

# Loxahatchee River District

Water Reclamation | Environmental Education | River Restoration

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D. Albrey Arrington, Ph.D., Executive Director

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Albrey Arrington, Executive Director

FROM: Tom Vaughn, Director of Operations

DATE: February 5, 2016

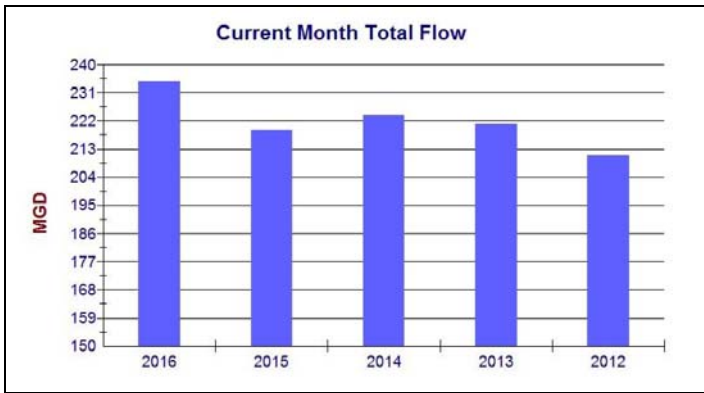
SUBJECT: Operations Department Monthly  
Report for January 2016

### Treatment Plant Division

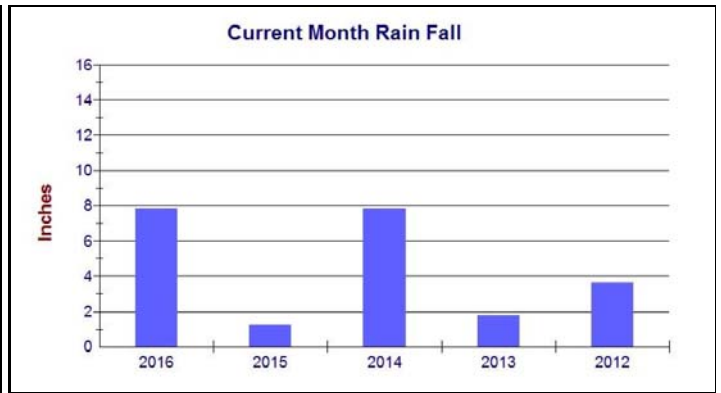
For the month of January, operations continued its efforts to enhance the skills and knowledge of its employees by providing Florida D.E.P. wastewater exam preparation classes. Twice a month, employees participating in these classes are given real world scenario training as well as wastewater concepts and principles. The classes are primarily geared towards assisting employees in obtaining a higher D.E.P. certification. In the process, the operators are refreshing their existing knowledge. Another facet of our training process is the cross training of employees from traditionally different disciplines. These include operations, maintenance, collections, and reuse. The cross training provides for a more experienced and cohesive workforce and has generated a lot of excitement.



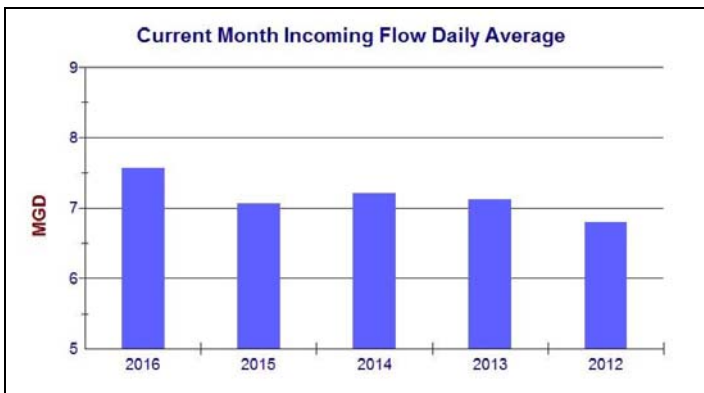
**We have had another great month of no Permit exceedances.**



