Guy Gregory receives this year’s AWRA-WA Service Award for “Outstanding Contribution to Washington’s Water Resources”

Guy Gregory, this year’s winner of the 2018 award for “Outstanding Water Resources Professional,” graduated from Washington State University with a BS in 1979 and received an MS in Geology from the University of Vermont in 1982. Guy worked in both the public and private sectors.

After several years working in the private sector on mining related projects, Guy joined the Department of Ecology in 1988. He spent 16 years in the Hazardous Waste Program in the Eastern Regional Office before moving to the Water Resources Program in 2004. Guy retired from Ecology in April of 2018 after serving for 30 years.

At Ecology, Guy was a leader in developing water resource policy and solutions throughout central and eastern Washington. Early in his Water Resources tenure, he provided input to Ecology for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) relicensing for 5 Avista Dams on the Spokane River. From that work he transitioned into working with the Idaho Department of Water Resources and the US Geological Survey to develop a model of the interaction between Spokane River flow and pumping from the Spokane Valley Rathdrum Prairie Aquifer.

Guy’s genial personality and technical expertise were key to keeping Spokane River parties, often focused on different agendas, on track to successfully complete the project. Guy was instrumental in creating a user-friendly spreadsheet “tool” through which model results could be emulated on ordinary personal computers in short periods of time (Note: a full model run for differing scenarios could take up to 24 hours). Lastly, Guy was also the lead in Ecology’s recent rule-making effort to establish an instream flow rule for the Spokane River.

Guy’s career is marked by significant accomplishments, and his legacy in