



For immediate release:

January 9, 2009

For more information, contact:

Julie Maas, Public Relations Specialist
(505) 765-2011

Karin Stangl, Planning and Communications Director
(505) 699-4923 cell

New Mexico Office of the State Engineer Announces Employees of the Year for 2008

(SANTA FE, New Mexico) – New Mexico State Engineer John D’Antonio announced that nineteen Office of the State Engineer employees have been selected as the **2008 Employees of the Year** for their divisions.

Santa Fe Program Support employees **Monica Trujillo**, Financial Coordinator, and **Michael Mackenzie**, IT Applications Developer II, of Information Technology, received awards.

Santa Fe Interstate Stream Commission (ISC) employees who were recognized include: **Marcos Mendiola**, Contract Manager and **Cyndy Stokes**, Management Analyst.

Albuquerque Interstate Stream Commission (ISC) employee **Anders Lundahl**, Water Resource Specialist, was also recognized.

Santa Fe Water Resource Allocation Program (W.R.A.P.) employees who were recognized include: **Alan Cuddy**, Water Rights Master, **Jerri Trujillo**, Upper Pecos Basin Manager, and **James Head**, Civil Engineer.

Albuquerque Water Resource Allocation Program (W.R.A.P.) employee **David Anderson**, Water Resource Specialist Senior, and **Sylvia Lucero**, Water Resource Specialist, of the Water Rights Abstract Bureau were also acknowledged for their work.

Shirley Denko, Secretary, **Mark Salazar**, Water Resource Specialist Senior, and **Cruzita Romero**, Paralegal and Legal Assistant, all of Litigation and Adjudication Program (LAP), and **Angela Bordegaray**, Water Planner, Planning and Communication Division, were awarded.

(MORE)

Las Cruces District Office employees who received the award are: **Cheryl Thacker**, Water Resource Specialist Senior, W.R.A.P., and **Sherryl Smith**, Water Resource Specialist, L.A.P.

In the Cimarron District Office, **Alfred "Buster" Chavez**, Water Master, Water Rights Division was awarded, and in the Deming District Office, **Priscilla Sanchez**, Clerk Specialist, for W.R.A.P. was acknowledged. In the Roswell District Office, **John Stewart**, Water Rights Specialist, W.R.A.P., was awarded.

"I am proud of the exceptional job these employees do for this agency, each and every day," said State Engineer John D'Antonio. "Their commitment, hard work, and desire to help this agency achieve established goals make them very deserving of recognition for a job well done."

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.

#