

2018 ANNUAL REPORT



2018 AT A GLANCE

330,000+ residents served | **40** square miles

33 employees | **\$18.8** million operating budget

40+ mosquito species | **15,201** acres larvicide treatments

218 gallons liquid Bti larvicide, **260%** increase

28,795 lbs. granular larvicide, **47.89%** increase

5,074 gallons Dibrom | **550** gallons Anvil

13 gallons Zenivex | **122** gallons Merus

3,445 mosquitofish distributed to residents

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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



David Farmer
Chairman

This past year, the Collier Mosquito Control District's staff, management and commissioners focused on facility repairs and improvements in the wake of Hurricane Irma in late 2017. The Board of Commissioners worked with Executive Director Linn to improve existing policies and create new ones that will ensure we maintain a robust public service agency that is efficient and proactive.

The District's facilities are now over 30 years old and have held up quite well considering their age. This year, the facilities on the main campus were reinforced. As part of the repair process, new hurricane-impact windows and

a generator were installed at the Administration building.

The Board worked with Director Linn to create and adopt a new hurricane policy. The new policy includes adding capabilities to our Immokalee facility to serve as a remote command center in the event an emergency impacts our area rendering the Naples facility inaccessible.

A new drone program was approved for establishment in 2018-19, which will create a much-needed data-gathering resource. The devices will be used for mapping and identification of difficult-to-access wetlands that provide habitat for larvae.

Identifying those habitats allows more precise application of larvicides, ultimately reducing growth of adult mosquito populations.

Our aircraft are aging (the average age of our ships is over 40 years), replacement parts are taking longer to locate, and the cost of those parts is increasing. At the request of Director Linn, the Board has embarked on a plan to strategically replace the District's fleet with new or newer airplanes and helicopters during the coming years. Because technology has progressed by leaps and bounds during the past 40 years, newer ships provide an excellent opportunity to upgrade

our mission capabilities and service to residents and visitors. As well, the ships will be more efficient and require less maintenance.

The Board welcomed the addition of Dr. Mike Reagen this year to serve as a Commissioner through 2020. Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Commissioner Adam Putnam appointed Dr. Reagen to the seat vacated when David Chapman resigned his position. Also, Michael Williams left the board later in the year, and his seat appeared on the fall ballot. During early 2019, we will welcome the candidate who won the election.

As we look to the not-too-distant

future, I would like to note the pending retirement of the District's longest-serving Commissioner, Mr. Bob Geroy. Bob began his service in 1991 and has served with distinction and honor since then. His knowledge and historical perspective of the District is unsurpassed, and we will surely miss his steady hand and wisdom when his term ends in January 2019.

It has been my privilege to serve as the District's Chair for 2018. The entire Board has worked very hard to represent District residents, protect public health, and wisely budget tax dollars.

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Patrick P. Linn, MS, MSHAPI
Executive Director

Natural disasters show little regard for budgets, fiscal years, or structures. The effects of Hurricane Irma in September 2017 altered both the course and timing of several projects at the District. Remarkably, through a concerted effort, the District's headquarters campus saw numerous improvements within the span of the 2017-18 fiscal year. Each of the buildings received a new roof, many of which include a Roof Hugger feature. The Administration building received hurricane impact windows and a new generator. The sum of these projects is a campus hardened considerably against future storm events. Thanks to sound insurance coverage and participation in

a FEMA program, the District's out-of-pocket expenses for these projects is ultimately less than if purchased outright.

The District continued to augment its complement of staff and expertise this year. Adding professionals in new positions and filling vacancies in Research, Surveillance, and Technical Development are enhancing the District's strides in meeting its mission.

The spring of 2018 was remarkable in that the salt marsh mosquito season was virtually non-existent; this in direct contrast to the spring of 2017. Although prepared for battle against

millions of mosquitoes, District surveillance demonstrated a conspicuous absence of the *Aedes taeniorhynchus* mosquito. The sheer number of variables nature has up her sleeve make predictions about the severity of any given mosquito season open to question.

The District employed the use of thousands of pounds more larvicide this year, with encouraging results. Although labor intensive and certainly more expensive than adulticiding on a per-acre basis, the use of larvicides often provide longer-term control and more pleasant conditions around the areas treated. It is our assertion that sound use of larvicide materials does and will

continue to reduce the number of adulticide missions required in high-production areas.

Outreach, education, and media relations are also areas we're working to expand. Participation in multiple community events and inclusion in school curriculum provide opportunities to inform and educate. Even a modest investment in these areas can pay handsome dividends in the rapidly growing number of new residents and visitors to Collier County.

As we look forward to seasons ahead, collaborative efforts between leadership, staff, and the public will result in ever-improving, careful service to those whom we

serve. We hope you will find this annual report to be informative and helpful in understanding what the Collier Mosquito Control District does for the community. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.



YEAR IN REVIEW

The District continues to make strides in adopting new technologies and methods to more efficiently and effectively meet its mission. From using new organic control materials to launching educational programs in local school classrooms, the progressive collaboration among the growing professional staff led to many accomplishments.

OPERATIONS

Collier County's population continues to grow, and new housing developments are quickly being established throughout the District. These new neighborhoods are affecting the area's geography by both eliminating and creating mosquito habitat. It also means that the number of citizens served by the District is increasing.

