

Man lost overboard was Cachuma official

A Santa Barbara man lost at sea in a boating accident Aug. 1 was field superintendent for the Cachuma Operations and Maintenance Board.

Ron Chromy, 38, was swept from the deck of a 27-foot sailboat during a race near the Channel Islands and is presumed to have drowned.

His name was misspelled as Chromi in initial reports of the accident.

Chromy had been field superintendent for the Lake Cachuma board for more than three years, according to Charles Evans, general manager of the Montecito Water District and acting manager for the Cachuma board. The board oversees distribution of Cachuma water to the South Coast.

Chromy was employed by the city of Ventura for several years before coming here, and his parents and a brother live there. He was unmarried.

An experienced sailor, he was a crew member for the boat Scherzo in a race from Santa Barbara to Redondo Beach. He was swept from the deck without a life jacket while adjusting rigging and disappeared before the boat could be brought around in a rescue attempt.

