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State Engineer Hires Additional Water Master for San Juan Region

(AZTEC, New Mexico) – New Mexico State Engineer John D’Antonio has hired an additional Water Master to administer the diversions from the San Juan River stream systems and the San Juan Underground Water Basin.

Jimmy Hodges began his position in October of 2007 working at the District V Office in Aztec, New Mexico.

Prior to beginning his career with the Office of the State Engineer, Hodges was employed by the City of Farmington’s Water/Wastewater Division as an engineer technician. He worked for Wilson and Company, an engineering firm in Albuquerque from 2005 to 2007. Hodges was an airman in the United States Air Force from 1999 to 2003.

The Water Master works in cooperation with local ditch organizations, cities, industries, and other entities that divert surface and groundwater, to ensure water is diverted and distributed in accordance with applicable court decrees, permits, licenses, and approved agreements.

“Jimmy’s familiarity of the region, water issues and his engineering background will allow for better management of the basin, as well as improved communication between the local water users and engineers within the agency,” said Robert Genualdi, District V Supervisor.

Hodges, a Farmington native, graduated from Farmington High School in 1998 and has an associate’s degree in engineering design.

(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 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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