

AUG 15 2008



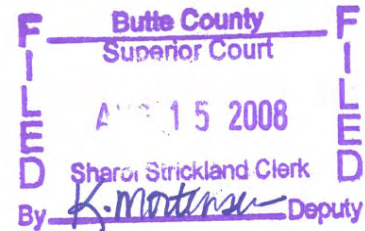
## Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District

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Matthew C. Ball  
Manager

July 14, 2008

The Honorable Judge Steven Howell  
Butte County Superior Court  
One Court Street  
Oroville, CA 95965



Re: Response to Grand Jury Report

Dear Judge Howell,

After reviewing the 2007/2008 Grand Jury Report, I offer a correction to the estimated cost of a mail election for consolidation of the three mosquito districts in the county. According to the County Clerk's office the cost of such a special election is estimated to be at least \$168,000 \$65,000.

The District is currently implementing the Grand Jury Report's recommendations.

Recommendation #1, the District is still active as members of the Butte County West Nile virus Task Force. The District always has at least one representative at each meeting and is always looking for improved ways to expand our public education and outreach to reduce public health threats.

Recommendations #2, the District has authorized development of a website by a local company that will include information about, but not limited to:

- District policies and programs
- Information about pesticides used
- Integrated Pest Management Program
- Related services provided by the District
- Public Education and Information
- Fogging advisories with maps
- News and press releases
- Links to useful information sources on pesticides, alternative control measures, and disease prevention.

The District continues working with the Butte County Public Health Department to post the Districts fogging schedules and areas to be treated.


Recommendation #3, the District is currently taking affirmative steps to improve employee-management relations. The Districts management has implemented

new managerial techniques that appear to be improving employee moral making the District operate more efficiently.

Recommendation #4, the District's Board of Trustees established a policy many years ago of not forcing consolidation of the three Butte County districts (Butte County Mosquito and Vector Control District, Oroville Mosquito Abatement District, Durham Mosquito Abatement District). While there are cost efficiencies and probably an improvement in levels of control with consolidation, our district understands the reasons that the smaller districts use to justify their independence, and respect the wishes of a majority of the residents within those districts.

The District agrees with the findings and recommendations provided by the 2007/2008 Butte County Grand Jury Report.

Cordially,



Matthew C. Ball  
Manager