



**For immediate release:**

October 12, 2005

**For more information, contact:**

Karin Stangl, Director  
Planning and Communication Division  
(505) 827-6139

Maureen Haney  
Public Relations Coordinator  
(505) 764-3864

## **New Mexico State Engineer Selects Water Master for the Upper Mimbres Basin**

**(DEMING, New Mexico)** – New Mexico State Engineer John D’Antonio has hired a new water master for the Upper Mimbres River Basin.

**Bryan Stevenson** began his position on September 20, 2005. As a water master in the Upper Mimbres River Basin region, Stevenson is in charge of administering and distributing surface and groundwater in the basin on a daily basis.

Water masters actively administer the distribution of water from stream systems on a daily basis. The State Engineer has the authority to create special water districts and hire water masters as he determines is necessary for the administration of water rights.

“Stevenson is a Deming native who brings a solid understanding of local customs, traditions and values to the Mimbres Water Master position,” said the Office of the State Engineer Deming District Manager Charles Jackson. “He knows many of the people we serve and has a reputation for fairness.”

Before this job as water master, Stevenson worked for Bill Allen Construction in Deming, from September 2002 until June 2005. He was a History and Geography teacher, Athletic Director and Head Basketball Coach and held various instructional and athletic positions in both the Reserve Independent Schools and Deming Public School systems from 1996 to 2002. Stevenson served in the United States Navy from March of 1986 until December of 1990 gathering informational data for dissemination, analysis, processing, and coordination, and gaining experience with various technical data systems. Before joining the Navy, he worked for McClendon Mud Logging Company in Oklahoma where he collected, analyzed and kept records of geological formations being pumped out of the ground.

Stevenson completed coursework towards a Bachelor of Science degree in secondary education (social sciences) at both New Mexico State University in Las Cruces and Western New Mexico University in Silver City.

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.

# # #