

June 2011 Employee of the Month

Nimmy Jeyakumar, Acting Section Leader

Federal & State Policy Division

Nimmy has consistently demonstrated a strong work ethic and the great coordination skills needed to navigate federal, state and local permitting processes. Permit applications for projects such as Biscayne Bay Coastal Wetlands, the Cutler Flow-Way Project and the Compartments B and C buildouts have been completed through her efforts.

Nimmy also played a leading role in permitting and permit coordination efforts for the pilot test to provide water for the Northwest Fork of the Loxahatchee River. The project was under a strict timetable, and starting the pilot test wouldn't have been possible without her contributions.

In addition to performing her usual role in obtaining permits, permit renewals, compliance and related coordination, Nimmy has stepped up to be the Acting Section Leader for the permitting group under the Federal and State Policy Division.

Nimmy has done an outstanding job in all of these areas. Congratulations on being selected as June's employee of the month.

June 2011 Team of the Month

The Loxahatchee River Deliveries Pilot Project Team

Team Members:

- David Swift
- Don Medellin
- Bob Verrastro
- Nimmy Jeyakumar
- Laura Reilly
- Beth Lewis
- Brad Robbins
- Matt Powers
- George Paluga
- Brent Warner
- Kim Hanes
- Yongshan Wan
- Guy Germain
- Scott Huebner
- John Raymond
- Mario Mayes-Fernandez
- Asif Mohamed
- Surajeet Ghosh
- Alan Buzard
- Craig Clemons
- Robert Congleton
- Donald Crutchley
- Lesra Harris
- William Jones
- Douglas Kessler
- Douglas Lott
- Michael Nicholson
- Rafael Rodriguez
- Christopher Williams
- Duane Smith
- William Faircloth

June 2011 Team of the Month

The Loxahatchee River Deliveries Pilot Project Team

The L-8 Reservoir Pilot Test Team executed a 30 day pilot test program to pump water from the L-8 Reservoir eastward into Grassy Waters Preserve and the NW Fork of the Loxahatchee River during the 2011 dry season. This team developed a technical memorandum inclusive of permit requirements and operating protocols that were presented to both the Loxahatchee River Water Management Coordinating Council and WRAC to receive stakeholder and public input.

Based on feedback received, the team obtained the necessary regulatory approval, managed a complex operating and maintenance plan and collected water quality, hydrologic and flow data for the pump test period. This effort required extensive internal and external coordination and execution of complex tasks within a very short timeframes.

This team remained committed throughout the process to ensure implementation success. This project has resulted in the use of discharges from the L-8 Reservoir and provided a better understanding of the surface water management system in the Loxahatchee River Watershed including deliveries to the NW Fork of the Loxahatchee River during the dry season. There is no doubt that without the knowledge and dedication of the committed team, the successful completion of the pump test project would not have been possible.

25 Years of Service Recognition

James Catalano, Structure Maintenance Technician (Field)

Ft. Lauderdale Field Station Division

Since 1987, about a year after he started working at the South Florida Water Management District, Jimmy has been an important member on the Structure Maintenance team.

Jimmy is a skilled technician with a deep well of institutional knowledge and mechanical expertise. Time and again, he has demonstrated his ability to troubleshoot complex jobs and tackle major structure overhauls. He can always be counted on to provide creative solutions to technical problems.

The District has also benefited from Jimmy's expertise as an outdoorsman. The airboat tours he's given over the years have helped many elected officials, including several members of Congress, gain a greater understanding of the District's work.

Jimmy has always demonstrated a passion for the work we do at the District, and we are fortunate to have him as a member of the team.

Thank you, Jimmy Catalano, for giving the District 25 years of dedicated service.

30 Years of Service Recognition

Larry Davis, Crew Chief, Okeechobee Field Station Division

Larry spent his first days at the South Florida Water Management District wielding a paintbrush and sandblasting equipment as a field worker. Soon, he was promoted to maintenance mechanic trades helper and later to pump station assistant. Today, he's a crew chief for the structure maintenance crew that he's worked with for 30 years.

Along the way, Larry has participated in significant projects, including major overhauls at navigation locks S-65A, S-193 and S-65E; navigation lock repairs at S-131; the demolition of S-65B; and several gate change outs. He has also provided support for the mowing, fence, electrical and survey crews.

Larry has long been a valuable member of the District team. Congratulations on your 30 years of service.