

Vector Control Response to the Eaton Wildfire: *Lessons in Uncharted Territory*

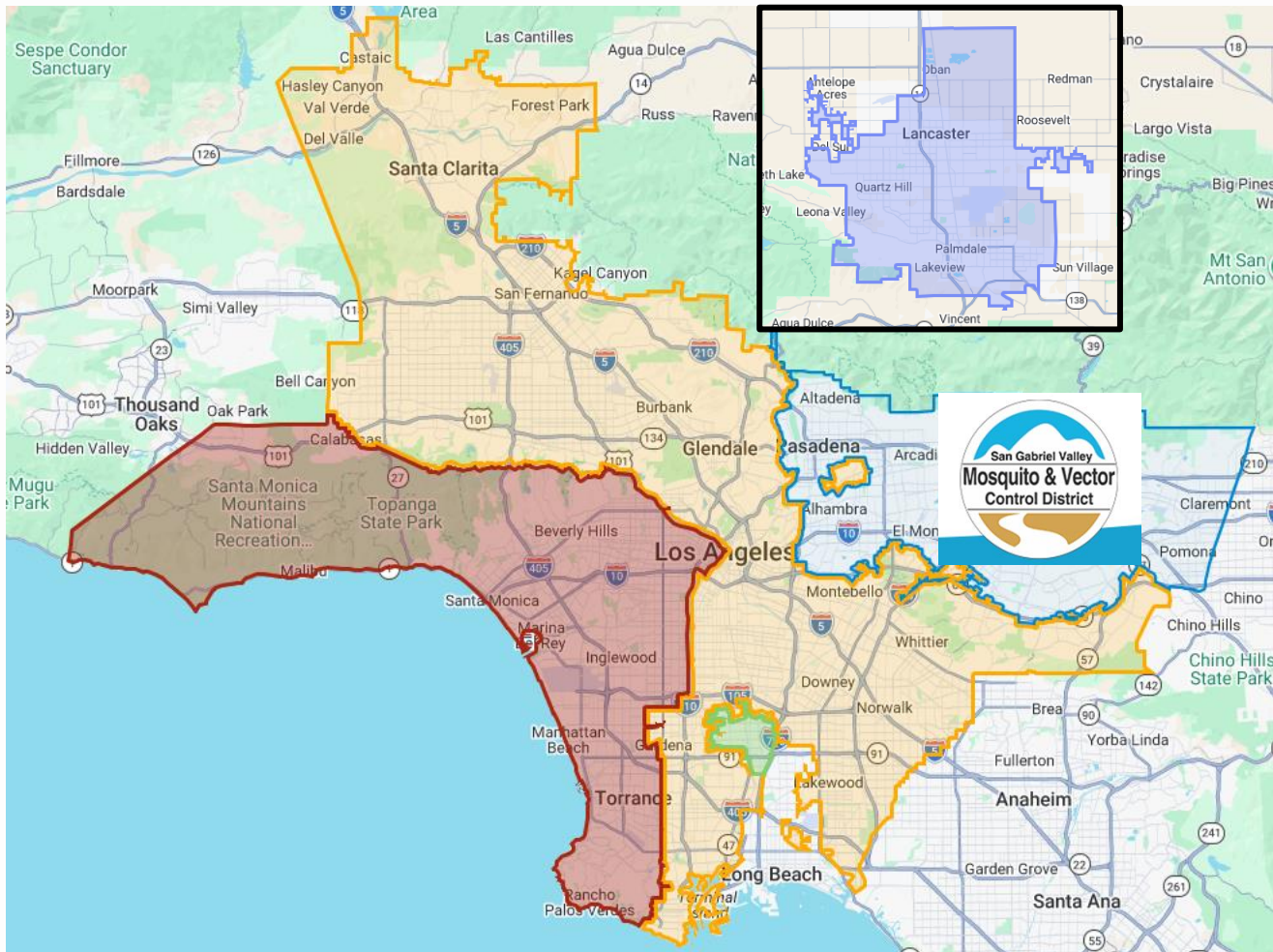
March 26th 2026
AMCA 92nd Annual Meeting

