



**For immediate release:**

March 20, 2009

**For more information, contact:**

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

## **Rio Gallinas 2008 Water Master Report Released**

**(LAS VEGAS, New Mexico)** – The **Rio Gallinas Water Master Report for 2008** was released today by the Office of the State Engineer.

The report contains information related to the 2008 irrigation season related to spring runoff, rotation schedule, and monsoon precipitation and consistency, and includes data based on measurements from staff gages.

Projections for the future in the report are based on Natural Resources Conservation District 's Snowpack Telemetry (SNOTEL) snow depth and snow water equivalent data gathered at Wesner Springs.

The Water Master Report for 2008 can be viewed by visiting the Office of the State Engineer website at [www.ose.state.nm.us/publications/WaterMasterReports/Gallinas/Gallinas2008Report.pdf](http://www.ose.state.nm.us/publications/WaterMasterReports/Gallinas/Gallinas2008Report.pdf). Other information available includes monthly and accumulated diversions, general announcements related to irrigation, and requirements of water diverters.

The State Engineer declared the Rio Gallinas Basin one of seven priority areas for his Active Water Resource Management initiative. The Rio Gallinas Basin is an area that is dominated by surface water rights and is highly susceptible to drought. Flows from the Rio Gallinas watershed are unpredictable, and are reliant on snow pack and lack of forest fires to continue to provide water to the area.

For more information, please contact Julie Maas, at (505) 765-2011.

*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 has broad powers to investigate, protect, conserve and develop New Mexico's water including both interstate and intrastate stream systems. It ensures the state meets its obligations under eight interstate stream compacts. The Commission was also given water planning responsibilities for the state.*

**# # #**