

# SALT LAKE CITY MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT

## Executive Director's Report

May 2025

### 1. Personnel:

Personnel	
Staff	Seasonal
12	33

Type of Work	2025	3 - Year Average
Adulticiding	3.25	5.08
Wetlands / Rural	455.50	555.75
Fish Culture	211.50	125.67
Catch Basins / Gutters	207.00	242.08
Tree Holes	114.00	188.17
Prison	116.50	20.25
Service Request	23.50	22.42
Traps	282.75	355.00
Laboratory	580.75	450.92
Office / Administration	822.00	908.08
Equipment Maintenance	279.50	311.00
Facility Maintenance	441.50	269.42
Training	616.50	798.25
Education	258.75	74.33
Unmanned Aerial System	233.50	112.33
CSU Grant	705.50	37.25
Other Grants	Not Recorded	0.75
Other / Errands	84.00	155.83
Comp. Time Used	34.00	54.00
Vacation	155.25	38.42
Additional Hours	0.00	0.00
Holidays	0.00	0.00
Sick Leave	14.50	37.25
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,639.75</b>	<b>4,762.25</b>

## 2. Office/Lab Activities:

- Executive Director Faraji attended a bi-weekly meeting of the Rockies and High Plains Vector-Borne Diseases Center on 7 May 2025.
- Executive Director Faraji attended an online training webinar with Salt Lake County Auditor on 7 May 2025.
- Executive Director Faraji and members of staff attended a weekly construction meeting of the Owner/Architect/Consultants on 7 May 2025.
- The District held an Insecticide Resistance Training Workshop in collaboration with Pacific Southwest Center of Excellence and Rockies and High Plains Vector-Borne Diseases Center on 8 May 2025.
- The District hosted the annual Utah Mosquito Abatement Association Workshop for 200+ attendees on 9 May 2025.
- Executive Director Faraji, Education Specialist Rehbeine, and Trustee Escamilla attended the annual American Mosquito Control Association Washington Days and visited with all Utah State legislators on 13-15 May 2025.
- Dr. Paula Lado from Valent Biosciences stayed in the dormitories on 20-22 May 2025 and assisted with field calibrations of UAS equipment. She was assisted by Dr. Haley Johnson from VBS.
- Katie Graybeal, a master's student from Utah State University, stayed in the dormitories on 20-22 May 2025 and assisted with field work.
- Executive Director Faraji and CFO Fairbanks met with Curtis Tonks from Utah Local Governments Trust to go over 2025-2026 insurance costs on 20 May 2025.
- Executive Director Faraji attended a bi-weekly meeting of the Rockies and High Plains Vector-Borne Diseases Center on 21 May 2025.
- Executive Director Faraji and members of staff attended a weekly construction meeting of the Owner/Architect/Consultants on 21 May 2025.
- The District held a safety meeting for all staff and seasonals on 23 May 2025.
- Executive Director Faraji attended and presented a keynote talk at the 9<sup>th</sup> International Forum for Surveillance and Control of Mosquitoes and Mosquito-Borne Diseases in Xian, China on 25-30 May 2025.

### Aleta Fairbanks, CFO

- 30 May 2025 – Listened to a Navigating the New AI HR Regulatory Landscape webinar.
- 20 May 2025 – Met with Curtis Tonks, Utah Local Governments Trust, about our annual insurance policies.

### Greg White, Assistant Director

New employee orientations – various days

Weekly Construction Meetings

UMAA Spring Workshop – 5/9

UAS ULV Spray characterization Paula Lado and Haley Johnson – 5/20 to 5/21

### Chris Bibbs, Laboratory Director

<b>May 1</b>	R-coding and data training w/ Liza
<b>May 2</b>	Mosquito ID training w/ seasonals
<b>May 5</b>	Nadia project orientation; rotator trap troubleshooting w/ Avery;
<b>May 6</b>	Group lab training and orientation; Nadia lit review and plant DNA barcoding background; Liza stats training

