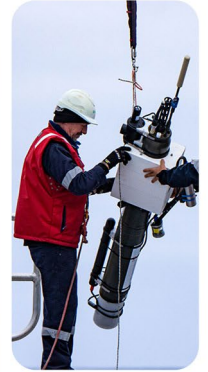
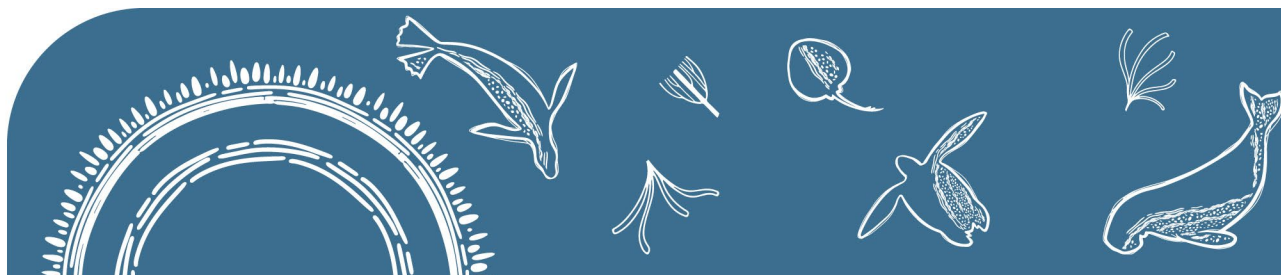


Marine Carbon Dioxide Removal

Challenges and Opportunities

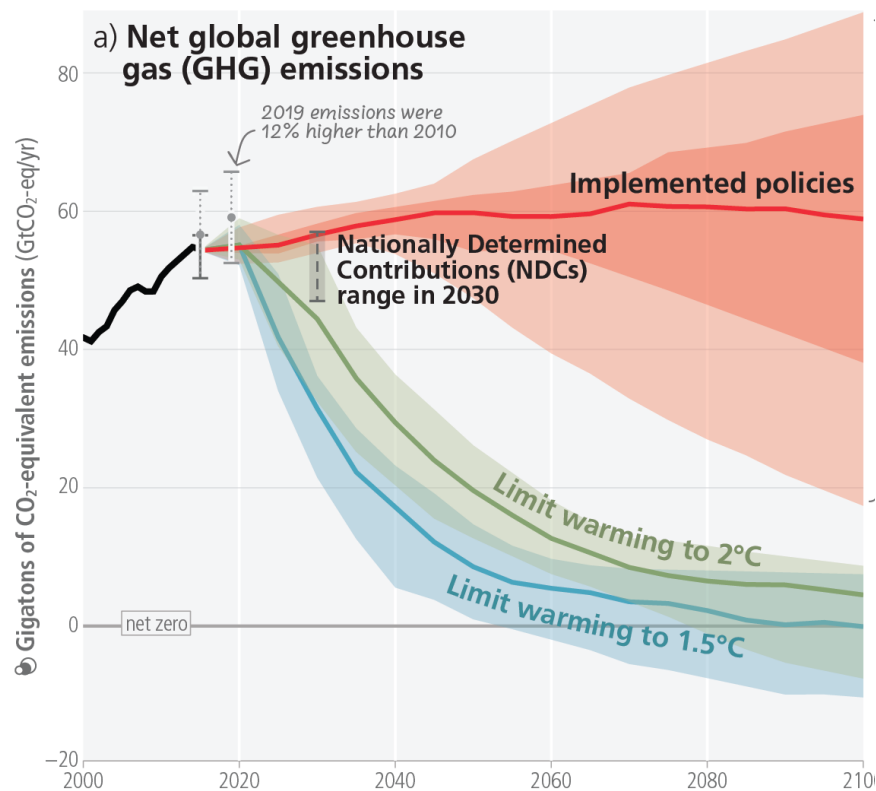


Elizabeth Shadwick | IMOS Annual Planning Meeting | 27 February 2025

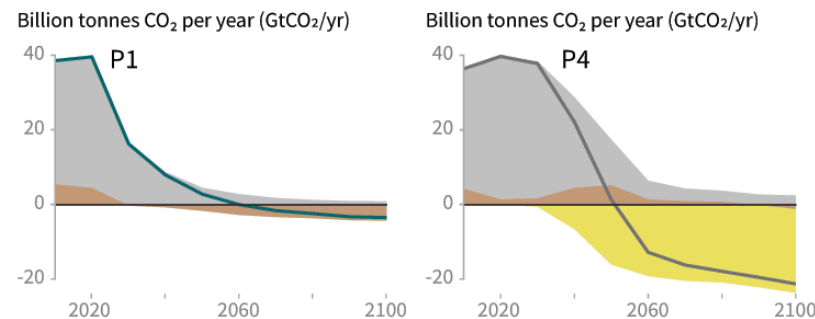


IMOS acknowledges the Traditional Custodians and Elders of the land and sea on which we work and observe, and recognise them as Australia's first marine scientists and carers of Sea Country. We pay our respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples past and present.

Limiting warming to 1.5°C and 2°C involves rapid, deep and in most cases immediate greenhouse gas emission reductions



Breakdown of contributions to global net CO₂ emissions in four illustrative model pathways



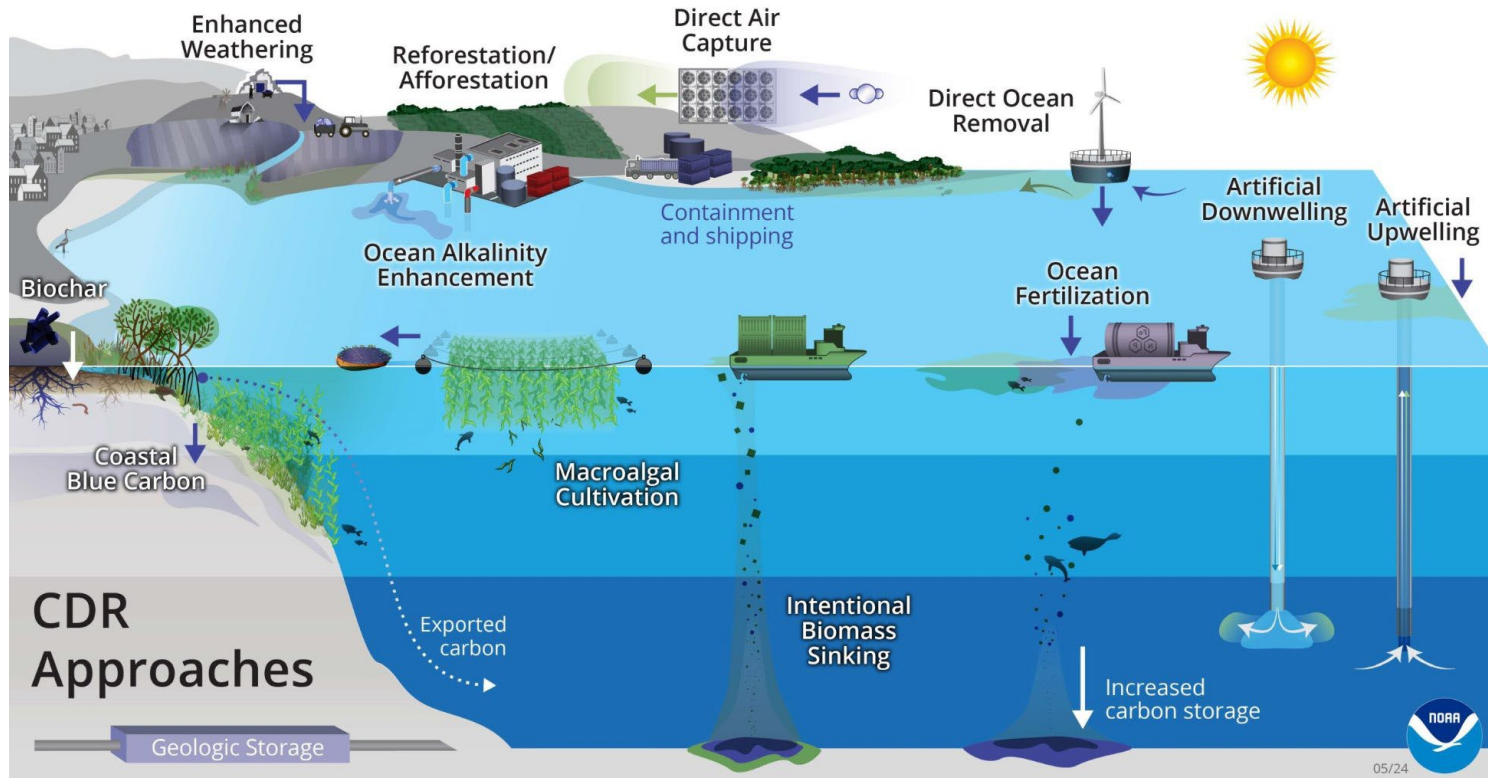
P1: A scenario in which social, business and technological innovations result in lower energy demand up to 2050 while living standards rise, especially in the global South. A downsized energy system enables rapid decarbonization of energy supply. Afforestation is the only CDR option considered; neither fossil fuels with CCS nor BECCS are used.

