

Steven T. Finch, Jr., CPG
V.P., Principal Hydrogeologist-Geochemist
sfinch@shomaker.com

Steve Finch has more than 25 years of experience in many parts of New Mexico and Texas including the Rio Grande and Pecos River watersheds, Mimbres Basin, Estancia Basin, Hondo Basin, Jal Basin, Peñasco Basin, Salt Basin, Tularosa Basin, the Pecos River Valley and Roswell Artesian Basin. His work has included hydrogeologic investigations for groundwater resource development, aquifer-test interpretation, groundwater flow and contaminant-transport modeling, geochemical modeling, water-quality treatment studies, water-resource analysis for water plans, and well-drilling oversight and well-site hydrogeology.

Summary of Major Projects

- Analysis of deep well injection on formation damage and aquifer protection, Northern San Juan Basin.
- Evaluation of rehabilitation options for the city well field, City of Santa Fe, New Mexico.
- Aquifer storage and recovery feasibility analysis and pilot study for La Luz Well Field, City of Alamogordo, New Mexico.
- Develop groundwater flow model for the Jornada Basin, Dona Ana County, New Mexico.
- Performance evaluation of Tailings Pond 7 Interceptor Well Field, Chino Mines Company, Hurley, New Mexico.
- Development of regional groundwater flow model of the Ortiz Mining Grant area in support of water-right transfer and modification.
- Sustainability analysis of groundwater supply and groundwater exploration program for Cobre Mining Company Operations.
- Water-resource assessment for the Tularosa-Salt Basins and Alamogordo 40-year water plans.
- Project Manager on hydrogeologic studies relating to La Luz Well Field, City of Alamogordo.
- Desalination feasibility study for the Tularosa Basin, subcontracted to Livingston Associates.
- Hydrogeologic analysis and groundwater flow model of Eldorado Area, Santa Fe County, New Mexico.
- Hydrogeologic analysis and development of groundwater flow model for Wild Horse Flat area, Culberson County Groundwater Conservation District, Far West Texas.
- Hydrogeologic analysis and development of groundwater flow model of Salt Underground Water Basin, Otero County, New Mexico.
- Hydrogeologic framework for the Igneous-Bolson Groundwater Availability Model, Far West Texas, subcontracted to LBG-Guyton.
- Project manager for the drilling, construction, development, and testing of Buckman Wells 10 through 13, City of Santa Fe, New Mexico.

EDUCATION

M.S., Geology
(Hydrogeochemistry), 1991
Northern Arizona University
Flagstaff, Arizona

B.S., Geology, 1985
Sul Ross State University
Alpine, Texas

REGISTRATIONS

Professional Geoscientist,
Texas, No. 5302

*American Institute of Professional
Geologists, CPG-9590*

- Development of regional groundwater flow model of the Eastern Tularosa Basin in support of City of Alamogordo's applications T-3825 et al.
- Hydrogeologic and water-right evaluation of irrigated lands in Estancia Basin as alternative water supply for City of Santa Fe.
- Hydrogeologic analysis and groundwater flow model of Jal basin, City of Jal, New Mexico.
- Hydrogeologic analysis of water supply for Tularosa and Salt Basin Regional Water Plan.
- Hydrogeologic and groundwater sustainability analysis for Chino Mines Company, and development of regional groundwater flow and solute transport model of the Mimbres Basin, southwestern, New Mexico.
- Project manager for the development of a groundwater flow and solute transport model of the Griggs and Walnut Superfund Site, Lac Cruces, New Mexico.
- Refined the Geologic Framework for the Capitan Reef aquifer, Far West Texas.

Professional Societies and Certifications

- Geological Society of America
Certificate of Appreciation as Distinguished Mentor
- U.S. Department of Interior Geological Survey
Certificate of Appreciation as Volunteer for Science Program
- International Association of Geochemistry and Cosmochemistry
- American Water Resources Association, New Mexico Section (Past President)
- National Ground Water Association
- American Chemical Society award for Outstanding Achievement in Chemistry

Professional Development

- Course work at University of New Mexico: Vadose-Zone Hydrology (Spring 1993)
- Environmental Education Enterprises' course on Modeling Groundwater Flow and Contaminant Transport (July 1995)
- Visual MODFLOW: The most widely used software package for MODFLOW, MODPATH, and MT3D, National Ground Water Association (Feb. 1999)
- Environmental Isotopes in Ground Water Resource and Contaminant Hydrogeology, National Ground Water Association course #394 (March 2002)
- CLE INTERNATIONAL, New Mexico Water Law, Santa Fe, New Mexico (Aug. 2005)
- Applications of Ground Water Geochemistry, Scottsdale, Arizona, National Ground Water Association Course #485, (Nov. 2006)

Expert Testimony

Provided sworn testimony before Bernalillo County Commission, La Plata County Commission, and Santa Fe County Commission

Provided sworn testimony in administrative proceedings before hearing examiners of New Mexico State Engineer Office and New Mexico Oil and Gas Conservation Commission

Provided sworn testimony in *Lermayer v. Davalos*, Cause No. D-1215-CV-1998-00442