

The background is a light blue gradient with several realistic water droplets of various sizes scattered across it. The droplets have highlights and shadows, giving them a three-dimensional appearance. The text is centered in the middle of the page.

# **ANIMAS RIVER COMMUNITY FORUM**

**PRESENTATION TO THE GOLD KING MINE CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**SEPTEMBER 25, 2017**

## Common Themes: Response to Gold King Mine Spill

- Breakdown in notification chain – from initial to internal to external notification
- Multi-agency coordination groups facilitate response
- Public information responses vary

Thus....

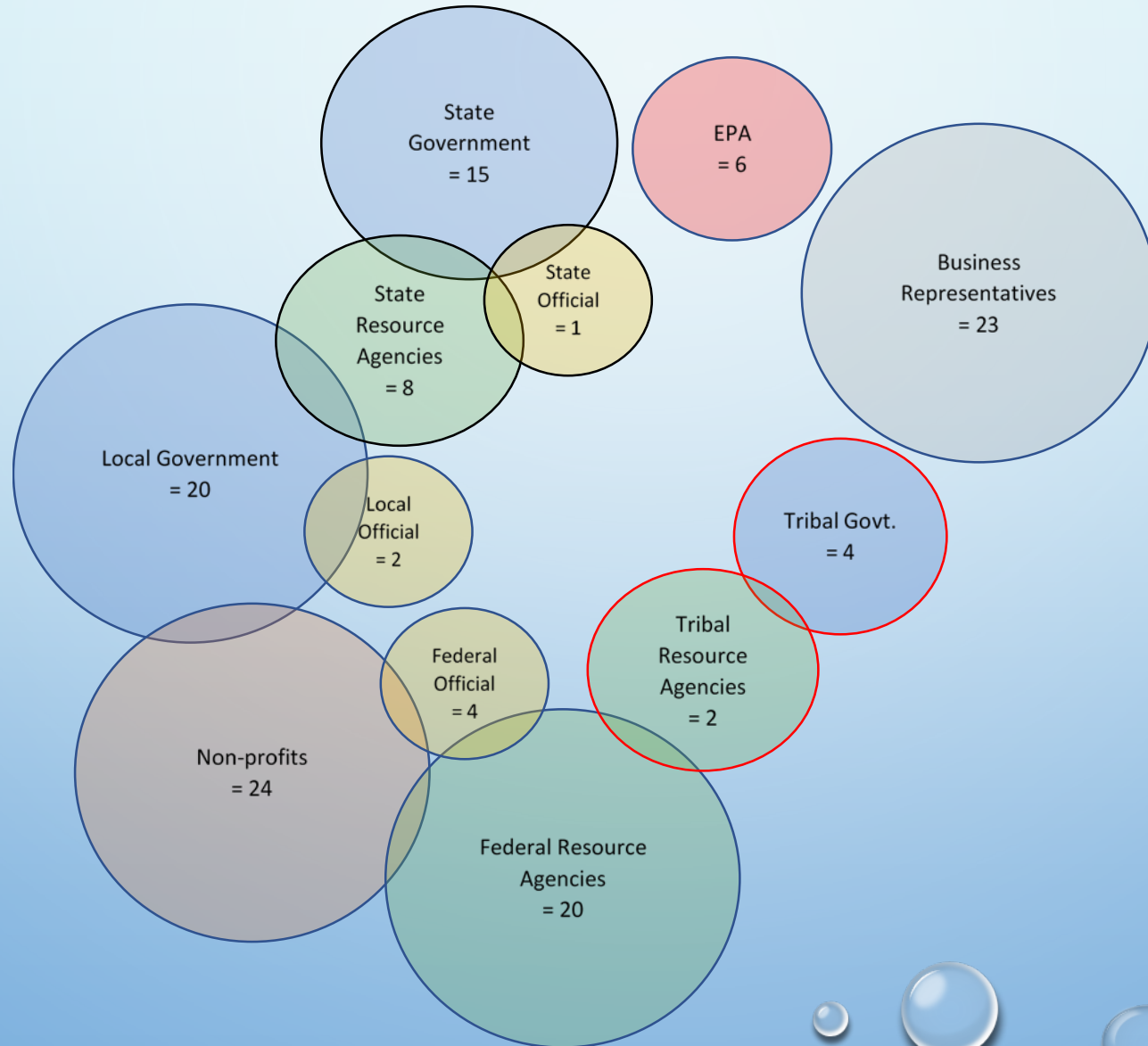
# Animas River Community Forum

In response to the Gold King Mine spill incident, the Animas River Community Forum came together.