P4: A resource- and energy-intensive scenario in which economic growth and globalization lead to widespread adoption of greenhouse-gas-intensive lifestyles, including high demand for transportation fuels and livestock products. Emissions reductions are mainly achieved through technological means, making strong use of CDR through the deployment of BECCS.

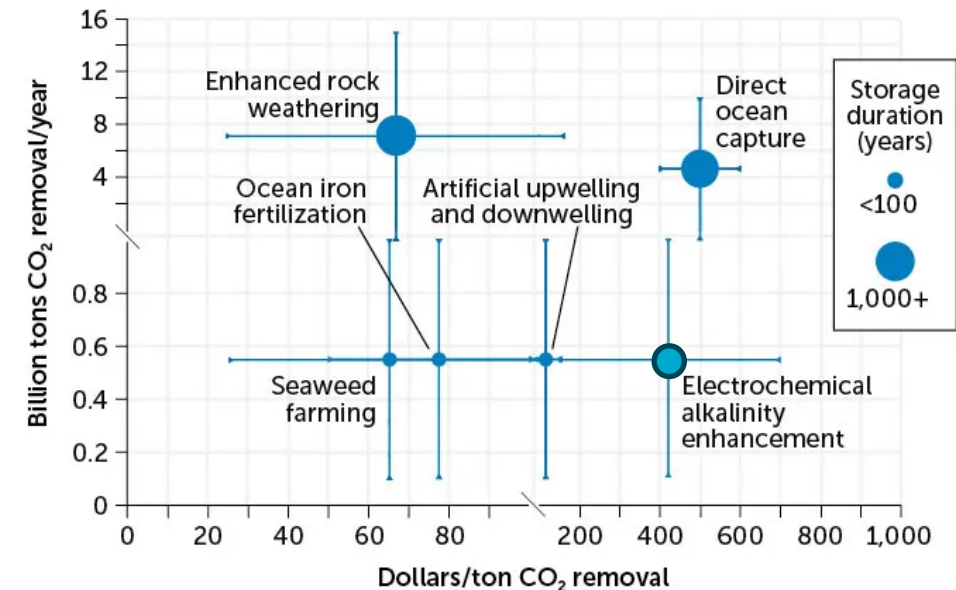
All pathways forward require carbon dioxide removal (CDR)

Why use the ocean for CDR?

Effective CDR requires **efficient capture** and **long-term storage** – the ocean has the potential to do both.



The ocean contains ~38,000 Gt* carbon (as dissolved inorganic carbon). Restoring atmospheric CO₂ levels to 280ppm requires removing 270 Gt carbon.



mCDR: Enhancing Ocean Carbon Storage

Foundation for Climate Restoration. 2023

BIOTIC
Coastal blue carbon, seaweed cultivation, artificial upwelling, iron fertilization

Portion of embodied carbon is stored in the deep ocean

Leverages photosynthesis to store CO₂ dissolved in seawater as biomass and natural ocean cycles to store a portion of that captured CO₂

ABIOTIC: Geochemical
Alkalinity enhancement

Dissolution of rocks and minerals

Dissolved CO₂

Storage as dissolved HCO₃⁻

Byproducts like calcium ions or silica*

Mimics natural rock weathering to store CO₂ dissolved in seawater as stable bicarbonate (HCO₃⁻)

**Byproducts depend on alkalinity source*

ABIOTIC: Electrochemical
Electrochemical concepts

Electric source

Seawater containing dissolved CO₂

electrode electrode

INPUT **OUTPUT**

CO₂ rich seawater Seawater stripped of CO₂ or alkalized

Employs electrolysis to extract CO₂ dissolved in seawater or make seawater more alkaline. Extracted CO₂ must be sequestered elsewhere.

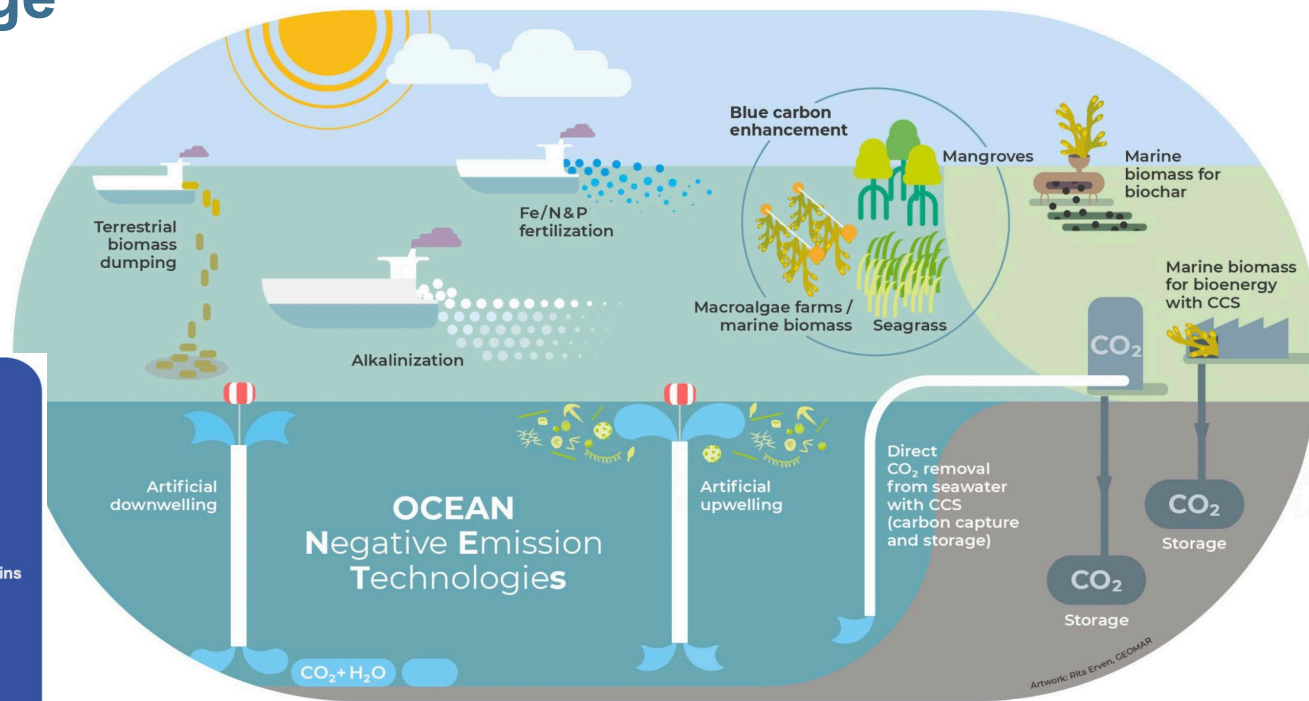
ABIOTIC: Physical
Artificial downwelling

Warmer water contains less CO₂

Water cools and absorbs more CO₂ as it moves to higher latitudes

Colder, denser water containing more atmospheric CO₂ sinks and stores carbon at depth

Utilizes characteristics of temperature and solubility to store dissolved CO₂ in deep waters by moving water via pumps or other means.



