



For immediate release:

June 26, 2003

For more information, contact:

Karin Stangl, Office of the State Engineer
(505) 827-6139

New Mexico State Engineer Hires New Water Planner

(SANTA FE, New Mexico) -- New Mexico State Engineer John D'Antonio has added a new state water planner to the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission staff, who will assist with efforts to produce a comprehensive statewide water plan by December 2003, as mandated by Governor Bill Richardson.

Timothy R. Murrell began his position on June 2, 2003. Prior to that, he was an educator for New Mexico Watershed Watch at the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, from 2002 to 2003. During that time, he was also a graduate assistant at the University of New Mexico's Faculty Dispute Resolution Center, in Albuquerque.

Murrell also was a volunteer at LandWater Consultants, where he recruited and trained volunteers to teach elementary school students about the water issues in New Mexico. Also, he worked at the Earth Data Analysis Center where he assisted in the identification of critical habitat areas for the endangered New Mexico jaguar.

Murrell received a bachelor's degree in recreation and park management from Pennsylvania State University in 1999 and a master's degree in community and regional planning from the University of New Mexico in 2003.

(MORE)

“We are pleased to add Murrell to our water planning team,” said State Engineer John D’Antonio. “His education and work experience will greatly assist with completion of the State Water Plan.”

The Office of the State Engineer and the Interstate Stream Commission are separate but companion agencies charged with administering the state’s water resources. The agencies have power over the supervision, measurement, appropriation and distribution of almost all surface and ground water in New Mexico. The State Engineer is also Secretary of the Interstate Stream Commission and oversees the staff of both agencies.

#