



Expert: Arctic heating up, but it's not a bad thing ...

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It's beginning to look a lot like a HOT Christmas in the Arctic ... but it appears that only "climate change" alarmists are concerned.

According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the Arctic has actually experienced its warmest year ever recorded.

"Rarely have we seen the Arctic show a clearer, stronger or more pronounced signal of persistent warming and its cascading effects on the environment than this year," NOAA's Jeremy Mathis told USA Today.

The warmer temperatures in and around the Arctic have led people concerned about what they call "man-made climate change" or "global warming" to say to critics, "We told you so!"

However, Chip Knappenberger – a self-described lukewarmer working for the Cato Institute – is not ready to sound the alarm.

"It's expected that the Arctic is going to warm more than the rest of the world," Knappenberger told OneNewsNow. "Now, does that mean it's all doom and gloom? There, I take exception to that."

With any change, the climate expert maintains that there are going to be some winners ... and some losers.

"Some particular elements of the press like to focus on the losers – and pretend like the winners don't exist at all," Knappenberger contends. "But in that same annual Arctic report card from NOAA, there is plenty of good to be found there."

As an example, he points out that the ecosystem there is greening up as it gets warmer and that there is more carbon dioxide in the air.

"Ocean productivity that is limited by being covered by ice – where the ice melts back [as] the

ocean productivity increases – and the ocean productivity there is the bottom of the food chain – that sort of drives the arctic eco-system," Knappenberger explained. "There is good news for shipping interests up there, and there's all sorts of things you can hear about that [are] not all bad – but you never hear those things."