<https://www.oceannets.eu>



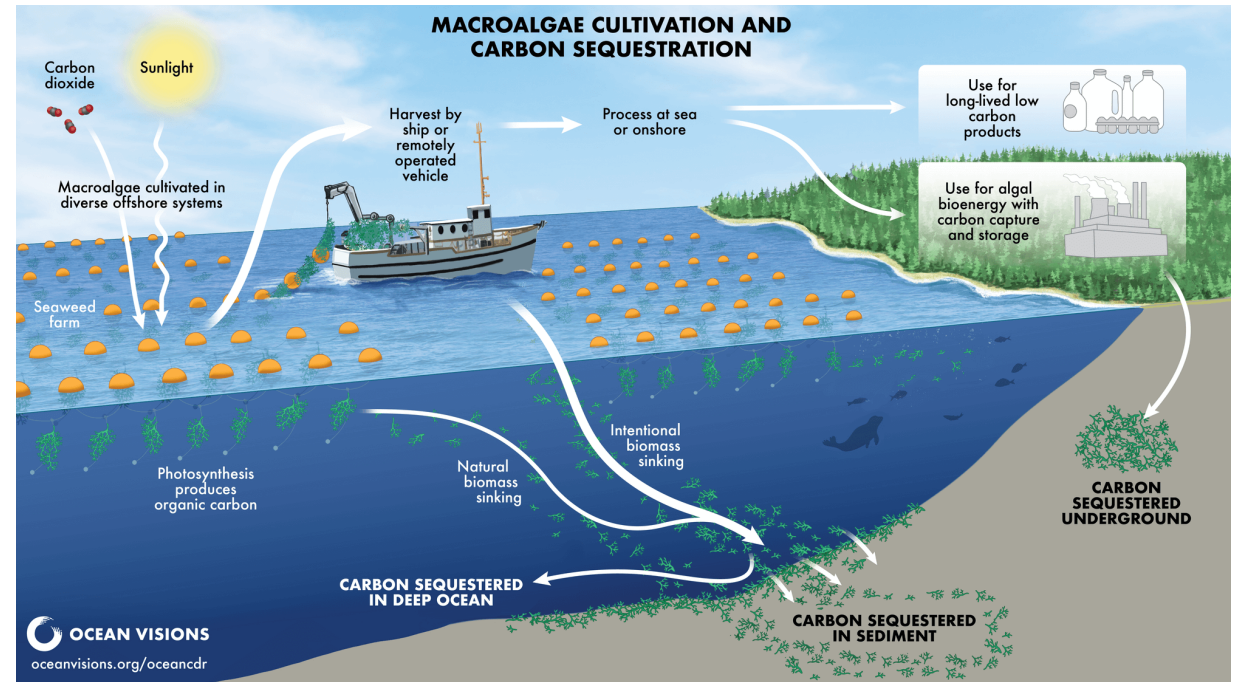
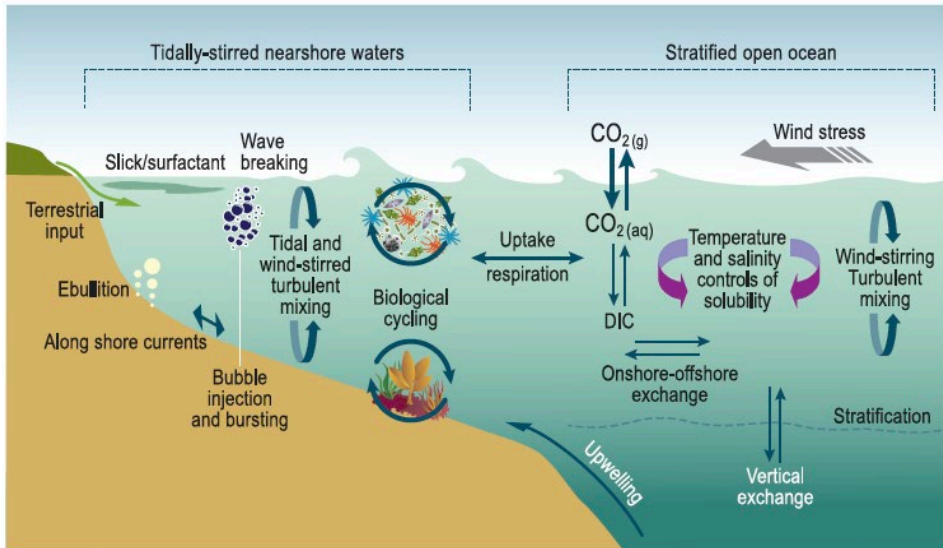
Macroalgae Cultivation (*Blue Carbon*)

J. Phycol. 58, 347–363 (2022)
 © 2022 Phycological Society of America
 DOI: 10.1111/jpy.13249

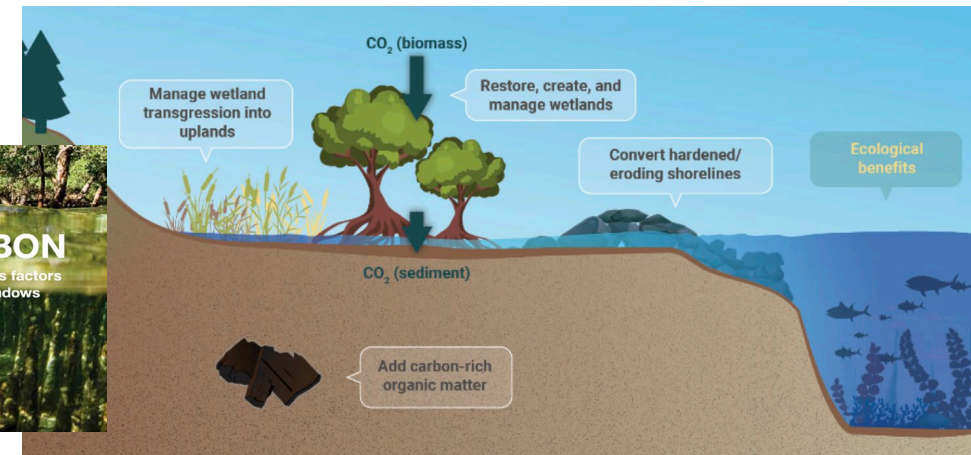
PERSPECTIVE

FORENSIC CARBON ACCOUNTING: ASSESSING THE ROLE OF SEAWEEDS FOR CARBON SEQUESTRATION¹

Hurd et al., 2022



<https://www.thebluecarboninitiative.org>



Iron (or other nutrient) fertilisation



EXOIS
EXPLORING OCEAN IRON SOLUTIONS

For more info contact info@oceaniron.org
 @ExOIS_OceanIron
oceaniron.org

Biogeosciences 

Reviews and syntheses: Ocean iron fertilization experiments – past, present, and future looking to a future Korean Iron Fertilization Experiment in the Southern Ocean (KIFES) project

Joo-Eun Yoon¹, Kyu-Cheul Yoo², Alison M. Macdonald³, Ho-Il Yoon², Ki-Tae Park², Eun Jin Yang², Hyun-Cheol Kim², Jae Il Lee², Min Kyung Lee², Jinyoung Jung², Jisoo Park², Jiyoung Lee¹, Soyeon Kim¹, Seong-Su Kim¹, Kitae Kim², and Il-Nam Kim¹

