

Republican Perspective
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by Ed Manning

What Will It Be This Year?

Regarding the Green movement: "Well, it's a religion, really, you see. It's totally unscientific." James Lovelock, British Scientist

It's that time of year again, on Sunday April 22nd, environmental statisticians will continue their indoctrination. Earth Day is upon us! Guilt and shame will rain down on all for driving gasoline cars, flying on planes, grilling hamburgers, heating/cooling homes with fossil fuels, planting grass lawns, using wood burning fireplaces, plastic bags, etc. Sell your home in suburbia and move into stack and pack housing next to a "transit village."

Not to disparage leading environmental scientists, but their apocalyptic predictions make you scratch your head. They have wildly missed the mark. For the record, Republicans support clean air and water. Our differences with extreme environmentalists are over the cost/benefit of stringent economic regulations.

So let's take a walk down environmental memory lane:

- Dr. Paul Ehrlich (Dr. Doom), the President of the Center for Conservation Biology at Stanford University solemnly predicted in 1970 that "air pollution...is certainly going to take hundreds of thousands of lives in the next few years alone." He warned that 200,000 Americans would die in 1973 during "smog disasters" in New York and Los Angeles. In his book "The Population Bomb" he offered: "The battle to feed all of humanity is over." He forecasted that hundreds of millions would starve to death in the 1970s, that 65 million of them would be Americans, that crowded India was essentially doomed, that odds were fair "England will not exist in the year 2000." Dr. Ehrlich warned in 1970 that "sometime in the next 15 years, the end will come." By "the end," he meant "an utter breakdown of the capacity of the planet to support humanity."
- Dr. John Holdren, professor, Harvard Belfer Center for Science & International Affairs and former Obama Science Advisor and Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy did not want to be out done by Dr. Ehrlich. In the late 1980's he said: "it is possible that carbon dioxide climate-induced famines could kill as many as a billion people before the year 2020." Phew! Glad we missed that one! Dr. Holdren added that CO2 emissions caused by humans would lead to global cooling and a new ice age by 2020. Glad I kept my peacoat. It should come in handy in two years.

- The 2005 United Nations Environment Programme claimed that, by 2010, some 50 million “climate refugees” would be frantically fleeing from the Caribbeans, low lying Pacific islands, as well as coastal areas. However, the areas in question failed to produce a single “climate refugee.”
- The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and Dr. David Viner seem to agree that we are headed for global cooling. Since 2000, Dr. Viner has said that in “a few years,” snowfall would become “a very rare and exciting event” in Britain. “Children just aren’t going to know what snow is,” he was quoted in the UK’s *Independent*. The IPCC also claimed that “milder winter temperatures will decrease heavy snowstorms.” In 2014, the BBC, reported that the Scottish hills had more snow than at any point in seven decades.
- James Hansen, adjunct professor directing the Program on Climate Science, Awareness and Solutions of the Earth Institute at Columbia University and former head of NASA’s Goddard Institute for Space Studies is credited for starting the climate change debate. In 1988 he was asked how the “greenhouse effect” would impact his neighborhood in 20 years. Hansen offered: “The West Side Highway (which runs along the Hudson River) will be under water,” “And there will be tape across the windows across the street because of high winds. And the same birds won’t be there. The trees in the median strip will change.... There will be more police cars ... you know what happens to crime when the heat goes up.” Memo to Mr. Hansen, the West Side Highway is still jammed with traffic.

An ancient fossil finger bone recently discovered in Saudi Arabia has led archaeologists to believe that humans moved out of Africa more than 85,000 years ago vs. the previously recognized 60,000. Speculation is that humans moved many times as regional climate conditions changed between extremes of aridity and humidity. Did the burning of fossil fuels cause such extreme climate change?

Stay tuned this Earth Day for more alarming predictions. Without them the climate change cabal could not continue to garner their multi-billion dollar funding. More noted scientists are beginning to challenge the “consensus” claims of man-made global warming. Naturally, the statist berate them as “deniers.”