COMBAT THE SPREAD OF DISEASE

It is time for the state to support the CalSurv Gateway and reinvest in public health. Mosquito control and public health professionals need the tools to proactively manage both native and invasive species through reliably funded and enhanced surveillance that gives everyone a better view of statewide data.

**The Mosquito and Vector Control Association of California encourages your support of this important bill and measure.**

