

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: May 11, 2016

SUBJECT: Operations Department Monthly
Report for April 2016

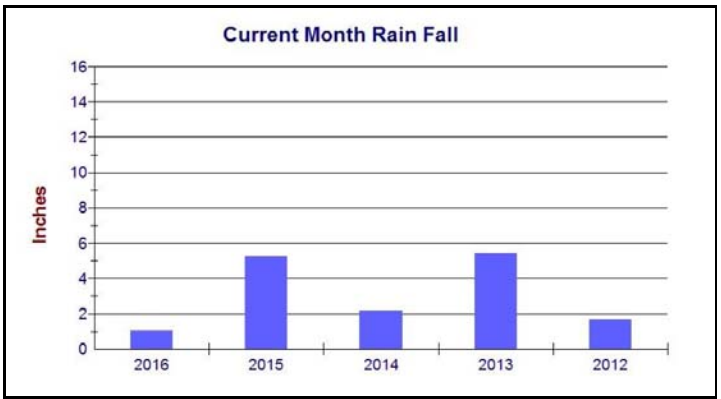
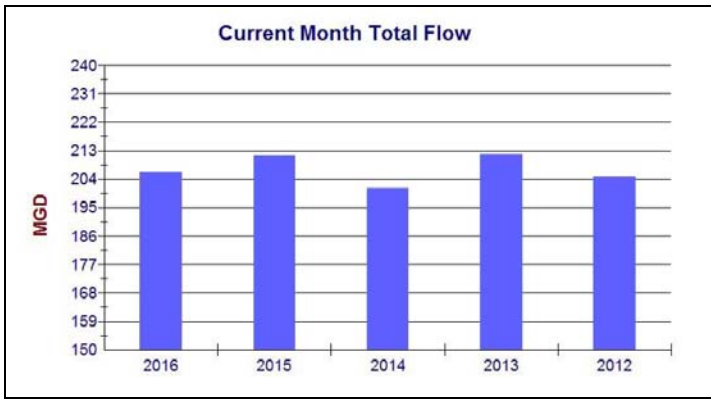
Treatment Plant Division

April was a very busy month with the Mechanical Integrity Test being performed on our injection well, the replacement of an FP&L transformer at electrical room # 3, and the David W. York water reuse award luncheon for 2015.

The Mechanical Integrity Test, also referred to as the M.I.T., was successful. Hazen and Sawyer and Florida D.E.P. representatives were on site to monitor the process and evaluate the data. The FP&L transformer by electrical room #3 showed signs of wear and was deemed replaceable by FP&L. The plant was placed on generators and a new transformer was installed.

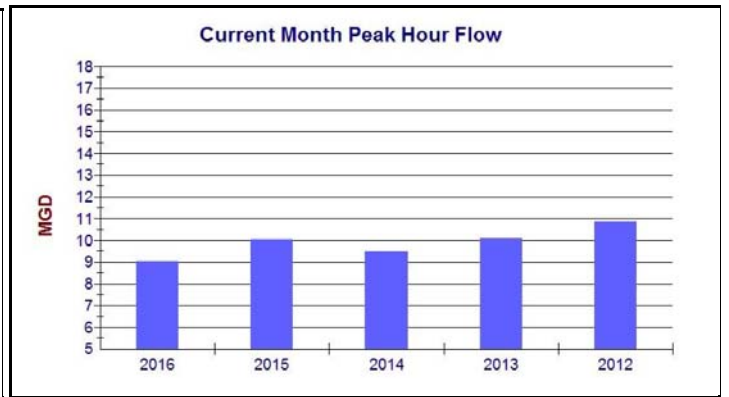
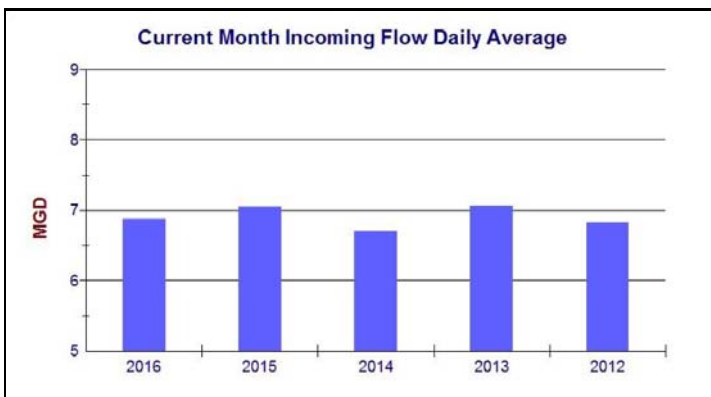


We have had another great month of no Permit exceedances.



