



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Washington, D.C. 20240

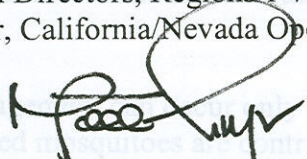
In Reply Refer To:

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Memorandum

To: Regional Directors, Regions 1-7
Manager, California/Nevada Operations Office
Acting

From: Director 

Subject: Interim Guidance for Mosquito Management on National Wildlife Refuges

A draft policy on mosquito management for the National Wildlife Refuge System is expected to be released for public comment within the next few months. In the interim, and while the draft policy is undergoing public review, the attached document has been prepared to provide refuges with a System wide, consistent process for addressing mosquito management issues.

Because refuges with existing mosquito management programs have already begun the process for the current season, there will be a 6-month transition period during which these refuges should review their existing programs to ensure consistency with this guidance. Refuges with no current mosquito management program should follow the attached guidance when health threats from refuge-based mosquitoes are identified.

Mosquito management on national wildlife refuges can be a very controversial issue. The Service is committed to protecting the health of humans, wildlife, and domestic animals while maintaining our statutory and policy obligations for wildlife conservation.

For additional information, please contact Michael Higgins at (410) 573-4520.

Attachment