

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION AWARD

January 2024

EMPLOYEE: Dana Kulesza

UNIT: Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program

TITLE: Engineering Geologist

SUPERVISOR/TITLE: Petra Lee, Sr. Environmental Scientist Supervisor

Dana is receiving this award for her outstanding accomplishments in the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP). For a number of years, the nitrogen reporting requirements have been unclear for part of our regulated community, nursery owners. Regulated members of the ILRP are required to provide their nitrogen applied and removed, and this is not straightforward for nursery owners.

Because she saw a need, Dana patiently pushed forward guidance for nursery owners on how to provide nitrogen applied amounts on the existing form. She coordinated several meetings with subject matter experts from various groups, including several nursery owners, and patiently listened to them so that she could develop the guidelines. While the consensus was that the nitrogen removed number was going to be a larger effort, Dana was able to develop a well-articulated and professional memo that was sent out to the third-party coalitions to clarify how to fill out the form for nurseries.

Thank you, Dana, for tackling this long-standing and complex issue.