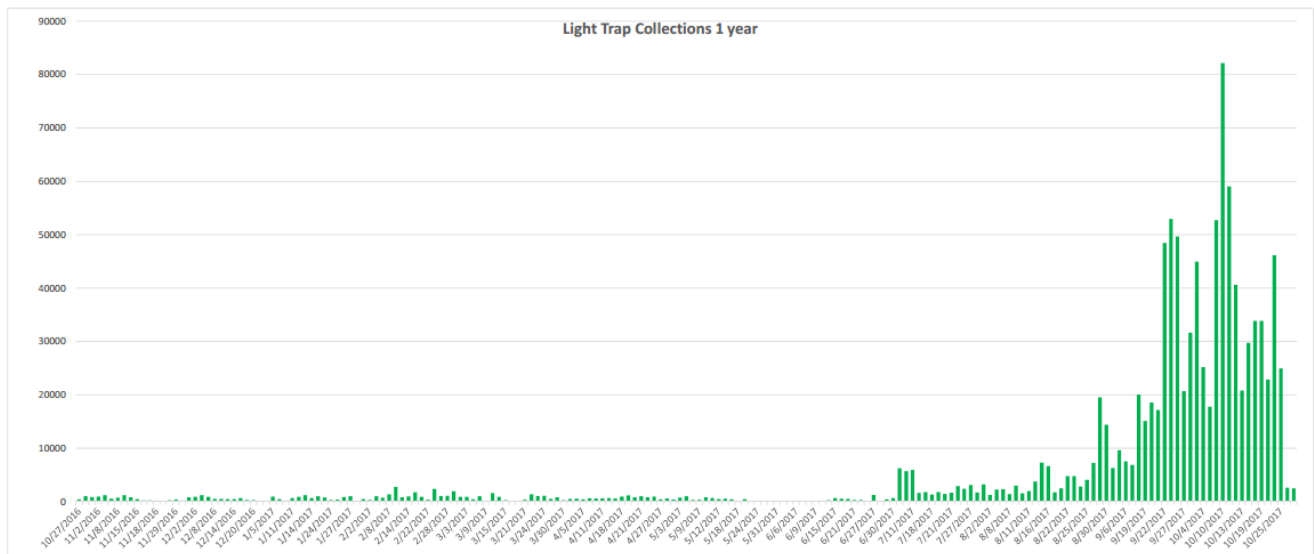


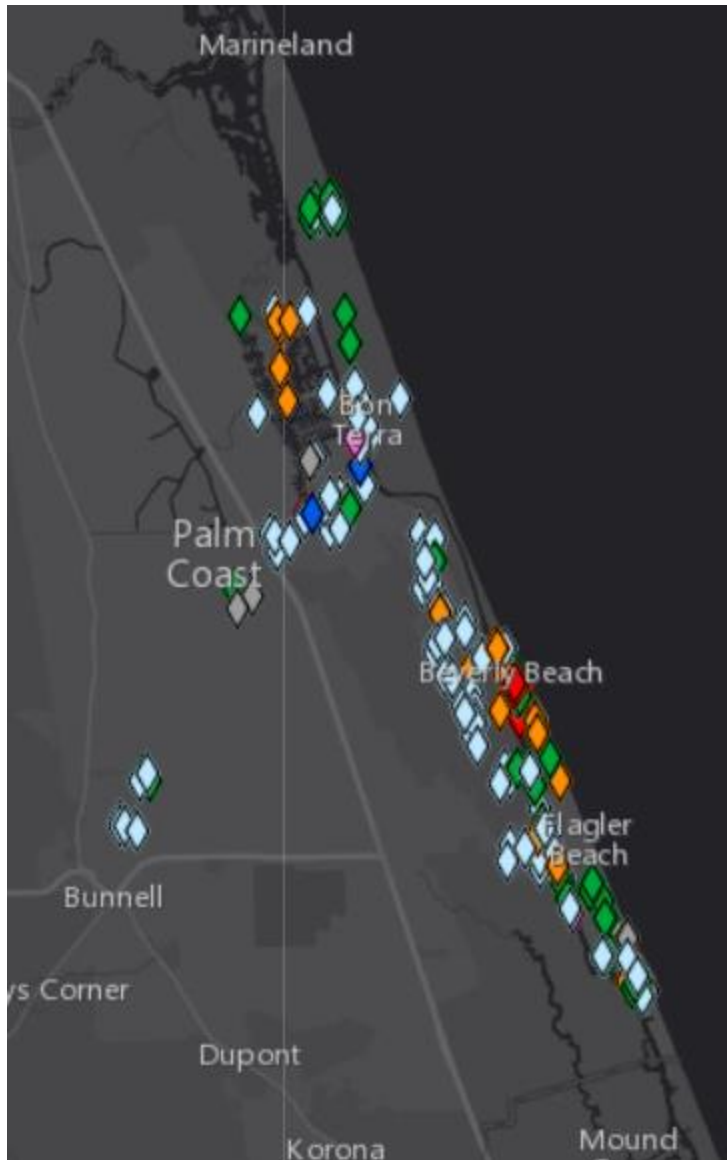
## Week of 10/23/2017 Operations Update

This week we had temperatures dip into the 50s overnight, drastically reducing the trap counts for adult mosquitoes. This helps us in that low humidity can shorten the lifespan of small insects like mosquitoes that are vulnerable to desiccation. However, because the mosquitoes are not active when we can apply adulticides they are safe from our interventions. So, while the chart below looks as though the mosquitoes are all but gone the reality is they are, in all probability, just lying low. The technical term for this is diapause- sort of like hibernation for bugs.



This in no way means that once the temperatures rise during the day that mosquitoes are not actively pursuing blood meals. In the scenario where a sustained low humidity and low precipitation pattern continues we may have very little mosquito activity in the near term. If, however, that is not the case, we had a very high level of mosquito activity and we may see a rebound in the population if a warming trend occurs.

The sites that were checked in the past week are starting to show some areas drying down. You can see a scattering of orange diamonds, meaning there is a dry down occurring at the site and, red, which means the site is once again dry.



While a dry down helps reduce the continued breeding of *Culex nigripalpus* (main West Nile vector species) it also opens up soil area in which flood water mosquitoes can lay their eggs.

TL;DR Winter is nice, if the cool weather doesn't stay we could get more bugs.