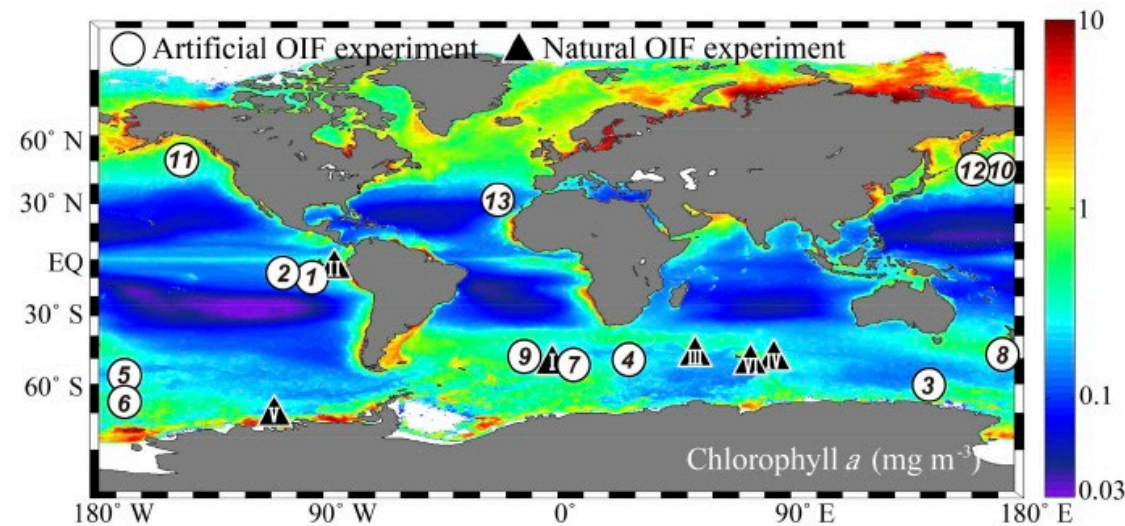
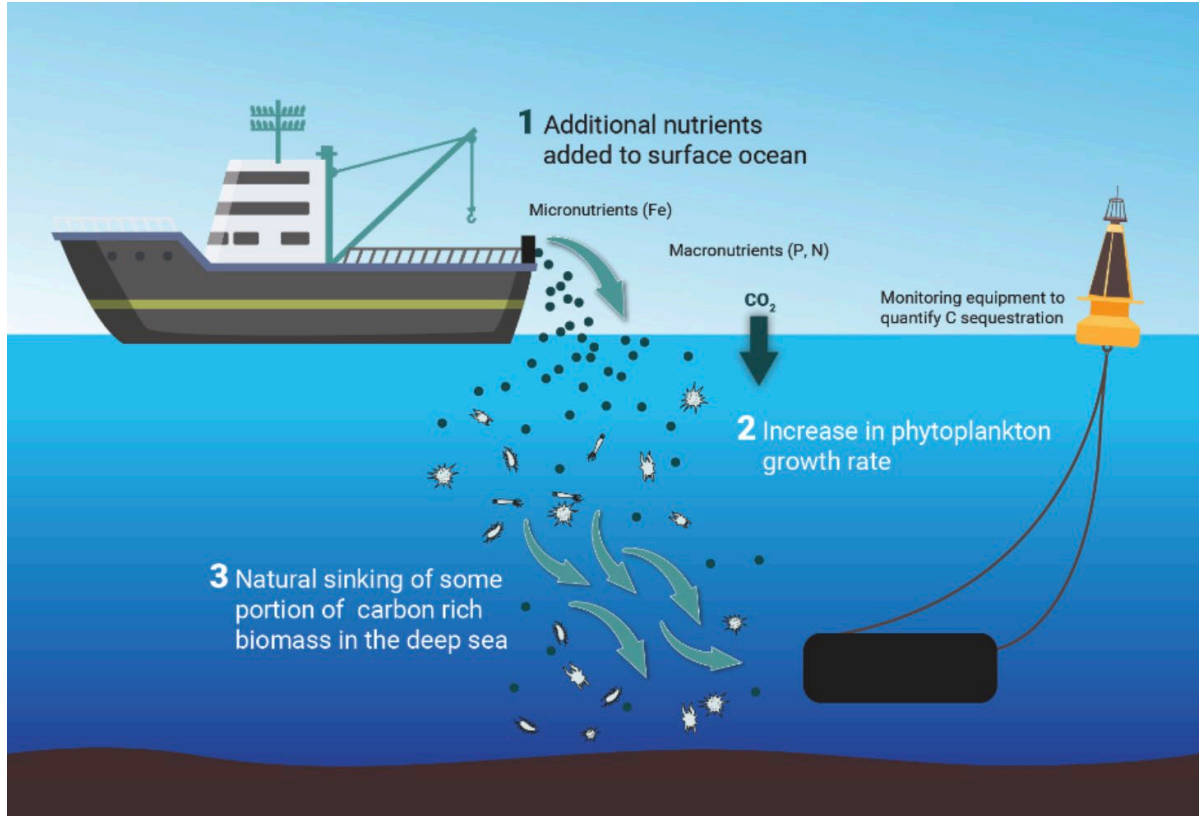
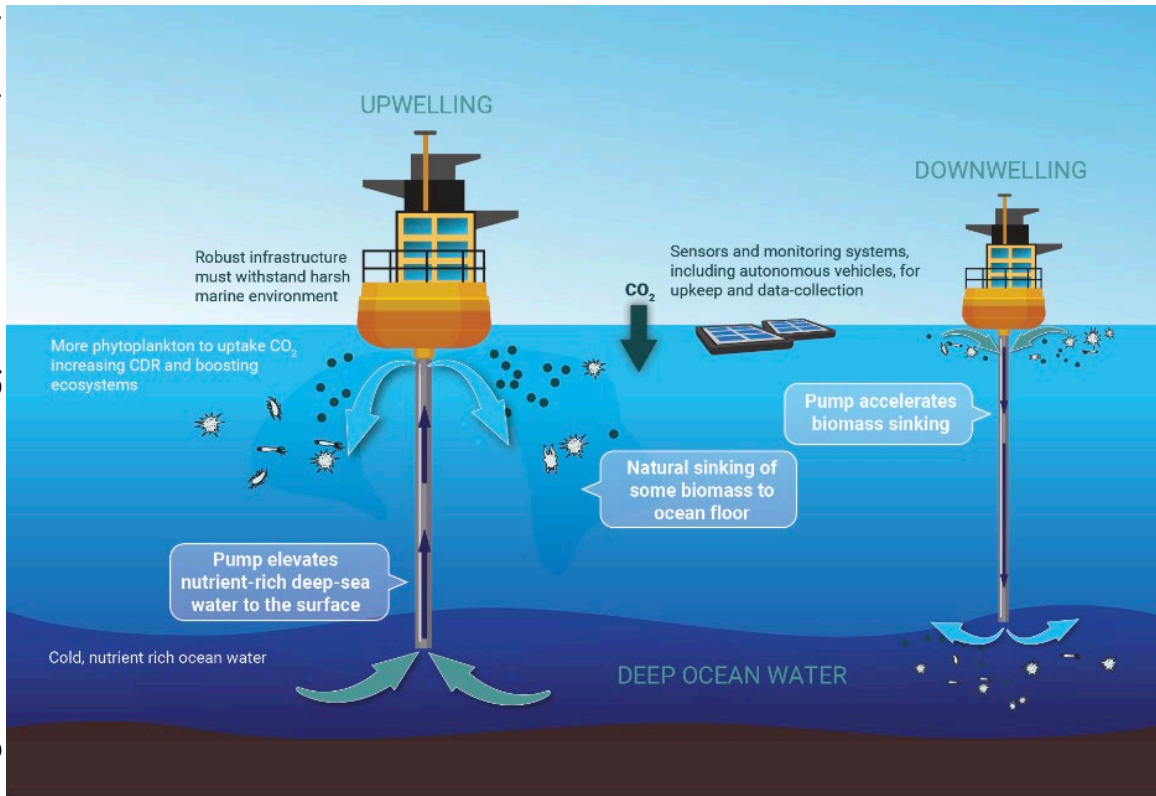


Figure modified from: Energy Futures Initiative (2020)

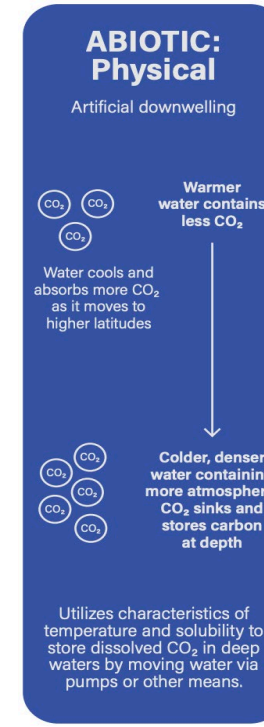
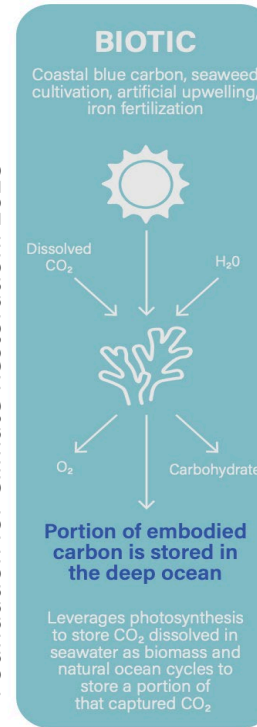


