

Annual Report FY 2022-2023

Indian River Mosquito Control District



ABOUT US

Indian River Mosquito Control District is an independent special taxing district which was legislatively established in 1925 and provides mosquito control services in Indian River County. The District operates under Chapter 388, Florida Statutes and is recognized as a state-certified mosquito control program by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

COMMISSIONERS



JANICE BRODA
Chair



ANNA KIRKLAND
Vice-Chair



MATT ERPENBECK
Secretary/Treasurer

The District is organized according to the Council–Administrator form of government. As such, the Board of Commissioners (Board) sets policy, adopts legislation, and approves the budget. The Board appoints an administrator to conduct the day-to-day district business, to prepare the budget, to oversee department heads, and to recommend policy to the Board.

The District is governed by three commissioners, elected at large in the general election, by qualified electors residing in Indian River County. Each member serves a four-year term, non-partisan office. Board officers are elected annually. For the fiscal year 2022-2023, Commissioner Janice Broda served as Chair, Commissioner Anna Kirkland served as Vice-Chair, and Commissioner Matt Erpenbeck served as Secretary/Treasurer.

OUR VISION

Celebrating the Indian River Mosquito Control legacy and looking to the future, leading innovative science-based services, embracing our environment, and improving the quality of life for our community.



OUR MISSION

Proudly protecting our community through innovative science-based solutions, fiscal responsibility, enhancing customer service and community engagement, utilizing creative approaches to research and technology while embracing environmental challenges.

OUR TEAM

The District employs 30 employees who proudly serve our community. We have scientists, technicians, inspectors, heavy equipment operators, mechanics, as well as IT, HR and finance professionals who are hard at work controlling mosquitoes within our community.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Sherry Burroughs, CDM



FINANCE & ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES

Lisa Ridley, Director

Paul Baffino, Melanie Pacot-Stansbury, Bruce Lewis, Luina Ribera, Jim Mason, Tyler Alfonso & Kevin Kinney. *Not Pictured: Josh Reilly*



SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMS

Dr. Peter Jiang, Director

Shawna James, Heather Whitehead, Frank Cuccurese, Kayla Sinclair, Kyle Kosinski & Abdullah Alomar. *Not Pictured: Sarah McInnis*



HR & OUTREACH

Johanna Avril



OPERATIONS

Michael Hart, Director

Jared Thornton, Tim Adams, Daniel Long, Bob Mallory, C.L. Patton, John Thomas, Chris Spencer, Josh Shytle, Morel Jules, Brandon Chadwick & Todd Hingle. *Not Pictured: Victor Recendez, Stephen Gee & Faron Tyler*

GOALS



Sustainable Funding Sources

Achieve sustainable funding sources with adequate reserves to address capital, operational, development, and environmental needs. Staff will annually develop a fiscally responsible and transparent budget for the taxpayers of Indian River County including capital improvement plans, reserve/fund balance policies based on exhibited operational needs of the District, while exploring alternative funding opportunities such as grants and cost/resource sharing.



Outreach & Community Engagement

Develop outreach and community engagement programs designed to encourage and educate the public about IRMCD and its mission. For IRMCD to function effectively, it is vital to establish an ongoing and vibrant engagement and education program with the public.



Innovation & Scientific Techniques

Continue an effective mosquito control program using the best innovative and scientific techniques which include source reduction, biological control, surveillance, larval and adult control, and community outreach.



Safe & Ecologically Mindful BMPs

Ensure IRMCD is conducting safe and ecologically mindful best integrated pest management practices and techniques as an integral part of the safety and success of our community.



Professional Development

Invest in the professional development of employees through focused training programs that improve workplace safety and attract the best talent. Employees shall be educated and trained in current science-based solutions to foster innovation and utilization of technology.



Sound Science & Strong Partnerships

Embrace environmental challenges through the implementation of best management practices, using sound science, and developing strong partnerships in our programs, policies, and procedures.

MEASURING PERFORMANCE

SUSTAINABLE FUNDING		
Objective	Action	Percent Complete
Post draft line-item & final budgets on website	Draft posted July 15	100%
	Final posted September 15	100%
Develop reserve fund balance policy by end of fiscal year	Board approved policy on July 11, 2023.	100%
Develop a 5-year Capital Improvement Plan by March 2024	In progress.	50%
Create review process for alternative funding sources by end of calendar year	Completed	100%

OUTREACH & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT		
Objective	Action	Percent Complete
Schedule two outreach events by the end of the fiscal year	13 outreach events were attended	100%
Develop a job description for public relations position & cost, present with budget	The position was approved by the Board in the FY2023-2024 budget on September 21, 2023.	100%

INNOVATIVE & SCIENTIFIC TECHNIQUES		
Objective	Action	Percent Complete
Testing & evaluation of products on a semi-annual basis by the end of the fiscal year	Testing & evaluation of Spinosad and Bti larvicides were completed on 12/2/23	100%
Develop a plan to expand larviciding to western portions of the District by June 2024	In progress.	90%