Restructuring Duties

To keep pace with the fight against nuisance and disease-bearing mosquitoes, the District made some organizational changes in Operations. Primarily, the Field Technicians no longer have geographic zone assignments. This change promotes greater flexibility and efficiency as they concentrate on checking traps and larviciding in response to weather events. These changes include:

- Field Technician Supervisor Nate Phillips oversees all aerial and ground missions and surveillance.
- Field Technician Richie Ryan directs all ground larval operations that include the Buffalo Turbine and new 400-gallon spray trucks. He also directs Field Technicians on landing rate counts and trapping.
- Field Technician Derrick Klein schedules all aerial larviciding and conducts aerial surveillance for mosquito larvae habitat. He is identifying new larval sites as well as mapping the District. Derrick



was instrumental in all pretreatments for the District's mangrove swamp areas.

- All citizen complaints are now investigated by Field Technician Drew Luckow. He is also maintaining all of our new BG counter traps; we now have a total of 20. Drew obtained his aquatic weed control certification and began working with a consultant to explore the establishment of an aquatic weed control program within the District.

Adulticiding

The District began using a new organic material, Merus 3.0, for aerial adulticiding for use in the

District's adulticiding helicopter. Merus 3.0 is a botanical pyrethrin derived from chrysanthemums. The material was chosen to primarily target salt marsh mosquito species. Aerial spray missions using Merus were largely successful, with an average knockdown of 86.79 percent *Aedes taeniorhynchus*, 73.84 percent for *Psorophora* species, 80.68 percent for *Culex* species, and 57.5 percent for *Aedes aegypti*.

Larviciding

A total of 15,021 acres were treated with larvicide via trucks, the Buffalo Turbine and helicopters. With the help of Field Technicians Jorge Puente, McCoy Ward, and Jeffery Gallucci, the missions were

closely recorded and graphed, and the actual numbers of gallons and pounds applied, and number of acres treated were readily available. The District also began using the organic material, Natular G30, for pretreating salt marsh mosquito breeding sites. The District applied 28,795 pounds of pretreat material to nearly 3,600 acres – a 47.89 percent increase from last year.

The Operations Department also increased the use of Vectobac WDG using the Buffalo Turbine to target container breeding mosquitoes. Larviciding missions targeting container breeding species nearly doubled – with 4,700 acres treated with 2,355 pounds of Vectobac WDG.

The use of liquid BTi applications using Aquabac XT and Vectobac 12AS increased, as well. Liquid BTi applications increased by 260 percent, with 218 gallons applied from the District's trucks and Buffalo Turbine.

Hurricane Irma's Impacts

Following Hurricane Irma in 2017, the headquarters' facilities were repaired and improved for enhanced hurricane resistance. Facilities Manager Butch May took on the monumental task of managing the numerous vendors and contractors who repaired our compound's buildings, roofs, windows, weather stations, and installed the Administration building's new generator.

The residents of Collier County received an unexpected benefit from the 2017 storm: a dramatic population decrease of *Aedes taeniorhynchus* mosquitoes. The areas affected by the storm were prime breeding sites for these black salt marsh mosquitoes, and their reduced numbers suggest that the storm's high tide likely submerged mangrove swamps harboring their eggs. It was a dramatic change from the spring of 2017, when the District experienced an absolute explosion of salt marsh mosquitoes that required a nearly continuous schedule of treatments to maintain reasonable populations. Their absence in 2018 was a welcome respite.

AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE

The District's three Shorts Brothers Skyvans are over 45 years old and the five MD 500 helicopters are about 30 years old. These ships continue to be in exceptionally safe and reliable condition thanks to the skills of the aircraft maintenance crew.

Long-time Director of Aviation Maintenance Jay Wilson retired (see page 19) and Mark Prince stepped into the role. Additionally, the District welcomed four new staff to the hangar: Jim Delie, Bob House, Wayne Luettich, and Jose Hilgado.

