

December 2012 Employee of the Month
Ryan Higgins-Environmental Analyst 3
Regulation Division

Ryan completed the task of checking more than 300 existing water use permits for quality control well ahead of schedule. It was a long and tedious assignment and Ryan accomplished it before the 4-month deadline and used the extra time to begin getting the non-compliant permittees back into compliance.

We applaud Ryan's successful efforts. It is a testament to the District's measure of success in "earned value." Congratulations, Ryan!

December 2012 Team of the Month
The Tropical Storm Isaac Response Team

Team Members:

- Charles Walker
- James Sconyers Jr.
- Joseph Williams
- Orelvis Ruiz
- Randy Jarvis
- Johnnie Brown
- Steven Congleton
- Norman Holligan
- Bill Peek
- Brandon Wells
- Carlos Sierra
- Chester Merrill
- Chris Boudreau
- Chris Holling
- Dan Jones
- David Chastain
- Doug Updike
- Hurdley Mitchell
- Gilberto Deleon
- James Binns
- Jerry Bennett
- John Burns
- John Zaballa
- Junior Jean-Pierre
- Larry Albrecht
- Lee Blau
- Michael Parrish
- Miguel Rodriguez
- Richard Smith
- Robert Richardson
- Robert Congleton
- Sandy Lee
- Steven Rucker
- William Jones
- Ricky Jordan
- Jack Theriault
- Robbie Rimes
- Kent Farmer
- Scott Cowham
- Jeff Lamb
- Travis McElroy
- Chad Burnsed
- Greg Hoyle
- Gerry Mixon
- Robert Hancock
- Robert Prescott
- John Moody
- Frank Morales
- Phil Perez
- Joe Zappia
- Jose Guardiario
- Jorge Jaramillo
- Tom McKernan

December 2012 Team of the Month
The Tropical Storm Isaac Response Team

Management Honorable Mention:

- Joel Arrieta
- Jeff Kivett
- Richard Champlin
- Tom DeBold
- Craig Clements
- Lucine Dadrian
- Greg Cantelo
- John Mitnik
- Mike Gallagher

December 2012 Team of the Month
The Tropical Storm Isaac Response Team

Following Tropical Storm Isaac, District staff organized local flooding relief efforts in the areas of western Palm Beach County most heavily affected by the storm. Some areas received almost 15 inches of rainfall in 72 hours. The unprecedented rainfall raised water levels and resulted in significant localized flooding, particularly in the Indian Trails Improvement District.

Team members surveyed flooding issues, performed inspections and installed temporary pumps. They constructed a 140-foot weir and flow-way channel redirecting water from the Corbett Area to the Mecca property and into the C-18 Canal. These efforts helped equalize water levels between the Corbett Area and The Acreage.

The team is commended for their rapid response, technical skills, professionalism and exceptional customer service while working in partnership with Palm Beach County, Indian Trails Improvement District, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, local law enforcement and local communities. Their actions were greatly appreciated and left a lasting impression to shine a positive light on the District. Congratulations!

35 Years of Service Recognition
Paul Trimble - Scientist Principal
Water Resources Division

Paul was hired in November of 1977 as an Engineer I in the Resources Planning Department and helped develop the SFWMD Model during the late 1970s and early 1980s. He was the main author for the Regional Routing Model, which simulated Lake Okeechobee, the Water Conservation Area and the agricultural and urban areas. Primarily due to Paul's work over the years, the District has an excellent reputation for innovations in using climate information for the operation of large-scale water resources systems.

Paul's perseverance and research led the way for his colleagues to learn about El Nino, La Nina and other linkages to global phenomena to South Florida climate. His innovations in the development of a regulation schedule for Lake Okeechobee using seasonal and multi-seasonal climate outlook produced the WSE -- for Water Supply and Environment. The monthly Lake Okeechobee Position Analysis is attributed to Paul's innovations.

Today, Paul's experience and insight into the status of climate and how it may evolve over weeks and months is invaluable at the weekly operational meetings. Congratulations, Paul, on 35 years of dedicated service!