

New Castle Town Council Regular Meeting
Tuesday, January 21, 2025, 7:00 PM

Call to Order

Mayor Art Riddile called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Councilor Carey
Councilor Mariscal
Councilor Hazelton
Mayor A. Riddile
Councilor Leland
Councilor G Riddile

Absent Councilor Copeland

Also present at the meeting were Town Clerk Mindy Andis, Administrator Dave Reynolds, and members of the public.

MOTION: Mayor A. Riddile made a motion to excuse Councilor Copeland's absence. Councilor Mariscal seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
Meeting Notice

Clerk Andis verified that her office gave notice of the meeting in accordance with resolution TC 2025-1.

Conflicts of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest.

Agenda Changes

There were no agenda changes

Citizen Comments on Items not on the Agenda

There were no citizen comments

Consultant Reports

Consultant Attorney – not present

Consultant Engineer – not present

Items for Consideration

Consider a Letter of Interest from Julia Koch for Appointment to Seat on Climate and Environment Commission

Town Administrator Dave Reynolds introduced Julia Koch as being interested in one of the two vacant seats on Climate and Environment Commission (CEC) Ms. Koch submitted a letter of interest and attended the last CEC meeting.

Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, January 21, 2025

Mayor A. Riddile asked Ms. Koch how long she had lived in New Castle, to which she replied a year and a half.

Ms. Koch provided background on her experience, mentioning her doing trail crew work at Rocky Mountain National Park for a few summers. She explained how this work gave her a new appreciation for resourcefulness and respect for nature. Ms. Koch currently works in healthcare at Valley View Hospital in the physical therapy department.

Councilor Leland noted Ms. Koch's trail work experience and mentioned that the town was planning on funding some trail cleanup. He suggested Ms. Koch experience could be valuable for those efforts.

Councilor Carey expressed appreciation for Ms. Koch's trail work experience. She informed Ms. Koch about the Roaring Fork Outdoor Volunteer group in case Julia wanted to continue doing trail work.

MOTION: Councilor Leland made a motion to appoint Julia Koch to the Climate and Environment Commission, Councilor Carey seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Presentation – Colorado River Valley Economic Development Partnership (CRVEDP) Alicia Gresley

Administrator Reynolds introduced Alicia Gresley to the council.

Ms. Gresley gave a presentation on the organization's work (Exhibit A). She explained that the partnership was formed by town managers from municipalities in Western Garfield County to approach economic development in a new way, focusing on diversifying the economic environment and providing better jobs close to home.

Ms. Gresley highlighted the unique aspects of each municipality in the region and emphasized the importance of keeping people working and spending time within the region. She outlined the organization's values: community vitality, innovation, empowerment, resilience, and collaboration.

Ms. Gresley reported that CRVEDP had received a capacity-building grant from the Colorado Energy Office for \$80,000 per year over three years. This funding will allow them to pursue projects such as a Western Garfield County data project to better understand the region's economic landscape.

Mayor A. Riddile asked other than the grant received from Colorado Energy Office, how is CRVEDP being financed. Ms. Gresley said the first year, funding was from the municipalities contributing, including New Castle. Garfield County Libraries; and CHAPHA also contributed for a total of about \$75,000. In 2025 AGNC allowed use of their contribution project list, which is a tax credit incentive. Any contribution made by an individual business organization to CRVEDP gets a 25% state tax credit in addition to being tax deductible under 501((C)(3).

Ms. Gresley said they are always looking for grants to fit them, not building a project to fit a grant. Also, they believe the majority of funding should come from private industry, big utilities such as oil and gas, and big businesses that want see success in the future of our region. Also, they are looking at a possible revolving loan fund, which is done by a lot of other economic development organizations. The revolving loan is built up to become self-

funded, using the interest charges. The long-term goal for CRVEDP is to become more self-funded rather than expecting municipalities to continue to fund it.

Councilor Hazelton said there are a couple of bills being introduced on clean energy involving nuclear energy. He asked what role, if any will CRVEDP have. Ms. Gresley said that is where the relationship with AGNC will be pivotal.

Councilor Leland said would like to see one or two projects get started. New Castle has been the subject of a lot of studies. Most recently, New Castle had a study of Main Street leading to a downtown comprehensive plan. The town has lots of studies, lots of opinions, and nothing's gotten off the ground. Ms. Gresley asked what project the town would like to see get off of the ground. Councilor Leland said to make sure to preserve the downtown businesses. Ms. Gresley said from a regional perspective, the opportunities are transportation and exploring opportunities, whether it's with RFTA or Parachute Area Transit System (PATs).

Councilor G. Riddile asked if CRVEDP is trying to tackle the housing problems. Ms. Gresley said currently there are several organizations out there trying to tackle the housing issue. As a partnership CRVEDP could help connect the resources to drive towards the common goal of live, work and play in our communities.

Update – Garfield County Public Environmental Health Department (Mosquito Control Program) Jannette Whitcomb

Administrator Reynolds said each year Garfield County Environmental Health works county wide to provide cost-effective mosquito control programs. Often hiring qualified contractors, the program works to utilize environmentally sensitive techniques to control the mosquito population without negatively impacting the environment. The county relies on municipal support to manage these programs within municipal boundaries.

Administrator Reynolds introduced Jannette Whitcomb to the council.

