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Media Release

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Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and San Juan Basin Health Launch Animas River Data Interpretation Tools

Durango, Colo.— As the one year anniversary of the Gold King Mine spill approaches, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) and San Juan Basin Health (SJBH) have provided Animas River data tools to share accurate and understandable water quality information with the public. These innovative monitoring and communication resources inform residents and visitors on water and sediment quality conditions as well as the safety of common uses of the river.

The data collected and analyzed thus far by SJBH, CDPHE, and San Juan County Public Health show exposure to water or sediment does not pose a risk to human health during typical recreational exposure. Local and state emergency management and public health agencies continue to monitor the situation and will update the public if conditions change.

SJBH maintains a [web portal](#) providing water quality data including pH, metals concentrations, and a representation of the current health of the river. CDPHE's [Animas River page](#) contains a year in review report on data collection and analysis including a summary of actions taken by SJBH, CDPHE and San Juan County Public Health since the Gold King Mine spill.

The SJBH portal also links to [CDPHE's interactive dashboard](#) displaying recent data from Animas River monitoring sites. Readers can compare water quality data over time and review differences between monitoring sites.

San Juan Basin Health staff will be available at *A Celebration of the Animas* on August 3 from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at the Powerhouse Science Center to answer questions. This free event is open to all community members and is sponsored by the Animas River Community Forum in conjunction with the annual San Juan Mining and Reclamation Conference. San Juan County Public Health experts will be available to answer questions at *Silverton SuperFunDays*, a free celebration of the Silverton community in Memorial Park, on August 6 from 11:30 am to 2 p.m.

San Juan Basin Health is a local public health agency, governed by a seven member local Board of Health, serving all residents of La Plata and Archuleta counties. For over 60 years, San Juan Basin Health has improved the health and environment of the Southwest Colorado community.

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