After nearly a year in Arizona with

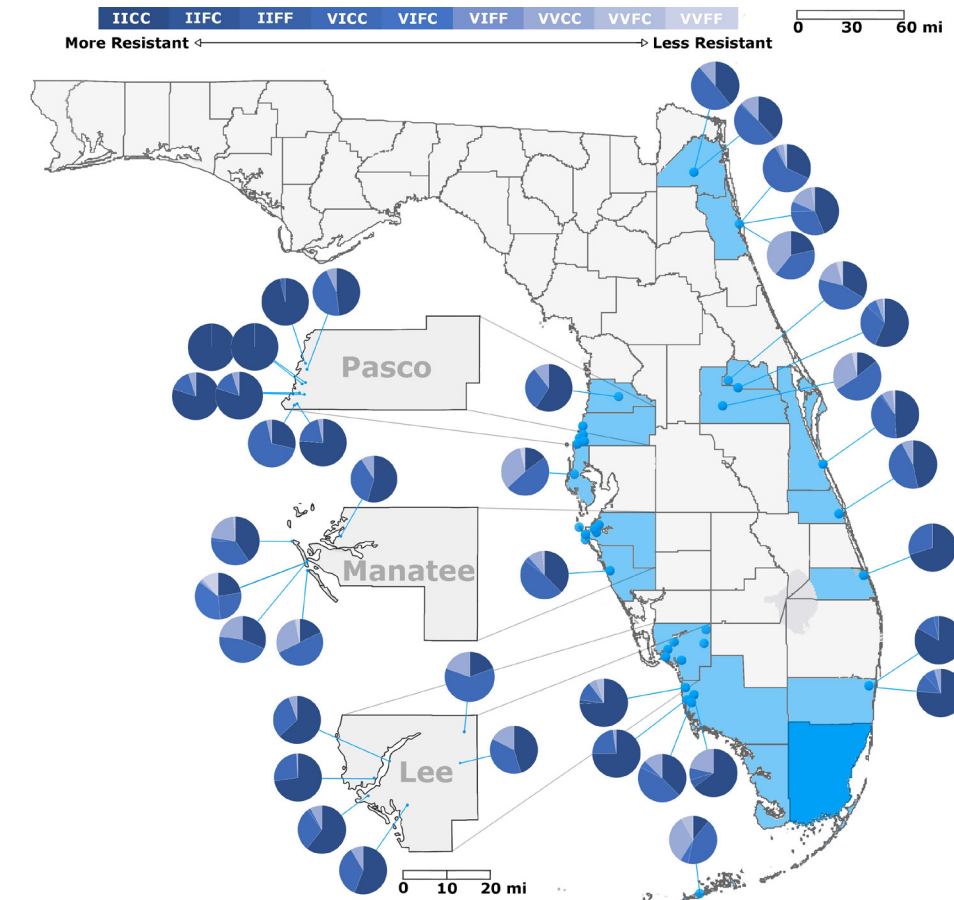


Fig. 1: State-wide pyrethroid resistance map for *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes in Florida. Estep et al 2018.

SAFETY TRAININGS

The District's policy is to maintain a safe environment and to ensure employees follow operating practices that assure optimal safety in the workplace. Throughout the year, a variety of training sessions are conducted with employees in order to maintain a safety-minded attitude. During 2018, employees participated in the following safety trainings:

- Chemical spill response
- Driving safety & awareness
- Hazwoper
- Hangar safety
- Fork lift training
- CPR/First Aid/DEFIB
- Active Shooter
- Quarterly safety meetings

Precision Heli Support for repairs and upgrades, one of the MD 500s returned to the fleet. The District also sold one of the MD 500s to the same organization, which is part of the purchase plan for a new Bell 407 in 2019.

The District's aging aircraft fuel truck was replaced with a new one, as well as the hangar's air compressor. New LED lighting throughout the hangar created a much improved work space.

Staff members attended the annual Florida Mosquito Control Association Fly-In at Lee County Mosquito Control, which typically draws pilots, maintenance crew

members, and other staff members from numerous mosquito control organizations around the nation.

RESEARCH

Hurricane Irma's Effect on Salt Marsh Mosquitoes

Areas effected by Hurricane Irma are known to be abundant in salt marsh and mangrove swamps - prime breeding sites for the black salt marsh mosquito, *Aedes taeniorhynchus*. Using landing rate counts and the District's new Biogents BG counter traps, the Research and Operations Departments analyzed the year-to-year fluctuations of *Aedes taeniorhynchus* population density.

In 2016, the District observed typical salt marsh mosquito populations, while a population explosion of *Aedes taeniorhynchus* mosquitoes was seen in 2017, with daily landing rates reaching as high as 150 adult females during a two-minute period.

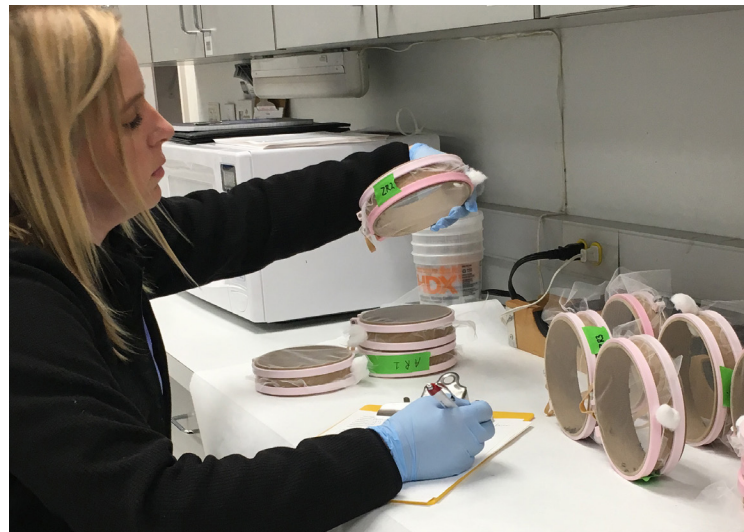
This year, the District observed a dramatic population crash of the salt marsh mosquitoes, representing some of the lowest numbers ever recorded in Collier County. Analysis of historical landing rate data before and after Hurricane Wilma (2005) displayed similar patterns in population numbers for that species. The apparent association of reduced

salt marsh mosquito numbers and hurricane activity suggest that high tides from Hurricane Wilma and Hurricane Irma likely submerged mangrove swamps harboring *Aedes taeniorhynchus* eggs - preventing emergence of flying adults. Damage and increase sedimentation within their breeding habitats may have also affected salt marsh mosquito populations. Overall, this enhanced understanding of the parameters regulating the population dynamics of *Aedes taeniorhynchus* may lead to improved operational planning.