Ms. Whitcomb presented an overview of the county's cooperative mosquito control program (Exhibit B). She explained that Vector Disease Control International (VDCI) is the contracted specialist that conducts mosquito surveillance and control work. Ms. Whitcomb provided details on the West Nile virus transmission cycle and the life cycle of mosquitoes. She outlined the surveillance and control work conducted by VDCI, including larval control and adult mosquito surveillance. In New Castle, 14.4 acres were treated with larvicide in the previous year. Ms. Whitcomb also discussed the adult mosquito surveillance program and the testing for West Nile virus. She reported that in 2024, there were no West Nile virus cases detected in Garfield County, compared to a higher number of cases in previous years.

Mayor A. Riddile asked Ms. Whitcomb what she attributed the downturn of the West Nile Virus to, because the treatment seems be the same for every year. Mr. Josh Willimas, said that usually the drier the summer, the more stressed the birds become. As the birds become more stressed with the lack of water, their diseases increase. There is more disease for mosquitos to spread. Control is a little bit more complicated cycle because it balances disease control and nuisance population control. They also strive to keep a consistent program regardless of weather patterns. VDCI is constantly checking sites to see when the mosquitoes are active.

Councilor Mariscal asked how information is getting put out and is it in Spanish. Ms. Whitcomb said the community outreach person will reach out to the Spanish radio stations as well as the newspaper in Spanish. The posters are in English and Spanish. If there is a human case of West Nile, the communications specialist will step up the outreach.

Proclamation Honoring the Coal Ridge High School Coed Cheer Team

Mayor A. Riddile read the proclamation into the record.

Consent Agenda

Items on the consent agenda are routine and non-controversial and will be approved by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a council member or citizen requests it, in which case the item will be removed from the consent agenda.

January 7, 2025 minutes

MOTION: Mayor A. Riddile made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilor Mariscal seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Staff Reports

Town Administrator – Administrator Reynolds said he had a meeting with Jeanne Golay and representatives from Garfield County Community Development regarding the county's review of Nutrient Farms application. The application will be going to the county P&Z board Wednesday, January 29, 2025. The county has been taking comments about Nutrient Farms proposal. One issue raised was owners' suggestion of using the Lova Trail's bridge as an emergency route if access to Nutrient Farms is cut off. The Lova Trail has not been built. The MOU that the town entered into in 2018 with the then prospective buyer of the land, said within the next two years an easement through Nutrient Farms for the LOVA trail would be established, along with a construction easement through the property. Unfortunately, the project fell apart for various reasons. The LOVA trail is in concept only. The MOU has dissolved because the town didn't meet the two-year deadline. Administrator Reynolds said he has drafted a letter to submit to Garfield County Planning & Zoning as what the town's position is. The town still has a desire for Lova Trail to connect New Castle through Nutrient Farms and eventually through South Canyon. But even without LOVA, the town is interested in a trail connection through Nutrient Farms. The town's Comprehensive Plan specifies that new development proposals include trail connectivity. Administrator Reynolds said there was also discussion regarding wastewater discharge from Nutrient Farms. This is a unique situation because the farm does not tie into any municipal wastewater treatment plant. However, the property does have several series of septic systems of holding ponds. The town's comment on that is that as the project moves along, the town certainly reserves the right for our engineers to review those systems and then figure out what type of permitting and what type of effects it would have on the river. Nutrient Farms is within our area of disturbance of land and wastewater discharge, and the town engineer will need to review when plans are complete. Those plans aren't ready yet for the town to review. Nutrient Farms are

currently going before the County for zoning changes. Administrator Reynolds said the town is concerned about the traffic on the bridge across to County Road 335. Nutrient Farms Owner Andy Bruno has discussed these issues with the county, and they are aware of our concerns. As a dark sky compliant town, we also focus on minimizing light trespass. We want to avoid noticeable lighting impacts from the proposed venue along I-70. He said police coverage was also discussed. Given its proximity to town, our police are likely to be the first responders if an incident occurs, despite it being in the county. The town offers mutual support with the county for emergency coverage. Administrator Reynolds said the county has talked with Town Planner Paul Smith about the industrial zone. The industrial Zone is the western portion of the project. Nutrient Farm does border with residential neighbors the town is looking at its compatibility with the neighboring property. Councilor G. Riddile asked if the town's engineer would be looking at the traffic study up to County Road 335 interchange. Administrator Reynolds said yes, the engineer has looked at the study. The report called for minor improvements of the intersection. Councilor G. Riddile said he was fine with the industrial zoning where it's being proposed. Councilor Carey said she has concerns about the industrial zoning close to residential. Administrator Reynolds said currently by Riverpark there is a yard full of heavy equipment. At some point Mr. Bruno did advertise equipment for lease on the Nutrient Farms property. Councilor Carey said if the industrial zone was more inside of the property and not right on the edge of the property would work better. Councilor Leland said there have been a lot of comments online and the biggest concern was traffic. The traffic from County Road 335 would be using the bridge, with a lot of the traffic going onto the highway, which will exacerbate the ramp situation, which CDOT said they'll fix. Then, some of the traffic will be coming into town, which is good because it brings some business, but at the same time it brings more traffic problems. Councilor Hazelton said the county will have some control over Nutrient Farms. But the county does not have control over the 36-acre parcels that are stacked up on each other. We are going to start to see storage yards and such. John Leybourne from Garfield County said the 36-acre parcels are currently zoned as rural. The county has had a lot of people go in without permits and the county had done a lot of actions on those. The owners have been required to submit permits through the town for watershed protection. Therefore, the county is keeping an eye on those lots, making sure the lots are being developed correctly. Administrator Reynolds said he, Planner Smith and Assistant Rochelle Firth did a presentation for the Glenwood Springs Realtors Association. They were able to give them an update on projects that the town is working on, events and developments. Administrator Reynolds said the town is continuing to work with the Wildfire Collaborative. The Collaborative has applied for a grant for hiring a director and should know in a couple of weeks if they received it. He had spoken with FMLD to see if there were any partnership grant possibilities between the town and CRFR for wildfire mitigation work. Administrator Reynolds said he would like to schedule a capitol committee meeting because there are grant cycles coming up. Administrator Reynolds said he had a meeting with New Castle Trails. The conversation was about who New Castle Trails are now and what their vision is for the future. He also

