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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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West Nile Virus Update for the Magic Valley

TWIN FALLS- After confirming West Nile Virus positive mosquito pools in Gooding County last week, South Central Public Health District (SCPHD) and the Twin Falls County Pest Abatement District (TFCPAD) can now confirm that mosquitoes in Twin Falls County have also tested positive for West Nile Virus.

“It is safe to say that West Nile Virus could be found anywhere in the Magic Valley at this point, and people should try to avoid mosquitoes and eliminate their habitat,” says Kirk Tubbs, TFCPAD Manager.

No human or animal cases have been reported at this time.

SCPHD reminds individuals to protect themselves and their families from mosquito bites:

DRAIN any standing water on your property that may produce mosquitoes.

AVOID the outdoors at dawn and dusk.

DRESS appropriately by wearing long sleeves and pants when outdoors.

DEFEND yourself by using a mosquito repellent containing an EPA-registered active ingredient, such as DEET (follow label directions).

MAKE SURE door and window screens are in good condition to prevent mosquitoes from entering your home.

For more information on West Nile Virus, visit SCPHD’s website at phd5.idaho.gov. For more information on positive pools visit the TFCPAD website at <http://tfcpad.org/>.

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