

## Destin Water Users receives grant for new study



Lockwood Wernet of Destin Water Users.

*Special to The Log*

**By Savannah Vasquez**

*Published: Friday, December 5, 2014 at 03:50 PM.*

The west side of Destin will soon be the site of a new study as Destin Water Users (DWU) will survey the area for potential improvements.

“We received a legislative appropriation earlier this year for \$40,000 and are leveraging that with matching grant dollars from Northwest Florida Water Management District,” said Destin Water Users General Manager Lockwood Wernet. “The purpose of the money is to update the modeling of our water system for improvement.”

Wernet told The Log that the study will focus on the oldest portion of DWU’s system from Beach Drive west to the Marler Bridge as the area is ripe for expansion.

“We have service in that area and there are no service issues,” said Wernet. “What we are seeing is continued growth and we need to do something to improve service for future growth that we expect in that area.”

The \$80,000 study will look at the existing water distribution system and determine improvements based on size of pipes, pressure in the system, and where water flows from to that area.

“We are trying to lower the amount of water taken out of our seven coastal wells, and increase consumption from our inland well field,” said Wernet.

DWU has partnered with Polyengineering INC. to begin the project which is set to pick up steam in January.