talked with RFMBA about trails maintenance. The conclusion was New Castle Trails would like to bring back some version of Rides and Reggae. New Castle Trails have agreed to attend the POSTR meetings. The first POSTR meeting will be February 5, 2025. Public Works Director John Wenzel will prepare the agenda and get it posted. At some point New Castle Trails will be introduced to the council.

Administrator Reynolds asked the council for ideas for the Board of County Commissioner Joint Meeting. Administrator Reynolds said the joint meeting is normally held in the big room at the community center or the library, however both are booked. Staff are trying to figure out where to hold the meeting.

Administrator Reynolds said he and Planner Smith have been in conversations with the owner of TC Midwest who owns the commercial parcels and residential parcels in Castle Valley Ranch. TC Midwest will be taking a step back and reevaluating the properties and what would be best for New Castle. Administrator Reynolds had suggested to TC Midwest to have a meet and greet meeting with the council.

Administrator Reynolds said on March 4, 2025, Amy Moyer will be coming to council to give an update about the Shoshone Water Rights.

Administrator Reynolds said he will be out of the office January 30 & 31, 2025 and again from February 7-14, 2025.

Town Clerk – Clerk Andis said she had nothing to report.

Town Treasurer – not present

Town Planner – not present

Public Works Director – not present

Commission Reports

Planning & Zoning Commission – have not met

Historic Preservation Commission – have not met

Climate and Environment Commission – Councilor Leland said the commission appointed Sharon Morris as commission chair and Myrna Candreia as commission vice chair. The commission confirmed the Elemental Film for February 12, 2025, at 6pm at the library. The commission approved the bag fee budget with the council's recommendations. The bag fee budget will come to the council for final approval. Administrator Reynolds said the law says there has to be an approved budget or plan for the bag fee. Since CEC is an advisory board to the council, the council would need to formally approve the budget or plan. Councilor Leland said the town is being recognized for Earth Days and being a model for rest of the county. Councilor Leland said Commission Chair Tom Elder had passed away and his memorial service will be early April. The commission is suggesting planting a tree with a plaque in his honor. The commission will coordinate with the parks department.

Senior Program – have not met

RFTA – Mayor A. Riddile said in the years past RFTA has received approximately \$45 million in grants. \$35 million was for the completion of the Glenwood Maintenance Facility, which includes a new office building, with housing for employees and 5 electric buses. Most of the grant money came from the FTA.

AGNC – have not met

GCE – Councilor Leland said they discussed the energy saving programs that are available to the public. They will be continuing the energy saving rebates. GCE didn't get the grant money for the EV charging stations which they had applied for.

EAB – have not met

Detox – have not met

Council Comments

Councilor Carey asked staff to look at the Siberian Elm Tree next to the green bridge. The property owner is concerned because the tree is leaning and afraid it will fall on his or his neighbor's house. However, the owner is not sure whose property the tree is on.

Mayor A. Riddile said he, Administrator Reynolds and Public Works Director Wenzel had attended the FMLD awards luncheon. FMLD in the spring had awarded \$400k for the roundabout and \$25k for playground equipment for Kay Willimas Park. Then in the fall had awarded \$500k for the wastewater offices and, \$25K for the community center air conditioning, which totals \$950k worth of grants for the town. FMLD had also awarded \$160k to KSE, which the town had partnered with. The town has also received the Grantee of the year for the second time from FMLD which comes with \$10k mini grant. The town is the only organization to have received the award twice. To receive the award there are 5 conditions that have to be met: alignment with the district's mission and the Federal Mineral Lease District Act, quality of the projects, quality of the applications, timeliness of project completions, and compliance with program rules and guidelines. Mayor A. Riddile offered huge thanks to our grant writers. Mayor A. Riddile said he has to resign from the P&Z Commission due to health issues. The seat needs to be filled with another councilor. Administrator Reynolds said there is a meeting tomorrow night and we are having a difficult time getting a quorum. Administrator Reynolds suggested having a councilor attend the meeting tomorrow night and then at the next meeting appoint a councilor to fill the remaining time of the seat. Clerk Andis said the seat will need to be filled until May 1, 2025, and Councilor G. Riddile will start May 1, 2025. There was a brief conversation and Councilor G. Riddile agreed to fill in tomorrow night if he could. Councilor Carey said she could if Councilor G. Riddile couldn't but would be a little late.

Items for Future Council Agenda

Councilor Carey asked to have the 36-acre parcels discussion for the joint BOCC meeting. Mayor A. Riddile asked to have renderings of the landscaping for the roundabout at the joint meeting.

Adjourn

MOTION: Mayor A. Riddile made a motion to adjourn. Councilor Mariscal seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:56p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mindy Andis
Town Clerk Mindy Andis, CMC

[Signature]
Mayor Pro Tem Grady Hazelton

VISION BOARD

BETTER JOBS CLOSER TO HOME!

