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Contact: Sam Scinta
(608) 797-4417/sam@fulcrumbooks.com

How the West Was Warmed
Responding to Climate Change in the Rockies
Edited by Beth Conover
Foreword by Denver Mayor John Hickenlooper
Afterword by Colorado Governor Bill Ritter

Denver, CO— For over two decades, the Rocky Mountain West has been a leader in addressing climate change, and today it is the hub of solutions to this pressing global issue. With the UN Climate Change Conference on the immediate horizon, this timely, engaging and entertaining new collection of essays by over 40 notable and award-winning journalists, scientists, naturalists, and policymakers, including Auden Schendler, Randy Udall, Peter Heller, Laura Pritchett, Florence Williams, and Michelle Nijhuis, shows us how climate change has and continues to affect the ways in which we live, work, and play. According to editor Beth Conover, noted environmentalist and Greenprint Denver founder, “because of the West’s entrepreneurial spirit and its love of new beginnings, the New Energy Economy of which our new president speaks so hopefully found its beginnings” in the region.

As Conover points out, “no other issue in our time has required such a fundamental re-accounting of the energy we use to maintain almost everything we as Americans take for granted as our birthright.” Through the contributors’ essays, which cover topics including water use, tourism impacts, urban farming, food production, the nexus between religion and climate change, and media coverage of the issue, a wide-ranging portrait of the response to climate change is developed, one that is useful for citizens and policymakers around the world.

An alternative to the many dry scientific books and how-to greening manuals about global warming, *How the West Was Warmed* provides insight, hope, and a little dose of humor to inspire all Americans, demystifying climate

change as an abstract concept and instead showing how it impacts all of us, each day, where we live . At a time when, as Conover points out, there is little real-time information being written on the topic of climate change, these essays convey a sense of immediacy about the issue, reflecting how we live today as we face our planet's future.

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Beth Conover, Editor
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Editor Beth Conover has worked for twenty-five years at the intersection of environmental protection and economic development. As policy advisor to Denver mayor John Hickenlooper, she was the architect of Greenprint Denver, one of the nation's earliest and largest urban sustainability programs, and helped lay the groundwork for the greening of the Democratic National Convention in 2008. She is the recipient of the Mitchell Young Scholar Award for Sustainable Development and the Wirth Chair Sustainability Award of the University of Colorado at Denver.

Contributors include David Akerson; Steve Andrews; Michael L. Beatty; Matthew H. Brown; Diane Carman; John Daley; Mark Eddy; Catherine Greener; Jill Hanauer, David Winkler, Lisa Grove, Melissa Chernaik, and Andrew Myers; Todd Hartman; Peter Heller; Mayor John Hickenlooper; Jocelyn Hittle and Ken Snyder; The Staff of Holy Cross Energy; Susan Innis; Michael Jamison; Kirk Johnson; Lisa Jones; Sean Kelly; Eric Kuhn; Susan Moran; Todd Neff; Michelle Nijhuis; Jackson Perrin and Dev Carey; Laura Pritchett; Josh Radoff; Martha

Records; Governor Bill Ritter; Jim Robbins; Hillary Rosner; Jason Salzman;
Auden Schendler; Tim Sullivan; Stephen Trimble; Brad Udall; James R. Udall;
Heidi VanGenderen; Marc Waage; Chip Ward; and Florence Williams