PRESS RELEASE

Subject: Cooperative Response to Bats on UC Davis Campus

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(Woodland, CA) - Over the course of the past few weeks, fallen bats at the University of California, Davis (UCD) have been reported to and tested by the Animal Services section of the Yolo County Sheriff's Office. Out of 7 fallen bats, 3 tested positive for the rabies virus, 1 tested negative and 3 were not tested. Included is a bat from late September that was found by an individual on campus and taken to the university Veterinary Teaching Hospital. Otherwise, no human or pet contact with these bats is known to have occurred.

In response, Animal Services and UCD Environmental Health and Safety are working collaboratively to locate the potential bat roost on the campus and to alert individuals in order to ensure no human or animal contact with the bats.

"The presence of bats in Yolo County is common and positive tests among these bats is not rare, especially during the fall and spring months when some bat colonies migrate to the area", said Yolo County Chief Animal Services Officer Vicky Fletcher. "The important thing is that people avoid contact with bats and report any that are dead or acting abnormally to Yolo County Animal Services."

Abnormal behaviors for bats include lying on the ground or being out during the daytime. Ultimately, any bat, healthy, sick, or dead, that has come in contact with people, pets or livestock, should be isolated and contained for testing whenever possible. All bats found inside the home, regardless of contact, should be contained and reported. Reports should be filed with Yolo County Animal Services.

For more information about rabies control in Yolo County, please contact Yolo County Animal Services at (530) 668-5287. For more general