Tristan Hallum

Director of Scientific Programs

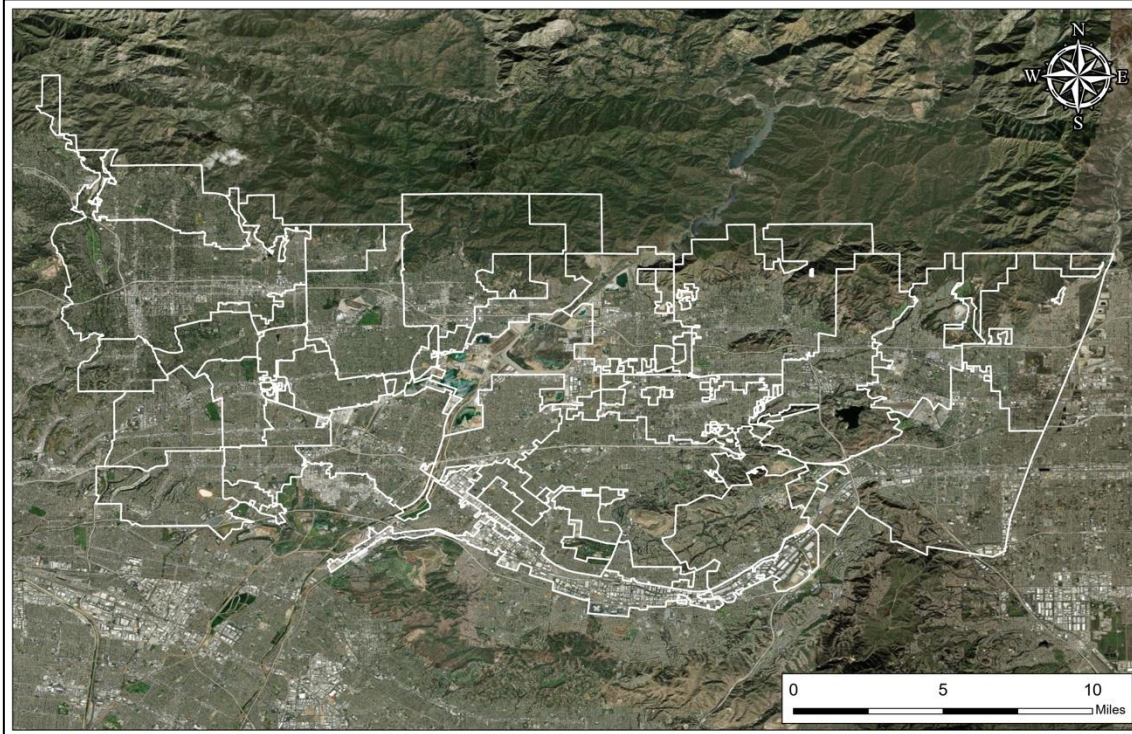
San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District





San Gabriel Valley

Mosquito and Vector Control District



- Serves 26 cities
- Over 1.5 million residents
- ~ 280 Square Miles
- *Cx. quinquefasciatus*/*Ae. aegypti*
- Local dengue transmission since 2023



Los Angeles Times



A firefighter battles the Palisades fire around a structure on Tuesday. (Etienne Laurent / Associated Press)