Arbovirus Surveillance

Collier County continued to see

importations of travel-associated Zika virus cases in humans. As of Oct. 1, 2018, 30 travel-associated Zika virus importations occurred in Collier County as travelers or visitors arrived from abroad. This was a dramatic increase from the five cases observed this time last year. The Research Department maintained intensive disease surveillance by trapping *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes using BG Sentinel traps and testing mosquito pools for the presence of Zika virus, Dengue virus and Chikungunya virus. In total, 47 mosquito pools were tested by real-time PCR using the ThermoFisher TaqMan Zika Virus Triplex Vector Screening



2018 Resistance Monitoring: *Culex quinquefasciatus*

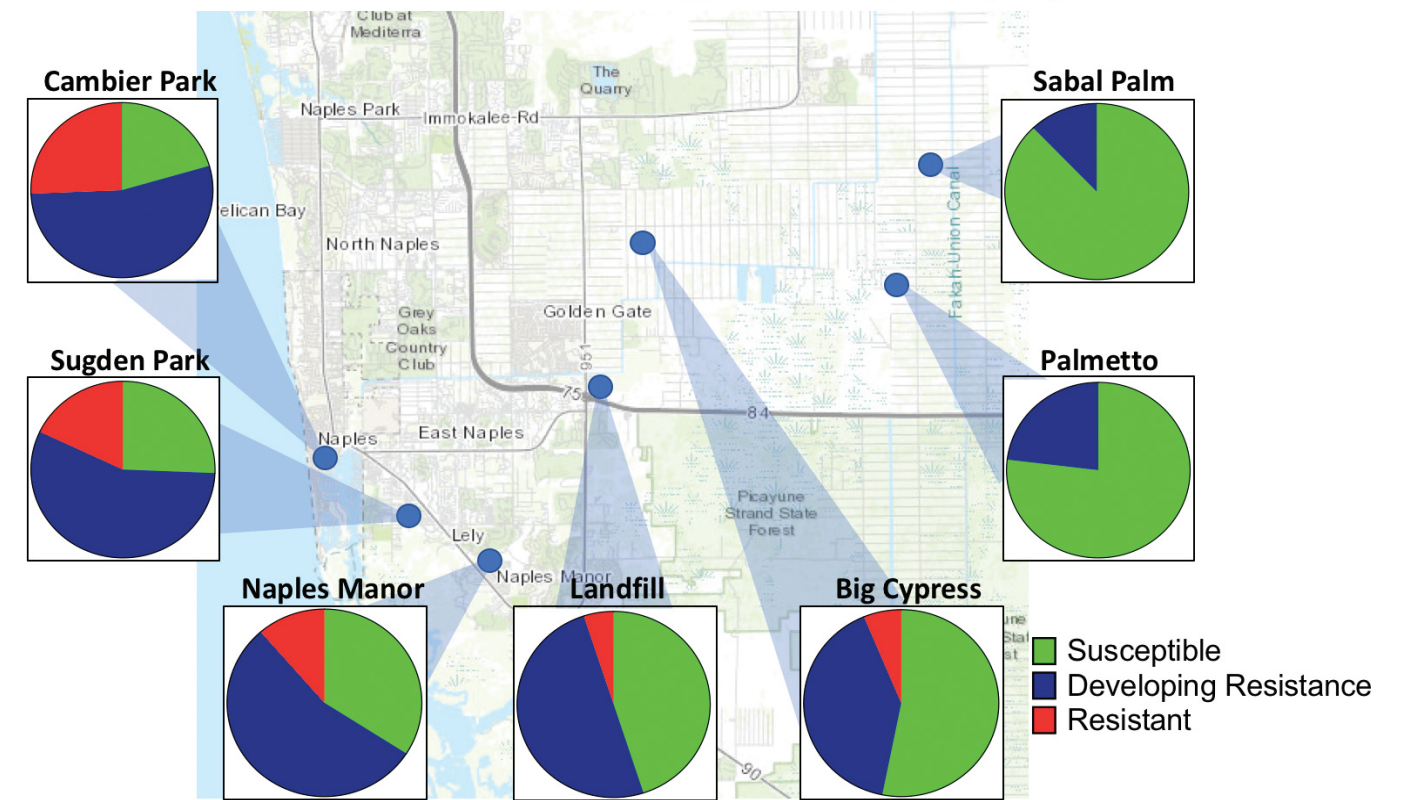


Fig. 2: *Culex quinquefasciatus* pyrethroid resistance map in Collier County.

Kit. None of these viruses were detected in any mosquito pool tested.

With the increased activity of several endemic viruses in Northern Florida, the Research Department increased disease surveillance efforts for West Nile virus. The Research Department began using a new modified gravid trap, known as a Reiter-Cummings Gravid Trap, which improved our ability to catch gravid *Culex nigripalpus* and *Culex quinquefasciatus* mosquitoes for West Nile Virus testing. In total, 160 *Culex* mosquito pools were tested for West Nile virus using RAMP assays. On Sept. 18,

West Nile virus was detected using a RAMP assay from *Culex* mosquitoes collected from a CDC Light Trap. Along with landing rate data generated by the Operations Department, this information was used to conduct an aerial spray mission in Eastern Golden Gate Estates.

