

VVWRA captures 7 awards at 2024 DAMS Banquet

VVWRA and its staff won 7 awards at the 2024 CWEA DAMS Awards Banquet in Helendale. It was one of the largest wins for VVWRA in recent history, and all the winners will now be considered for the statewide awards, which will be presented in April in Palm Springs. Among the VVWRA winners was Sr. Operator Johnny Bustos, who won Operator of the Year; Maintenance Mechanic Mike Koncur, who won Mechanical Technician of the Year; and E & I Technician Craig Taylor, who won the Electronic Instrumentation Person of the Year award. In addition, Environmental Compliance Inspector Daniel Enriquez was named P3S Person of the Year (P3S=pretreatment, pollution prevention, and stormwater), IT Technician Michael Medina won the award for Young Professional of the Year, and Asset Management Technician Bradley Doneff won the Administrative Person of the Year. VVWRA also took home the Engineering Achievement Award for the extensive improvements and upgrades to our PLC's, computer network, and system security. Each local award winner will be submitted to the California Water Environment Association for statewide recognition.

The theme of this year's CWEA DAMS Awards Banquet was Ugly Holiday Sweaters. VVWRA's Mike Koncur not only won Mechanical Technician of the Year but also took third place in the ugly sweater contest.

DAMS is the desert and mountain section of the CWEA. It is the largest geographical section stretching from Big Bear, Lake Arrowhead, and Crestline, through the Victor Valley and Barstow, and all the way up to Mammoth. The mission of DAMS is to provide training and mentoring opportunities for those in the wastewater industry.