Fires tear through Pacific Palisades, Altadena, Pasadena and Sylmar

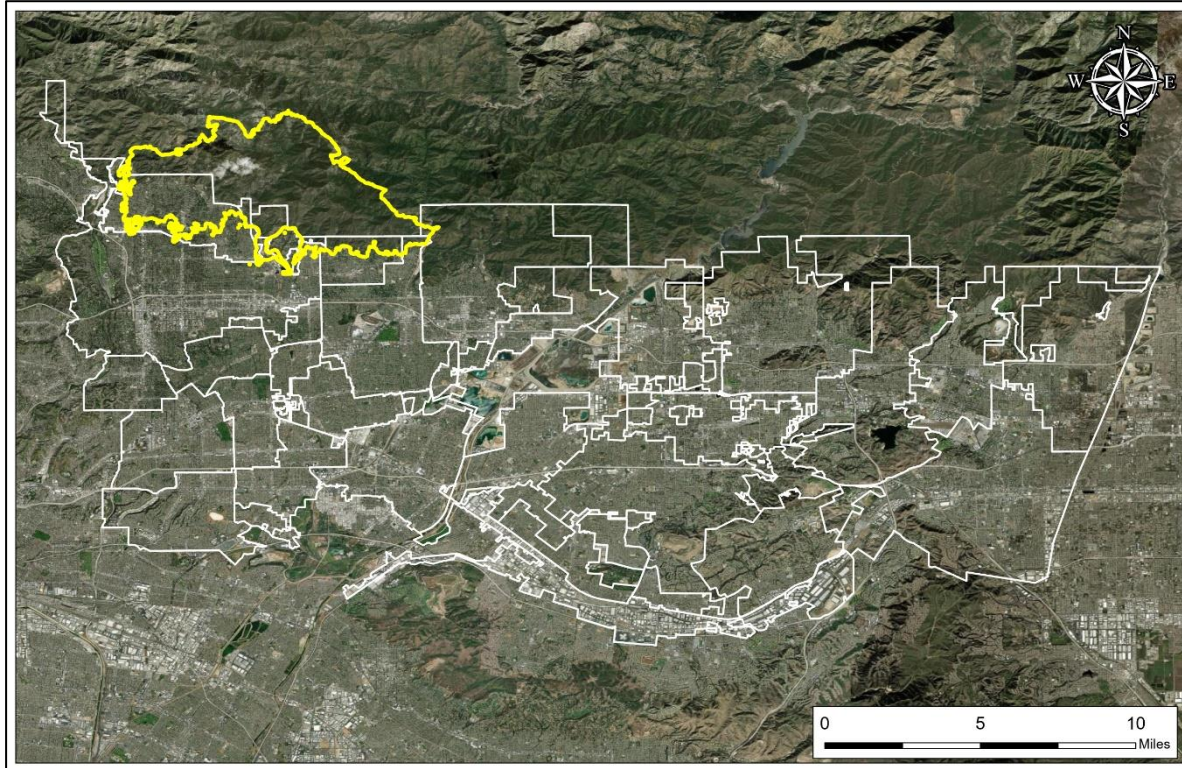
By Ryan Fonseca
Staff Writer

Jan. 8, 2025 6:58AM PT

<https://www.latimes.com/california/newsletter/2025-01-08/a-powerful-windstorm-is-fanning-the-palisades-fire-heres-what-to-know-essential-california#:~:text=contain%20the%20fires-,The%20Palisades%20fire,residential%20areas%20and%20burned%20homes.>



Eaton Wildfire Burn Area



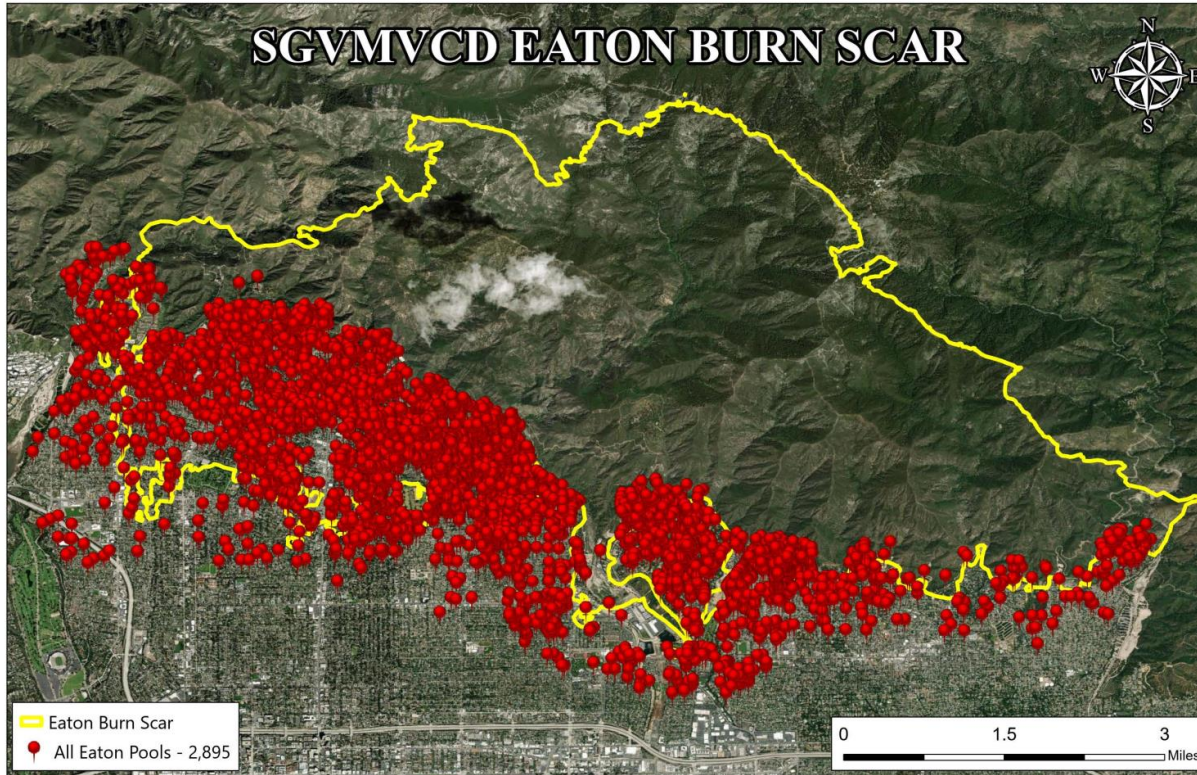
- January 07 – 31, 2025
- 14,120 Acres
- Over 9,000 Structures Destroyed
- Unaddressed needs?