Artificial Upwelling and Downwelling

Figure modified from: Energy Futures Initiative (2020)



Foundation for Climate Restoration. 2023

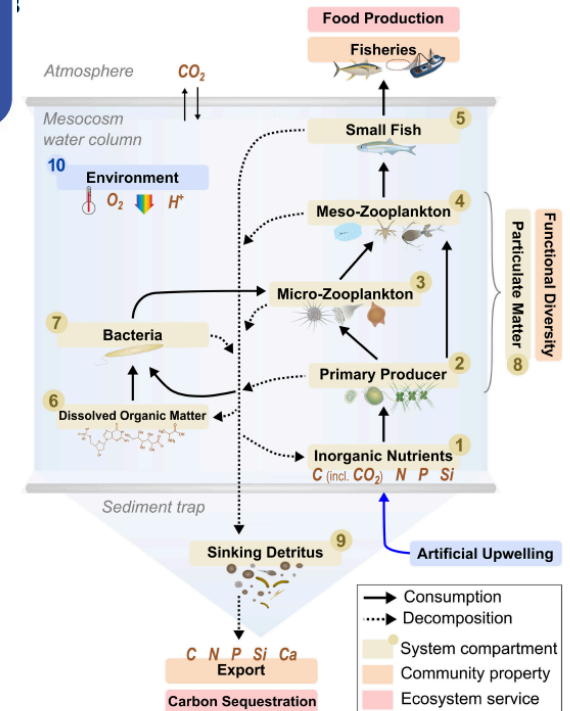


frontiers | Frontiers in Marine Science

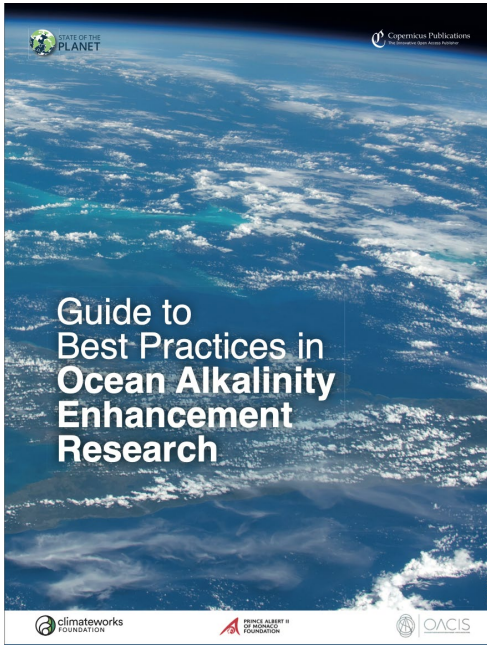
TYPE Original Research
PUBLISHED 25 November 2022
DOI 10.3389/fmars.2022.1015188

Nutrient composition (Si:N) as driver of plankton communities during artificial upwelling

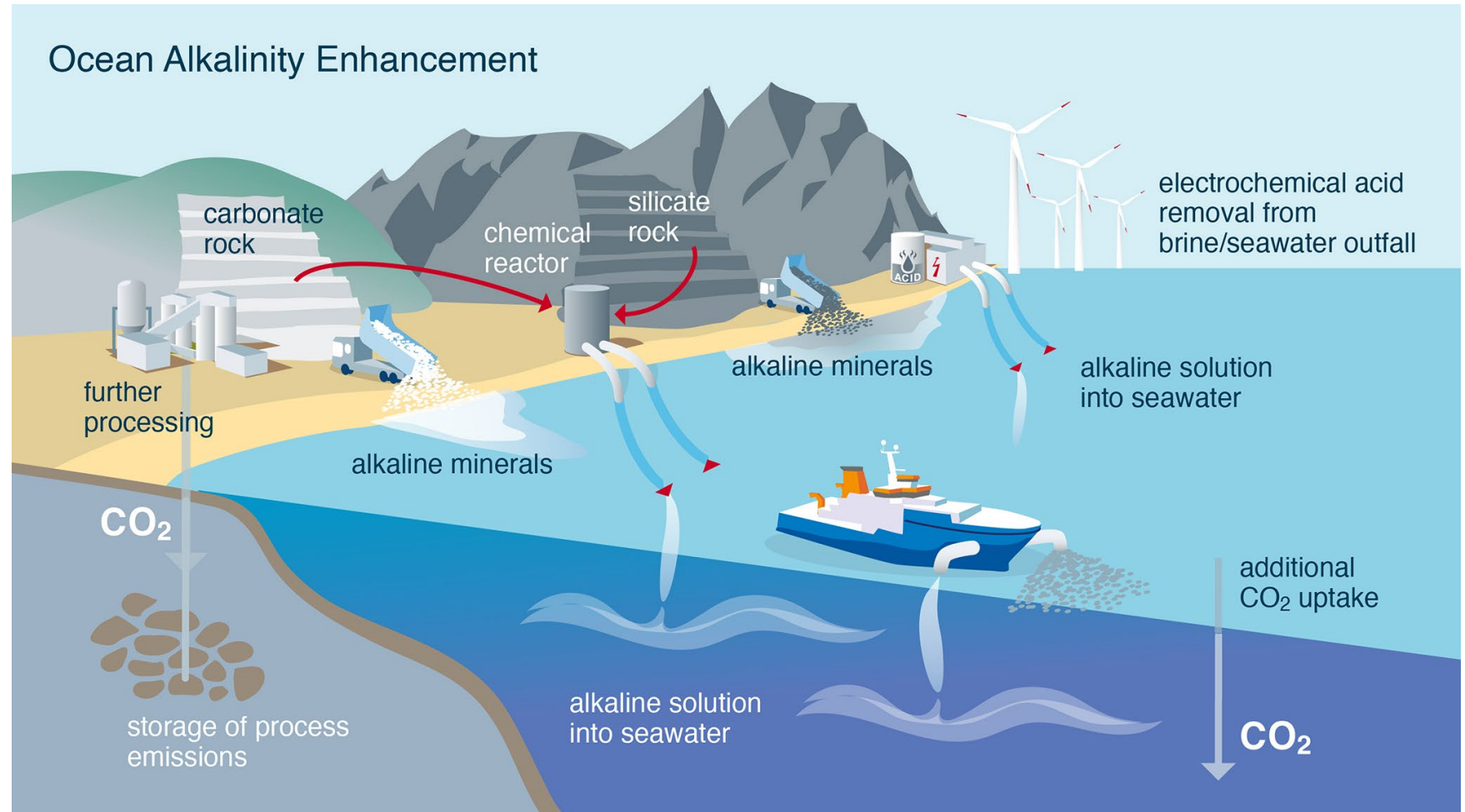
Silvan Urs Goldenberg^{1*}, Jan Taucher¹,
Mar Fernández-Méndez^{1,2}, Andrea Ludwig¹, Javier Arístegui³,
Moritz Baumann¹, Joaquin Ortiz¹, Annegret Stühr¹
and Ulf Riebesell¹