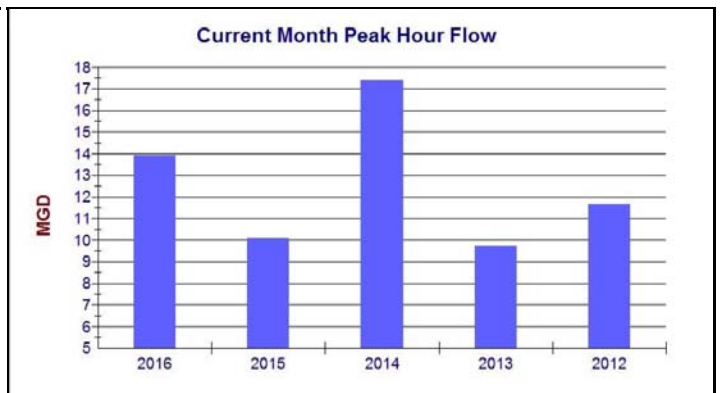
The plant total flow for the month of January was 234.71 million gallons.



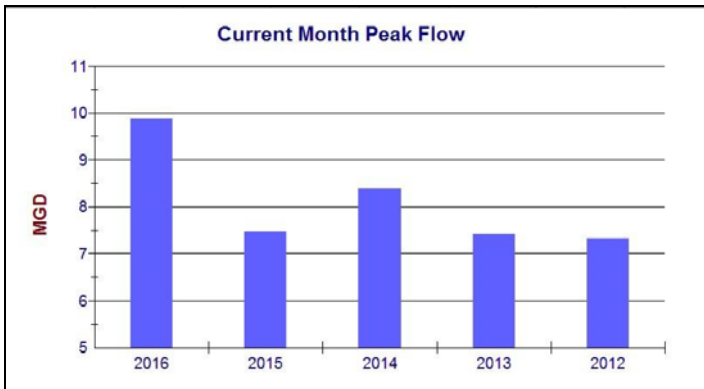
7.85 inches of rainfall were recorded at the plant site during the month of January.



The treatment plant incoming flow for the month of January averaged 7.57 MGD compared to 7.06 MGD one year ago for the same month.