Identified Sources



- Over 2,800 swimming pools impacted
- Over 1,400 swimming pools destroyed
- Displaced population
- Federally directed cleanup

Programmatic Strategies



Surveillance
Comparison



Operation
Scalability

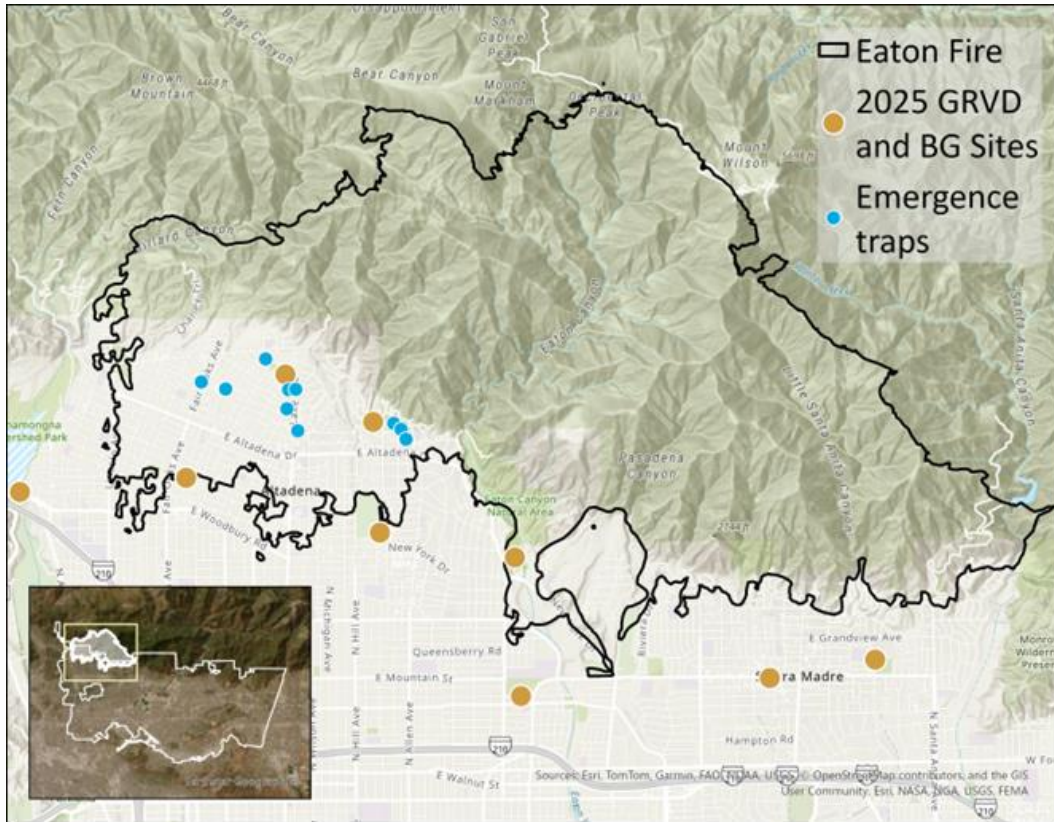


Communication
Visibility



Surveillance Comparison

- Expanded surveillance
- Set additional standards for Burn Area
- Added treatment quality metric