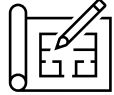
SAFE & ECOLOGICALLY MINDED BMPs		
Objective	Action	Percent Complete
Review product labels and safety data sheets on a monthly basis and report findings to the Executive Director	Testing & evaluation of Spinosad and Bti larvicides completed	100%
Conduct quarterly safety committee meetings	Meetings were held on 01/24/23, 3/8/23, 5/17/23 and 8/16/23.	100%
Ensure all staff are licensed.	HR verified all licenses were current on 9/30/23	100%

MEASURING PERFORMANCE

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT		
Objective	Action	Percent Complete
Conduct a compensation and benefits study and submit to the Board for approval.	Board approved the compensation plan on May 9, 2023.	100%
Conduct quarterly market analysis of compensation and report findings to the Executive Director.	Findings were reported to the Executive Director each quarter indicating salaries were within market values.	100%
Spill response team to attend annual training to maintain certification.	Eight staff attended spill training for recertification on 11/1/2022.	100%
Professional staff to continue involvement in professional associations & provide presentations at scientific meetings.	The Executive Director is on the Board of Directors for FASD, and AMCA's & FMCA's Legislative Committees. Director of Scientific Programs and Research Entomologist provided presentations at FMCA and served on their Research and Award committees.	100%
Recommend training opportunities for staff's career development for budget considerations.	Opportunities were identified and shared with the Director of Finance & Admin Support to ensure funds were provided in the budget.	100%
Review positions and advise on a list of eligible retirees & critical positions for succession planning.	The list was developed and shared with the Director of Finance & Admin Support to ensure adequate funds were provided in the budget.	100%

SOUND SCIENCE & STRONG PARTNERSHIPS		
Objective	Action	Percent Complete
Collaborate with IRLT in evaluating drawdowns & effects of juvenile fish populations.	Staff performed two drawdowns at Water Tower Impoundment.	100%
Establish a contract for water quality monitoring of impoundments.	Board approved the contract with EAI on 10/10/23	100%
Establish a list of current & potential environmental/ecological partners to develop working relationships with the District.	The list was created by 6/05/2023.	100%

ACCOMPLISHMENTS



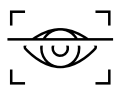
Established a five-year strategic plan



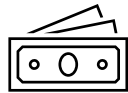
Implemented new electronic time sheet system



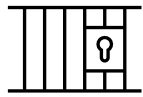
Installed generator for main building in event of power outage



Completed security and fencing improvements, including entrance gate & employee badge access



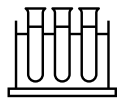
Completed compensation (salary & benefits) study



New fencing for safety & security at Oyster Bar & Schlitt's pump stations



Performed dike repairs resulting from Hurricane Nicole



Performed testing and evaluation of efficacy of larvicide products



Started collaborative research project with the Florida Medical Entomology Laboratory

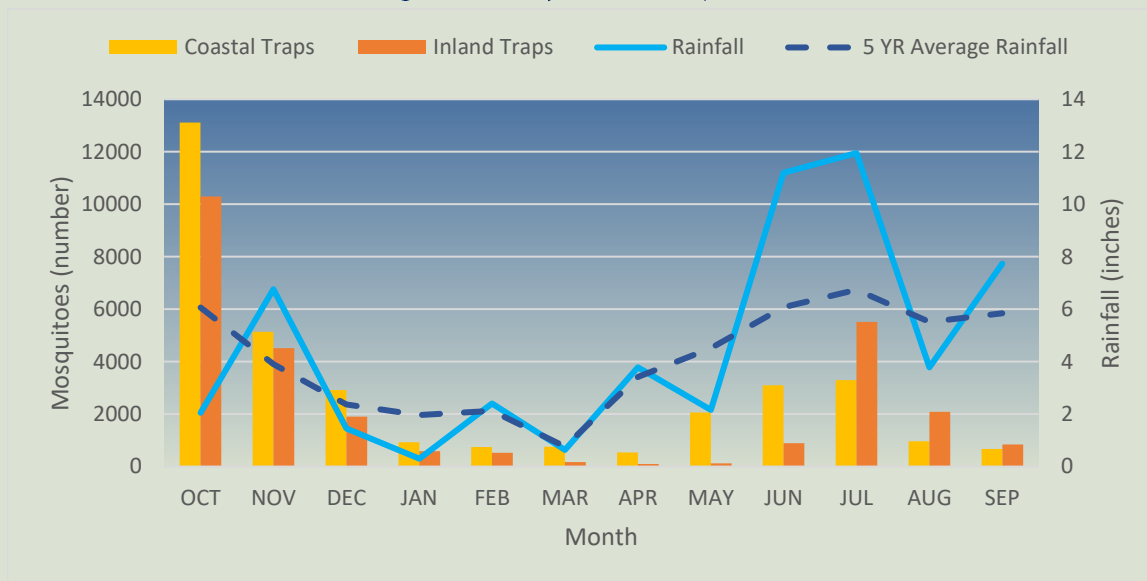
A YEAR IN REVIEW

In September of 2022, rainfall exceeded the historic monthly average by two-fold, starting off the fiscal year with higher-than-average service requests as a result. November would add another 6.76 inches of rain, again doubling the historical average and further increasing the need for control measures to be implemented. Rainfall again in June and July would be twice the historic averages as well, with 11.2 and 11.95 inches respectfully.