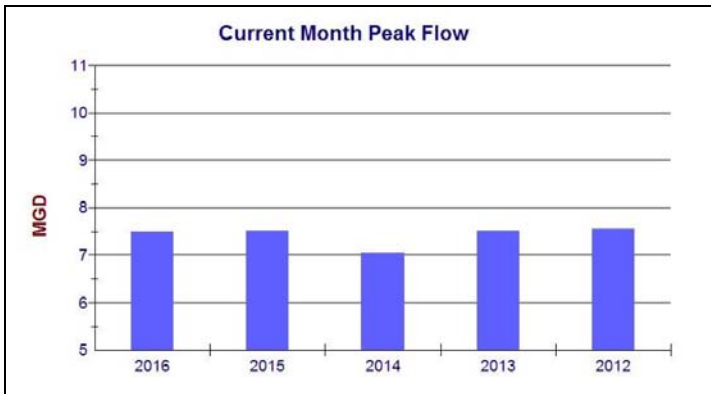
The plant total flow for the month of April was 206.10 million gallons.

1.01 inches of rainfall were recorded at the plant site during the month of April.



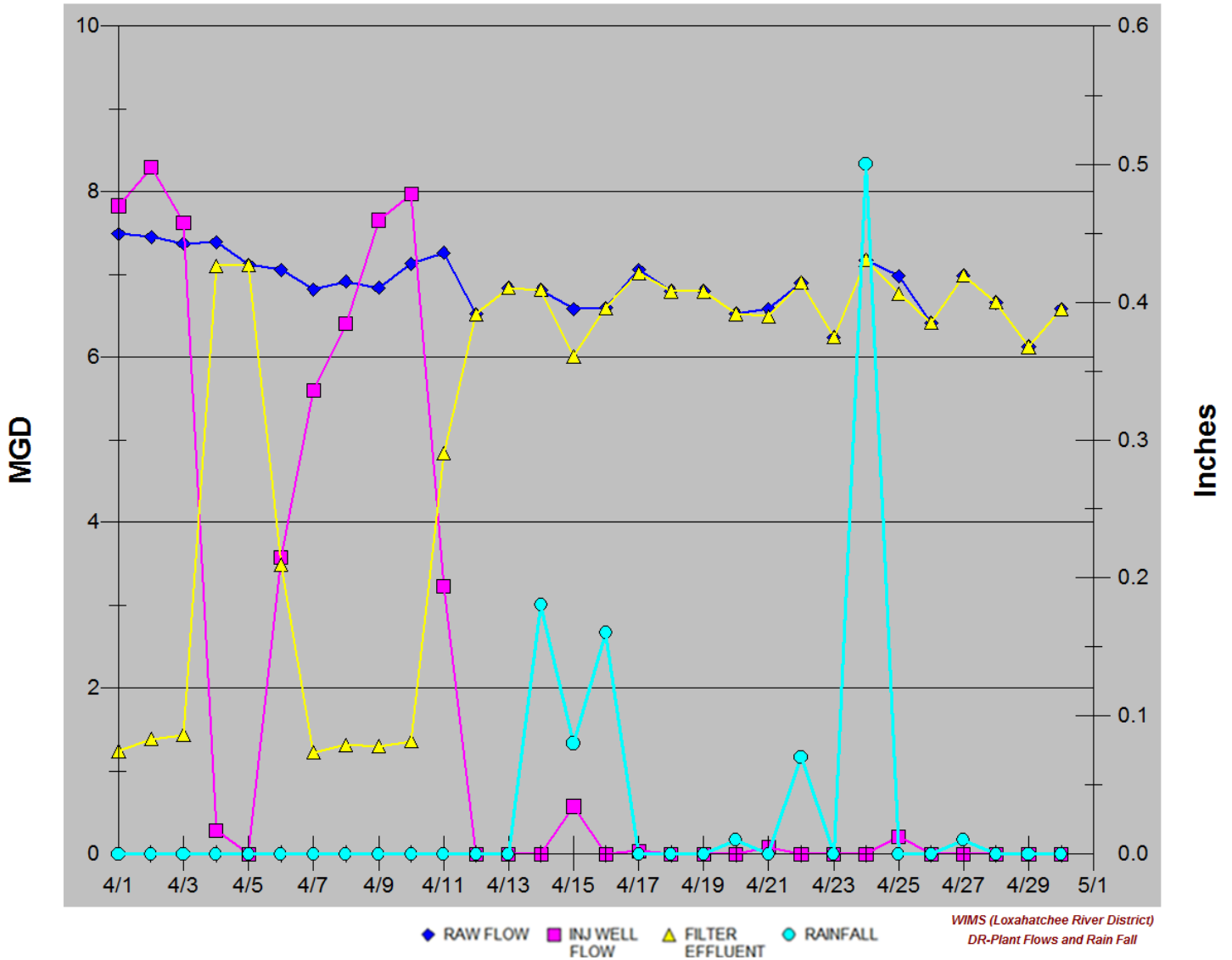
The treatment plant incoming flow for the month of April averaged 6.87 MGD compared to 7.05 MGD one year ago for the same month.