Insecticide Resistance Monitoring

As the District expands its use of pyrethroid-based insecticides, the Research Department staff continued to establish a comprehensive insecticide resistance monitoring program. The District expanded work on examining KDR mutations within mosquitoes to better understand

developing pyrethroid resistance. Seven *Culex quinquefasciatus* populations were assessed for pyrethroid resistance using the KDR genotyping analysis on the District's real-time PCR machine. These results indicated that Collier's *Culex quinquefasciatus* mosquitoes are developing resistance to pyrethroid-based insecticides throughout the county. (See Fig. 2, p. 15) Pyrethroid resistance status was highest in the urban areas of the District, while decreasing in resistance in populations collected in the more rural/newly developed locations. The District continues to monitor mosquito populations throughout the county using CDC bottle

bioassay and KDR genotyping. The Research Department worked closely with Entomologist Alden Estep from the USDA's Center for Medical, Agricultural, and Veterinary Entomology Detachment to create a state-wide pyrethroid resistance map for *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes. (See Fig. 1, p. 13)

Using real-time PCR methods in the District's laboratory, the Research Department developed KDR genotyping data in four *Aedes aegypti* populations from Collier County. Taken together, results from Collier and other districts indicated an alarming presence of highly resistant *Aedes*

aegypti mosquitoes. The data was accepted for publication in PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases.

District scientists also collaborated with students from Dr. Francisco Fernandez-Lima's research group at Florida International University (FIU). This summer, two research students from FIU visited the District's laboratory to learn and perform CDC bottle bioassay experiments. These experiments were in an effort to develop a method using mass spectrometry for detecting small amounts of pyrethroid residues on resistant mosquitoes in hopes of determining if selective pressures are driving pyrethroid resistance

in Collier's *Aedes aegypti*. The Research Department has continued to trap for field-caught *Aedes aegypti* for ongoing experiments with FIU researchers.

Evaluating Control Materials

The Research Department evaluated several pyrethroid-based insecticides for use in the District's aerial adulticiding program. The materials chosen for evaluation included four commercially available products for aerial adulticiding: Anvil, Deltagard, Merus and Zenivex. Bottle bioassay, and ground and aerial cage trials were performed to test each material. In CDC Bottle Bioassay experiments, Merus was most successful at



knocking down both *Aedes taeniorhynchus* and *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes.

Due to the low abundance of salt marsh mosquitoes this season, most planned experiments were stalled for testing materials against *Aedes taeniorhynchus* mosquitoes in cage trials. However, limited cage trails using the aerial application of Merus successfully knocked down salt marsh mosquitoes.

The Research Department also worked to evaluate the efficiency of Vectobac WDG applications in targeting container breeding mosquitoes, such as *Aedes aegypti*. Ovitrap traps were placed in areas

known to breed high numbers of container-breeding mosquitoes. Traps were used throughout the season and checked twice weekly for signs of *Aedes aegypti* eggs. Analysis of ovitrap data indicates Vectobac WDG provides approximately two weeks of population reduction.

Mosquitofish Program

The District began using the mosquitofish, *Gambusia holbrooki*, this year for biological control of mosquitoes in some types of larval habitats. The Research Department set up a stock tank to house and cultivate fish, which were initially collected from local waterways in Collier County. Fish stocking

and cultivation conducted by District personnel complies with Florida Fish and Wildlife guidelines, and a permit was issued for *Gambusia holbrooki* collection. The mosquitofish project was led by District Biologist Rachel Bales.

The mosquitofish were readily received by District residents. The District distributed 3,445 mosquito fish to 145 families. Common placement for mosquitofish communicated by residents were small ponds, ditches, non-circulating fountains, retention ponds, animal water troughs, rain barrels and unused pools. The Research Department also released mosquitofish in several ditches

known to breed mosquitoes. Fish remained in ditches throughout the season and larval sources were reduced. Larger scale releases and experiments are planned for summer 2019.

CDC Southeastern Center of Excellence

The Research Department continued to cultivate a collaborative partnership with the CDC Southeastern Center of Excellence in Vector-borne Disease. The District worked with Center of Excellence Principle Investigator Dr. Derek Cummings to create a predictive model of the spatial distribution and abundance of *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes*

albopictus mosquitoes in Florida. The District also worked closely with the Center of Excellence Director Dr. Rhoel Dinglasan to perform sequencing efforts in order to detect naturally occurring Wolbachia in field caught *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes. As Wolbachia-mediated mosquito reduction is further tested and adopted, it's important to know whether Wolbachia occurs naturally in Florida's mosquitoes. Experiments for both projects are ongoing.

In February 2018, the District's Director of Research Dr. Keira Lucas and Biologist Rachel Bales attended the University of Florida

STAFF TRAINING

The District's staff received professional training throughout the year, advancing their knowledge and expertise in areas including mosquito control industry best practices and professional development.

