

## Community Comment 9/3/2013

By Jon Sapper  
Global Warming

How do ya like the warm temperatures of the last week or so? It's due to global warming....an acquaintance told me the other day. They also said, "Isn't it a shame that global warming is causing the low water flows in the Eel River and the possible salmon die-offs in the Klamath River?" Say What? I replied, "Yea, I'm sure it has nothing to do with the marijuana growers diverting much of the Eel River water and the Sacramento famers taking the Klamath River."

A while back, CNN said the earth is melting because of manmade global warming. CBS said the planet has an emergency because of climate change. ABC said there is debate, though, if the global warming is manmade or natural.

Scientists have determined the earth's temperature has increased  $\frac{1}{2}$  a degree since the 1980's and 1.4 degrees since the 1880's. University of Colorado scientists show data where the sea levels have been increasing, but then say the global sea level has been generally rising since 1860 or earlier.....45 yrs. before surface temperatures began to rise and 75 yrs. before man made emissions. So what gives here?

It may depend on what you would like it to say. In 1975, Newsweek reported the planet was cooling and it would result in a drastic decline in food production. 30 yrs. later Newsweek reported that China was undergoing a severe food shortage due to global warming. That's a quick switch. I'm sure it had nothing to do with the population explosion and 2 billion people.

A 2004 paper in the Journal of Bioscience said that temperatures, growing seasons, rainfall and sunlight increased worldwide vegetation production by 6.2% between 1982 and 99. We need to get these folks in touch with China.

The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization said from the mid-70's to the late 90's that food consumption per person increased 15% world wide and 36% in China. Per person! Maybe that's why the shortage occurred. I don't know.

The Washington Post said scientists around the globe now have rejected the main arguments and that the climate isn't warming, humans aren't responsible and the whole thing isn't a problem. An August 2011 petition signed by 9000 Ph.D. air, water and land scientists agreed with that conclusion and said any warming that may occur could actually be beneficial to natural plant and animal environments.

I like to listen to the scientists, but in this case, I have no idea what to believe. I'm confused, except for the 15% increase in food consumption per person. I personally have proved that one. But if we want to take immediate steps to try and lower global temperatures, I suggest we take the advice from Jimmy Kimmel.....let's just switch from Fahrenheit to Celsius.

This has been Jon Sapper for Community Comment.