



## News Release

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Editors: A photograph is available at <http://sd.water.usgs.gov/pressrelease/press.html>

# Rapid City Native to Head USGS South Dakota Water Science Center

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) announced the selection of Mark T. Anderson as the new Director of the USGS South Dakota Water Science Center headquartered in Rapid City. Anderson returns to Rapid City after living in Arizona and the Washington D.C. areas for 15 years.

In his new position, Anderson is responsible for developing and overseeing hydrologic investigations and data collection for ground-water, surface-water and water-quality programs in South Dakota. The USGS operates about 160 streamflow gages and about 50 peak-flow gages in the State and conducts water research such as the Black Hills Hydrology Study.

While in Arizona, Anderson was the Associate Director for the USGS Water Science Center in Tucson. He worked on flow and sediment transport problems on the Colorado River in Grand Canyon and directed aspects of the first controlled-flood experiment on a large river, the Colorado River below Glen Canyon Dam, in 1996. He has worked on ground-water storage depletion and recharge in southwest alluvial aquifers, sustainability of ground-water pumping in the Upper San Pedro Basin, and Western water availability.

From 1999 through 2001, Anderson was a senior policy analyst at the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) in the Executive Office of the President during the Clinton and Bush Administrations. OSTP supports the President's Science Advisor and the President's Council on Science and Technology.

Anderson was the Subdistrict Chief of the USGS office in Rapid City from 1985 to 1991 before moving to Arizona. While in Rapid City, Anderson was active in community service. He is a graduate and former adjunct faculty member of the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology. Anderson and his wife Carla are happy to call South Dakota home again.

According to Anderson, "It is great to be back! I have a sense of place here in the Black Hills. I'm looking forward to working with water managers and the science community in South Dakota to expand our understanding of the State's water resources."

Anderson succeeds Daniel Fitzpatrick who retired from the position of Director in 2005.

Additional information about USGS water resource studies in South Dakota can be obtained by visiting the USGS South Dakota Water Science Center home page at <http://sd.water.usgs.gov/>.

The USGS serves the nation by providing reliable scientific information to describe and understand the Earth; minimize loss of life and property from natural disasters; manage water, biological, energy, and mineral resources; and enhance and protect our quality of life.

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