Suffolk County Vector Control & Wetlands Management Long Term Plan & Environmental Impact Statement



TASK 12: EARLY ACTION PROJECTS CAGED FISH EXPERIMENT

PESTICIDES APPLICATIONS

Submitted to:

Suffolk County Department of Public Works Suffolk County Department of Health Services Suffolk County, New York

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July 2005

SUFFOLK COUNTY VECTOR CONTROL AND WETLANDS MANAGEMENT LONG - TERM PLAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

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This report was prepared by Suffolk County Vector Control (SCVC), and was reviewed and edited by Cashin Associates, P.C. (CA).

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

- Bti Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis
- SCVC Suffolk County Vector Control
- ULV Ultra Low Volume

1. Introduction

The pesticide applications that were the subject of this study were operational applications conducted by Suffolk County Department of Public Works, Division of Vector Control (SCVC) as part of its ongoing program. The application techniques and dosages used have been standard procedure for Suffolk County since 1995 for aerial larvicide and since 2002 for aerial adulticide, and are similar to techniques used by other control programs in the northeastern United States.

2. Larvicides

2.1 Application parameters

Aircraft: Bell Soloy with tee-jet nozzles on a forward-mounted spray boom and AgNav GPS guidance system.

Flight and swath: Airspeed 50 mph at 10-20 feet above ground level delivering a 50-foot swath with 50 foot lane separation.

Spray characteristics: Water was used as a diluent to deliver ½ gallon of spray volume per acre with a droplet Volume Mean Diameter of approximately 900 microns.

Dose: Altosid Liquid Larvicide concentrate (20% methoprene) was delivered at 1 ounce/acre; Vectobac 12AS (12% *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis*, [Bti]) was delivered at 1 pint/acre. In some treatments, the two products we delivered together in a tank mix with the same dosages; these applications are referred to as Duplex mixtures.

Treatment Date	Timber Point	Johns Neck Creek
June 2, 2004	Bti	Bti
June 8, 2004	methoprene	methoprene
June 15, 2004		methoprene
June 22, 2004	Bti/methoprene	
July 7, 2004		Bti/methoprene
July 14, 2004	methoprene	
July 20, 2004	methoprene	
July 21, 2004		methoprene
August 3, 2004	Bti/methoprene	Bti/methoprene
August 10, 2004	Bti/methoprene	Bti/methoprene
August 17, 2004	Bti/methoprene	Bti/methoprene
September 1, 2004	methoprene	
September 14, 2004		Bti

2.2 Treatment types and dates

Both sites were surveyed for the presence of mosquito larvae (primarily *Ochlerotatus sollicitans*) on a weekly basis. The decision to treat was based on the intensity of mosquito production as determined by larval dips and other factors such as weather conditions and expected tidal flooding. The choice of larvicide was based on the larval stages present and weather conditions according to standard Suffolk County practices designed to optimize the effectiveness of each material and limit the development of resistance. Early (Stage 1, 2) larvae in cool conditions are treated primarily with Bti, while late stage larvae in warmer conditions are usually treated with methoprene. When mixed stages are present, a Duplex mixture is used.

3. Adulticides:

3.1 Application parameters

Aircraft: Bell Soloy with Beecomist rotary nozzles on a forward-mounted spray boom and AgNav GPS guidance system.

Flight and swath: Airspeed 70 mph at 150 feet above ground level delivering a 300-foot swath with 300 foot lane separation oriented crosswind with the treatment pattern beginning on the downwind edge of the treatment block and proceeding upwind.

Spray characteristics: Scourge 18/54 (18% resmethrin/54 % piperonyl butoxide) was applied using Ultra Low Volume (ULV) techniques at a rate of 0.6 ounces/acre, undiluted. The aerosol droplets were delivered with a Mass Median Diameter of 27 microns as measured with a KLD Labs DC-III hotwire droplet analyzer.

3.2 Treatment types and dates

Aerial adulticide was applied at Johns Neck Creek on August 18, 2004 (Figure 1) and August 25, 2004 (Figure 2). Both treatments were timed to begin approximately at sunset (8 PM, local time). The first application was in response to high numbers of *Oc. sollicitans*, while the second application was conducted in response to West Nile Virus, combined with high numbers of vector species including *Oc. sollicitans*, *Culex pipiens* and *Cx. restuans*.

A more detailed description of the adulticide application is contained in the report prepared by RTP Environmental (part of the Task 8 Task report).

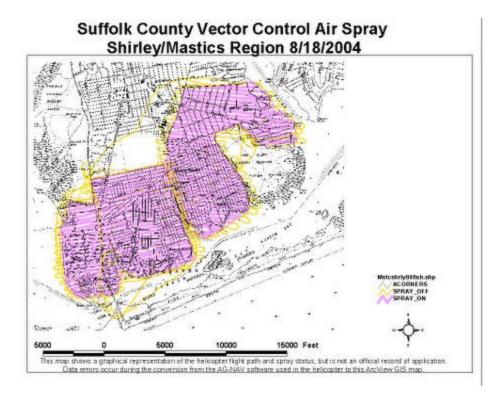


Figure 1: Aerial adulticide applied at Johns Neck Creek on August 18, 2004

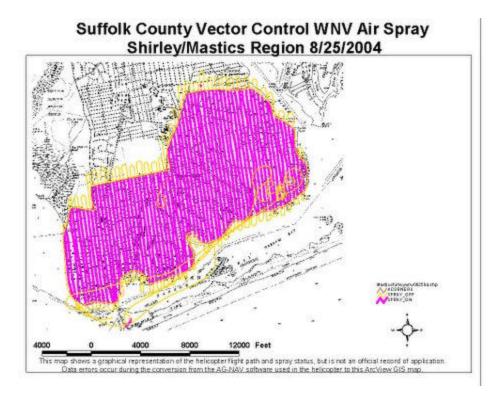


Figure 2: Aerial adulticide applied at Johns Neck Creek on August 25, 2004