The peak hourly flow rate in April was 9.05 MGD.



The greatest single day average flow in April was 7.49 MGD.

The plant received 206.10 MG of influent flow of which 158.16 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 1.01 inches of rain during the month, 59.39 million gallons of blended effluent was diverted to the Injection Well. Overall, 76.74% of incoming flows was recycled for IQ use and the plant delivered 168.64 million gallons of IQ water to the Reuse customers.



For the year 2016, the plant recycled 42.88% of all incoming flow and the total amount of IQ water delivered to reuse customers stands at 393.97 million gallons.

All required monthly reporting has been submitted on time.

Safety / Compliance

TRAINING. Training for the month of April reviewed the hazards of Flammable Liquids. District employees learned the proper handling, storage, and use of flammable liquids. Flammable liquids are classified as any liquid having a flash point below 100°F (37.8°C).

It should be mentioned that the flash point was selected for the basis of classification because of the liquid's ability to generate vapors. It is the liquid's vapors that become the primary factor in determining the fire hazard since it is the vapor, not the liquid itself which burns.



D.E.P. The DEP requested a copy of the District's Spill Response Plan, as a template for other agencies to use as a guideline in developing their own plan.

The District's Spill Response Plan was chosen for the clean layout and thorough instructions to be followed in the event of a wastewater spill. The plan also contains contact information for all parties involved to make communication to and from users clear and precise.



The District has no injuries or lost time to report for the month of April.

Collections and Transmissions Division

BELOW. Waldo Cruz (Chief Operator), Anthony Nicoletto (Maintenance Foreman), Kevin Skellenger (Field Superintendent), and Alan Lopatosky (SCADA Systems Specialist) attended the 2016 FWRC (Florida Water Resources Conference) to receive the David W. York Award (Best Reuse Facility in the State of Florida 5-15 MGD) and the Best Large Collection System of the Year Award. Albrey Arrington (Executive Director) co-authored a presentation at the conference, and crashed the awards party.



RIGHT. Dr. Rostock, LRD Board Member, attended the LRD award picnic to express his appreciation to the staff for a job well done.



BELOW. LRD Collections Crew does a great job maintaining our collection system.



RIGHT. Residents of Little Oaks neighborhood began hooking up to recently installed sanitary sewer system;

Lift station #177 went on-line per District Engineering Department April 2016



BELOW. For reporting month, eleven (11) new low pressure systems came online in the low pressure pump station system.

District Vac Con Crew cleaned the following lift stations in April 2016; #171, 40, 209, 248, 163, 224, 37, 4, 206, 87, 83, 174, 34, 35, 158, 163, 121, 62, 61, and 105.

District Engineering one (1) year Bond inspections; none scheduled for reporting month

During reporting month, there were no major systems or equipment failures in Collection/Transmission systems that caused emergency or systems to not operate normally.



PICTURED. The Collections crew and Vac Con operators assisted in the cleaning of clarifier #2.

Maintenance

BELOW. The maintenance shop is conducting preventive maintenance on the blowers. The Maintenance department is training operational staff members on shaft alignment. The alignment of the blower and the motor are imperative to the longevity of the bearings.



The pump impeller was worn down to a sharp point and was in need of repair or replacement. The worn section of the pump was welded to build up the area for machining. The welding and machine work has been completed in house and is as good as factory.



Tidbits from Tom

April, 2016 - Memorial Day will be arriving in late May. This is a time to remember soldiers who have fought and died in service of the United States.

*"We cherish too, the Poppy red
That grows on fields where valor led,
It seems to signal to the skies
That blood of heroes never dies." – Moina Michael*



Moreover, we honor heroes of all classes in sharing the story below of a man whose mission it was to erect a monument in remembrance of fallen soldiers.



Claire Veech, commander of American Legion Post 54 in Gunnison, Colo., and fellow Vietnam War veteran Ralph Pike look over Soldierstone during Pike's first visit last summer. Photo by Lucas Carter

BY HENRY HOWARD

Editor's note: To honor the wishes of Soldierstone's creator, The American Legion Magazine will not release specific information related to the memorial's location.

In a vast, open field at 10,000 feet of elevation in the 1.8-million-acre Rio Grande National Forest stands a mysterious war memorial called Soldierstone.

