



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
MARINE AIR GROUND TASK FORCE TRAINING COMMAND
MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER
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CCO 6250.1

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JUL 22 2005

COMBAT CENTER ORDER 6250.1

From: Commanding General, Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command,
Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center
To: Distribution List

Subj: WEST NILE VIRUS PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

Encl: (1) Dead Bird Reporting Protocol Flyer

1. Situation. West Nile Virus (WNV) is a mosquito-borne pathogen first detected in New York State in 1999 and has since spread across the continental United States. WNV can infect humans, and in rare cases be fatal. Infants, elderly, and the infirmed are at highest risk of severe illness and death. In nature, birds are the most vulnerable to WNV. WNV has the potential to decimate their populations. Horses and other mammals are also susceptible; very recent and tentative findings show that WNV may even affect reptiles. This is a concern to the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center (MCAGCC) because WNV may affect the threatened desert tortoise. It is important to note, due to low vector (mosquito) populations, it is unlikely that WNV will affect the Combat Center as much as other areas.

2. Mission. Provide a response and prevention plan for the education, vaccination, monitoring, reporting, prevention of mosquito breeding and biting, and the spread of WNV.

3. Execution

a. Commander's Intent and Concept of Operations

(1) Commander's Intent. Commanding Officers, Directors, and Officers-in-Charge will ensure Marines and Civilians in their charge are familiar with and comply with the instructions of this Order.

(2) Concept of Operations. This Order will be used to establish procedures and policies for the education, vaccination, monitoring, reporting, and prevention of mosquito breeding and biting and the spread of the WNV.

b. Subordinate Element Mission. All subordinate elements will report dead birds to Veterinary Services and Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Division (NREA). Specific subordinate element missions:

(1) Installations and Logistics (I&L) Directorate

(a) Facilities Management Division (FMD)

1 Monitor vector infestation.

- 2 Recommend/implement vector control measures.
- 3 Coordinate vector control with local agencies.
- 4 Develop/implement abatement strategies.

(b) NREA

- 1 Perform species identification for Migratory Bird Treaty Act reporting.
- 2 Coordinate reporting of dead birds with the Combat Center Veterinary Services.
- 3 Coordinate State and Federal Endangered Species Act/Migratory Bird Treaty Act requirements.
- 4 Develop and distribute WNV information.
- 5 Monitor test results reported by Base Veterinary Services.
- 6 Assist Public Affairs in developing an Observation Post article. Optimum timing for article is late January/early February of each year.

(c) Housing

- 1 Minimize excessive watering and associated runoff.
- 2 Ensure sources of standing water are eliminated.
- 3 Provide resident education.
- 4 Serve as distribution point for WNV flyer.

(d) Center Logistics Division, Veterinary Services

- 1 Serve as the primary office to be contacted by other organizations and residents.
- 2 Specimen collection point (primarily birds).
- 3 Determine need for additional testing.
- 4 Package and ship samples for laboratory testing. The lab facility in San Bernardino, CA, will not accept specimens 15 November - 30 March.
- 5 Monitor and report test results to Preventive Medicine, Naval Hospital Twentynine Palms (NHTP), and Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs (NREA) Division.
- 6 Coordinate reports of results to appropriate federal, state, and county agencies.

7 Coordinate and implement an animal vaccination program.

8 Develop focused education and outreach to pet owners (especially horse owners).

9 Encourage vaccination of privately owned horses as is strongly recommended in accordance with guidance from the U.S. Army Veterinary Command (VETCOM).

10 Monitor horses for signs of WNV.

11 Coordinate the reporting of dead bird with NREA.

(2) Naval Hospital Twentynine Palms (NHTP), Preventive Medicine

(a) Monitor disease spread and human impacts.

(b) Assist with education efforts.

(c) Monitor any developments toward human vaccinations.

(d) Serve as a distribution point for WNV flyer.

(e) Develop an Emergency Vector-borne Disease Control Plan in which the medical department will coordinate response to an outbreak of disease.

(f) Monitor test results reported by Base Veterinary Services.

(3) Public Affairs Officer (PAO)

(a) Provide public information/news releases.

(b) Publish Observation Post article. Optimum timing for article is late January/early February of each year. NREA Division will assist.

(c) Publish Base-wide Speedcall.

(d) Serve as a distribution point for WNV flyer.

(4) Provost Marshal's Office (PMO). Serve as secondary contact office when Veterinary Services is closed. Collect and deliver specimens to Veterinary Services or refer to NREA during normal business hours.

(5) Marine Corps Community Services Directorate (MCCS)

(a) Coordinate horse management issues with veterinary services.

(b) Serve as distribution points for WNV flyer.

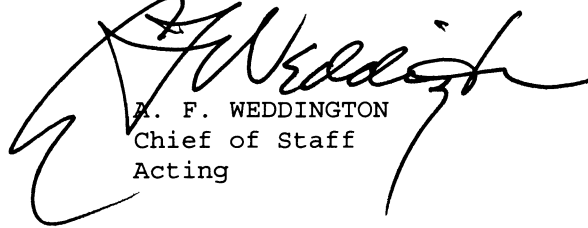
(c) Minimize excessive watering and associated runoff.

4. Administration and Logistics. Distribution Statement A-1 directives issued by the Commanding General are distributed via e-mail. This Order can be viewed at <http://www.29palms.usmc.mil/dirs/manpower/adj/index.asp>.

5. Commands and Signal

a. Signal. This Order is effective the date signed.

b. Command. This Order is applicable to Active Duty, Reserve, civilian personnel and all residents aboard MCAGCC.



A. F. WEDDINGTON
Chief of Staff
Acting

DISTRIBUTION: A-1

Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, CA

West Nile Virus Prevention and Response
DEAD BIRD REPORTING PROTOCOL



*What do I do if I find a
dead bird?*

NOTE: It is strongly suggested that only veterinary, public health, or wildlife professionals handle dead birds (or other wildlife). If you must touch or dispose of a carcass, wear gloves or use a shovel.

1. Call Veterinary Services (US Army) at (760) 830-6896.

Provide your name and contact information as well as the location of the dead bird. If after hours, leave that same information in a detailed message, then call the Provost Marshal Office at (760) 830-6800.

2. Wait for MCAGCC to respond. Do not touch the carcass, but attempt to protect it from children, dogs, cats, coyotes, etc. If you are unable to wait for official personnel, put on a pair of gloves, double wrap the carcass in plastic and place on ice in a cooler or in a refrigerator isolated from food. **Do NOT freeze the carcass!**

Not all carcasses will be in condition to be tested for West Nile Virus (WNV), but MCAGCC will record ALL dead bird reports regardless of carcass condition and determine if WNV testing is appropriate.

The California Department of Health Services (DHS) is particularly interested in ravens and other corvid species (e.g. jays, magpies, crows, etc).

Veterinary Services will contact DHS as needed, coordinate all testing and will distribute results as appropriate. Most birds will not be accepted for testing between November and April.

Your participation in this surveillance effort is greatly appreciated.
If you have questions, please call:

Veterinary Services
(760) 830-6896, Mon-Fri 0800-1600

Additional information is available by calling
(877) WNV-BIRD (968-2473)
Or by visiting <http://www.westnile.ca.gov/>

-Revised July 2005-

This information was adapted from the California Department of Health Services.