



## EID welcomes AmeriCorps member



EID welcomed **Melissa Marquez** to the District during the February 9 Board meeting. Melissa is stationed in the District's natural resources department as a watershed assistant through the AmeriCorps national service program. She arrived in January and will be with the District until December.

"Melissa has already started on several key activities in the department," said Elizabeth Betancourt, EID's watershed coordinator. "She's helping to implement several stakeholder-identified priority projects in the South Fork American River watershed plan, including public outreach and education and water quality data gathering and analysis. Melissa will provide an important link in EID's public education efforts throughout the watershed."

Melissa's academic background is well suited to her role at EID. She holds an undergraduate degree in biology and a master's degree in ecology, both from New Mexico State University. "I am really excited about what I'm doing at EID," said Melissa. "Working with EID now will prepare me for future endeavors, wherever I go. I am particularly interested in protecting our natural resources for the benefit of all of us and future generations."

EID took the opportunity to bring on an AmeriCorps member through the Sierra Nevada AmeriCorps Partnership (SNAP). The Sierra Nevada Alliance serves as facilitator between AmeriCorps and local agencies such as EID that benefit from the membership.

AmeriCorps is a national community service program that provides opportunities for citizens of all ages and backgrounds to serve their communities. To learn more about AmeriCorps, go to [www.americorps.org](http://www.americorps.org).