

STATE OF COLORADO

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John W. Hickenlooper
Governor

Governor's Memorandum of Potential Drought Emergency

TO: Executive Directors, Departments of State Government
FROM: John Hickenlooper, Governor, State of Colorado *JWH*
RE: Expanded Activation of the Colorado Drought Mitigation and Response Plan

DATE: May 10, 2013

Despite recent snow, extreme drought conditions continue to persist throughout Colorado, and are likely to result in impacts to some portions of the state this spring and summer. If present trends continue natural environments and municipalities are likely to see impacts, and other sectors of the state's economy may also be affected. Due to lower than average storage, many municipalities have already announced water restrictions effective April 1st.

Under these circumstances, and based on a recommendation from the Directors from the Departments of Natural Resources, Agriculture and Local Affairs, I decided to expand the activation of the State's Drought Mitigation and Response Plan to include activation of the Municipal Drought Impact Task Force on May 10, 2013. This group will help facilitate and support response to conditions that impact the Municipal sector.

As of the date of this memorandum, the Municipal Impact Task Force will be activated for the entire state. The following actions, as specified in the Plan will be taken:

- 1) Drought Task Force remain activated under chairmanship of directors from the Departments of Natural Resources, Local Affairs, and Agriculture. They will continue to meet regularly during the period of activation.
- 2) The Municipal Impact Task Force (ITF) be activated for the entire state of Colorado.
- 3) The Municipal Impact Task Force will make an initial damage or impact assessment (physical and economic).
- 4) The Municipal Impact Task Force will recommend opportunities for incident mitigation to minimize or limit potential impacts.
- 5) All addressees will assign: (1) A senior level manager who can commit the resources of the department to act as a drought coordinator and (2) Task Force chairpersons and participants as indicated the Colorado Drought Mitigation and Response Plan.
- 6) Lead agencies will be prepared to take action for drought response and to mitigate drought impacts as appropriate.