START HERE ↘

2024 – 2026 STRATEGIC PLAN

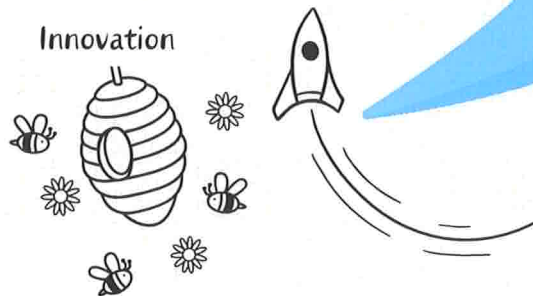
- SUPPORT GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF WELL PAYING JOBS
- DATA SPECIFIC TO WESTERN GARFIELD COUNTY
- REDUCE COMMUTING TIME, CHG, STRESS, WEAR & TEAR



- PRIORITIZE NEEDS & ASPIRATIONS OF COMMUNITIES
- ENHANCE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL RESIDENTS
- WORK, LIVE, PLAY IN SAME PLACE

- INVOLVE MORE PRIVATE ECONOMIC STAKEHOLDERS
- HIRE STAFF
- BUILD IDENTITY & REGIONAL BRAND
- EDUCATE & INFORM ON ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

Innovation

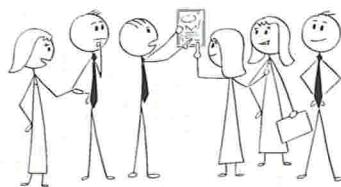


- DIVERSIFY, DIVERSIFY, DIVERSIFY!
- BUILDING FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS
- PROACTIVE NOT REACTIVE
- CIVILITY AND CANDID ABOUT THE REAL ISSUES

- WORK WITH EXISTING & NEW INDUSTRIES

Empowerment

- CONNECT STAKEHOLDERS TO RESOURCES, SUPPORT & OPPORTUNITIES
- CHAMPION THE NEEDS OF THE REGION
- GET OTHERS INVOLVED



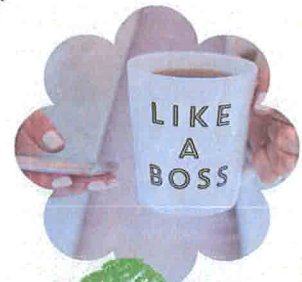
Collaboration

- WE BELIEVE IN THE POWER OF WORKING TOGETHER. BY FOSTERING RELATIONSHIPS AMONG LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, BUSINESSES, INSTITUTIONS OF LEARNING AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS, WE AIM TO BUILD A COHESIVE AND UNITED REGIONAL ECONOMY.
- WE VALUE THE LESSONS LEARNED FROM OUR HISTORY AS WELL AS OUR NEIGHBORS, USING THEM TO INFORM AND GUIDE OUR STRATEGIES AND DECISIONS FOR A BETTER FUTURE.



Resilience

- BUILD A SUSTAINABLE FINANCIAL MODEL
- WIN MORE GRANTS! THANKS TO CEO FOR AWARDED US THEIR EECBG GRANT!
- INVESTMENT IN OUR REGION
- MOVE AWAY FROM ECONOMIC VOLATILITY ROLLERCOASTER



