**Action Team – Interview and Data Collection Form**

**Action Team Member:** Rick Hum

**How Might We:** Protect and Continue to Improve Water Quality in Chaffee County

**Data Source:**

Name: Sarah Wheeler

Lorie Peterson

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CDPHE – Water Quality Control Division

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Add Contact to Envision Contacts? Y/N - No

**Insights:** Water Quality in the Arkansas River and tributaries has improved over the last 20 years. A Superfund clean-up of historic mining areas in Leadville has allowed the mainstem of the Arkansas to recover and be listed as a gold medal fishery.

Some water quality challenges remain on the mainstem and many tributaries. Every other year the Water Quality Control Commission based on recommendations from the Water Quality Control Division updates Regulation 93, listing Impaired Waters of Colorado. The report referenced below includes all impaired waters within Chaffee County with some historical water quality monitoring data. The mainstem of the Arkansas River brings some metal loading into Chaffee County. It appears that at least some of the small tributaries above Browns Creek are adding to the metal loading. Chalk Creek is an area that has been studied a great deal. There are still some concerns over water quality of Chalk Creek.

The Impaired Waters in Chaffee County report is intended to be a baseline report showing the current water quality status. Hopefully, over time we can continue to track this type of information and work towards continued improvements in water quality.

Any reports or maps or web links the team should read/review?

**Impaired Waters in Chaffee County.**