

# Watershed Plan Summary

## Animas Watershed Partnership Strategic Action Plan (2013–2016)

### PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS

Animas River Stakeholders Group	Colorado Parks and Wildlife	San Juan National Forest, CO
Basin Hydrology, Inc.	Colorado Water Conservation Board	San Juan Soil and Water Conservation District, NM
BHP/Billiton	Durango/La Plata County Airport	San Juan Water Commission
BUGS Consulting LLC	Ecosphere	San Juan Watershed Group
Bureau of Reclamation	La Plata Conservation District, CO	Southern Ute Indian Tribe
Colorado RiverWatch	Mountain Studies Institute	Southwest Conservation Corps
City of Aztec, NM	Natural Resources Conservation Service	Southwestern Water Conservation District
City of Durango, CO	New Mexico Environment Department, Surface Water Quality Bureau	Tres Rios Bureau of Land Management Area, CO
City of Farmington, NM	Public Service New Mexico	Trout Unlimited, Five Rivers Chapter
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Water Quality Control Division	San Juan Citizens Alliance	Ute Mountain Ute Tribe
Colorado Non-Point Source Program		Additional local groups

### PLAN COVERAGE

The strategic plan covers the entirety of the Animas River watershed across Colorado, New Mexico, and the Southern Ute Tribal Lands. The Animas Watershed Partnership (AWP) includes over 100 individuals and organizations representing state, tribal, municipal, county, landowner, environmental, and other concerns.

### PLAN GOALS

AWP stakeholders developed the 2011 Animas River Watershed Based Plan, which assessed water quality and identified appropriate best management practices (BMPs) to address identified nutrient and sediment issues. This strategic plan identified additional goals and priorities for community engagement, water quality, and capacity building and fundraising, building off the 2011 plan and other AWP efforts.



The organizational components and goals of the AWP, as articulated in the strategic plan, include:


- **Community engagement:** Increasing awareness, interest, planning, and action on the part of local communities for priority issues affecting the health of the Animas River.
- **Water quality projects:** Working with partners to protect and improve water quality within the Animas River watershed; collecting, compiling, analyzing, interpreting, and making accessible reliable data that can support and inform efforts to manage water quality in the Animas River.
- **Capacity building and fundraising:** Defining the AWP's organizational goals and corresponding objectives for water quality improvement, community engagement, and fundraising; developing staff and volunteer capacity and momentum to plan for and implement water quality improvement projects for priority areas within the Animas River watershed and continue to engage the community in the mission and work of the AWP.

## CONSIDERATIONS

Projects listed below are based solely on the information provided in the plan. For each project, the plan indicates whether funding is available in fiscal years 2013 to 2016 but does not indicate whether any of the projects have been completed. Therefore, all projects are listed below as planned.

## COMPLETED PROJECTS

The plan does not identify completed projects.



## PLANNED PROJECTS

Project Type	Description	Planned Completion Date	Cost	Additional Information
<b>Community engagement</b>	Increase awareness, interest, planning, and action on the part of local communities for priority issues affecting the health of the Animas River	Not available	Not available; funding sources and available funding were identified for the majority of activities for multiple fiscal years	Specific activities include creating outreach deliverables; meeting with municipalities, ditch companies, and permitted dischargers to discuss concerns and identify potential projects; partnering with local conservation districts to conduct outreach workshops for landowners on nutrient management; engaging partners to sponsor events on river health; engaging volunteers for vegetation management and water quality monitoring activities; and developing a community engagement plan
<b>Water quality projects</b>	Work with partners to protect and improve water quality within the Animas River watershed	Not available	Not available; plan indicates funding is available for all fiscal years	Complete ongoing Florida and Animas River Habitat and water quality improvement project for nutrient, sediment, and bacterial loading reduction along a 1-mile segment of the Florida River
	Work with partners to protect and improve water quality within the Animas River watershed	Not available	Not available; plan indicates funding is available for fiscal years 2013–2015	None
	Collect, analyze, interpret, and make accessible reliable data that can support and inform efforts to manage water quality in the Animas River	Not available	Not available; funding sources and available funding were identified for the majority of activities for multiple fiscal years	Specific activities include tracking and supporting a microbial source tracking study; developing a sediment rating curve for Lightner Creek; entering data from the 2011 plan into Colorado's Data Sharing Network; participating in and supporting the regional GIS website and San Juan Watershed Group; and identifying priority water quality data needs in nonpoint nutrient source areas (mapping existing data and getting stakeholder input)

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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