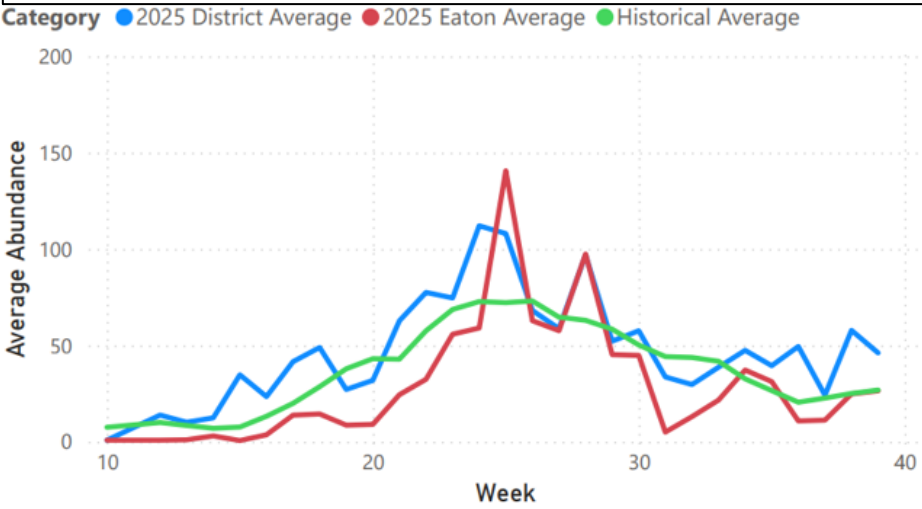


Trap Deployment

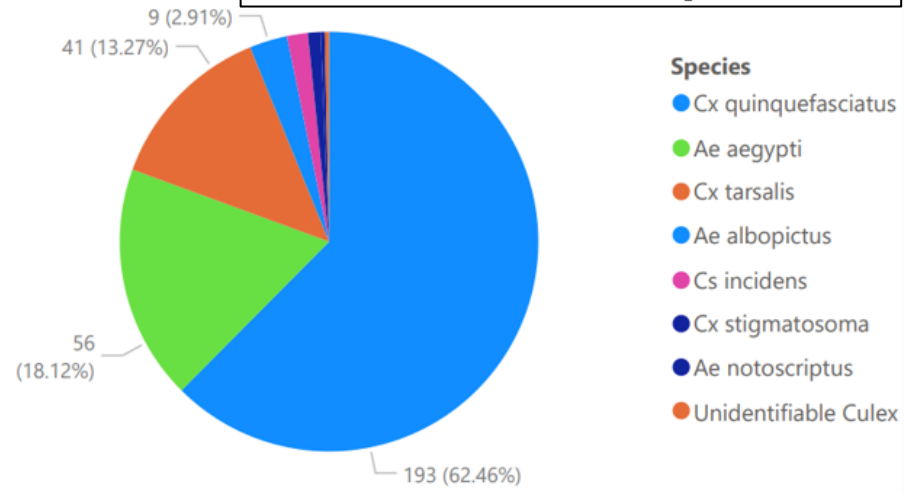
- Gravid traps
 - 5 historic locations
 - 4 additions based on burn area
 - 9 sites total
- BG Sentinels
 - All 9 gravid trap sites

