

**Region 1 New England  
SFIREG Meeting Report  
December 4-5, 2017**

**PreSFIREG Meeting**

November 14, 2017

EPA Lab Chelmsford, MA

**Attendance:**

EPA: Andrea Szylvian

Rob Koethe

Sharon Hayes

Vermont: Patti Casey

Cary Giugere

Linda Boccuzzo

Maine: Meghan Patterson

Cam Lay

New Hampshire: David Rousseau

Connecticut: Diane Jorsey

Massachusetts: Taryn LaScola

**EPA CID Presentation**

John Gauthier and Diane Chabot gave a short presentation explaining what CID is able to do for the states. They provided examples of some of the cases they have worked on and encouraged states to reach out to them if they need assistance and/or if states are dealing with a case that has FIFRA violations.

**EPA Review**

**New Strategic Plan:** The plan is still in draft form with the thought that the final version will come out in 2018.

**March 2018 Meeting (Regional PIRT):** One day inspector meeting will be held on March 20, 2018 in MA. This meeting will allow for the inspectors to obtain training that can be applied toward their federal credential. Presenters include: Chief Apiary Inspectors from ME and MA, USDA APHIS, and Clarke Aerial.

**Region 1 C&T Meeting:** Two tiered meeting for SLA C&T Programs and PSEP's. The first meeting will be held on January 29<sup>th</sup> and will be for SLA's. Reciprocity, State Programs and the new C&T Rule will be on

the agenda. The second meeting is a two day meeting that will be for SLA's and PSEP's. The meeting dates are March 26-27<sup>th</sup>.

**State Updates:**

**Drone/UAV:** a few companies have been contacting states to determine what kind of licensing is needed to fly Drone/UAV's. One company has offered to meet with **MA** in order to demonstrate their uses. When a date is set, MA will invite the other states to participate if they are interested.

**Marijuana/Hemp:** **ME** Governor vetoed recreational marijuana. **MA** legalized Hemp and Recreational marijuana was legalized over the summer and is currently developing a policy relative to pesticide use. **CT** developed a policy relative to Marijuana use that would allow for products to be used if it was a 25b product, labeled for indoor use, and it is exempt from food tolerances. **RI** has an established medical marijuana program. Production of industrial hemp has been approved, but regulations have not been promulgated.

**Pollinator Updates:** NH continues to develop their pollinator plan. ME is revising their plan and will expand it to contain sections on honey bees and other native pollinators. **CT** is closing in on the "end dates" that were put in place due to legislation that made all neonicotinoid products restricted use. They saw an increase in the agriculture community obtaining a license. **RI** has a pollinator working group that was formed from legislation. The findings/recommendations of the working group will constitute our MP3. **MA** had one bee kill due to pesticides. Fipronil was the pesticide found. There were some concerns from all the states relative to the proposed pollinator plan metrics.

**Vector of Public Health:** **NH, ME, and VT** have seen an increase in Lyme disease. **ME and VT** have seen an increase in Anaplasmosis. **NH, VT and MA** have seen an increase in West Nile Virus.

**Inspection/Investigation/Enforcement:** **MA and NH** noticed an increase in complaints against private mosquito and tick franchises/companies. **MA** registered the dry ice product "Rat Ice".