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Interstate Stream Commission Hires New Assistant Manager for the Los Lunas Refugium

(LOS LUNAS, New Mexico) -- The New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission has hired a new assistant manager for the Los Lunas Silvery Minnow Refugium.

Dr. Alison Hutson will begin work at the facility in January. The award-winning hatchery is a unique naturalized design that will mimic the flows of the Rio Grande. The outdoor refugium consists of a 400-foot long "river," which will provide space for the fish to spawn in a realistic natural setting.

"Dr. Hutson's experience working with different fish species in different aquaculture systems, as well as her skills in fish health, reproduction, and genetics will be a great asset to this agency," said Interstate Stream Commission Director Estevan López. "Her knowledge will help us create an environment that should help increase the population of the endangered Rio Grande Silvery Minnow."

Dr. Hutson received a Bachelor of Science in fisheries and aquatic sciences from Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana. She received a Master of Science and a Ph.D. in aquaculture from Auburn University, in Auburn, Alabama.

Before taking this position, she was a research associate and a graduate research assistant for the Department of Fisheries and Allied Aquacultures at Auburn University. Prior to that she was an aquaculture technician for the Purdue University Aquaculture Research Laboratory.

She belongs to the American Fisheries Society, the World Aquaculture Society, and the Catfish Genome Consortium.

(MORE)

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.

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.

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