

Sir,

Most of those commenting on James Loveluck's gloomy predictions and that we have "passed the point of no return" in my opinion fail to understand the central point of Mr. Loveluck's argument and the predicament we find ourselves in.

The central theme is that we in reality do not understand the world we live in sufficiently in order to control it. No better example to illustrate this point than this weeks news that the world's forests contribute up to 30% of annual methane emissions. How this was missed is a mystery, but a clear example of how we are still learning about our planet rather than being in a position where we can control it effectively.

It is therefore very likely that many more climate feedback mechanisms are still waiting for scientists to discover them - let alone understand their full impact on the climate. And this is the central point in James Loveluck's argument. While a lot of people believe that we can limit the damage cause by climate change by reducing CO2 emissions, we are actually standing in a dark room trying to juggle an unknown number of balls with just one hand. Clearly a task we would be unable to master in a short period of time.

It is therefore very insightful of Mr. Loveluck to suggest that we as a nation have a contingency plan in place and that we do not fall victim to a false sense of security, which may delay us making tough long-term decisions about our planet's future.

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