



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:

Beth Ranson, Public Education & Information Officer

O: 305.292.7190

C: 305.747.4245

E: branson@keysmosquito.org

EPA CONTINUES THEIR REVIEW OF OXITEC'S EXPERIMENTAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION FOR THE FRIENDLY™ MOSQUITO

August 9, 2018 – The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is continuing its review of Oxitec's Experimental Use Permit (EUP) application and the comments received during the two (2) 30-day public comment periods surrounding the release of Oxitec's *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes in Monroe County.

The Florida Keys Mosquito Control District (FKMCD) had expected the review to be complete sometime in July of this year. FKMCD anticipates a regulatory decision on the application by year's end.

The purpose of Oxitec's proposed pilot project is to determine the efficacy of Oxitec's *Aedes aegypti* Friendly™ mosquitoes as a control method of the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito in Monroe County.

"The *Aedes aegypti* is a very difficult mosquito to control," said Florida Keys Mosquito Control District (FKMCD) Executive Director Andrea Leal. "We are constantly looking at new technologies to combat this mosquito and we look forward to the EPA's review of the Oxitec mosquito."

The link to EPA's docket containing information on the EUP application is available on the FKMCD website (<http://www.keysmosquito.org>). For more information, please contact the Florida Keys Mosquito Control District by email (questions@keysmosquito.org) or phone (305-292-7190).

About the Florida Keys Mosquito Control District

The mission of the Florida Keys Mosquito Control District is to control the mosquito population using the most effective methods, techniques, equipment and insecticides; thus enhancing the quality of life for all residents and reducing the possibility of mosquito transmitted diseases.

Follow FKMCD on Twitter at [@FIKeysMosquito](https://twitter.com/FIKeysMosquito) and on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/FIKeysMosquito). For more information about the Florida Keys Mosquito Control District, please visit www.keysmosquito.org.