LEARN MORE



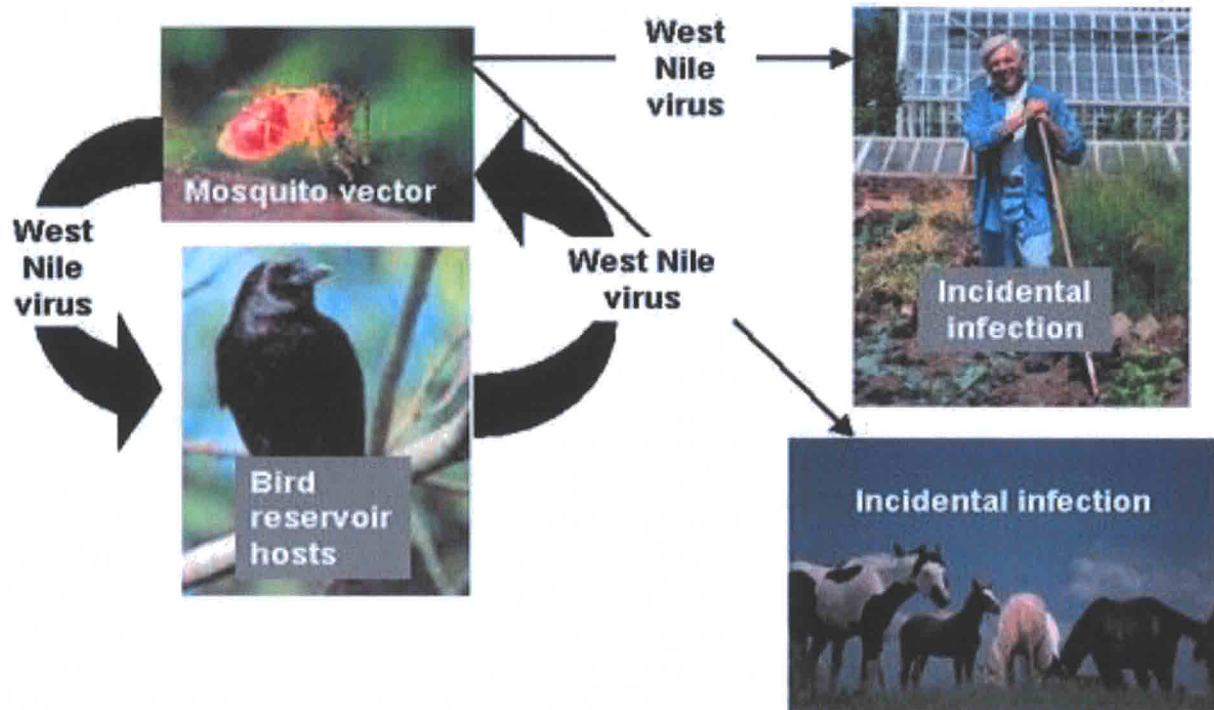
CONTACT ALICIA GRESLEY DIRECTOR CRVEDP
INFO@CRVEDP.ORG
970-505-7391

2024
Garfield County Cooperative Mosquito Control Program

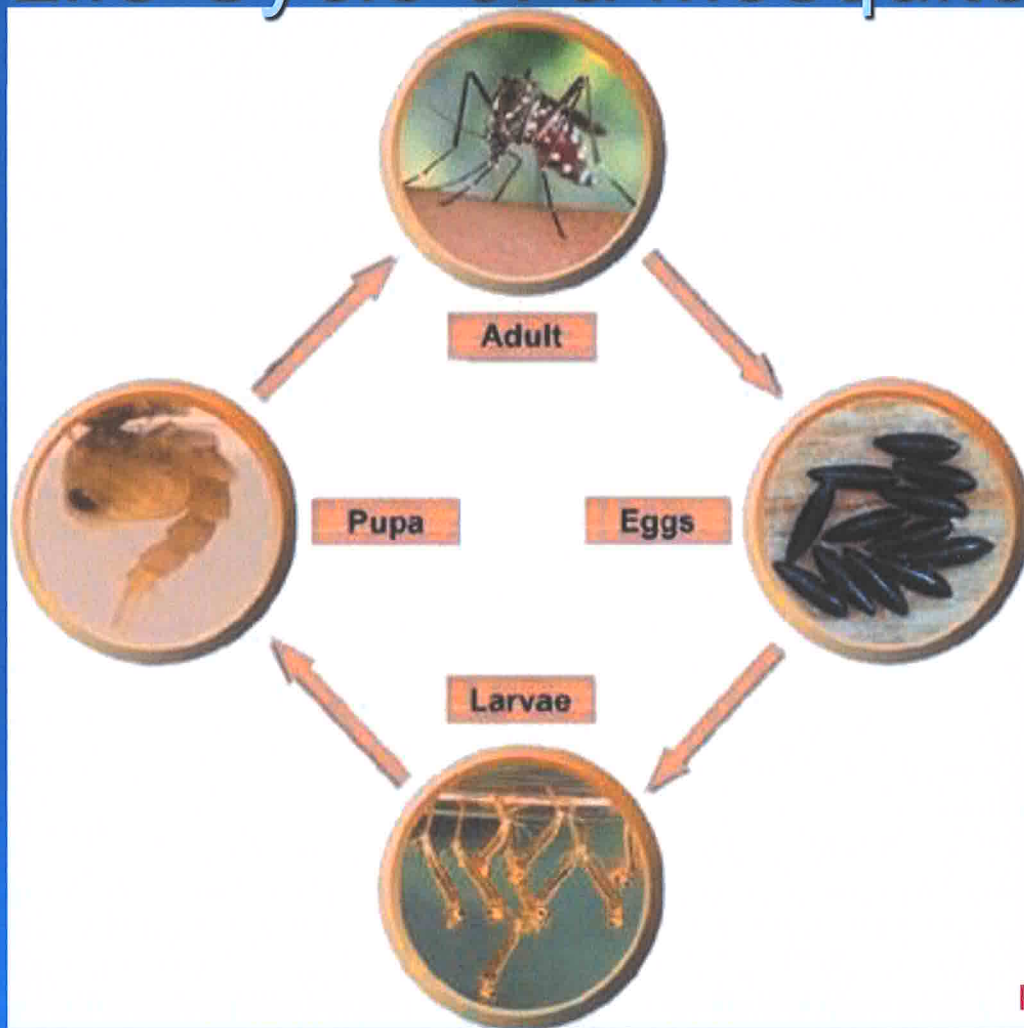


Why do we do Mosquito Control?