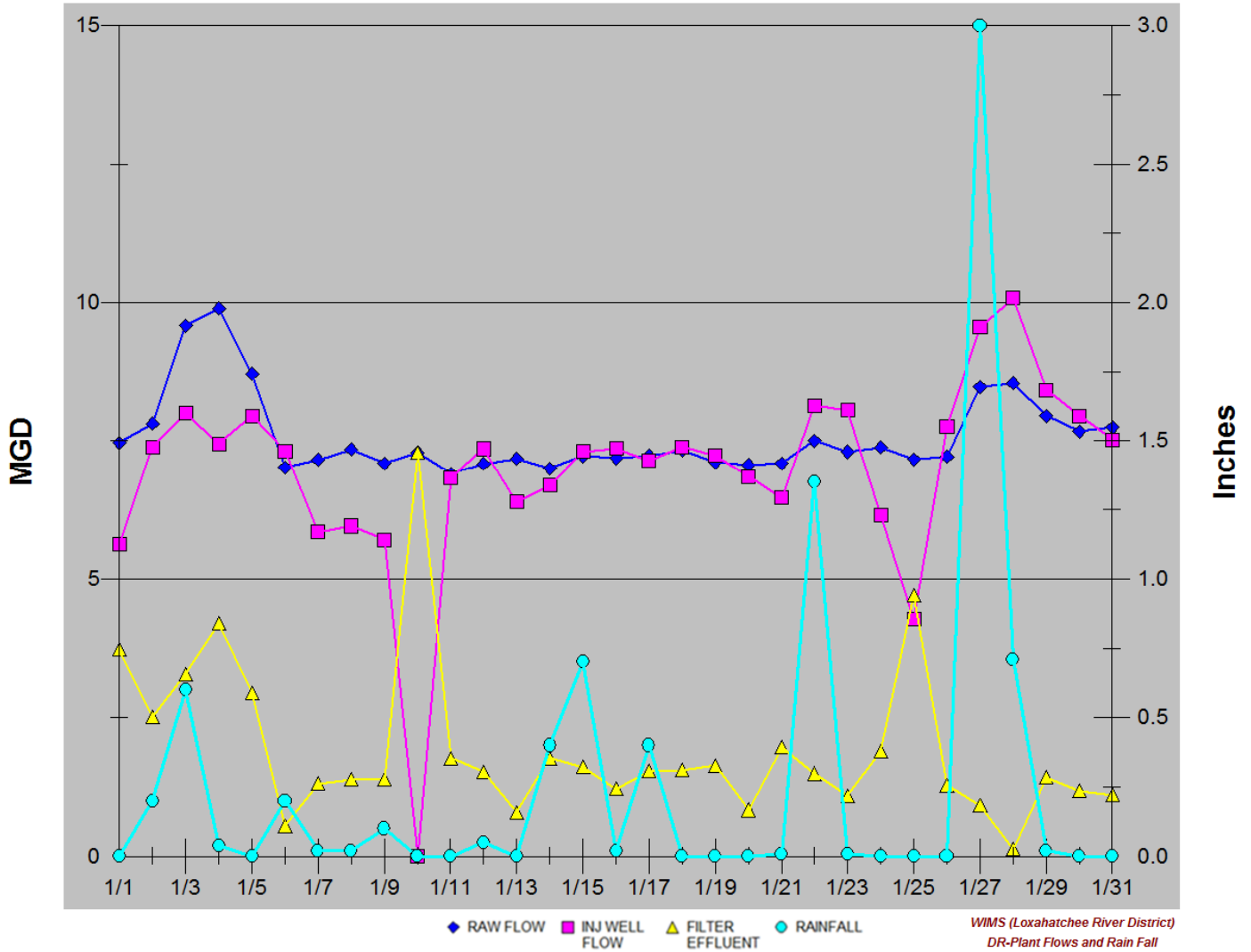


The peak hourly flow rate in January was 13.92 MGD.



The greatest single day average flow in January was 9.89 MGD.

The plant received 234.71 MG of influent flow of which 60.07 million gallons were sent to the IQ storage system where they were dispersed as needed to the various golf courses and the Abacoa development sites. Due to wet weather conditions and 7.85 inches of rain during the month, 216.17 million gallons of blended effluent was diverted to the Injection Well. Overall, 25.59% of incoming flows was recycled for IQ use and the plant delivered 37.81 million gallons of IQ water to the Reuse customers.



For the year 2016, the plant recycled 25.59% of all incoming flow and the total amount of IQ water delivered to reuse customers stands at 37.81 million gallons.

All required monthly reporting has been submitted on time.

## Safety / Compliance

**TRAINING.** Training for the month of January focused on Permit Required Confined Spaces. Each employee involved in performing an entry into a confined space will have a specific duty. The responsibilities of the Entry Supervisor are to issue a work permit with detailed descriptions of the location, equipment needed and the work to be performed.

The Entrant must make entry into the space and complete the work described on the issued permit. The Attendant must be positioned immediately outside the space and be in constant communication with the entrant to monitor their safety at all times and record atmospheric conditions inside the space. Equipment essential to make a safe entry will include a means of ingress/egress; in most cases a ladder. Fall protection/retrieval system which will aid in the case of a slip and fall or will allow for a “non-entry” rescue of any entrant who may become incapacitated.

Gas detection equipment must also be used to accurately monitor the atmospheric conditions inside the space before and during entry. The levels of oxygen, hydrogen sulfide, carbon monoxide and lower explosive limits (LEL) must be observed on a continuous basis.



**Above Picture:** Retrieval System Training

**D.E.P.** The District hosted the DEP certification testing on January 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. Two testing sessions were held each day, morning and afternoon. Over one hundred people attended in the hope of advancing their current license or certification status. After having the opportunity to speak with many of the attendees, I must convey the many compliments the District receives regarding our facility, staff and hospitality.

One of the comments was “This place is amazing, are you hiring?”



