

EPA Region 9 Pre-SFIREG Meeting Report

Pre-SFIREG Meeting Date: October 26, 2022, at 3:00 pm PST

Meeting Location: Microsoft Teams

Report Prepared By: Bret Allen (NV) – Region 9 SFIREG Representative

In Attendance: Arizona, Hawaii, California (DPR), NV, America Samoa, and EPA R9

Arizona SLA will take over as the Region 9 SFIREG representative in June 2023.

Discussion topics prior to updates:

Environmental Justice (EJ): We started the meeting with a discussion on environmental justice (EJ). EJ related appendices are being proposed as amendments to current FIFRA Cooperative Agreement Guidance. The document includes tables that propose additional activities grantees may be interested in implementing to increase their focus on EJ work with current resources. Grantees are encouraged to seek assistance from their project officers on how to include some of the proposed voluntary activities. The first appendix document (EJ-related work) is already being conducted. Additional EJ work can be done if desired. However, there are no additional requirements for grantees beyond what the Cooperative Agreement Guidance requires. EPA staff then went over their mapping tool: EPA's Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping (<https://ejscreen.epa.gov/mapper/>).

Electronic recordkeeping: EPA's shift to all electronic record-keeping and best way for SLAs to submit inspection reports to EPA:

- Nevada: Utilizes SharePoint and Microsoft Planner. Inspection files can be safely shared with EPA staff.
- Arizona: In the final stages of going 100% paperless; will be using software called GoAnywhere.
- California: Paperless and using OneDrive. Uses GoAnywhere only for the rare occasion of collecting CBI documents.
- Hawaii: Utilizes Dropbox.
- Some Tribes: Using CDX but EPA unsure about its security.

Feedback from states, islands, and tribes on certain potential issues; their responses are below.

Arizona:

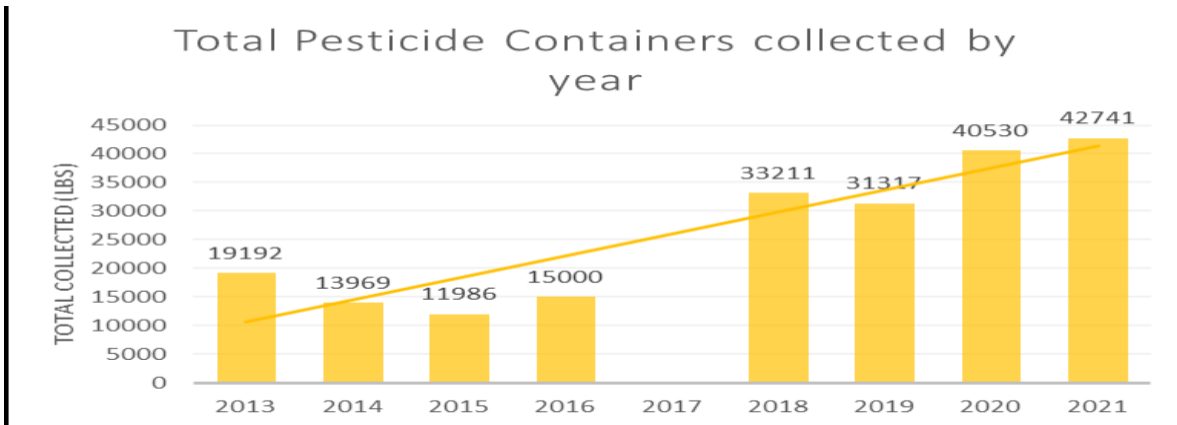
- No issue papers.
- C&T: Their plan is at EPA Headquarters for final approval. Staff is starting to work on their states legislative process.
- Working to improve their continuing education training program.

California:

- Department of Pesticide Regulation:
 - C&T plan is approved.
 - Working on legislative process to incorporate the revisions.
 - Also working on revising manuals and exams but are concerned there will be a high fail rate with the new exams.

Nevada:

- No new issues.
- C&T plan is a HQ for final approval.
- NDA staff is currently reviewing manuals and exams to ensure they contain the new federal standards.
- Chlorpyrifos: All Chlorpyrifos products that were labeled for food will be cancelled by 12/31/2022. Staff is currently taking old products into its pesticide waste disposal program.
- Pesticide Container Recycling:
 - NV is currently cooperating with Ag Container Recycling Council (ACRC), Interstate Ag Plastics (IAP) and the state’s pesticide users to implement a convenient and effective container recycling program.
 - Total pounds collected and recycled since 2013:



Year	Lyon	Humboldt	Washoe	Pershing	Totals
2013	19,192	0	0		19,192
2014	8,470	5,499	0		13,969
2015	8,562	3,424	0		11,986
2016	5,000	5,000	5,000		15,000
2017					
2018	15,134	6,232	11,845		33,211
2019	18,815	5,987	5,660	855	31,317
2020	24,405	10,148	5,977		40,530
2021	26,512	5,756	10,473		42,741
Total (lbs)	126,090	42,046	38,955	855	207,946

Hawaii:

- C&T plan is approved.
- Chlorpyrifos: By January 1, 2023, chlorpyrifos will be banned in HI; this will be passed in their state legislature.

American Samoa:

- C&T: Plan is almost finalized; working on final edits.
- Working on regulation revisions and notifying applicators of the changes.

EPA:

- Region 9 staff provide an update on plan review and approval:
 - No tribal plans submitted.
 - 7 SLA plans submitted; 2 approved.
 - 3 plans are at HQ for final signature.
 - Federal Agency Plans:
 - 5 plans approved; 1 EPA-administered plan or Indian country is under review.