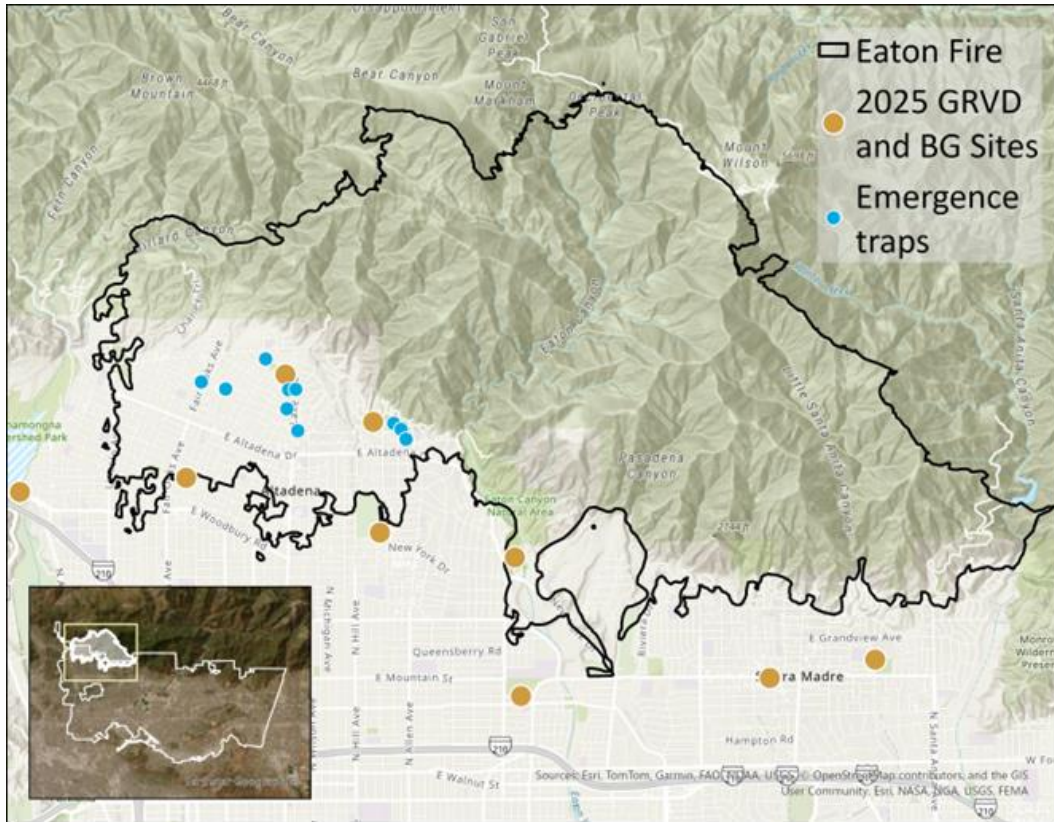


Category ● 2025 District Average ● 2025 Eaton Average ● Historical Average



Eaton Area Species



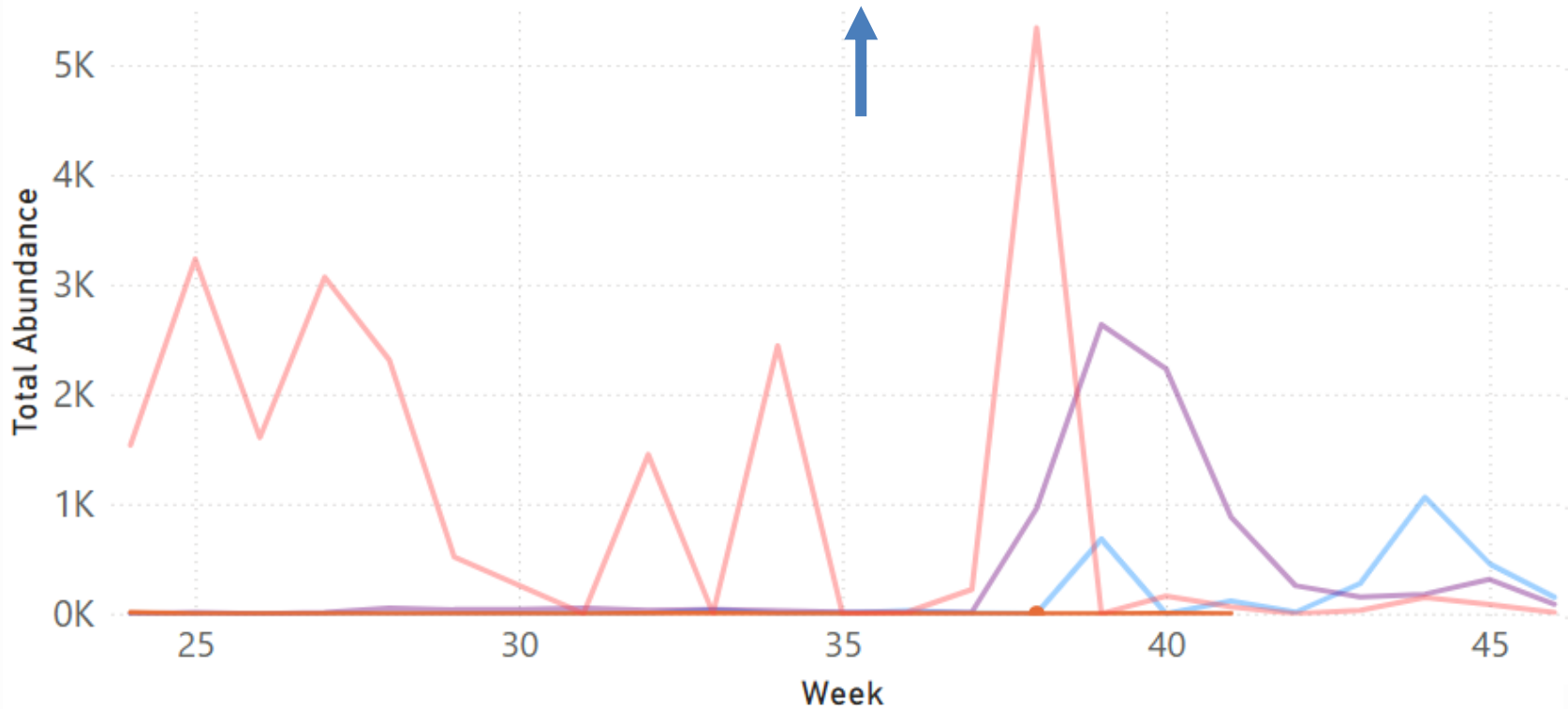


- Emergence traps
 - Placed in monitored swimming pools
 - Pools treated individually with mosquitofish, Altosid XR, or Natular XRT



