

# **Help us pass the "NPDES Fix" legislation!**

HR 872, which exempts pesticide applications – including mosquito control - in, over, or near waters of the United States from burdensome and duplicative Clean Water Act (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting requirements, is stalled in the Senate due to a procedural hold instituted by Sen. Barbara Boxer that prevents it from being brought to the Senate floor for a vote. We need to convince the Senate Majority Leader, Senator Harry Reid, that this bill deserves debate and vote so that the people's voice can truly be heard. A clear bipartisan majority of the Senate has expressed its support of the bill should it be brought to a vote

## ***This is critical!***

### **What you can do:**

- ◆ Contact your Senators in one or more of their district offices. Ask them to promise or reaffirm support for HR 872, called the “Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act of 2011” and to clearly express to Senator Reid their desire for a floor vote. Background information on this crucial legislation can be found at <http://www.mosquito.org>.
- ◆ Please ask your staff, neighbors, industry sales people to go to the following web link: [http://www.senate.gov/general/contact\\_information/senators\\_cfm.cfm](http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm). They can use this site to find out who their Senators are (use the zip code feature) and where their offices are located in the state.
- ◆ Make an appointment to visit with or ask to speak with the point person on environmental issues to discuss the NPDES permit and support for the NPDES Fix legislation.

### **What you should say:**

- ◆ Share with the senate staffer personal/professional impacts the NPDES PGP permit will have on mosquito control operations and on the health and welfare of humans and wildlife if it takes effect. HR 872 will prevent these.
- ◆ Emphasize that the bill will prevent unnecessary additional regulatory costs to the city/county/state.
- ◆ Emphasize that the bill's provisions will NOT adversely affect water quality.
- ◆ Ensure that the staffer understands that HR 872 has crucial far-reaching consequences and deserves to be voted on by the full Senate.

## **Talking Points in Support of HR 872**

Many Senators have been given inaccurate information that needs to be corrected:

- ◆ Passage of HR 872 will not gut the Clean Water Act. It will not degrade the effectiveness of the EPA or their enforcement of existing Clean Water Act (CWA) regulations.
- ◆ Passage of HR 872 will restore the authority of Congress. The U.S. Congress should determine the environment policy of the United States, not the judicial system.
- ◆ Passage of HR 872 will not adversely impact any state regulatory programs that were in place prior to the Sixth Circuit ruling. Existing state permitting programs for pesticide applications will remain in effect.