

United States Department of the Interior

U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
Office of Surface Water
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Memorandum

October 4, 2012

TO: Mark Weimer, USGS, Laurel, MD

FROM: John R. Gray, U.S. Geological Survey Representative, Subcommittee on Sedimentation, Reston, VA, on behalf of Subcommittee on Sedimentation Chair Marie Garsjo

SUBJECT: Subcommittee on Sedimentation's Project Development Award for Kevin Laurent, U.S. Geological Survey

The Advisory Committee on Water Information's Subcommittee on Sedimentation (SOS) has voted unanimously to confer its Project Development Award to Kevin Laurent, U.S. Geological Survey, Reston, Virginia.

Kevin is an integral member of the SOS's Reservoir Sedimentation (RESSED) database programming team. In his capacity as the project database management system expert, he took RESSED's predecessor, RESIS-II – an abomination of a database that had its origins in the 1950s – and from a morass of convoluted and conflicting information, reverse-engineered a logical database schema.

Kevin then used the schema to port RESIS-II data to RESSED, where the data could be easily manipulated and accessed. Kevin also developed output RESSED output functions in at least two formats: XML for generic use, and as detailed manager-useable reports on the rates that many of RESSED's 2,000+ reservoirs are losing capacity.

Kevin's efforts have spanned more than two years. Without his expertise and perseverance, the version of RESSED now being used by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers would not exist.

Hence, it is my pleasure to present the Subcommittee on Sedimentation's Project Development Award to Kevin Laurent, along with the considerable appreciation from the SOS.

cc: Kevin Laurent
Marie Garsjo