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## **New Report Details Climate Change Impacts on Colorado Water RMCO Played Key Role in Report**

Louisville – The Rocky Mountain chapter of Environmental Entrepreneurs (E2), a group of 80 Colorado business leaders who promote policies that are environmentally and economically sustainable, released today a [report](#) recommending the strongest goal for water conservation in Colorado yet proposed by any group. The Rocky Mountain Climate Organization provided for the report information and analysis on climate change effects on Colorado’s water resources, which underscore the need for actions of the type recommended by the E2 chapter.

“This report pulls together for the first time in one easily readable document all the ways in which climate change is already affecting Colorado’s water supplies and likely will disrupt them more in the future. It lays out the facts, from lower supplies of water to higher demands for water, and how that combination could trigger statewide water restrictions under interstate compacts,” said Stephen Saunders, the president of RMCO. “This is what every Coloradan should know about possible future water shortages from the combined effects of climate disruption and interstate compacts.”

The report’s central recommendation is that the Colorado state government should establish a goal of reducing per capita water use by municipal and industrial users by 25 percent by 2025 and by 50 percent by 2050, compared with 2010 levels. This would follow similar actions by the state governments of California and Utah, but the Colorado goal recommended in the report calls for more water conservation than any other group has yet proposed. The report details, though, how the recommended goals are both achievable, based on water savings already achieved in Colorado and other western states, and needed to reliably and sustainably meet Colorado’s future water needs.

The report also includes several other recommendations, including that the state government undertake a detailed analysis of how climate change may affect demands for water in the state—which was not done for the state’s 2010 Statewide Water Supply Initiative report but was recommended in that report as an important step for water planning in the state.

The Rocky Mountain Climate Organization is the only public education and advocacy organization in the Rocky Mountain region focused exclusively on climate change, its impacts, and what can be done to address them both. The partners in RMCO’s mainstream coalition include 11 local governments, Denver Water, and eight other organizations from Colorado Municipal League to Western Resource Advocates. More information is available at [www.rockymountainclimate.org](http://www.rockymountainclimate.org).