

Watershed Plan Summary

Animas River Watershed Based Plan (2011)

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS

New Mexico Environment
Department

Surface Water Quality Bureau

Colorado Department of Public
Health and Environment, Water
Quality Control Division

Water Quality Program of the
Southern Ute Indian Tribe

Water Quality Division of the
Ute Mountain Ute Tribe

City of Farmington, NM

City of Durango, CO

Colorado Division of Wildlife

Natural Resources
Conservation Service

San Juan Resource
Conservation and
Development

Southwestern Water
Conservation District

San Juan Citizens Alliance

San Juan Water Commission

Private individuals and
landowners

PLAN COVERAGE

The plan covers the entirety of the Animas River watershed.

PLAN GOALS

The plan's stated water quality goals are:

- Improving all water quality segments within the watershed that do not currently meet water quality standards.
- Improving and protecting water quality on segments within the watershed that may be affected by emerging concerns.
- Protecting and restoring naturally functioning floodplains within the watershed.

The plan was developed in alignment with EPA's nine-element watershed plan requirements for Clean Water Act Section 319 funding.

CONSIDERATIONS

Completed and planned projects listed below are based solely on the information provided in the plan. Planned projects were to be completed between 2011 and 2020. Actual dates of project completion were not provided.

PLANNED PROJECTS

Project Type	Description	Planned Completion Date	Cost	Additional Information
Nutrient management—Colorado and Southern Ute priority sites	Install tertiary treatment system (Durango effluent, Hermosa San effluent, South Durango effluent, Kampgrounds of America effluent) and improve existing tertiary treatment (fish hatchery)	Not available	\$500,000 (Durango), \$200,000 (Hermosa), \$200,000 (South Durango), \$200,000 (KOA), \$50,000 (fish hatchery)	None
	Install sprinkler irrigation and offer landowner education on flood irrigation (Trumble inflow, Florida River, Bonda return flow, Trumble Spring inflow, Powerline return flow, Spring River right)	Not available	\$350,000 (Trumble inflow), \$1,000,000 (Florida River), \$350,000 (Bondad return flow), \$350,000 (Trumble Spring inflow), \$350,000 (Powerline return flow), \$150,000 (Spring River right)	None
	Investigate upstream sources of nutrients (Junction Creek, skate park, South Campground inflow)	Not available	\$4,500 (Junction Creek), \$3,500 (skate park), \$3,500 (South Campground inflow)	None
Nutrient management—New Mexico priority sites	Proposed best management practices (BMPs) are specified by site and include increasing buffer strip between urban interface and channel and between ditches and agricultural fields, increasing stormwater catchment, moving overflow upstream to where wetland can be created to filter nutrients, creating wetlands to filter flows or increasing wetlands size, increasing riparian zones, installing and improving sediment traps, improving urban runoff entrapment and filtering, improving agricultural sources, identifying upstream sources of nutrients, reducing agricultural return flows, and improving agricultural practices	Not available	Costs of BMP implementation at individual sites are provided in Table 19 of the plan; cumulative total for all recommended BMPs is \$1,535,000	Tables 14 and 19 of the plan specify individual sites Table 19 includes estimates of total nitrogen and total phosphorus loading from each BMP (cost/benefit); the cost presented here is derived from Table 19's estimated costs.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

The watershed plan is available [online](#).