

Libby [REDACTED]

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6PC

English

Economy and Environment getting hurt

In the past several years temperatures have increased which have harmed the environment and others in Vermont. The rise of average annual temperatures is causing problems in Vermont economically and environmentally; from skiing and snowboarding to animals coming into hibernation.

Over the past 20 years, temperatures in the United States have increased by 1.5 degrees. Vermont has risen in temperatures by 2 degrees in the past decade. Sadly, Vermont is on the second top state that has risen temperatures. The other two states are Alaska and Maine. These rises in temperatures are really hurting our environment.

The skiing and snowboarding industries are getting hurt by the rise in temperatures. Hotter temperatures mean less snow. In a report from Historical Monthly (year?) snowfall in Burlington, Vermont was on average 76.4 inches of snow per year, since then we have decreased dramatically. In 2022 there were only 57.0 inches of snow. That is 22.4 inches less. This is forcing the resort industry into making more fake snow to support the tourist demand.

With the rise in temperatures, animals especially bears are coming out of hibernation early. CBS recently CBS news did a report: "Climate change is causing bears to come out of hibernation a

month early — which can be dangerous for humans” It stated that in March 2020 bears were coming out of hibernation one month early. With warmer temperatures bears are having a harder time finding food. When bears cannot find enough food they come into neighborhoods. Which leads to confrontations with humans.

The effects of climate change are getting worse and worse. We are being harmed economically and environmentally. All of Vermont is being harmed. We all need to put in the work to have a cleaner and healthier environment. Without the skiing and snowboarding industry we will all be feeling the negative impact of our everyday life not just in tourism and sport but also on the impact this has on our environment.