

# Opinion: Climate change is affecting snowpack

By Jeremy Jones, Reno Gazette-Journal

Dear Republican voters:

We need to talk. I'm a professional snowboarder, and during a 25-year career I've seen first-hand how winters have changed, how they've gotten warmer and inconsistent. For example, in the last 30 years, the northern hemisphere has lost a million square miles of spring snowpack and every year has been warmer than average since 1976. There has not been a colder than average year globally since I was a year old.

I know these changes worry you, too. "Sunny-day" flooding is a normal event now in Florida, sending sea water pouring into streets and homes at high tide, and a chunk of ice nearly the size of Delaware could break away from Greenland at any time. These are all glimpses into the future. Yeah, I know that the leaders of your party say climate change is a hoax, a global conspiracy, that it's natural cycles, etc. We both know that's not true. The science proves it, and polls show that Americans overwhelmingly think climate change is a problem that the government needs to address.

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