



December 10, 2009

«Name»

«preferred_constituent_name»

«address1»«address2»«address3»

«city», «state» «zip_code»

Dear «informal_salutation»,

You care deeply about the planet, its magnificent species and landscapes, and the fact that its resources are disappearing at an alarming rate. As an environmentalist, you do what you can to lessen your impact in your community by acting locally and thinking globally.

The same is true for indigenous and local communities in the Amazon. Here, tribal groups bear the brunt of climate change as their ancient forest homelands are cleared, throwing rain cycles and forest ecosystems off-balance and driving local wildlife – a vast array of species – to the brink of extinction. It is at this level—hand in hand and shoulder to shoulder—that the **Amazon Conservation Team partners with indigenous people to conserve biodiversity and culture in tropical America.** ACT empowers these communities to protect their traditional homelands—the very rainforests upon which the natural equilibrium of our planet depends.

We train indigenous park guards. We partner with Google Earth and the Surui of the southwest Amazon to protect their borders with digital accuracy. We bring Indians and government leaders together at the negotiating table. We train indigenous women to protect endangered crop varieties. Through such innovative and sustainable projects, **ACT is helping indigenous people define a new era in the Amazon, one that serves their needs, and that may well save the planet.**

Saving the Amazon and empowering its people is a tall order, and we can't do it alone. **We need the support of every environmentalist—including you.** Your annual gift is extremely important and greatly appreciated, especially in these economic times.

If you have already made your year-end gift, we sincerely thank you. If not, there's still time to protect the Amazon and the forests that sustain us. Please join us. Make your financial contribution today.

Sincerely,

Dana Milyak
Development Manager
Enclosures