On the coast, rains as well as high tides were causing dramatic increases in immature, larval populations of mosquitoes requiring twice the acreage to be treated in comparison to the prior year, but only about 4,000 more acres than the five-year average of 25,127 acres.

Adult mosquito populations also exceeded prior year's levels, with the exception of March, April, and May, during which they remained nearly identical to baseline figures, where rainfall was less. Coastal traps exhibited spikes in adult populations in June and August which was consistent with the increased rainfall.

There was no detection of West Nile or Eastern equine encephalitis in the District. There were two travel related cases of dengue for the year, in comparison to 316 cases statewide.



Average monthly mosquito population per month for coastal and inland sites compared with rainfall amounts.

Legislature Requires Performance Reviews for Mosquito Control Districts

A performance review of the District was conducted by the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Governmental Accountability in October. The findings of the review indicated that the District delivers mosquito control services effectively and efficiently, demonstrates effective management of resources, uses resources in an efficient

manner to achieve its goals and objectives, that are measurable and appropriate to address the district's purpose. They recommended that the District establish additional performance measure to monitor and track progress towards our goals and objectives, which will be prepared within the next fiscal year.

FUNDING

The Indian River Mosquito Control District depends on property tax revenues to fund its operations. The District's objective is to be fiscally responsible in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, Governmental Accounting, Auditing and Financial Reporting, as well as in compliance with state statutory reporting requirements. We remain fiscally conservative and utilize a transparent approach. Below is a breakdown of the principle expenditure items for FY2022-2023.



Personal Services
\$1,919,261

Benefits
\$910,175

Chemicals
\$831,710

Operating
\$726,309

Maintenance
\$238,508

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Operating grants and contributions increased due to FEMA grant funding reimbursements for Hurricane Matthew.
- Expenses increased by approximately \$494,075 for chemical usage and \$263,825 for contract aircraft services as compared to the previous fiscal year. These increases are attributed to an increase in mosquito production activity resulting from heavy rains and king tides.
- Property taxes increased due to higher property values for approximately \$728,539.

Sherry Burroughs Awarded District Manager of the Year

In June 2023, our Executive Director, Sherry Burroughs, received the Director of the Year Award by the Florida Association of Special Districts. This award is presented to the District Manager who demonstrates the most innovative approach to problems and issues and works within budget guidelines to attain goals in the current economic climate. The award is presented to individuals that have demonstrated a specific event or circumstance over and above the normal scope of the job.



OUTREACH & EDUCATION

EVENTS

NOVEMBER

- Veteran's Association Meeting

DECEMBER

- Sebastian Elementary School's Family & Community Engagement

FEBRUARY

- Family Fun Fest

MARCH

- UP Community Resource Fair
- Pelican Island National Wildlife Refuge Celebration

APRIL

- Lagoon Fest
- Grove Isle HOA Presentation
- City of Sebastian's Earth Day Celebration
- MAY
- Historical Society's Move Night
- Bob Soos Radio Morning Show

JUNE

- Imagine School Summer Camp

AUGUST

- City of Sebastian Police Department's Back to School Event
- Ag Women Connect



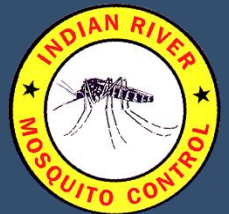
LOOKING AHEAD

Strategic objectives for the year ahead...

- Develop a 5-year Capital Improvement Plan.
- Expand the Gambusia program.
- Hire a Community Relations position.
- Develop community engagement program to educate the public about mosquito control.
- Conduct testing and evaluation of the products used for mosquito control to ensure effectiveness.
- Develop a plan to expand integrated pest management services to western portions of our District.
- Hire a Biologist to work with impoundments and ecosystem management.
- Establish a contract for water quality monitoring of our impoundments.
- Collaborate on research projects with the University of Florida's Florida Medical Entomological Laboratory.
- Continue the Vista Royale Impoundment dike improvements, as work was being done to repair hurricane damage resulting from Hurricane Nicole.



CONTACT US



We are located at

5655 41st Street, Vero Beach, FL 32967

Our office hours are 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday

Feel free to contact us
via phone 772-562-2393 or
Email: irmcd@irmcd.org

Website: irmosquito.com or click on QR code below.

