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New Drought Task Force Manager Hired by the New Mexico State Engineer

(SANTA FE, New Mexico) – State Engineer John D’Antonio has hired **Deborah Stover** as the new manager for Governor Bill Richardson’s Drought Task Force.

Stover will serve as project manager for the task force where she will research and develop drought, conservation, and water management programs and policies, as well as update the *New Mexico Drought Plan* in cooperation with the task force and its work group subsidiaries. In addition, Stover will serve as the acting chair of the monitoring work group, which is responsible for monitoring all available climatological data, soil moisture readings, reservoir storage levels, and other information necessary to analyze the current status of drought conditions in the State of New Mexico.

Stover began her position on September 20.

Prior to this job, she worked 18 years in planning and water conservation positions with the City of Albuquerque.

“Stover’s knowledge of planning and water conservation will advance the task force’s objectives of drought monitoring and management,” said State Engineer John D’Antonio. “We are pleased to have her on board.”

(MORE)

In 1993, Stover earned a bachelor of science degree in geography with an emphasis in urban land use planning from the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque.

The Office of the State Engineer is charged with administering the state's water resources. The State Engineer has power over the supervision, measurement, appropriation, and distribution of all surface and groundwater in New Mexico, including streams and rivers that cross state boundaries. The State Engineer is also Secretary of the Interstate Stream Commission and oversees its staff.

The Interstate Stream Commission is charged with separate duties including protecting New Mexico's right to water under eight interstate stream compacts, ensuring the state complies with each of those compacts, as well as water planning.

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