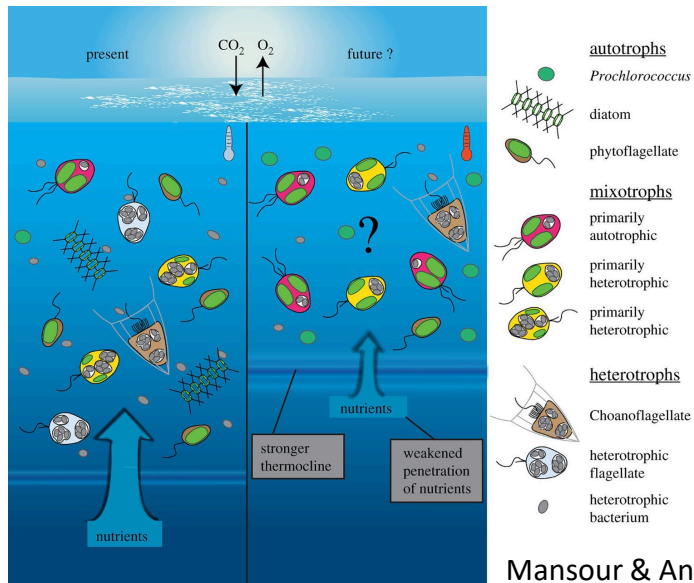
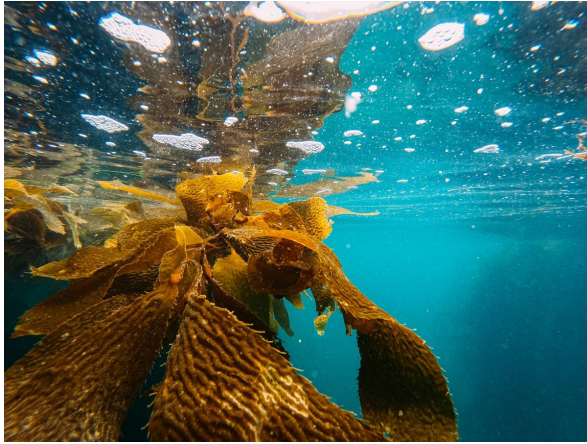
Ocean Alkalinity Enhancement



Oschlies et al. (2023)



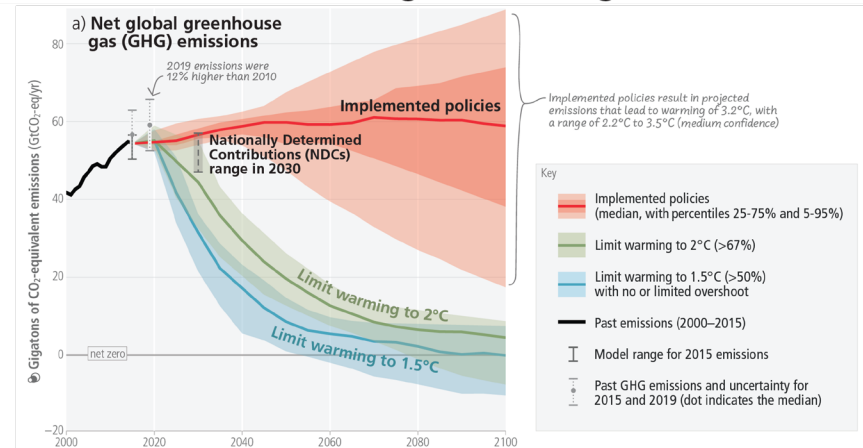
Risks and/or Unintended Consequences



Mansour & Anestis (2021)



AR6 Synthesis Report **ipcc** Limiting warming to 1.5°C and 2°C involves rapid, deep and in most cases immediate greenhouse gas emission reductions



Emerging International Consensus and Ongoing Challenges

IPCC AR6 WGIII: CDR Factsheet

Carbon Dioxide Removal

CARBON DIOXIDE REMOVAL (CDR) refers to technologies, practices, and approaches that remove and durably store carbon dioxide (CO₂) from the atmosphere. CDR is required to achieve global and national targets of net zero CO₂ and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. CDR cannot substitute for immediate and deep emissions reductions, but it is part of all modelled scenarios that limit global warming to 2° or lower by 2100. Implementation will require decisions regarding CDR methods, scale and timing of deployment, and how sustainability and feasibility constraints are managed.

ipcc

INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON
climate change
Working Group III-Mitigation of Climate Change

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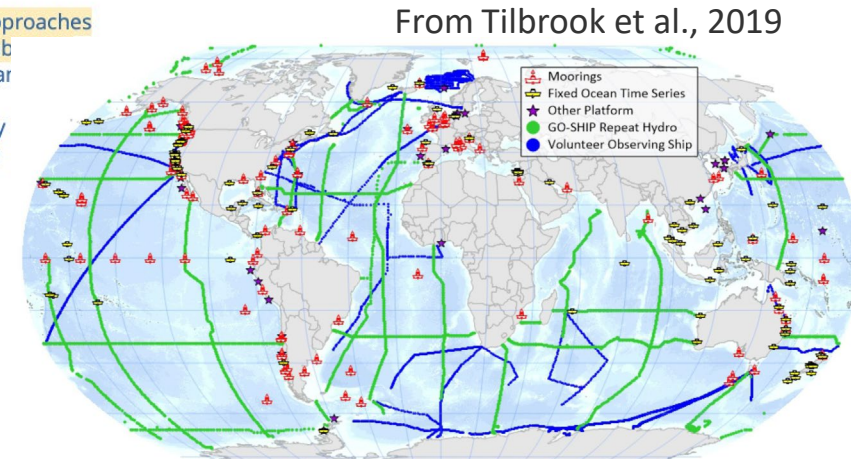
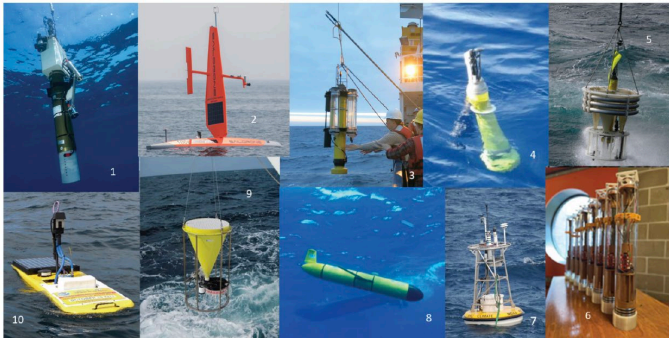
MARINE CARBON DIOXIDE REMOVAL

Reliable monitoring, reporting and verification (MRV) of marine carbon dioxide removal (mCDR) approaches will require accurate quantification of the amount of CO₂ removed from the atmosphere, the duration that removal, and non-carbon impacts on the marine environment. Given the vastness of the Ocean slow gas exchange across the sea surface, and the difficulty of defining baselines under ongoing environmental change, accurate estimates are challenging and need to include reliable uncertainty estimates. However, the required measurements, their integration with numerical models and the transparent provision of useful information are critical.

IPCC Expert Meeting Carbon Dioxide Removal Technologies and Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage

Report of the IPCC Expert Meeting
1-3 July 2024, Vienna, Austria

Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories



IMOS Capability

Satellite Remote Sensing



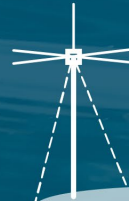
Deep Water Moorings



Ships of Opportunity



Coastal Wave Buoys



Ocean Radar



Ocean Gliders



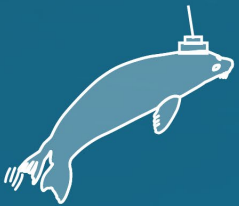
Argo Floats



National Mooring Network



Animal Tracking #1
Acoustic Telemetry



Animal Tracking #2
Animal Tagging



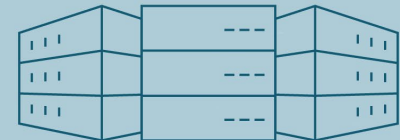
Marine Microbiome Initiative



New Technology Proving

All data is public and FAIR

010011
101001
000100



Australian Ocean Data Network

Integrated across scales (coastal/shelf/open ocean) and disciplines (physics/BGC/ecosystem)

