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PRESS RELEASE – For Immediate Release

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**West Nile Virus Found in Another South-central Idaho County.
Health Officials Urge Residents to Take Precautions.**

GOODING COUNTY- Twin Falls County Pest Abatement District (TFCPAD) has collected at least one mosquito carrying West Nile virus in a trap along the Snake River in Gooding County. This comes after traps found virus-carrying mosquitos in Twin Falls County earlier this summer. South Central Public Health District (SCPHD) joins TFCPAD in warning residents, throughout the region, to act now to avoid catching the disease.

“Thankfully we haven’t received any confirmed human cases of West Nile in our region this summer, but this is about the time of year we tend to start getting calls from the local medical providers reporting cases,” said Logan Hudson, SCPHD Nurse Program Manager.

Residents can protect against mosquito bites by:

- Using insect repellent with an EPA-registered active ingredient like DEET, especially at dawn and dusk when mosquitos carrying the virus are most active.
- Wearing loose-fitting clothes with long sleeves and pants.
- Installing screens on all windows and doors.
- Checking for, and draining, any standing water around your home every three to six days. This includes clogged rain gutters, pools, bird baths, old tires and other outside water features.

Typical symptoms of the virus include fever, headache, body aches, joint pains, vomiting, diarrhea, and rash. People over 50 years old, with serious medical conditions, are at greater risk for serious illness from the virus. More severe infections may involve the central nervous system.

More information is available on the SCPHD website: https://www.phd5.idaho.gov/pests-mold-and-bedbugs/#Mosquito_Abatement