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## **State Engineer Hires A Water Master for Santa Fe County**

**(SANTA FE, New Mexico)** – New Mexico State Engineer John D’Antonio announced that a new water master has been hired for the Santa Fe and Nambe, Pojoaque, and Tesuque Basins in Santa Fe County effective October 6, 2007.

**Jeff Pompeo** will spend half of his time in the capacity of water master for the Santa Fe River, ensuring equitable distribution of water for those who have adjudicated water rights below the City of Santa Fe wastewater treatment plant, and in general, for all users in the Santa Fe River Basin.

The water master’s role is to monitor surface diversions and use of the water on a daily basis, especially during irrigation season. His other major responsibility will be to serve as assistant to the two existing water masters in the Nambe, Pojoaque, and Tesuque Basins.

“Water masters serve an important function for the Office of the State Engineer because they work in the field and make sure that water is equitably distributed to water users in a particular area,” said State Engineer John D’Antonio. “Pompeo’s education and experience will be an asset to our agency in this capacity.”

Pompeo earned his Associate’s degree in water technology from New Mexico State University, Doña Ana Branch in Las Cruces, New Mexico. He graduated with his Bachelor’s degree in Technology and Training from the University of New Mexico, in Albuquerque.

Pompeo successfully defended his thesis in November of 2007 at the University of Nevada in Las Vegas and will receive his Masters degree in Water Resources in May, 2008.

**(MORE)**

Pompeo was previously employed for one year as an environmental specialist for Maricopa County in Phoenix, Arizona. He also worked one year for the Las Vegas Valley Water District and two years for the Southern Nevada Water Authority in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Pompeo's interests include being in the outdoors participating in anything competitive. His favorite pastime is snowboarding.

*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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Note: A jpeg image of Jeff Pompeo is available by request