

America has voted a climate denier as president. Again. This time, overwhelmingly.

Climate and the environment were no part of this presidential campaign and, as a result, both will suffer tremendously – permanently – from [the worst environmental president in history](#) returning to office for another four years of war on nature. In his first term, Trump reversed or weakened 112 federal environmental regulations.

Trump's return to office, supported by billionaires, radical anti-public land right wingers, pollution industries, and gas and oil presents the worst-case scenario on every front for people who value clean air, clean water, wild animals, and wild places. Nearly half of Trump's initial political appointees for positions at the Environmental Protection Agency the first go-round had polluting industry ties.

LINK: <https://www.lcvictoryfund.org/trump-record/>

“A second Trump presidency is game over for meaningful climate action this decade, and stabilizing warming below 1.5C probably becomes impossible,” Michael Mann, climate scientist at the University of Pennsylvania, told The Guardian newspaper in October 2024.

1.5C is the threshold under which scientists believe the most catastrophic impacts of global warming could be avoided. The United States for 40 years has failed to do enough at the federal level to avoid surpassing 1.5C, with Trump racing hard in the opposite direction of clean energy, and as great a carbon emitter as the U.S. is, it's game over for 1.5C.

<https://blog.ecosia.org/trump-climate-impact/>

What happens past 1.5C? Apocalypse. [The collapse of the Gulf Stream](#). Natural disasters resulting in global death on a biblical scale.

I turn 50-years-old in 2025. I had held out some hope the worst impacts of climate change could be avoided. I no longer believe that. What I believe is that in my lifetime the planet will break. Disaster movie stuff. The planet's resilience to humanity's abuses over the past 150 years has been exhausted. The rubber band is about to break with four more years of the United States' federal government embracing polluting industries, primarily gas and oil, over clean energy and a health planet.

As I've written here before, when it comes to catastrophes of a global scale, like climate change and the extinction crisis, the only real effective measure to combat them must come at the scale of the federal government. Enormous, sweeping policy. Those enormous, sweeping, policies for the next four years will be working in the opposite direction.

In his first 100 days, Trump intends to reopen the Artic National Wildlife Refuge to oil drilling. Millions of acres taken from wildlife and given to Big Oil. We can also expect a Trump Administration to end the Biden Administration's pause on liquefied natural gas export terminals. These are designed to take huge volumes of US gas and ship it to Asia, where it will undercut the move to renewables. It is the last real growth strategy the oil industry has, and it is the biggest greenhouse gas bomb on the planet.

<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/ng-interactive/2024/sep/06/presidential-election-climate-crisis-project-2025-trump>

Oh, and the border wall will be extended, further cutting off migration corridors for wolves, jaguars, ocelots, tortoises and other species in the Southwest. Border walls don't really stop people from moving from Mexico into the United States, but they sure as hell prevent animals from doing so.

In Florida, for one thing, anticipate an industry-friendly Environmental Protection Agency to greenlight every wetlands permit request that comes across its desk from developers.

I could go on, but suffice to say, I feel as though the planet is entering end times. Look around. For all the problems, this may be as good as it gets.

What can you do? For starters. Protect yourself. Psychologically. As someone who cares about the environment, you are staring down the barrel of an unrelenting four years, 1,460 days, of bad news. At best. That's if the MAGA movement doesn't keep the White House after Trump. Whatever you need to do personally to survive this with your mind intact, do that. Whether it's shutting off from social media, removing yourself from society, moving, therapy, save yourself.

Secondly, with the fight for the environment on the ground at the federal (and state) government level lost, the battle for the environment will be fought in the courts over the next four years. If you so chose to financially support conservation organizations, I'd recommend channeling your donations to legal defense groups like the [Center for Biological Diversity](#), the [Defenders of Wildlife](#), and the [Natural Resources Defense Council](#) who will fight the Trump Administration's policies in court.

<https://www.biologicaldiversity.org/>

<https://defenders.org/>

<https://www.nrdc.org/>

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Just in case you needed some more bad news, the sinister Amendment 2 passed in Florida despite every conservation organization in the state, including the Florida Native Plant Society, opposing it and asking their membership to vote against it. Despite having to pass the difficult 60% approval threshold. This demonstrates the degree to which these organizations, even collectively, are powerless to reach and influence a large percentage of Floridians.

The so-called "Right to Hunt and Fish" amendment [opens up a huge can of worms for conservation across Florida](#), potentially allowing for a return to environmental abuses fought against and won by conservationist 20, 30, 40, 50 years ago.

<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2024/nov/07/florida-amendment-2-fish-trophy-hunting>