<b>May 7</b>	Surveillance training w/ seasonals; equipment training w/ Joe and Rebecca; Microscopy training w/ Joe; Biochem training w/ Nadia
<b>May 8</b>	Khai-hy project orientation; RaHP VEC survey manuscript edits; surveillance training
<b>May 9</b>	UMAA Workshop ; teaching mosquitoes 101
<b>May 12</b>	Licensing and galley prints for Fantastic Feasts manuscript; IRM project orientation for Sage; rotator trap repair and programming w/ Avery; Exhale CO2 bag call w/ Grant County MVCD
<b>May 13</b>	Rotator trap modification; Coordinating Hogle Zoo surveillance for projects; assisting Katie Graybeal (USU) w/ VecTec device
<b>May 14</b>	Surveillance training w/ seasonals; treehole manuscript edits for Amy
<b>May 15</b>	Entomology Today interview questions; Hogle Zoo visit for Wild Utah planning and rotator traps; resistance definitions review for IVCC spatial repellent impact report;
<b>May 16</b>	Larval ID and Insectary training w/ seasonals;
<b>May 19</b>	Tree of Life Genome project web call; New city CO2 trap placement; treehole manuscript edits for Amy
<b>May 20</b>	Prep for Valent drone trials; application packet prep for EntSoc awards; Entomology Today press release draft review; assisting Katie Graybeal and Matt Yurtzenka (Saarman lab)
<b>May 21</b>	International Electronic Conference on Entomology & presentation on non-target risk w/ mosquito control
<b>May 27</b>	Clara Morris summer orientation
<b>May 28</b>	Blackfly service call: surveillance
<b>May 29</b>	Black fly service call: treatment
<b>May 30</b>	Black fly service call: efficacy follow up

#### **Michele Rehbein, Education Specialist**

- Daniel Glover's first day as Garden Specialist was 5 May; Dr. Rehbein met with him to discuss overall goals and objectives.
- Dr. Rehbein, Brad Sorensen, Andrew Dewsnup, and Evelyn Acosta met with Todd Barszcz at the UDC Greenhouse to begin plumbing the fish tanks for the least chub program on 19 May.
- Dr. Rehbein and Danny Glover purchased plants for the community garden on 21 May.
- Dr. Rehbein wrote and submitted the EnSoc Chrysalis Fund grant application on 23 May.
- Dr. Rehbein and Evelyn Acosta created mosquitoes in resin molds for outreach events on 23 May and 29 May.
- Dr. Rehbein developed new outreach brochures (general mosquito info, prevention, common mosquito species, etc.) to use for upcoming tabling events, and ordered prints on 23 May.
- Dr. Rehbein wrote and submitted the Love Your Block grant application on 28 May.
- Dr. Rehbein interviewed with Brian Carlson from KSL on 29 May about the mosquito season so far and prevention tips.
- Dr. Rehbein designed and ordered new education t-shirts for outreach and students on 30 May.
- Dr. Rehbein attended the UMAA Spring Workshop on 9 May.
- Dr. Rehbein attended the AMCA Washington Days Conference with Dr. Faraji and Senator Escamilla from 12-15 May. Offices visited include: John Curtis, Blake Moore, Mike Lee, Celeste Maloy, Burgess Owens, and Mike Kennedy.
- Dr. Rehbein, Sam Wilson, and Evelyn Acosta participated in a STEAM Day event on 22 May at the Northwest Middle School.

- Dr. Rehbein, Sam Wilson, and Evelyn Acosta participated in a STEM Night event at Granger Elementary School on 22 May.
- Dr. Rehbein held a safety meeting on 23 May.

### **Nate Byers, Molecular Biologist**

Started summer mosquito surveillance with full lab crew  
 Provided supplies (mosquitoes, cages, etc) and setup for the CDC bottle bioassay training by Michael Bollinger and Karla Saavedra-Rodriguez  
 Had all of our micropipettes calibrated; 6 May  
 Helped set up bottle bioassay training with Michael Bollinger; 8 May  
 Helped prepare for Drone Night Trial applying Remoa Tri; 20 May  
 Submitted abstract for ESA meeting  
 Met with Paula Lado to discuss Remoa Tri use in our aerial trials and assist in the design of a larviciding trial for Davis County; 7 May  
 Attended UMAA Spring Workshop; 9 May

### **Brad Sorensen, Aerial Operations Supervisor**

Continued to attend OAC meetings and oversee phase 2 construction  
 Helped gather chairs and tables for Spring Workshop  
 Received DJI T25 and put together FAA Paper work to make it legal to operate  
 Worked on making drone program set up better  
 Training for Reed Miles – Seasonal Drone Pilot  
 Set up and tested T40 with ULV modifications  
 Worked with Andrew on Prison fish tank  
 Treated 456 Acres with T40

