

Legislative & Regulatory Committee Update

November 2018

The AMCA Board met this month and voted to join the [Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International \(AUVSI\)](#). The AUVSI [strategic plan](#) includes elements that are in line with the goals and concerns expressed by AMCA members who participated in the 2018 Mosquito Control UAS survey.

AMCA will renew our membership with [Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment \(RISE\)](#). RISE is the national trade association representing manufacturers, formulators, distributors and other industry leaders involved with specialty pesticides. Their expertise will be extremely valuable over the next year as we collaborate with partner organizations and regulatory agencies to evaluate pesticide uses and their impacts on people and the environment.

Good news on its way soon regarding National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System ([NPDES](#)) [legislation](#) - either Congress will be sensible and finally eliminate the permit requirement for pesticide applications, or we can move forward knowing we did everything we could to educate lawmakers and attempt to make the government more efficient.

AMCA needs all hands on deck in 2019 to address Endangered Species Act (ESA) issues. Currently, Joe Conlon is preparing comments on the proposed listing of the [Eastern Black Rail](#). If you feel this action will negatively impact your mosquito control operations, comment directly at [Regulations.gov](#) or contact [Joe Conlon](#), AMCA Technical Advisor, to communicate your concerns before December 9th.

In mid-September, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) released their "[Handbook for Mosquito Management on National Wildlife Refuges.](#)" To those of you who plan to submit applications for Special Use Permits (SUPs)-from the USFWS for your 2019 control operations on-refuge, [Bill Meredith](#) would appreciate your feedback over the next several months concerning any impacts of the new Handbook (for good or bad) regarding contents or special conditions coming from the Service in your 2019 SUPs, so we can better serve you.

Bill will be presenting an overview of the Handbook at our AMCA Annual Meeting in Orlando during the Legislative and Regulatory Symposium, at which time he'll share the latest updates. The L&R Symposium will be short and sweet, because there are sessions specifically for Unmanned Aircraft and ESA/Pollinators. Plan on attending the AMCA Annual Meeting and the Washington Conference in May in order to maximize your impact on the future of mosquito control in 2019.

For additional information on L&R topics contact [Angela Beehler](#).