Total Abundance by Week and Treatment

Treatment ● Altosid XR ● Natular XRT ● Natular XRT & Gambusia ● Untreated

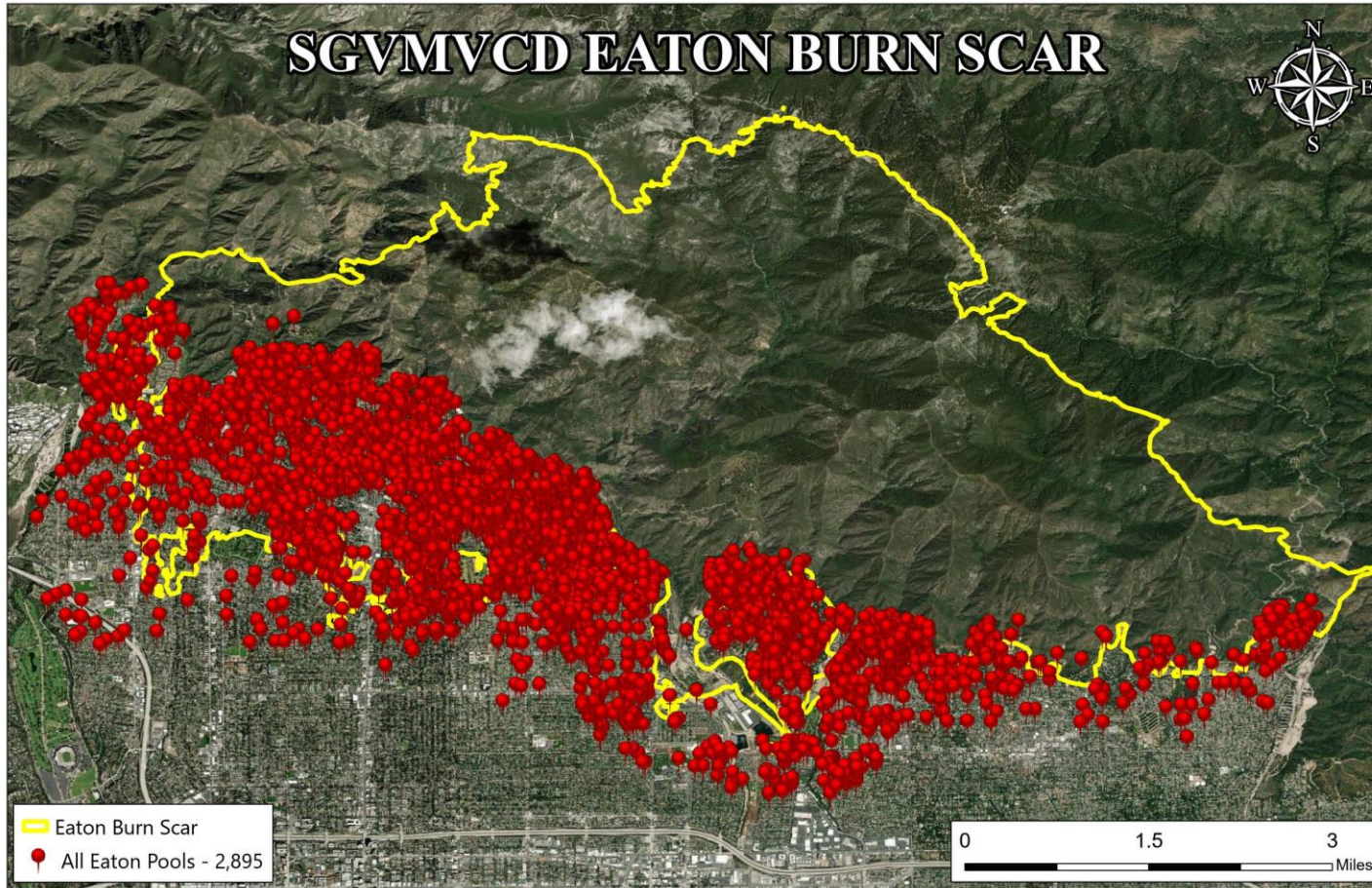




Operation Scalability

- Defined control goals based on available resources
- Set specific safety and treatment standards
- Developed tracking system for multi year progress

SGVMVCD EATON BURN SCAR



Current Status

Swimming Pool Management 90 Inspection and Control Cycle

90 Day Larvicide Treatment	241
Mosquito Fish	417
Empty	337
Total Swimming Pools	1,018





Communication Visibility

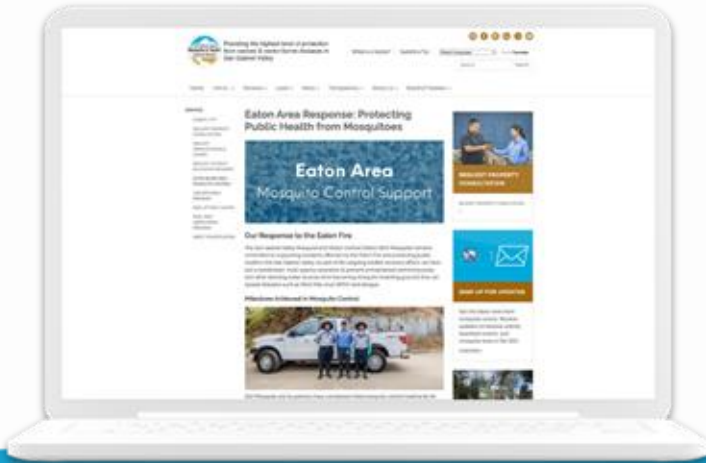
- Branded new materials relating Eaton wildfire to mosquito control
- Established agency specific signage for field completed work
- Leveraged media hits for additional coverage

Digital Resources

Established our webpage as a one-stop shop for those affected by the fire

EatonAreaMosquitoControl.org

Main page



EatonAreaPools.org

Swimming pool program, focused on the step-by-step process



Resident Resources



1145 N. Azusa Canyon Rd. West Covina, CA
SGVmosquito.org | @SGVmosquito
626-814-9466



Eaton Burn Area Mosquito Control

Help us reduce the risk of mosquito-borne diseases in your community. Swimming pools and other large sources of water can produce up to 3 million mosquitoes in just one month.



