



ROLF SCHMIDT-PETERSEN,

Director, New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission Hydrologist

Rolf Schmidt-Petersen was appointed as the Director of the Interstate Stream Commission by Governor Michelle Lujan-Grisham in June of 2019.

Mr. Schmidt-Petersen has a Master of Science degree in Hydrology and almost 30 years of water resource management and supervisory experience. Before becoming the Director and while working for the State, he served as the Commission's Rio Grande Bureau Chief, the New Mexico Engineer Adviser to the Rio Grande Compact Commission, and as the Colorado River Bureau Chief for that entire basin and the San Juan and Gila River sub-basins. He currently serves as New Mexico's Canadian River Compact Commissioner, its alternate Principal for the Colorado River Compact, its alternate Commissioner for the Upper Colorado River Basin Compact, and as one of New Mexico's representatives on the Colorado River Salinity Control Forum and Advisory Committee.

He has served as the Commission's lead on multiple Colorado River Basin and Rio Grande Basin efforts/programs. These include, but are not limited to, development of the Colorado River Drought Contingency Plan with emphasis on the Upper Basin portions of the DCP; various Upper Colorado River Compact Commission workgroups; the San Juan Recovery Implementation Program; implementing the Arizona Water Settlements Act; participating in and overseeing Rio Grande reservoir and river system operations; supporting active water resource management on the Rio Chama, Middle Rio Grande, and Animas Rivers; participating in the Middle Rio Grande Endangered Species Collaborative Program, a number of National Environmental Policy Act and Federal Endangered Species Act consultations; conducting Rio Grande river maintenance, levee and habitat restoration projects, and engaging in several reservoir and river system gaging and modeling efforts. He also served as the Commission's technical manager on a number of complex litigation efforts including the Rio Grande silvery minnow and water use litigation in the middle Rio Grande, the state Attorney General's litigation over the 2008 Rio Grande Project Operating Agreement, and the United States Supreme Court litigation filed by Texas against New Mexico on the Lower Rio Grande.

Before becoming the Director, he worked at Daniel B. Stephens & Associates, in Albuquerque, as a hydrology consultant for almost ten years.

Schmidt-Petersen has a Master of Science degree in hydrology from the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology, in Socorro, and a Bachelor of Science degree in geology from Stephen F. Austin State University, in Nacogdoches, Texas.

The New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission, created by Chapter 25 of the 1935 legislative session laws, has broad powers to investigate, protect, conserve and develop New Mexico's waters including both interstate and intrastate stream systems. The Commission has eight unsalaried members appointed by the Governor.

The current members of the Interstate Stream Commission are: Chairman Mark Sanchez,

of Albuquerque; Vice-Chair Tanya Trujillo, of Santa Fe; Aron Balok, of Roswell; Bidtah Becker, of the Navajo Nation; Greg Carrasco, of Las Cruces; Stacy Timmons, of Socorro; Paula Garcia, of Mora; and Mike Hamman, of Albuquerque. The State Engineer John D'Antonio is also Secretary to the Interstate Stream Commission and oversees all OSE/ISC Programs.

The Interstate Stream Commission is charged with 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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