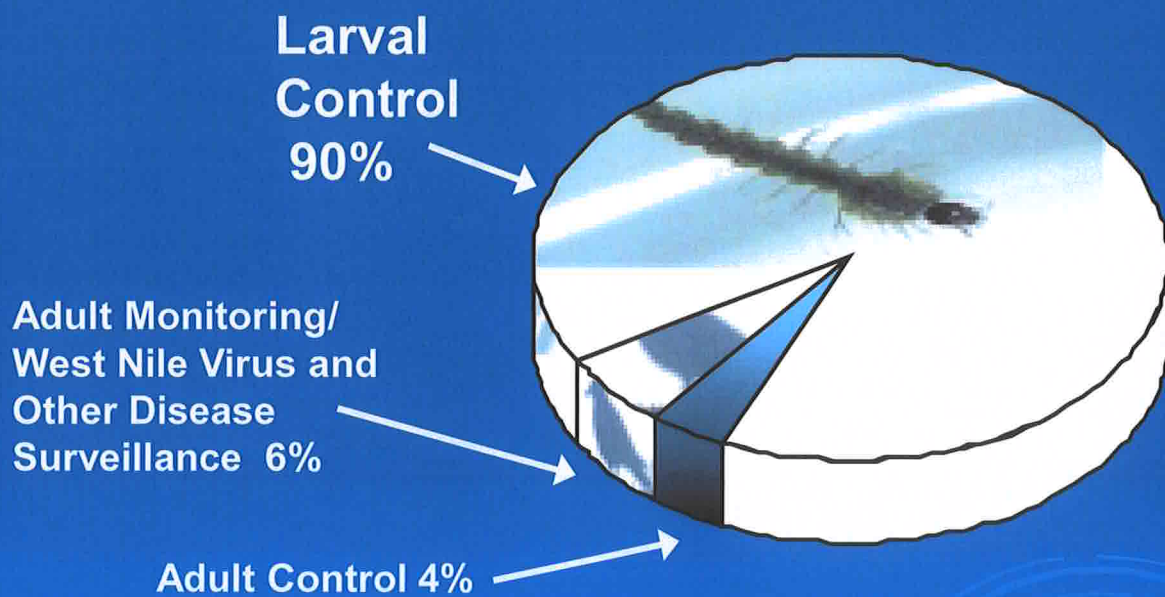
West Nile Virus Transmission Cycle



Life Cycle of a Mosquito



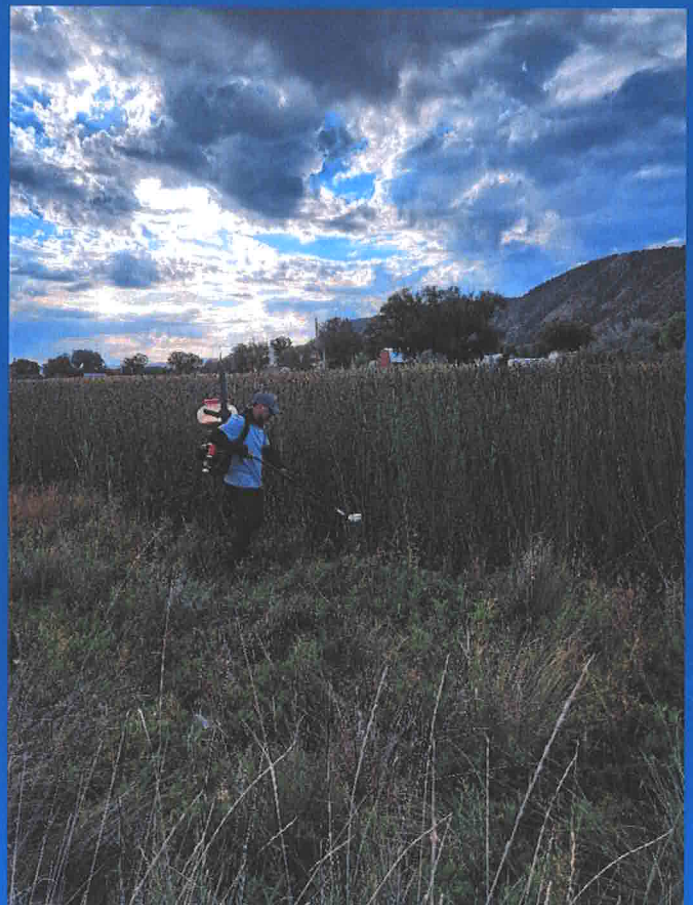
VDCI Mosquito Control Operations



Larval Site Inspection



Larviciding Treatments



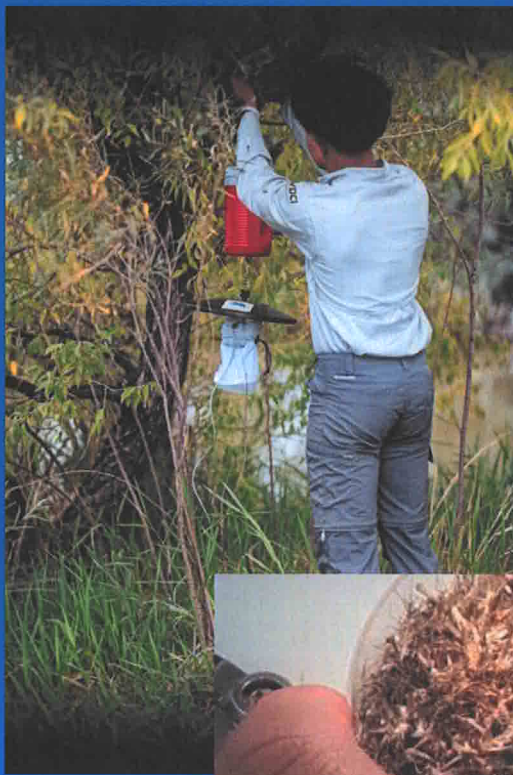
Garfield County larval Site Inspections

Vector Disease Control International

Garfield County Mosquito Control Program Larval Site Inspection and Treatment Data 2024

Location	Site Inspections	Percent Wet	Percent w/Larvae	Sites Treated	Acres Treated
Unincorporated Garfield County	773	79.80%	90.90%	561	159.6
Carbondale	105	93.30%	95.90%	94	12.4
Glenwood Springs	22	95.50%	100%	21	0.9
Silt	100	64%	92.20%	59	7.5
Rifle	353	74.50%	89%	234	70.4
Parachute	130	71.50%	95.70%	89	44.5
Battlement Mesa	92	93.50%	93%	80	57.6
New Castle	139	85.60%	95%	113	14.4
Total	1714	82.12	93.96%	1251	367.3