MONTH	TRAINING/ CONFERENCE
OCT	POWER EXCEL
NOV	AMERICAN SOCIETY OF TROPICAL MEDICINE ANN. MTG.
	FGFOA 2017 GAAP UPDATE
DEC	SWGFOA QUARTERLY MEETING
JAN	FMCA FLY-IN
	DODD SHORT COURSES
FEB	FMCA TALLAHASSEE DAYS
	DO IT ALL COMMUNICATORS CONFERENCE
	COMBATING IDENTITY FRAUD
	UNIV. OF FL EMERGING PATHOGENS INSTITUTE
	MD HELICOPTER PILOT TRAINING
MARCH	PAYROLL AND IRS
MAY	EPICOR INSIGHTS
JUNE	RECORDS MANAGEMENT SEMINAR
SEPT	ANNUAL INVESTMENT TRAINING
	EXCELAPALOOZA



Emerging Pathogens Institute Research Day and Career Day. Bales presented a poster focusing on data obtained as a result of her CDC CoE-funded insecticide resistance training obtained at the USDA's Center for Medical, Agricultural, and Veterinary Entomology Detachment. Dr. Lucas served on a panel for the CDC CoE Vector-borne Disease Research Career Day and promoted mosquito control as an option for aspiring scientists.

During the summer, the Research Department hosted a CDC CoE-funded intern Caroline Weldon, MPH. She aided with KDR genotyping analysis in *Culex*

quinquefasciatus mosquitoes, as well as assisted with *Aedes aegypti* surveillance. Weldon has moved on to serve as the CDC CoE Program Coordinator in Gainesville, Fla.

The Research Department welcomed Dr. Rebecca Heinig to the staff, who has an extensive entomological background and is published in several publications pertaining to mosquitoes and disease control.

PUBLIC RELATIONS & OUTREACH

The District's efforts to educate Collier County's residents and visitors continued to expand in

2018 through staff participation in community events, a wide variety of media coverage, presentations and facility tours.

Adrian Salinas retired from his position (see page 19) and Public Outreach Specialist Andrea McKinney joined the Communications Department, bolstering the District's education efforts to reach children's summer camps and school classrooms. The first step in the District's blossoming education program the creation of a second-grade program aligned with Sunshine State Standards. Throughout the year, it was introduced to area schools where it was readily embraced by

students and teachers. Additional programs for other grade levels are planned for next year.

The District's annual Open House attracted more than 350 visitors who toured the campus to learn more about the organization's operations. Numerous community partner organizations participated in the event providing information, handing out novelty items, and demonstrating equipment.

The addition of the District's mosquitofish program provided new opportunities to open dialogue with residents. Broadcast media interviews, social media posts, and a utility bill stuffer helped

to spread news about the fish throughout the county, as well as taking a small tabletop aquarium of the fish to outreach events

Community events were peppered throughout the Communications Department's calendar, and staff from other departments lent their time and expertise to participate in these events. Parades, recycling roundups, and career fairs are a few examples of the newly added recurring events.

Media relations is an ongoing initiative, resulting in more than 40 interviews with key staff broadcasted during 2018.

RETIREMENTS

Adrian Salinas was employed with the District for 36 years before retiring in 2018.



He held many positions at the District throughout his career, including mechanic, inspector, mosquito counter, and was the public information officer upon his retirement. Through his community involvement, Adrian was a highly recognized member of the staff. The District commends Adrian for his many years of dedication.

John T. "Jay" Wilson worked for the District in what would be two careers. His first start date as



an employee was in 1970 upon his high school graduation. His father was the District's chief mechanic, and Jay quickly fit in at the shop. In 2006, he retired for one month, then returned to the District for another long career, which came to a close in 2018. Cumulatively, Jay worked 42 years for the District, and just as his father before him, Jay was the Chief Mechanic when he retired. A board-issued resolution recognized his outstanding length of commitment.

ADMINISTRATION

The District concluded fiscal year (FY) 2017-18 with an ending cash balance of \$9,267,824. The budget was balanced, and the District maintained satisfactory reserves, as well as funds which were readily accessible into FY 2018-19. Revenue for FY 2017-18 was generated by a millage rate of 0.1832 (\$18.32) per hundred thousand of taxable property value.

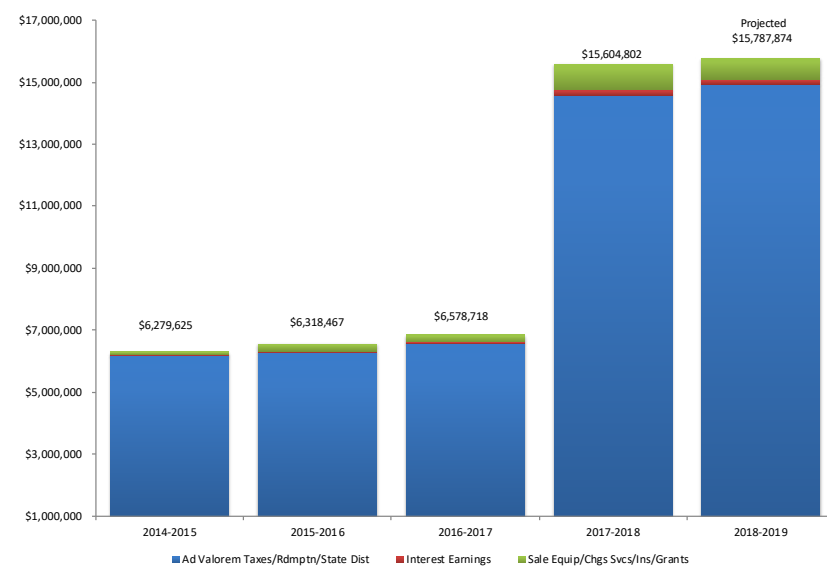
Total proceeds for the FY were \$15,604,803, which included \$269,576 from aerial treatment outside of the District's boundaries. Fiscal year expenditures were \$10,355,904, an increase of 41 percent from the prior fiscal year.

