The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment has collected and analyzed water quality and sediment from the Animas River. The data indicates that the river has returned to stable conditions that are not a concern for human health during typical recreational exposure. There will be some discoloration of the water when the sediment is disturbed, this discoloration does not pose an immediate health risk.

The San Juan Basin Heath Department concurs with the state health department findings, and advises that there are no adverse health effects from exposure to the water and sediment during normal recreational use (incidental or limited exposure). The San Juan Basin Heath Department advises the public to avoid areas with orange sediment or discolored standing water. Further, anyone coming in contact with any orange sediment or discolored standing water should wash with soap and water.

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment will continue to test water and sediment routinely and will respond quickly to any potential issues. Visit the state health department website for data and updates. The San Juan Basin Heath Department will remain in contact with state health department and will provide any updates and public health recommendations as necessary.

EFFECTIVE FRIDAY, AUGUST 14, 2015 at 12:00 PM

San Juan Basin Health 281 Sawyer Drive #200 Durango, Colorado 81303 970-247-5702