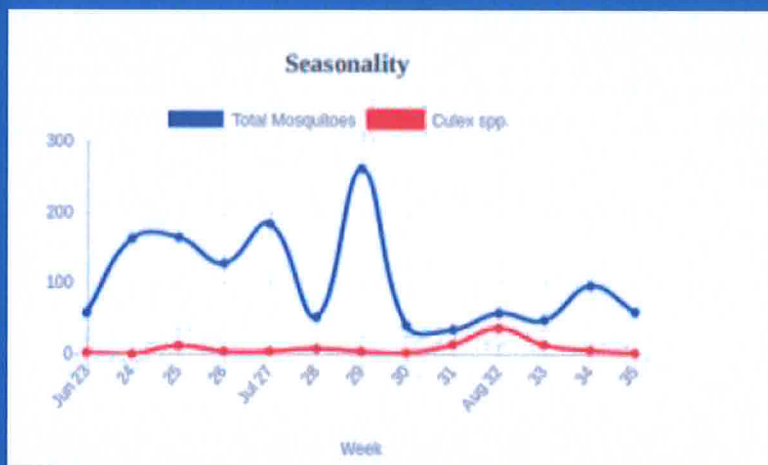
In 2024, 154 surveillance light traps were set within Garfield County, which collected 17,822 Aedes , and 4,213 Culex Mosquitoes



11 surveillance light trap locations monitored adult mosquito populations within Garfield County



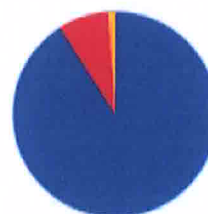
New Castle Elk Creek Elementary School Site for 2024



90% Aedes (Late July Peak)
8% Culex (Late August Peak)

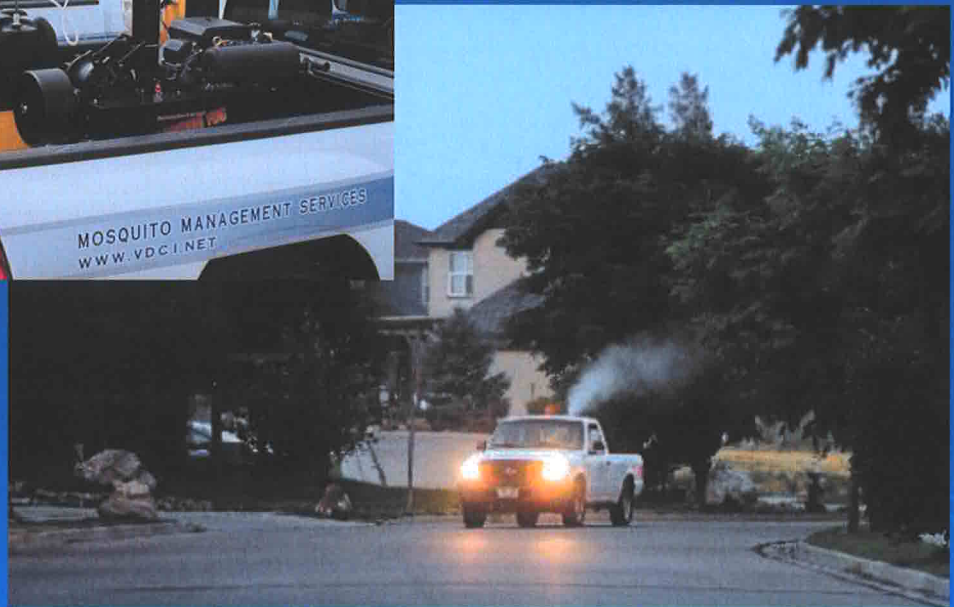
Genus Proportions:

Genus	Number	Percent of Total
<i>Aedes/Ochlerotatus</i>	1,224.0	90.9%
<i>Anopheles</i>	0.0	0.0%
<i>Culex</i>	107.0	7.9%
<i>Culiseta</i>	15.0	1.1%
Other	0.0	0.0%



- *Aedes-Oc*
- *Anopheles*
- *Culex*
- *Culiseta*
- Other

During the 2024 season adult mosquito control measures were regularly required in specific problem areas within Garfield County. In 2024 a total of 11,656.3 acres were treated by ULV truck; 725 acres of which were in New Castle.



West Nile Virus 2024

Total Human Disease Cases in 2024*

1,310

West Nile virus disease cases in 2024

Neuroinvasive Human Disease Cases in 2024

935

West Nile virus neuroinvasive disease cases in 2024

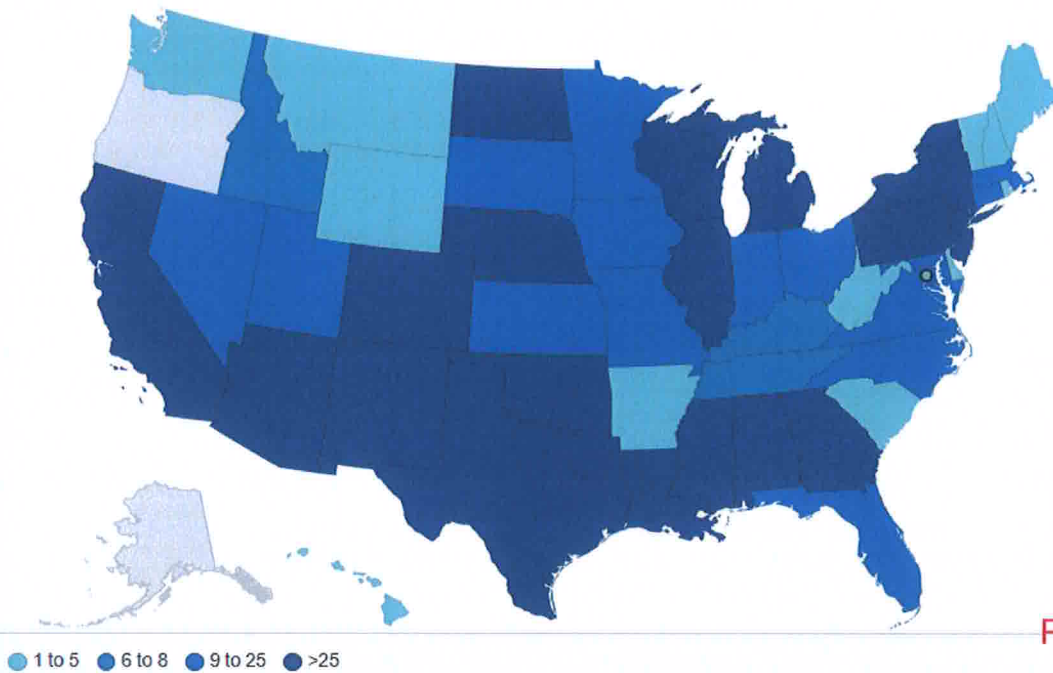
States Reporting Human Disease Cases in 2024

