

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### **Growth adds compound effect to Lemmon Valley water woes**

As a resident of Lemmon Valley for more than 30 years, I've seen a lot of change. That includes the recent and continuing severe flooding of homes bordering Swan Lake. The explanation given was that all the new growth increased runoff, due to less available soil absorption.

This made sense to me until this year. Surprisingly, the lake level hasn't gone down — despite a warm summer and subsequent average precipitation.

Then, I realized it's not just runoff. Growth has also brought imported water into the valley. Much of this goes to the water treatment plant adjacent to Swan Lake. This, in turn, ends up in the lake, as well. Growth has had a compound effect. Pretty obvious, but I haven't heard anything about it.

This raises added questions about our county's growth, planning, openness, and subsequent decision-making. It appears there's cause for concern — especially for the residents out here.

*Tim King, Reno*