Opportunities for IMOS – examples from overseas

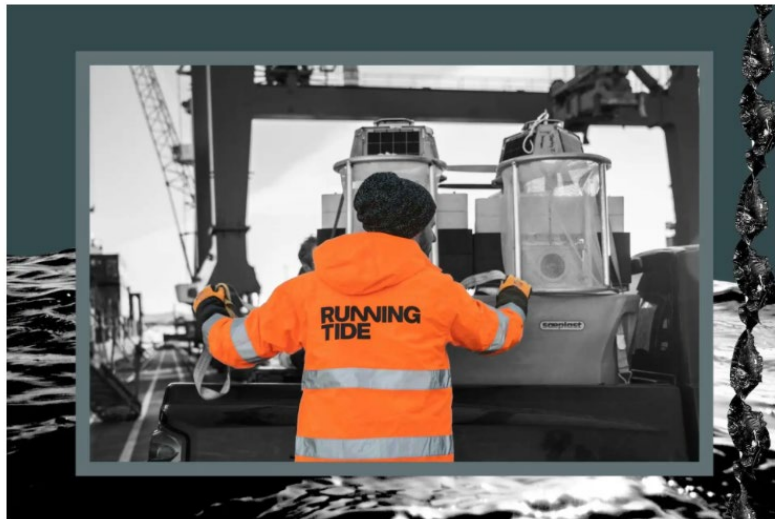
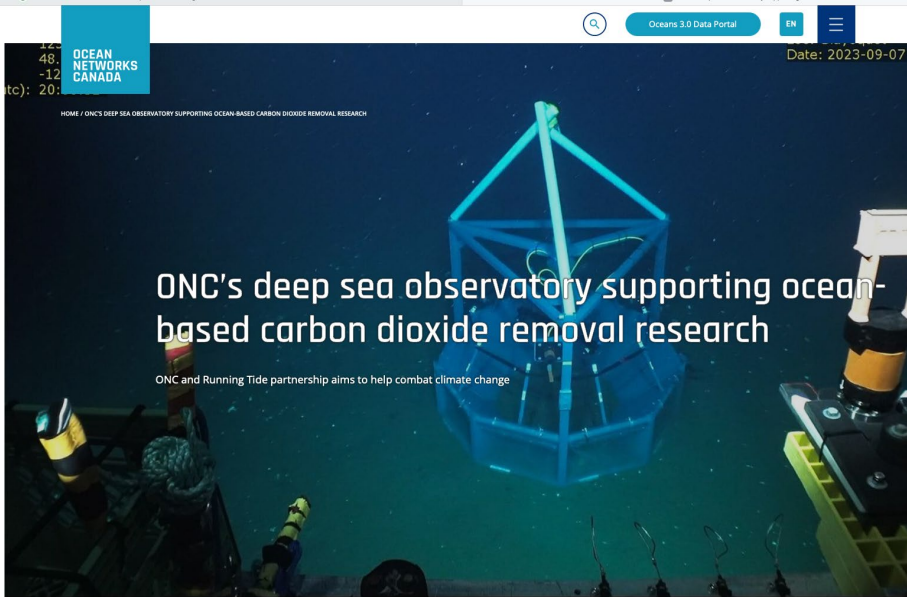


Image credit: Running Tide

Microsoft signs deal with ocean carbon removal project operating on Washington's coast

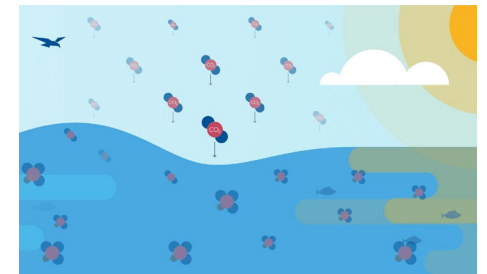
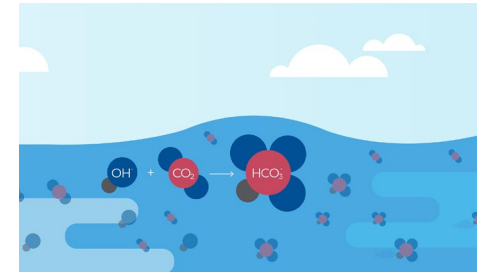
BY LISA STIFFLER on October 24, 2024 at 8:45 am

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Sustainability: News about the rapidly growing climate tech sector and other areas of innovation to protect our planet. [SEE MORE](#)



Ebb Carbon is using ocean alkalinity enhancement to remove carbon from seawater. It has a pilot plant in Sequim, Wash. (Ebb Carbon Photo)





Australia's Integrated Marine Observing System is enabled by the National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy (NCRIS). It is operated by a consortium of institutions as an unincorporated joint venture, with the University of Tasmania as Lead Agent.

PRINCIPAL PARTICIPANTS



SIMS is a partnership involving four universities

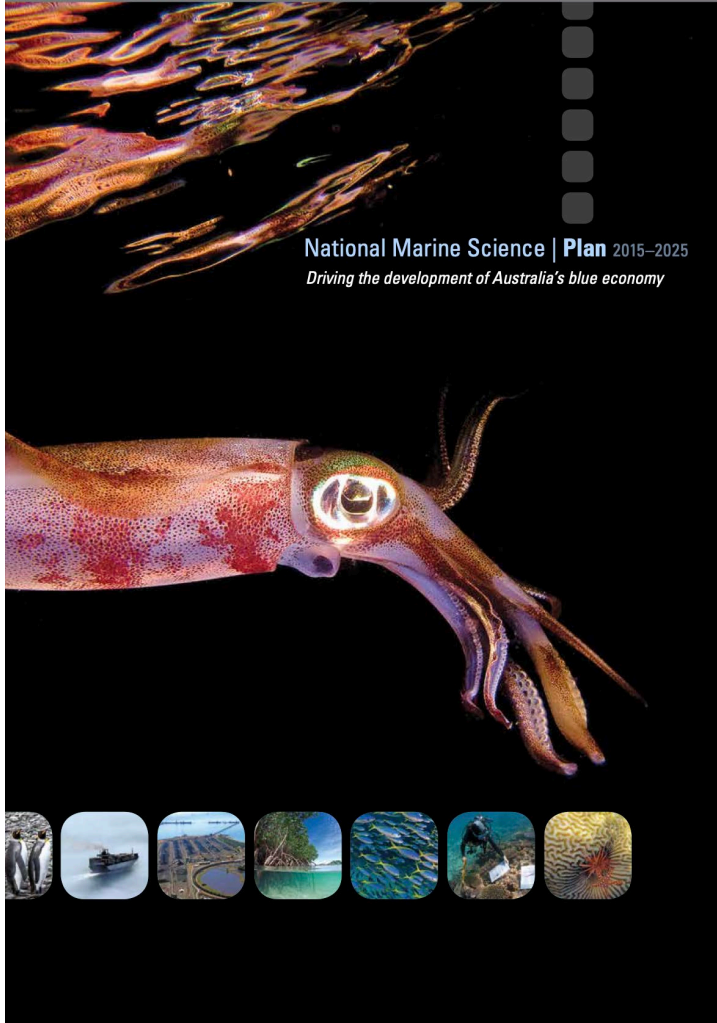
ASSOCIATE PARTICIPANTS



IMOS thanks the many other organisations who partner with IMOS, providing co-investment, funding and operational support, including investment from the Tasmanian, Western Australian and Queensland State Governments.



Opportunities for the IMOS community



“Climate and Green Engineering” White Paper (WP)

