



drought preparedness needs of tribes, small rural water districts, and small self-supplied water users.

- ☀ Development of an array of coordination strategies to provide support for state, local, and tribal drought planning and mitigation measures.
- ☀ Support of state, local, and tribal initiatives to coordinate with current regional drought planning entities, perhaps within watersheds or river basins, or to establish new regional entities.
- ☀ An assessment of major river basin initiatives and state programs to determine which methods have proven most effective in reducing conflicts over water.
- ☀ Development of a handbook of emergency drought preparedness measures.
- ☀ A survey of user groups to ascertain drought monitoring, prediction, and research needs and expectations.
- ☀ Establishment of drought impact assessment teams of federal, state, and other experts who are responsible, after drought events occur, for analyzing the causes and aggravating factors that contribute to drought and its social, economic, and environmental impacts.
- ☀ Development of a handbook on water supply techniques, including traditional and non-traditional strategies.
- ☀ Advocacy of drought-related educational training programs within universities, agencies, and public sector programs.

The co-chairs should report to the President and Congress annually on the progress of these activities

**5.5 Authorization and appropriations.** We recommend that Congress provide federal departments and agencies with appropriate authority and funding needed to carry out the recommendations in this report. As noted at the beginning of this report, consideration should be given to the costs and benefits associated with drought preparedness, mitigation, and response measures.