Winding dirt and gravel roads leading to it are often blocked by snow or floods even in the summer. When roads are passable, travelers find the terrain challenging yet serene. The nearest ranger station is about 15 miles away, on the edge of a small Colorado town where two diners and a gas station are the only shopping options.

Given the memorial's remote location, it's no

HONORING OUR HEROES

surprise that few people visit Soldierstone. In fact, it is more common for cattle to be grazing in the field than

for people to be gazing at the memorial.

Visitors who do make it to the memorial often leave tributes: U.S. flags, campaign service medals, spent shell casings, coins and more.

Claire Veech, commander of American Legion Post 54 in Gunnison, Colo., says he usually leaves a .308 shell casing when he visits. "It's more or less to signify to the guys, here's ammo. 'You are still fighting.'"

Veech accompanies veterans and others who are curious. "When I first heard about it, Soldierstone meant nothing to me," says Veech, who was a Blue Water sailor during the Vietnam War. "Since I have been here maybe a dozen times, it means more. Most veterans I bring up are pretty impressed."

THE MAN BEHIND THE MEMORIAL Soldierstone's history is largely secret and its meaning often misinterpreted.

Stuart Allen Beckley, a retired Army lieutenant colonel and Vietnam veteran, was the visionary, architect and fundraiser for Soldierstone. His sister, Phyllis Roy, says he trained troops in Thailand and worked with armies in Vietnam, Korea, Cambodia and Laos.

One selfless act of courage propelled Beckley to make it his mission in life to honor those who assisted U.S. troops.

"He was impressed with a 10-year-old boy who had both legs blown off and crawled to the post to give a message to the Americans, which saved their lives," Roy remembers. "That experience just really impressed him so much - that so many people gave their lives, or jeopardized their lives. He just felt that they should be recognized."

Beckley clung to those memories while he spent a couple of years surveying the Continental Divide for the perfect spot for Soldierstone. He focused on finding a secretive location so the memorial would be shielded from vandals. He wanted to find "a remote place where people who should be looking at it would have access, but not in a place where anybody could tear it apart," Roy says. "He was

En mourant, afin qu'au moins l'honneur est sauve
- Dying, so that honor at least may be saved.

(Stone that serves as a memorial to the French who fell at the siege of Dien Bien Phu in 1954.)

Men Moulay Idriss djina Ja rebi taffou alina
- We come from the Sultan.

May God have mercy on our souls.

(This quote comes from a marching chant of the Moroccan Tirailleurs. It honors Arab North African soldiers who fought with the French Union forces in Indochina.)

During his first visit, Ralph Pike focused on a few key words etched on the tablets. "Valor and honor and sacrifice - those three words," says Pike, who served in the Army Reserve during the Vietnam era and is a member of Post 54. "It's really what it's about. It's about defending our country, doing something for someone other than yourself."

Soldierstone is "profound," he adds. "I have been to the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, D.C., where friends are memorialized. This is a little different."

concerned about people destroying it because Vietnam was such a sticky war."

Beckley spent 20 years and tens of thousands of dollars planning, designing and erecting the memorial. "He did everything for this memorial except physically construct it," Roy says. "He wanted to pay tribute to the French Legionnaires, U.S. allies in Southeast Asia and private citizens who helped the Americans."

The final design shows painstaking precision and heartfelt devotion. At the memorial's center is a 10-foot-tall monument with stone tablets on all four sides, surrounded by a triangular rock wall that suggests an abandoned outpost from Southeast Asia. Outside the wall are 36 300-pound granite stones in three concentric circles, representing soldiers defending the base. Each of the 36 stones contains quotes in languages of the Americans' allies: Vietnamese, French, Laotian, Cambodian and others.

Chết trong hơn sống đục

- Better to die in honor than live in disgrace.

(Vietnamese stone dedicated to those who gave their lives in the final days of the Republic of Vietnam.)

A DREAM REALIZED The project took on a sense of urgency in April 1994, when Beckley was diagnosed with terminal cancer.

After receiving federal approval for Soldierstone to occupy national park land, he spent months planning the installation. When that time came, a team composed of volunteers, the Army's 10th Special Forces Group, U.S. Forest Service personnel and a Colorado memorial firm completed the installation in one week. Soldiers took on the most difficult task: hauling the heavy stones up the mountain.

The memorial was dedicated July 14, 1995, in a small ceremony. Beckley's poor health prevented him from attending, though the event's details were relayed to him.

"When the Army chaplain began his blessing, it began to sprinkle, then the sun came out," says Roy, whose brother died in November 1995 without seeing the memorial in person. "He thought it meant that God was blessing it. My brother had tears in his eyes, which was very unusual." 🕊

Henry Howard is deputy director of The American Legion's Media and Communications Division.

See ya' at the Top - (That's near Cheese Station "N")

Tom Vaughn
Director of Operations