Projected expenses and projects for FY 2018-19 include:

- Purchase of a Bell 407 helicopter
- Launch the drone program with Field Technicians
- Establish internal career paths via professional development and training
- Continue evaluation of alternative control materials
- Increase public outreach efforts and develop new education programs for district residents
- Expand the mosquitofish program
- Remove and replace aircraft ramp area.

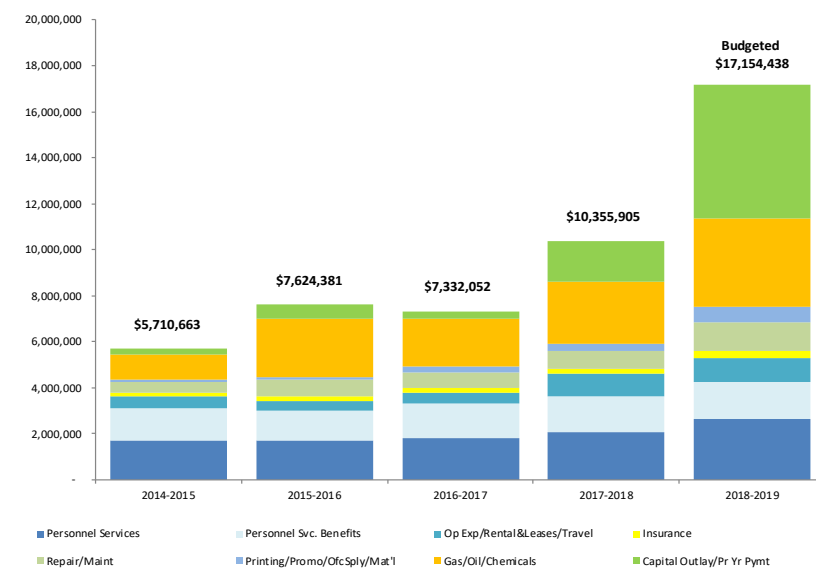
During the year, the District's work force increased from 26 to 33 full-time employees, a 27

FIVE YEAR REVENUE COMPARISON



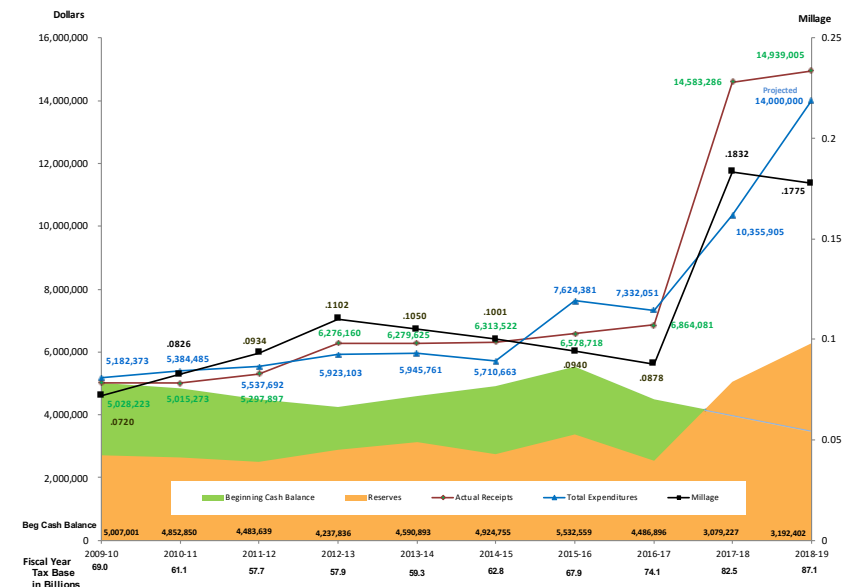
The five-year Revenue Comparison Chart shows the prior four years of revenue and projected income for FY 2018-19. It illustrates that revenue remains steady after the decision to increase millage to facilitate modernization of the aerial and ground fleet, expand the larviciding program, augment personnel, and incorporate other areas of Collier County within the District during the next six years.

FIVE YEAR EXPENDITURE COMPARISON



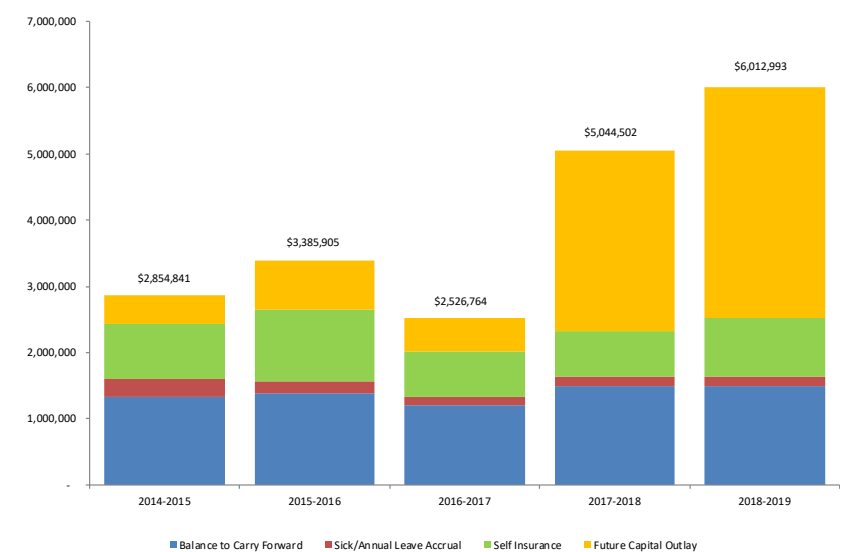
The Future Capital Outlay account has an increase of \$786,299, a 29 percent increase over the prior year, as shown. This money has been set aside for future aircraft fleet replacement. The sick and annual leave reserve equates to the long-term liability at fiscal year-end, and the reserve for self-insurance corresponds to the health insurance actuarial report reserve allocation.