START HERE to prevent mosquitoes from growing on your property.



Pool Assessment and Treatment

- Vector Control Technicians will be assessing the pool or large source of water on your property for mosquito activity.
- If necessary, the technician will add a temporary pesticide treatment to prevent mosquitoes from growing.
- If the water is suitable for mosquito fish, the technician will return to place mosquito fish in the water.
- This service is of no additional cost. We are a public agency.
- If you have a moment, please take the steps below to secure services long-term during the recovery process.

Step 1:

COMPLETE A REQUEST FOR MOSQUITO CONTROL SERVICES FORM
This form is necessary to secure private property services long-term. Property owners may complete the form by scanning the QR code above or visiting the website below.

Step 2:

ENROLL IN SGVPOOLS - EATON RESPONSE PROGRAM
This program facilitates our ability to monitor and control mosquitoes in your pool and enables quick response efforts. Sign up at EatonAreaPools.org in one easy step.

EatonAreaMosquitoControl.org Revised 05/07/2023



Learn more about SGVpools Program
SGVpools.org



Field Presence



Supporting recovery efforts with mosquito control for a safer community.

Scan for more information or visit our website

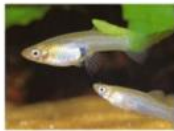


1145 North Azusa Canyon Road
West Covina, CA 91790
(626)814-9466
SGVmosquito.org
@SGVmosquito

Notification of Mosquito Control Treatment

This property is being monitored for mosquito activity

A swimming pool or large source of standing water at this location is being treated for mosquito control with one or more of the following methods:

Mosquito Fish	Floating Mosquito Larvicide Treatment
 <i>Gambusia affinis</i>	<p>Caution: Keep Out of Reach of Children</p> <p>Natular XRT Active Ingredient: Spinosad, 6.25% EPA Reg. #8329-84</p> <p>Altosid XR Briquets Active Ingredient: Methoprene, 2.1% EPA Reg. #2724-421</p>

PLEASE DO NOT DISTURB THE MOSQUITO TREATMENT

If changes or modifications to the source of standing water are needed, please contact the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District **promptly**. This entails any of the following conditions:

Before removing fish or treatment	After restoring to a functional state
Before draining the water	After demolishing the pool

DO NOT add chlorine or pool shock after mosquito treatment has been placed.

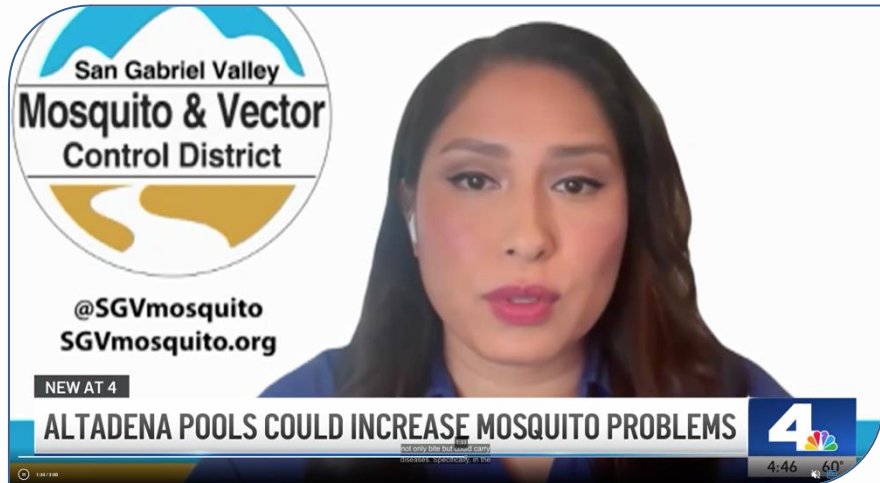




Unmaintained pools in Eaton Fire burn area could become breeding ground for mosquitoes

News / Mar 25, 2025 / 08:01 PM PDT

As cleanup and recovery continues in the Eaton fire burn zone, a new concern is emerging for public health officials: a possible mosquito boom. This, as the impact Altadena area is home thousands of pools, many of them untouched and unmaintained since the blaze erupted more than two months ago. With more on the looming threat and the steps being taken to avoid potential outbreaks, Cher Calvin and Micah Ohlman are joined by Jason Farned, district manager of the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector District. March 25, 2025.

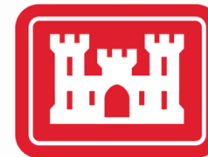


Ongoing Work

- As of January, 2026
 - Less than 100 homes have been rebuilt
 - 1,600 building permits issued
- Additional resources to continue the work
 - Local, state and federal assistance
- Projections of increased service



Acknowledgements



FEMA



US Army Corps
of Engineers®





THANK YOU

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