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State Engineer Hires New Water Resource Specialist

(SANTA FE, New Mexico) -- The New Mexico State Engineer has hired a new Water Resource Specialist to work in the Water Rights Division in the District 1 office in Albuquerque.

Heather Frederick is charged with conducting hydrological surveys, field investigations, and stream and water basin analysis. She will also prepare water rights applications and perform field checks in the Middle Rio Grande area.

"Frederick's interest in biology and previous research experience with silvery minnow reproduction will be helpful to the agency," said State Engineer John D'Antonio. "She also has a strong environmental sensitivity with respect to rivers and streams."

Frederick's recent work with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Albuquerque has involved researching the reproductive habits and life cycle of the endangered Rio Grande silvery minnow. She was involved in the salvage operation to rescue the silvery minnow during low river flows.

Frederick received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Forest Resources Management from West Virginia University in Morgantown, WV. She has completed the course work for her Masters Degree in biology from the same university and will defend her thesis this spring.

(MORE)

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 nine-member Interstate Stream Commission is charged with duties, which include 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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Note: A jpeg image of Heather Frederick is available by request.