

Cinnabar announces 2011 Initiative on Climate Change

The horizon for the Cinnabar Foundation is perpetuity, and we consider Big Sky Country to be a landscape of promise for future generations. Yet a dark cloud jeopardizes long-term conservation of Montana's spectacular environmental values. That cloud is human-induced climate change, which threatens to rob the future of our clean and abundant waters, diverse wildlife, healthy working landscapes, and outdoor recreation that define the essence of Montana and the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.

A rapidly warming climate will compound existing problems and create new and unforeseen difficulties for our natural landscape, communities and livelihoods. Scientists tell us that likely impacts in Montana include longer droughts, drier rivers, more extreme weather events, greater flooding, larger and hotter forest fires, loss of natural habitat, and spread of invasive weeds.

American society, indeed the entire world, is failing to rise to this formidable challenge. Yet conservation groups and educators across Montana are taking important steps to address climate change. To further encourage such efforts, the Cinnabar Foundation will prioritize grants to non-profit organizations and projects in 2011 that address one or more aspects of climate change, including:

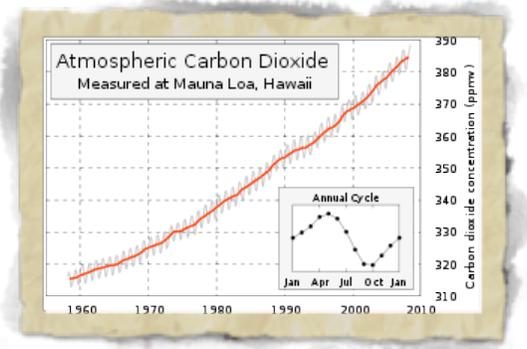
- Action to reduce or prevent greenhouse gas emissions and ensure that carbon budgets are accounted for in environmental planning
- Promotion and development of alternative, green energy



Boulder Glacier, Glacier National Park
G. Grant 1932



Boulder Glacier, Glacier National Park
Jerry DeSanto 1988



- 🌐 Education and public outreach
- 🌐 Climate adaptation strategies to safeguard and buffer conservation and community values in an age of climate change. Adaptation strategies might include water conservation and streamside rehabilitation, forest stewardship and restoration, landscape connectivity for wildlife, and noxious weed control.

Human-induced climate change already is happening, but it is not too late to reign in the worst of the potential impacts. As Montana's homegrown conservation fund, the Cinnabar Foundation encourages residents, leaders and communities in Montana and the Yellowstone region to do their part for future generations.

The Cinnabar Foundation will continue to support groups and projects engaged in the foundation's traditional areas of interest, including private land conservation, environmental advocacy, Montana conservation history, watershed partnerships, and youth in conservation programs.

Steve Thompson, Executive Director
steve@cinnabarfoundation.org
406 250 9810