49

States reporting West Nile virus disease cases in 2024

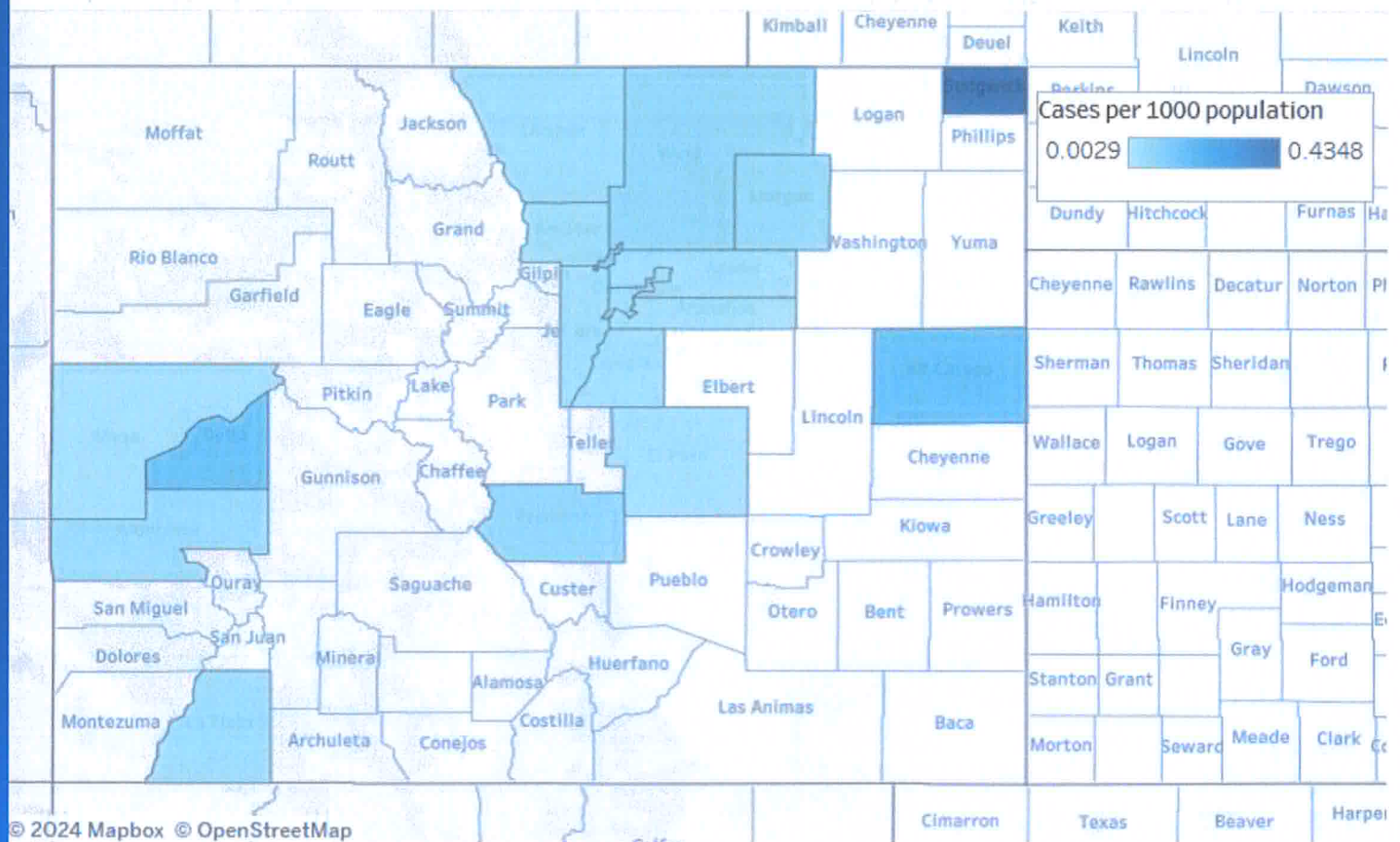
*Total human disease cases includes neuroinvasive and non-neuroinvasive disease cases.

West Nile virus human disease cases reported by state of residence, 2024



Colorado Human West Nile Virus Infections by County: November 5th, 2024

People affected by West Nile virus per 1000 population by county of residence, 2024



Number of people affected per county

Denver

Please note that this map represents case count by population and not raw cases per county.

GCPH appreciates the professional dedicated staff of VDCI. Our local hero and leader of VDCI for the Garfield County area is Doug Furlong.