It's purpose is to:

- **promote** communication, coordination and collaborative action;
  - **foster** public confidence;
  - **support** resiliency in our communities; and
  - **enhance** planning, improved public safety and health for the future
- All while honoring the institutional authorities and decision making of governmental and community organizations.

# Animas River Community Forum: Members



# Animas River Community Forum Objectives and Initiatives

- **Facilitate Dialogue Among Watershed Stakeholders**
- **Improve Emergency Response Notification**
- **Coordinate Public Information Messaging and Dissemination**
- **Committee Initiatives**
  - Monitoring Gaps Analysis Committee
  - Engagement Committee
  - Citizens Superfund Workgroup

# Facilitate Dialogue Among Watershed Stakeholders & the Public

- CONVENE BI-MONTHLY MEETINGS
- EMAIL UPDATES
- WEBSITE
- PROMOTE EVENTS
- MAINTAIN ARCF NETWORK & LIST-SERVE
- SUPPORT COMMITTEE INITIATIVES



# **GOLD KING MINE SPILL LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS- CAPTURE LESSONS, FACILITATE DIALOG**

## **2016**

1. SUPPORT ELECTED OFFICIALS TO DEVELOP A LONG-TERM SOLUTION TO ADDRESS LEGACY MINING ISSUES IN THE BASIN.
2. ARCF COORDINATED EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION BETWEEN LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND STATE REPRESENTATIVES

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## **2017**

1. SERVE AS A FORUM FOR UNDERSTANDING THE SUPERFUND PROCESS
2. EDUCATE FORUM MEMBERS ABOUT WAYS TO GET INVOLVED IN THE ISSUE OF MINING REMEDIATION AND WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS

OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN MORE AND GET INVOLVED!

*What should the Superfund Site near Silverton  
in the Animas Headwaters Accomplish?*

WHAT: Citizen Superfund Workgroup

WHY: Potentially over \$100 million of taxpayer funds could be utilized in cleanup efforts at the Bonita Peak Mining District Superfund Site over the next 15-20 years!

The **Citizens Superfund Workgroup** is designed to provide a forum, outside of EPA's periodic public outreach efforts, for the community to better understand the issues involved in the cleanup and to develop recommendations or goals the community would like to see given enormous effort that will be put into this Superfund site.

**For more information: [www.WeAreTheAnimas.com](http://www.WeAreTheAnimas.com)**



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH & EDUCATION

- **3 COMMUNITY FORUMS – BEFORE SPRING RUNOFF 2016**
- **ALERT NOTIFICATION PLAN DEVELOPED & IMPLEMENTED**
- **HOSTED 1 YEAR ANNIVERSARY EVENT CELEBRATING COMMUNITY RESPONSE TO GKM SPILL**
- **COMMUNITY SURVEY**



Community Voices | Exhibits  
Presentations | Live Music  
Refreshments | Cash Bar

[www.animasrivercommunity.org](http://www.animasrivercommunity.org)

## ANIMAS RIVER CELEBRATION

AUG 03	POWERHOUSE SCIENCE CENTER - DURANGO 5:30-8PM   WEDNESDAY
	FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

The poster features a scenic photograph of the Animas River flowing through a forest with autumn-colored trees. The text is overlaid on a dark teal background. The event details are presented in a structured layout with a date box and a table for location and time.

# Monitoring Exchange: Goals

*To develop a monitoring collaboration* and information system that makes relevant data available to keep our community resilient (avoid crises) and able to respond to a crises (*beyond* Gold King spill).

Use *existing resources* and efforts to build community capacity.

*Provide the right information to the right people at the right time* for timely response and retain quality of life.

# Survey Results: Communication Priorities

1. Data sharing: **cooperative and collaborative**.
2. Transparency of monitoring methods: **multiple sources** and **reliable**.
3. **Accessibility** of data: online, news media, understandable.
4. **Usefulness**: what does it mean for people's use and enjoyment of river, and what are the 'implementation' factors?

# Survey Results: Monitoring Priorities

1. Monitoring data should **serve various purposes**: river use (daily and weekly); river health (quarterly or yearly); and agricultural use (quarterly).
2. Short term priority: **Is the river safe?** - for river users in real time.
3. Long term priority: **Is the river healthy?** - overall health of physical and biological parameters.
4. **Trends** over longer periods of time (e.g. decades). - address changes in the river.
5. **Quality of life** questions should be addressed through monitoring.

THANK YOU