**Active Shooter Training.** The Palm Beach County Sheriff's office visited the River Center and Treatment Facility properties during the month of January. Their mission was to educate District employees about the preventative measures, dangers and defensive tactics that may be encountered or used during an "active shooter" scenario. This program was developed by Homeland Security and used by PBSO to demonstrate how broad and rapidly evolving these situations may be.

The foundation of the training is based on three core decisions to either Run, Hide or Fight.

These three tactics were reviewed, for which would be your best response during such a situation, given your location at the time.



The District has no injuries or accidents to report for the month of January.

## Collections and Transmissions Division

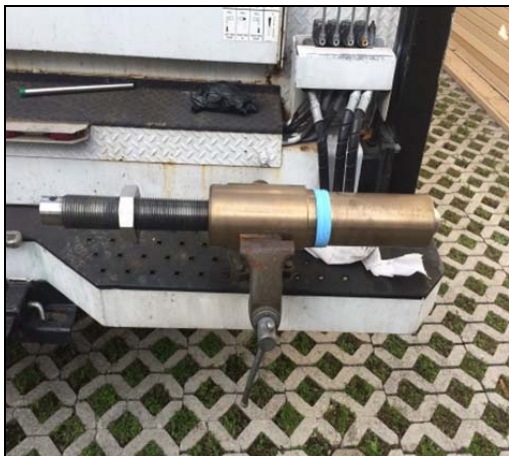


**LEFT.** On the District's plant site, the upgrade to the bypass line on the POC (point of connection) for Nano filtration concentrate from the Town of Jupiter water treatment plant was completed. The bypass line has been painted with a fresh coat.

**RIGHT.** At the District Warehouse a lot happens daily. One of the regular responsibilities is the loading of one of many of the field's submersible pumps. New and rebuilt pumps for field Collection crews go into and out of the warehouse throughout a budget year.



**BELOW.** At Abacoa Booster station #200, the District Collection crew set up to install the new backflow actuator hardware on the new 20 inch check valve. The project was scheduled and the force main section was isolated and drained so that the installation could be performed. The purpose of the new hardware is to keep the check valve open if reverse flow to the East is needed.



**BELOW.** On the District's plant site, Reclaimed Master pump station; #511 received new signage. It was installed for information and visitor protection. Students from Jupiter High school work and take care of the new fruit trees near the pump station and storage lake #4.



**BELOW.** For the reporting month, eight (8) new low pressure systems came online in the Low Pressure Pump Station System.

The District's Vac Con Crew cleaned the following lift stations in January 2016: # 172, 24, 159, 9, 154, 83, 175, 193, 53, 224, 249, 52, 76, and 16.



## Maintenance

**RIGHT.** The annual cleaning and inspection of the bar screen weir have been conducted and completed in January. Maintenance is cross training with the Operations team to familiarize all personnel with the on-site equipment.



**LEFT.** The elbow of the Vac Con was removed because it was worn through and unusable. Maintenance crew members were able to remove the worn section of piping and install a new plate, which extended the useful life of this equipment. The new plate was installed and received an outer plate that was mounted and painted.





## **Tidbits from Tom**

January, 2016 – Happy New Year



“If you want something you’ve never had – you have to do something you’ve never done.”

Three New Year’s resolutions for employees in 2016!

1. The first resolution is to speak up inside of your organization. Many times when employees are frustrated and unhappy with something they tend to keep it to themselves. Tell your supervisor.
2. Resolution number two is to think like an entrepreneur, but inside your company as an “intrapreneur.”
3. The third resolution is to take charge of your own education and talent development. We cannot rely on educational institutions or on our organizations to give all of the necessary educational content that is needed to develop professionally and personally.

All three resolutions will help to make 2016 your best year of work yet!

### ***Perspective:***

“Don’t worry about failure. Worry about the chances you miss when you don’t even try.” – Sherman Finesilver

**See ya’ at the Top – (That’s near Cheese Station “N”)**

**Tom Vaughn  
Director of Operations**