

UNL Scientists say Debate Over Climate Change is Over (KTNC)--Authors of a report on climate change from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln assert the debate about climate change is over.

One of the report's lead authors, UNL climate scientist Don Wilhite, says there's no question human activities are having a detrimental impact on our climate.

Another of the report's authors gives a perspective attempting to bridge the divergent views on climate change. UNL professor of climate modeling Bob Oglesby agrees, in part, with those who disagree that humans change the climate.

Oglesby says the climate has changed in the past, and will change in the future, due to natural reasons. But he says human activities are strongly affecting the way climate is changing at this time, causing the climate to change more rapidly than it would due to natural processes.

Wilhite says farmers and ranchers will face significant weather-related challenges in the coming decades. He says average temperatures will continue to rise with a substantial increase in high-temperature stress days over 100 degrees. And while average annual precipitation may not change much, Wilhite says severe storms and floods will be more common. He says increased innovation will be needed to keep pace with changes that are coming.

The authors of the report say it's time to end the debate on climate change and to prepare for it and try to mitigate it.

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