



## 2018 Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards Environmental Quality, Individual/Team Award

Each year since 1962, the Secretary of Defense has honored installations, teams, and individuals for outstanding conservation achievements, innovative environmental practices, and partnerships that improve quality of life and promote efficiencies without compromising the Department of Defense's (DoD) mission success. The 2018 Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards cycle encompasses an achievement period from October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2017 (Fiscal Year (FY) 2016-2017). A diverse panel of 63 judges with relevant expertise representing Federal and state agencies, academia, and the private sector evaluated all nominees to select one winner for each of the nine categories that cover six subject areas: natural resources conservation, environmental quality, sustainability, environmental restoration, cultural resources management, and environmental excellence in weapon system acquisition.

### About the Environmental Quality, Individual/Team Award

The Environmental Quality, Individual/Team award recognizes individuals and teams for efforts to ensure mission accomplishment and the protection of human health in the areas of environmental planning, waste management, and compliance with environmental laws and regulations (e.g., Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Water Act). Meeting or exceeding all environmental requirements not only enhances the protection of our environmental assets, but also sustains DoD's ability to effectively train and maintain readiness. The 2018 winner of the Environmental Quality, Individual/Team award is *Mr. Frederick A. Javier, 1st Special Operations Civil Engineer Squadron, Hurlburt Field, Florida*.

### About Mr. Frederick A. Javier, 1st Special Operations Civil Engineer Squadron, Hurlburt Field, Florida

Hurlburt Field, located east of Pensacola, FL, is part of Eglin Air Force Base and is home to the 1st Special Operations Wing, which is one of three Air Force active duty special operations wings under the Air Force Special Operations Command. Originally designated Eglin Auxiliary Field No. 9, Hurlburt Field served as one of the small training fields built on Eglin Air Force Range in the 1940s. Hurlburt Field spans 6,000 acres and is the *Tip of the Spear for Air Force Special Operations*, accomplishing its missions with over 11,000 dedicated military and civilian personnel. Hurlburt supports 55 fixed and tilt-rotor aircraft including the CV-22 Osprey, AC-130U Spooky Gunship, MC-130H Combat Talon II, and U-28A across the base.

Mr. Frederick Javier is a Physical Scientist for the 1st Special Operations Civil Engineer Squadron at Hurlburt Field. He began his DoD career in 1984 as an Avionics Airman and served 22 years in the U.S. Air Force, working the last four years of his career as a Maintenance Group Environmental Coordinator where he personally led the compliance efforts of 4,000 personnel. Mr. Javier retired from active duty in 2006 and joined the Hurlburt Field civilian environmental staff in 2008 with Florida certifications in asbestos inspection and stormwater management. He is also an Air Force Institute of Technology-certified Environmental Management System (EMS) Auditor.



*Mr. Javier manages multiple environmental quality programs to protect a biologically diverse base that is home to many rare species including endangered Flatwoods salamanders and Red-cockaded woodpeckers.*

## Major Accomplishments in FY 2016-2017

- Mr. Javier resurrected Hurlburt Field's Qualified Recycling Program (QRP) when falling commodity prices severely impacted the program. His efforts transformed Hurlburt Field's QRP into a self-sustaining program that diverted 550 tons of material from landfills and produced \$369,000 in revenue during the award period.
- He determined that the root cause of an increase in waste fuel generation was confusion among personnel regarding the distinction between off-specification fuel and waste fuel. While off-specification fuel can be reused for many purposes, waste fuel has little value and is often disposed as a hazardous waste at a high cost. Mr. Javier completely transformed Hurlburt Field's off-specification/waste fuel collection process by educating the workforce and implementing enhanced process controls. The quantity of waste fuel generation plunged from 13,000 gallons per year to less than 1,000 gallons per year, avoiding over \$80,000 in disposal costs annually.
- Mr. Javier expanded the use of reclaimed water from Hurlburt Field's wastewater treatment plant by adding numerous industrial processes such as aircraft wash racks, fire pit training, and facility cooling towers. Reclaimed water is treated to a higher level so it can be used to replace potable water in appropriate circumstances such as landscape irrigation. These efficiencies and forward thinking helped Hurlburt Field produce and use more than 89 million gallons of reclaimed water during the award period.
- Mr. Javier created concise Hurlburt Field-specific training presentations covering EMS, stormwater management, hazardous materials (HAZMAT), hazardous waste, and water conservation. He used these modules in his in-person trainings and made them available online for shift workers and others unable to attend his classes. He also personally briefed EMS fundamentals to every base newcomer during Newcomers Orientation and reached over 1,000 military personnel and family members each year.
- He led the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Team's evaluation of 112 military construction projects valued at \$378 million. As part of this process, Mr. Javier ensured proposed actions subject to NEPA analysis received methodical scrutiny from a team of subject matter experts.
- Mr. Javier is active in the local community and served as a State Science and Engineering Fair judge for the past two years. He also led Hurlburt Field's participation in the Okaloosa school district's S.C.I.E.N.C.E. program, a new initiative funded by a \$2.5 million DoD Education Activity grant.



*Mr. Javier reduced hazardous waste disposal costs by implementing military specification materials reuse. Materials with expired 'use-by' dates are now used in other processes that do not require the stringent specification quality standards. Mr. Javier poses with Ms. Kimberly Davis, Project Management & Planning Operations Representative, Lockheed Martin.*



*Mr. Javier briefs environmental fundamentals to every new arrival during the Base Newcomers Orientation program and reaches over 1,000 military personnel and family members each year.*