AD VALOREM RECEIPTS/MILLAGE RATES



The Ad Valorem Receipts/Millage Rates Chart depicts the Collier County tax base, the millage rate, and the District's cash flow over time. In correlation with the growth of the economy, the tax base in Collier County has increased by \$8.4 billion for FY 2017-18 and \$4.6 billion for FY 2018-19.

FIVE YEAR COMPARISON OF RESERVES



The District budgets for and purchases control materials based on average usage over time. Carryover of adult and larval control materials for use during the 2019 season is valued at \$1,752,758, representing a dollar increase in chemical of \$862,008, or 97 percent. The increase in inventory is partially due to a light mosquito season during FY 2017-18, but more importantly, due to a substantial, continued effort to increase the use of larvicides, thus additional types of control materials are on hand for use by field personnel.

percent increase in staffing. Each employee continued to contribute 3 percent of their earnings to the Florida Retirement System (FRS). In accordance with Florida Statutes, the District also contributed a monthly percentage, based on employee gross wages to the FRS. This percentage is established by the Florida Legislature yearly. Funding the District's retirees' future health benefits is important, thus the Board of Commissioners made discretionary payments totaling \$126,668 to the District's Internal Revenue Code Section 115 Retiree Benefit Trust during the fiscal year.

The District maintained a high-deductible, defined-contribution health insurance plan that was offset by a health reimbursement account (HRA). Effective Oct. 1, 2018, United Health Care became the preferred provider organization (PPO), facilitated by Benecon, a consortium which consists of Florida public entities.

For the fourth consecutive year, employees and their dependents over the age of 18 were encouraged to participate in a healthy-living program, Viverae. Those who participated earned health insurance premium discounts. The program incorporated a biometric screening, a health assessment, as well as an interactive wellness website.

The District continued to employ the services of Bond, Schoeneck, and King, with Bill Owens serving as District Counsel. CliftonLarsonAllen LLP were the external auditors. Martin Redovan,

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



SEAT 4
David H. Farmer
Chairman



SEAT 3
Jaquelyn D.
Thompson-Fresenius
Vice Chairman



SEAT 2
Robert D. Geroy
Treasurer



SEAT 5
Michael V. Reagen

The Collier Mosquito Control District is an independent special taxing district operating under Chapter 388, Florida Statutes. It is governed by a five-member* Board of Commissioners. Each member of the Board is elected at-large for a four-year term. As elected officials, the Commissioners provide a direct link between government and the residents of the District.

**Seat 1 was vacated mid-year and a new candidate was elected. He will begin his term in January 2019.*

CPA, served as the Managing Partner representing the firm.

During FY 2017-18, Administrative staff converted the District's financial data to a new accounting system, with a go-live date for general ledger, accounts payable, and fixed assets of Oct. 1, 2018. Testing of a web-based Advanced Requisition Management system was completed. Staff will begin using paperless purchase requisitions during the first quarter of FY 2018-19.

Ensuring that the District's facilities and equipment are well-maintained and adequate to meet the organization's needs is critical to successfully meeting

the mission. Expenditures totaling \$753,545 facilitated the repair and maintenance of aircraft and the restoration of the District's buildings due to a direct hit by Hurricane Irma in September 2017. The roofs on all five buildings were replaced or enhanced with a roof-hugger system. In addition, the fire system panel, portions of the security system, and other additional essentials were repaired or replaced, to ensure the stability and security of the Naples facility.

The District also moved its Immokalee office from the Immokalee Airport to an off-site, larger building with storage capacity for larvicides and a professional office space. In the

event of an emergency evacuation of the Naples facility, essential staff will be able to work from the Immokalee office.

Other items of interest include the refurbishment of one District helicopter; the purchase of ancillary equipment for the FieldSeeker GIS software, and the purchase of office furniture and computers to support the increasing staff.



MISSION

The mission of the Collier Mosquito Control District (the District) is to provide valuable service to the community through suppression of both disease carrying and pestiferous mosquito populations by and through the safest and most economical means available. The District utilizes a variety of methods (Integrated Mosquito Management) in a manner consistent with the highest level of safety and minimal adverse impact on humans, wildlife, the environment, and non-target organisms.

VISION

Contributing to a healthy, high quality of life in southwest Florida and beyond by upholding public trust, applying sound science, utilizing best practices in mosquito control, economic responsibility, and an enduring search for solutions.



600 North Road
Naples, FL 34104
239.436.1000
cmcd.org

