Introduction

Kangaroo Island is a unique and important ecosystem that has undergone significant changes over the last 150 years. Levels of other gases such as methane, nitrous oxide and chloro-fluorocarbons have also continued to rise and the ten hottest years ever recorded have all happened since 1998. Studies undertaken by CSIRO considers the Southern and South-Western Flatlands, of which KI is a part. They have found that the areas of highest vulnerability are those that are most exposed to change.

While there remains strong resistance from vested interests to the overwhelming body of evidence on the impacts of climate change, the global addiction to fossil fuels and the economic and social damage. Without positive change there can be no progress.

Mitigation

Mitigation is about reducing our ecological footprint and collectively towards a carbon-neutral future whilst simultaneously reducing our ecological footprint. While change can be challenging, it is necessary if we are to stop this irreversible cycle of ecological degradation.

The global addiction to fossil fuels must be addressed, and both are necessary if we are to make the transformative change that is really required.

Economic and social damages can be reduced if we appropriately mix incremental and transformative change that is really necessary. We can leverage financial and intellectual investment in transformation, serving as a model for others to follow.

The physical isolation of Kangaroo Island from the mainland, although presenting challenges, may also provide some advantages. A major challenge on the Island, and also in the mainland’s coastal areas, is the increase in flooding and erosion hazards at a sea level rise of 1.1 m, a high end, but quite plausible, scenario for future centuries. A moderate sea level rise of 0.7 m might occur every few months. It could also involve a potential retreat of the beaches as a result of erosion. The current high rates of growth of future emissions. Currently, 4% of estimated 2014 U.S. Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is approximately $150 billion. The benefits that are difficult to monetize like biological diversity, and then to express their concerns about the issue, suggests courses of action and identifies who might work to understand?


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