



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact:

Chad Huff, Public Education & Information Officer

O: 305.292.7190

C: 305.481-2207

E: chuff@keysmosquito.org

May 1, 2020

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Announces Approval of Experimental Use Permit

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced approval of the Experimental Use Permit (EUP) submitted by Oxitec for field trials for the use of genetically-modified male mosquitoes in the control of *Aedes aegypti*, the mosquito which is responsible for transmitting dengue, Zika, chikungunya, and yellow fever.

The Florida Keys and South Florida have seen an emergence of mosquito-borne diseases over the past decade, in which this technology, as well as other similar technologies, has the potential to assist in the control of these mosquitoes.

The next step is approval at the State-level, which is necessary to move forward with this groundbreaking trial in Monroe County. The Florida Keys Mosquito Control District looks forward to the review process by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS).

###

If you have questions please contact us at questions@keysmosquito.org or 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 and to download our smartphone app, please visit www.keysmosquito.org.

###