3/7 OAC Meeting  
 3/9 Spring Workshop  
 3/14 OAC Meeting  
 3/19 Started Prison fish tank install  
 3/20 Valent UAS Trial with REMOA TRI  
 3/21 OAC Meeting  
 3/21 FFE Meeting with CCG  
 3/22 Sam attended STEAM day at Northwest and STEM night at Granger elementary to showcase UAS spray systems while Reed and I treated 119 Acres  
 3/28 OAC Meeting  
 3/29 Meeting with OAC Team about galvanized steel issue

### **3. Field Data:**

#### **Control:**

#### **ACRES TREATED**

	<b>Adulticide</b>		<b>Larvicide</b>		<b>Total</b>
	Ground	Aerial	Ground	Aerial	
<b>May's Total</b>	0.00	0.00	479.99	947.00	1,426.99
<b>May's 3 Year Avg.</b>	383.04	8,459.33	541.73	800.67	10,184.77

#### Service Requests:

#### MOSQUITO SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES RECEIVED BY MONTH

	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Total
2025	5	11	40						56
3-Year Avg.	4.00	11.33	26.33	40.00	34.00	19.33	9.67	20.33	164.99

#### Inspection and Surveillance:

<i>Larval Collections</i>		
<i>Species</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>5-Year Average</i>
<i>Ae. campestris</i>	0	0.8
<i>Ae. dorsalis</i>	29	76.0
<i>Ae. fitchii</i>	1	0.0
<i>Ae. increpitus</i>	1	2.2
<i>Ae. nigromaculis</i>	0	0.6
<i>Ae. niphadopsis</i>	0	0
<i>Ae. sierrensis</i>	0	0.2
<i>Ae. melanimon</i>	0	0.2
<i>Ae. varipalpus</i>	0	0
<i>Ae. vexans</i>	2	1.8
<i>Cx. erythrothorax</i>	0	0.6
<i>Cx. pipiens</i>	22	15
<i>Cx. tarsalis</i>	19	62.4
<i>Cx. impatiens</i>	0	0.8
<i>Cs. incidens</i>	31	15.8
<i>Cs. inornata</i>	12	36.8
<i>An. freeborni</i>	0	0.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>213.8</b>

#### 4. Weather:

May's weather was warmer (by 2.5°) and wetter (by 0.56") than normal.

#### Temperature:

	Monthly Avg.	Normal	High	Low
April	53.7°	51.8°	84°	31 °
May	64.0°	61.5°	91°	42 °

<https://www.weather.gov/wrh/Climate?wfo=slc>

**Precipitation:**

	Total for Month	Normal	Most in 24 hours		
April	0.57"	2.16"	0.28"	on	17 <sup>th</sup>
May	1.26"	1.82"	0.73"	on	18 <sup>th</sup>

<https://www.weather.gov/wrh/Climate?wfo=slc>

**Great Salt Lake (elevation in feet above sea level):**

	Apr 1	May 1	Jun 1
2024	4,194.3	4,194.9	4,195.0
2025	4,193.4	4,193.4	4,193.2

<https://waterdata.usgs.gov/monitoring-location/10010000/#parameterCode=62614&period=P7D&showMedian=true>

# Hoping for a bite-free backyard this summer? These mosquito fighters can help you in unexpected ways.

Crews work beyond the swarms of the Great Salt Lake wetlands to reduce the bugs in your neighborhood.



(Francisco Kjolseth | The Salt Lake Tribune) Quinten Salt, urban field supervisor for the Salt Lake City Mosquito Abatement District, discusses using the western mosquitofish to curb mosquito populations in Salt Lake City.

By Jose Davila IV | May 31, 2025, 8:01 a.m. | Updated: June 2, 2025, 1:49 p.m.

🗨 Comment

On a rainy day in mid-April, a mosquito fighter named Quinten Salt was checking in on his fish, making sure the special weapons were maturing as expected.

Salt and his team rear western mosquitofish in a big, humid room at the headquarters of [the Salt Lake City Mosquito Abatement District](#). Throughout the summer, they'll place the hungry swimmers in about 800 ornamental ponds next to homes across Utah's capital — for free.





(Francisco Kjolseth | The Salt Lake Tribune) Western mosquitofish are grown in the fish hatchery at the Salt Lake City Mosquito Abatement District on Thursday, April 17, 2025.

Salt's district is tasked with patrolling the bug-infested Great Salt Lake wetlands, [one of the most prolific mosquito habitats in the West](#). The goal is to keep the biting hordes out in the wetlands and away from Salt Lake City residents trying to enjoy their summers outdoors.

