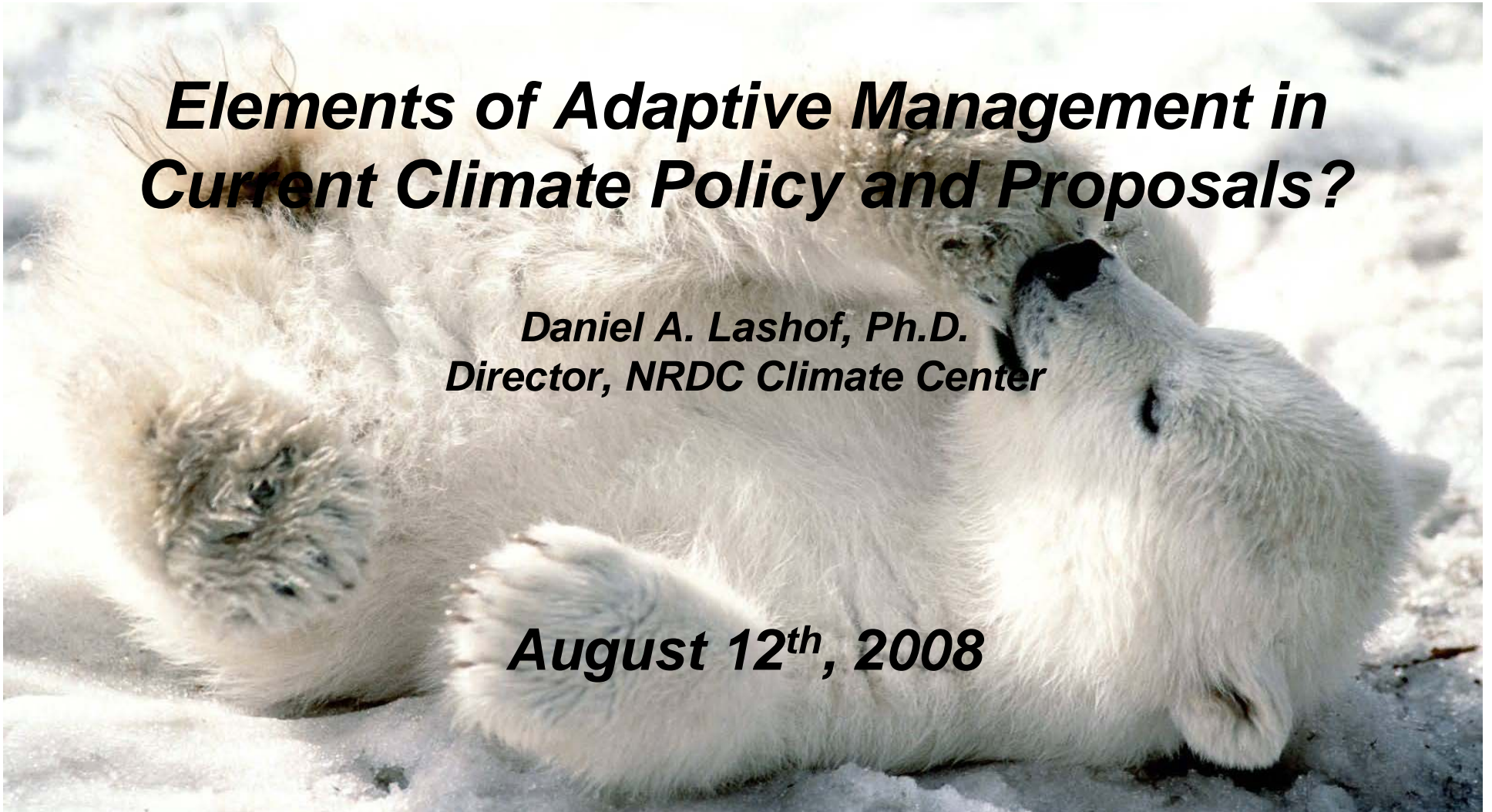




# ***Elements of Adaptive Management in Current Climate Policy and Proposals?***

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***August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008***



# *Outline*



1. Framework Convention
2. Kyoto Protocol
3. EU temperature target
4. State policies
5. Congressional bills
  - Time horizon
  - Banking and borrowing
  - Periodic assessment
  - Expedited procedure

# *Framework Convention: Article 2*



The ultimate objective of this Convention and any related legal instruments that the Conference of the Parties may adopt is to achieve, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention, **stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system.** Such a level should be achieved within a time frame sufficient to allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change, to ensure that food production is not threatened and to enable economic development to proceed in a sustainable manner.

## ***Framework Convention. Article 4.2(d)***



- Review of the adequacy of commitments “in the light of the best available scientific information and assessment on climate change and its impacts, as well as relevant technical, social and economic information.
- Repeat review at regular intervals “until the objective of the Convention is met.”

