

MOSQUITO CONTROL OPERATOR

Job Description

Position Summary

Under supervision, the Mosquito Control Operator plans and performs professional field operations for the Kern Mosquito and Vector Control District (District). The primary responsibility of this position is to protect the public health and safety by identifying, documenting, and mitigating conditions conducive to mosquito production.

The Mosquito Control Operator accurately documents, in the prescribed manner, when, where, and whom, and under what circumstances mosquito-producing conditions occur. The incumbent exercises technical judgment in evaluating mosquito activity and implementing appropriate control measures, including minor source reduction, introduction of biological control agents, and other procedures consistent with the District's Integrated Pest Management (IPM) program.

The Mosquito Control Operator must be a high school graduate in good physical condition and possess a valid California Driver's License. The selected candidate must obtain certification from the California Department of Public Health as a Public Health Vector Control Certified Technician in, at a minimum:

- Category A (Pesticide Application and Safety Training for Applicators of Public Health Pesticides)
- Category B (The Biology and Control of Mosquitoes in California)

These certifications must be obtained within twelve (12) months of employment. Additional training and certifications may be required as conditions of continued employment. CPR and First Aid certifications must be obtained within two (2) years of employment and maintained thereafter.

This position requires the regular operation of District-owned fleet vehicles to travel throughout the District's service area.

This is a full-time, non-exempt position.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

The Mosquito Control Operator is responsible for performing mosquito control activities within an assigned service area and taking appropriate corrective action when necessary. Duties include implementing comprehensive vector control measures with an emphasis on reducing vector populations and preventing mosquito-borne disease transmission.

Field Operations

Duties may include, but are not limited to:

- Operate District fleet vehicles safely and in compliance with California Vehicle Code and District policies.
- Travel throughout an assigned area within the District's service area to conduct inspections and control activities.
- Survey assigned areas to identify mosquito breeding sources and implement appropriate corrective measures.
- Inspect potential vector habitats and collect samples for species identification and surveillance.
- Evaluate vector-producing conditions and implement approved control or management techniques appropriate to each situation.
- Perform source reduction activities as needed.
- Inspect and reinspect treated areas to evaluate the effectiveness of control measures and adjust operations accordingly.
- Schedule inspections and operational activities within the assigned service area.
- Advise property owners and the public regarding mosquito problems and effective control practices.
- Apply pesticides, herbicides, and biological control agents in accordance with product labeling, California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR), County Agricultural Commissioner regulations, and District policies.
- Identify mosquito species and larval development stages and select appropriate control measures.
- Maintain accurate field records of inspections, pesticide applications, mileage logs, and operational activities, both in hand-written and electronic format, as required by County Agricultural Commissioner regulations and District policy.
- Communicate professionally with property owners, residents, and members of the public regarding mosquito problems and control methods.

Supervision and Training

Duties may include, but are not limited to:

- Provide direct supervision to seasonal mosquito control operators during the active mosquito season.
- Train seasonal staff in field operations, including inspection methods, treatment techniques, safety procedures, and proper equipment use.
- Inspect and evaluate work performed by seasonal staff and recommend improvements to techniques and operational effectiveness.
- Review daily field records and reports prepared by seasonal operators, both handwritten and electronic forms.
- Keep management informed of operational conditions, concerns, and emerging issues.

Additional Duties

In addition to seasonal mosquito control operations, the Mosquito Control Operator performs off-season and winter duties that support District operations and readiness, including but not limited to:

- Perform routine inspection, cleaning, maintenance, and repair of District vehicles, spray equipment, field instruments, and operational tools to ensure safe and effective functioning.
- Assist with calibration, servicing, inventory, and preparation of application equipment and materials for the upcoming mosquito season.
- Perform facility maintenance, including groundskeeping, landscaping, vegetation control, and general upkeep of District properties.
- Perform custodial duties such as cleaning offices, laboratories, storage areas, restrooms, and shared facilities to maintain a safe and sanitary work environment.
- Assist with organization, storage, and inventory control of supplies, pesticides, equipment, and materials.
- Support shop organization and maintenance activities, including waste disposal and compliance with safety and environmental regulations.
- Assist with special projects, facility improvements, and operational support assignments as directed.
- Participate in training, certification maintenance, safety meetings, and professional development activities during the off-season.
- Perform other job-related duties as assigned.

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

- Knowledge of safe vehicle operation and defensive driving practices.
- Knowledge of vector control equipment, pesticide use, handling, and regulatory compliance.
- Ability to interpret pesticide labels and Safety Data Sheets (SDS).
- Ability to read and navigate maps, including section, township, and range maps in rural areas.
- Knowledge of mosquito biology, ecology, and habitat identification.
- Ability to work independently in outdoor field environments.
- Ability to maintain accurate and legally compliant records.
- Ability to interact effectively and courteously with the public.

Minimum Qualification:

- High school diploma or equivalent,
- Two (2) seasons of experience as a seasonal mosquito control operator or equivalent field experience.
- Ability to read, write, and communicate effectively in English.
- Ability to perform basic arithmetic.
- Ability and willingness to perform strenuous outdoor physical labor.

- Ability to work independently without direct supervision.
- Must be able and willing to operate District fleet vehicles as an essential function of the position.
- Possession of a valid California Class “C” Driver’s License at the time of appointment.
- Must have and maintain an acceptable driving record that meets the standards of the District and its insurance carrier.
- A DMV driving record (printout) is required upon conditional offer of employment and may be periodically reviewed during employment.
- Successful completion of a pre-employment physical examination and drug screening.
- Must become certified by the state of California’s Department of Public Health as a Public Health Vector Control Certified Technician within twelve (12) months of employment.

Physical Requirements

The position requires prolonged standing, walking over uneven terrain, lifting and carrying equipment and materials up to 50 pounds regularly and up to 100 pounds occasionally with assistance, bending, kneeling, climbing, and operating motorized equipment and District vehicles.

Incumbent must have:

- Full mobility and use of both arms;
- The ability for full extension above the head to lift or remove equipment during normal daily activity;
- Full range of motion to climb and hike into trapping, inspection, and treatment areas that may include use of hands, arms, feet, and legs;
- The ability and range of flexibility to reach over their heads, below their knees, and to bend over or squat down; and
- Possess the ability to move quickly within field work areas known to be infested with hazardous vectors, plants, or animals.

Environmental Conditions

Work is performed primarily outdoors and may involve exposure to:

- Extreme heat and weather conditions
- Pesticides and chemical agents
- Loud mechanical equipment
- Rough terrain
- Animals, insects, and poisonous plants
- Communicable diseases

The District provides required personal protective equipment (PPE). Employees must comply with all Cal/OSHA regulations, California Vehicle Code requirements, pesticide safety laws, and District safety policies.

Employment Provisions (Public Agency Requirements)

- Workers' Compensation: Employees are covered under the District's workers' compensation insurance program as required by California law.
- Disaster Service Worker: Pursuant to California Government Code §3100, all public employees are deemed Disaster Service Workers and may be required to serve in the event of an emergency.
- Political Activity: Employees are subject to applicable provisions of the California Government Code regarding political activities of public employees.
- Equal Employment Opportunity: The District is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer and complies with all applicable federal and California laws, including the Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Reasonable accommodations will be provided to qualified individuals in accordance with the law.
- Public Records: Applications and employment records may be subject to disclosure under the California Public Records Act (Gov. Code §7920 et seq.), except as otherwise protected by law.

Revised February 2026