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# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
Division of Water Rights

ROBERT L. MORGAN  
Executive Director

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## M E M O

DATE: October 8, 2003  
TO: Bob Morgan *BM*  
THROUGH: Carlos Rodriguez *R*  
FROM: Jerry Olds *JO*  
SUBJECT: Ray Owens, River Commissioner, retirement and re-hire request

Ray Owens is the river commissioner on the upper Sevier River. Ray has worked as commissioner for over 28 years. He has made plans to purchase military service time to make up the difference to 30 years and has expressed a desire to retire on October 16, 2003.

However, Ray has requested that he be re-appointed as the river commissioner to work part time for six months and then go back to full time employment under the provisions of UCA 49-11-504.

We have investigated the issues related to this request with the Department of Natural Resources Human Resources staff and have determined that the request could be processed successfully without undue difficulty. Ray's understanding of the water rights on the upper Sevier River and his experience in regulating diversions in that area are valuable assets for the Division of Water Rights' Distribution Program. It would take a considerable amount of time to bring someone else up to his level of ability.

We have received a letter from the chairman of the Sevier River Water Users Association supporting Ray's request and indicating their recommendation that he be re-appointed as river commissioner.

I am requesting the Departments approval of this proposal.