But the wetlands aren't the only place where mosquitoes hatch and menace humans and their pets. Backyards and neighborhoods can harbor favorable habitats for larvae that spawn in aquatic nooks like ponds, catch basins and tree holes.

Salt's team is responsible for those urban environments and responding to residents' calls for help combating the bugs. Staffers, many of whom are seasonal hires helping out in the mosquito-heavy months, use biological controls as well as chemical means depending on the type of habitat and species they're targeting.



**Get Top Stories newsletter.** The day's biggest stories every morning, delivered right to your inbox.





(Francisco Kjolseth | The Salt Lake Tribune) Kelsey Fairbanks, a technician at the Salt Lake City Mosquito Abatement District, talks about a couple different species of mosquitoes in the sorting lab on Thursday, April 17, 2025.

The district — which is a government entity that gets its funding mostly [via property taxes](#) — can help with a host of mosquito-related problems, including by targeting adults with more traditional pesticides and addressing standing water. All of the treatments the district offers residents are free.

Salt's pond program is one of three keystone control measures the district uses in Salt Lake City neighborhoods. The team also routinely checks tree holes in the city that could host mosquitoes that can spread dog heartworm to residents' furry friends. A group of district bicyclists treated 50,000 catch basins in Utah's capital last year, hoping to prevent the bugs from emerging from those "perfect, nasty habitats," Salt said.

Similar to the district's rural program, urban mosquito specialists aim to attack the bugs when they're young and confined to water because it's easier to isolate and kill them when they're in more confined habitat.

Salt Lake City residents [can call the district or fill out a form on its website](#) even if they have an adult mosquito problem or have shallow standing water or other potential habitat on their property.



(Francisco Kjolseth | The Salt Lake Tribune) An aedes (ochlerotatus) niphadopsis mosquito, described as an opportunistic aggressive feeder that prefers humans for a blood meal, is pictured under a microscope at the Salt Lake City Mosquito Abatement District on Thursday, April 17, 2025.

## Help The Tribune report the stories others can't—or won't.

For over 150 years, The Salt Lake Tribune has been Utah's independent news source. Our reporters work tirelessly to uncover the stories that matter most to Utahns, from unraveling the complexities of court rulings to allowing tax payers to see where and how their hard earned dollars are being spent. **This critical work wouldn't be possible without people like you—individuals who understand the importance of local, independent journalism.** As a nonprofit newsroom, every subscription and every donation fuels our mission, supporting the in-depth reporting that shines a light on the issues shaping Utah today.

You can help power this work.

\$15

\$25

\$35

DONATE TODAY



[jdavila4@sltrib.com](mailto:jdavila4@sltrib.com)

X Follow @joserdavila4

[Donate to the newsroom now.](#) The Salt Lake Tribune, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) public charity and contributions are tax deductible

## RELATED STORIES



PREMIUM

**How scientists manage the Great Salt Lake's wetlands, one of the most prolific mosquito habitats in the West**



By joining the conversation you are accepting our [community rules and terms](#). You are also agreeing to the public display of your profile and your conversation history. **A subscription to The Salt Lake Tribune is required to create new comments or interact with existing ones.** To join the conversation, please subscribe at [sltrib.com/support](https://sltrib.com/support) or login if you already have a subscription.

#### Comments and moderation:

While disagreements among users are to be expected, the following are not allowed:

- Personal attacks on other users or employees of The Salt Lake Tribune
- Obscenities, vulgarities and profanity
- Hate speech, including racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia and/or religious bigotry.
- Blatant "trolling" or multiple accounts
- Misinformation

Please email feedback and any questions to [comments@sltrib.com](mailto:comments@sltrib.com).

Comments are closed on this story.

#### All Comments 1

Sort by Newest

— **Troy Lovell** 1 week ago

The other day an article about the need of mosquitos, today we are attacking them again. **Make up our minds.**

Respect Reply Share

Report

[Top of comments](#)

[Top of page](#)

#### CONNECT

Facebook

Twitter

Instagram

YouTube

RSS



#### ABOUT US

[History and Mission](#)

#### SUBSCRIPTIONS

[Subscribe to Print + Digital](#)

[Subscribe to Digital Only](#)

[Digital Access for Print Subscribers](#)

[Email Newsletters](#)

[Login to your Print Account](#)

[Login to your Digital Account](#)

[Subscription FAQs](#)

[Help and Contact Info](#)

[Gift Subscriptions](#)

#### MORE

[Advertise with Us](#)