TO: Matthew Birnie

FROM: Jim Cochran

DATE: March 7, 2013

SUBJECT: Recommendations to the BoCC Regarding Mosquito Control Activities

Matthew, in January, 2013 you asked a number of individuals involved and/or interested in Gunnison County's mosquito control activities to develop recommendations for the Board of County Commissioners to consider.

The mosquito control "work group" you selected was composed of:

Jim Cochran	Gunnison County Wildlife Conservation Coordinator
J Wenum	Colorado Parks and Wildlife Gunnison Area Wildlife Manager
Eric McPhail	CSU Extension Agent, Gunnison
Kevin Alexander	Professor of Biology, Western State Colorado University
Chris Kruthaupt	Colorado Mosquito Control

The group met twice in January. Though not everyone was able to attend all meetings, I am able to report that the group agreed on three recommendations for application of mosquito "adulticide", and one recommendation for a study to detect control chemical in flowing waters (river and stream) while also sampling for insect "drift".

The recommendations are:

1. Aerial application of mosquito control chemical (in this context – the adulticide) should be applied strictly according the product label. CMC should provide Gunnison County with proof that the product label requirements have been adhered to.

2. CMC should provide the aerial spray equipment calibration data to Gunnison County. *We did not discuss a time frame but I suggest that it be soon after (can it be provided before?) the aerial application.*

3. CMC should provide the raw (unmodified) GPS flight logs (route, spray on, spray off and any other data collected) to Gunnison County. *I suggest these be provided within one week of the occurrence of the flight – or sooner if that is possible.*

4. We recommend that Gunnison County, support the insect drift study previously proposed by Dr. Kevin Alexander, with the addition of incorporating water sampling for the insecticide, before, during and after application. This will help provide validity to the drift study and, if the stars are aligned (sampling catches the chemical, can detect the chemical at the concentrations it occurs, etc.) will provide good information to the County, CMC and the public regarding Gunnison County's mosquito control efforts and possible impacts to the aquatic communities in the area of application.

Dr. Alexander has been working Colorado Parks and Wildlife staff on the technical issues and costs associated with the water sampling efforts. We will have that information available for the Commissioners at the March 12 work session.