# *Kyoto Protocol*



- Response to failure of “voluntary” targets in Framework Convention
- First commitment period 2008-2012
- Protocol commitments also subject to periodic review
- Commitments for 2013-? to be determined at COP 15 in Copenhagen, December 2009

# *EU Temperature Target*

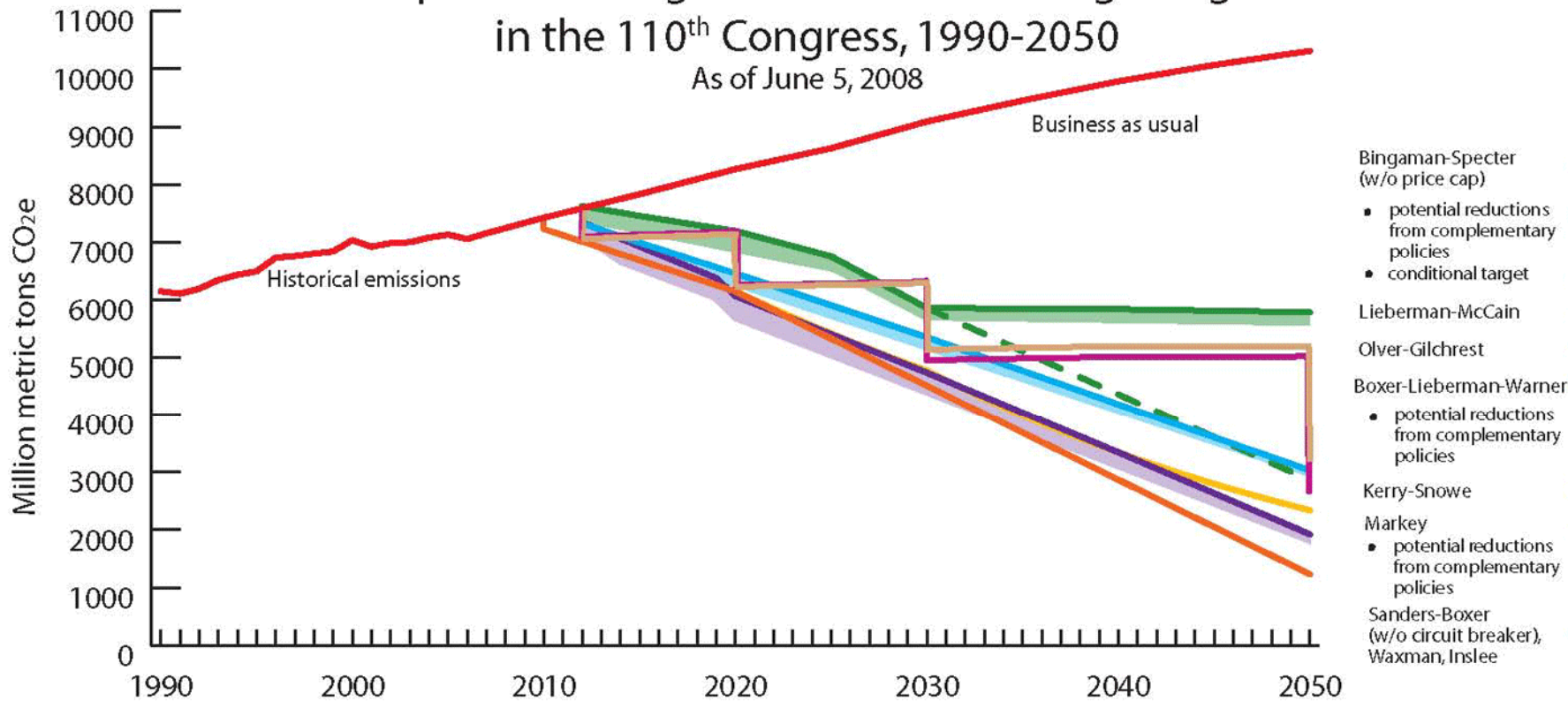


- “strategic objective of limiting the global average temperature increase to not more than 2°C above pre-industrial levels.”
- European Council endorses an EU objective of a 30 % reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2020 compared to 1990 ...provided that other developed countries commit themselves to comparable emission reductions
- the EU makes a firm independent commitment to achieve at least a 20 % reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2020 compared to 1990.

# U.S. Proposals: Time Horizon



Comparison of Legislative Climate Change Targets  
in the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress, 1990-2050  
As of June 5, 2008



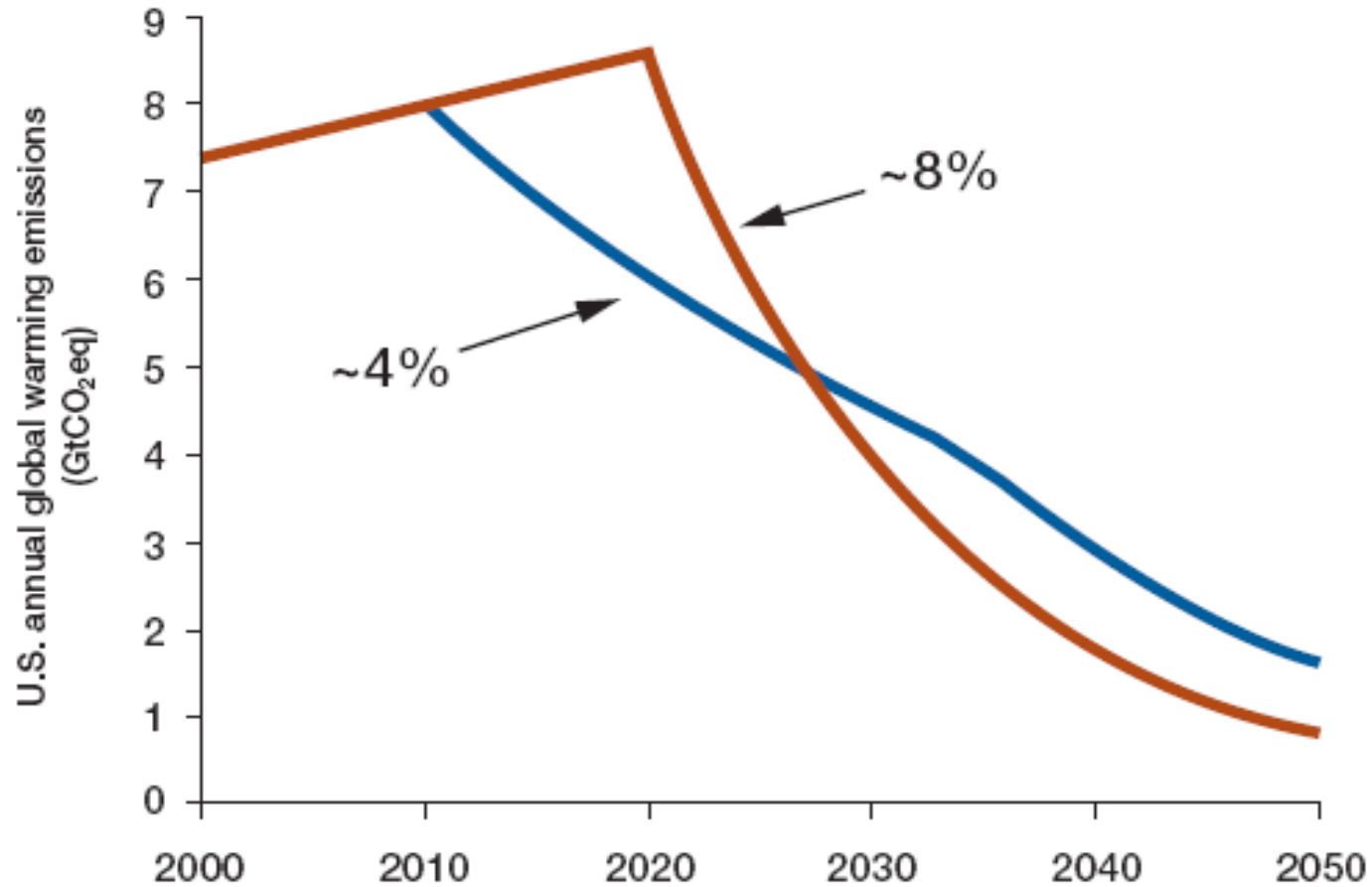
 WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE

For a full discussion of underlying methodology, assumptions and references, please see <http://www.wri.org/usclimatetargets>. WRI does not endorse any of these bills. This analysis is intended to fairly and accurately compare explicit carbon caps in Congressional climate proposals and uses underlying data that may differ from other analyses. Price caps, circuit breakers and other cost-containment mechanisms contained in some bills may allow emissions to deviate from the pathways depicted in this analysis.

# U.S. Proposals: Banking & Borrowing



Slow start... crash (or burn finish)



Source: Union of Concerned Scientists

# *U.S. Proposals: Periodic Assessment*



- Boxer-Lieberman-Warner:
  - NAS review every 3 years.
  - Asses whether temperature increase  $> 2^{\circ}\text{C}$  likely
  - EPA recommends and president proposes legislation by 2020
- Kerry-Feinstein-Snowe adds
  - Global and national emission budgets to prevent warming  $> 2^{\circ}\text{C}$ .
  - President proposes legislation by 2019 and every 3 years thereafter

# *U.S. Proposals: Expedited procedure*



- Legislated changes expected before 2050, but default path matters
- Congress appears unwilling to delegate changes in emission limits to administration
- Kerry-Feinstein-Snowe:
  - Expedited procedure to ensure floor consideration of president's proposed changes
  - Forces votes in Senate and House by rule
  - Rules remain subject to change by each House

# *Can We Navigate This?*



*The Long Haul May be Sooner Than You Think*