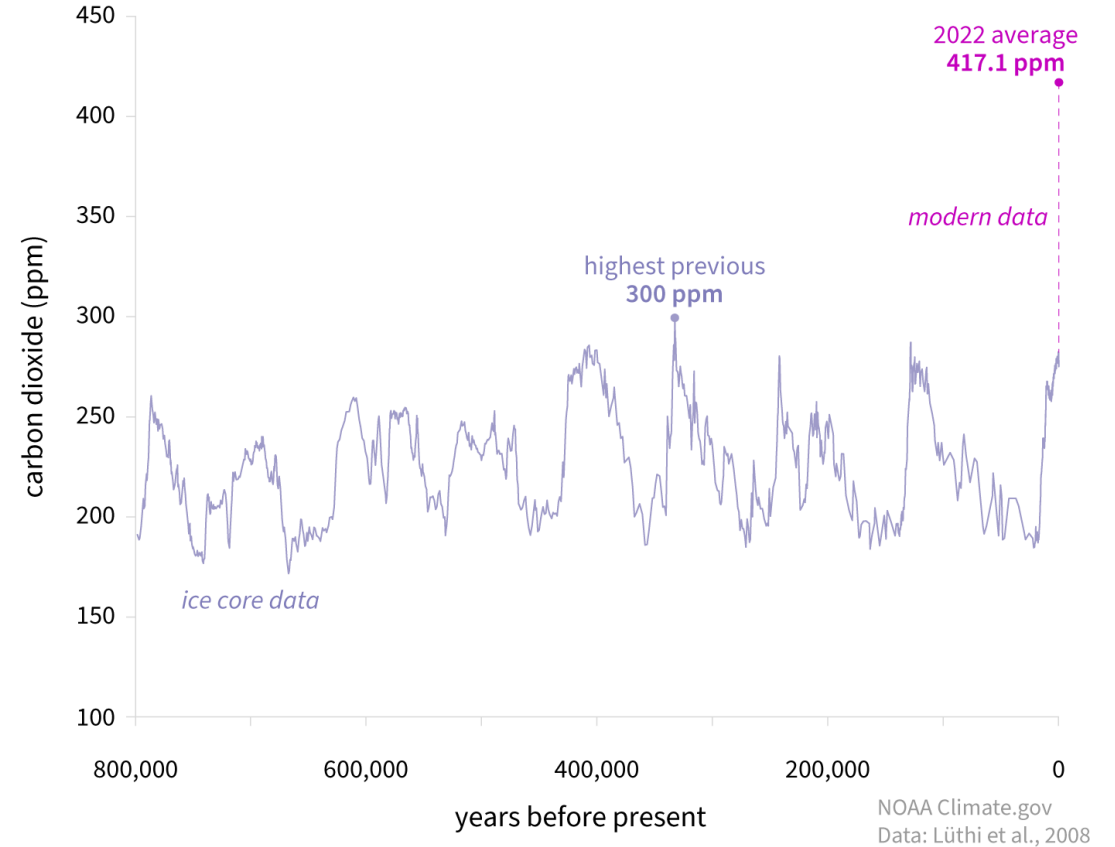
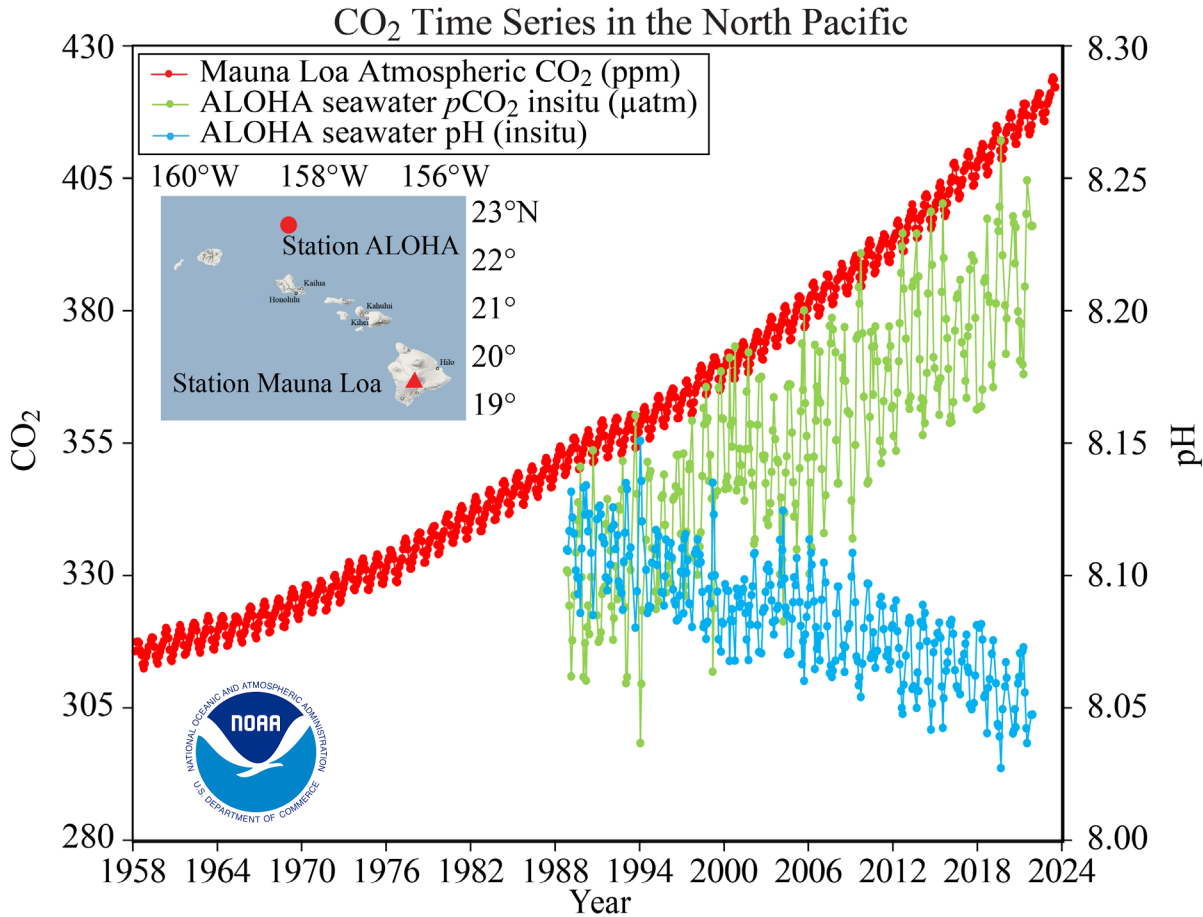
Andrew Lenton
Bronte Tilbrook
Kerryn Brent
Lennart Bach

NATIONAL
MARINE
SCIENCE
COMMITTEE



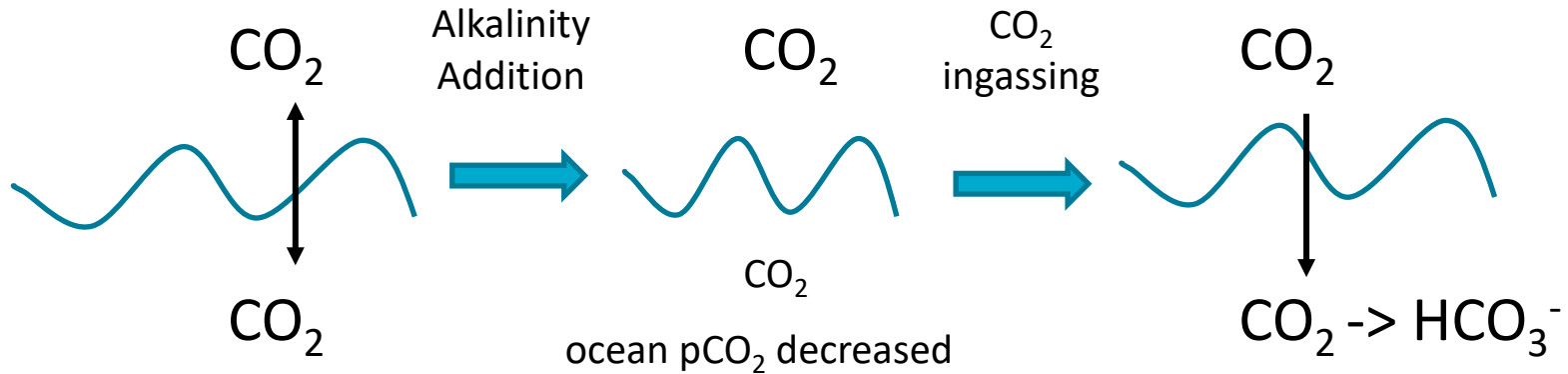
The Global (Ocean) Carbon Problem

CARBON DIOXIDE OVER 800,000 YEARS



II. Ocean Alkalinity Enhancement (OAE)

Air-Sea Equilibrium



This is analogous to the natural process of weathering, which adds (mineral) alkalinity to the ocean regulating atmospheric CO₂ levels over geologic timescales.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Ocean geoengineering scheme acs field test

Alkaline lime powder spread in Florida estuary drew down carbon and reduced acidification



Science, Vol 378, Issue 6626.

CBC | MENU

NEWS Top Stories Local Climate World Canada Politics Indigenous

How oceans could be used for carbon capture on a big scale



Dalhousie University researchers take measurements from a boat in Halifax Harbour, after Planetary Technologies added 'antacids' to the water to neutralize dissolved CO₂ (a technology called ocean alkalinity enhancement), along with a dye that helps track the dispersion of the antacids. (Planetary Technologies)

PLANETARY

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY



WOODS HOLE OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTION ABOUT WHOI

the loc-ness project

Science Scientific Support Team FAQs Publications

Research and Development Needs



Monitoring and Measurement



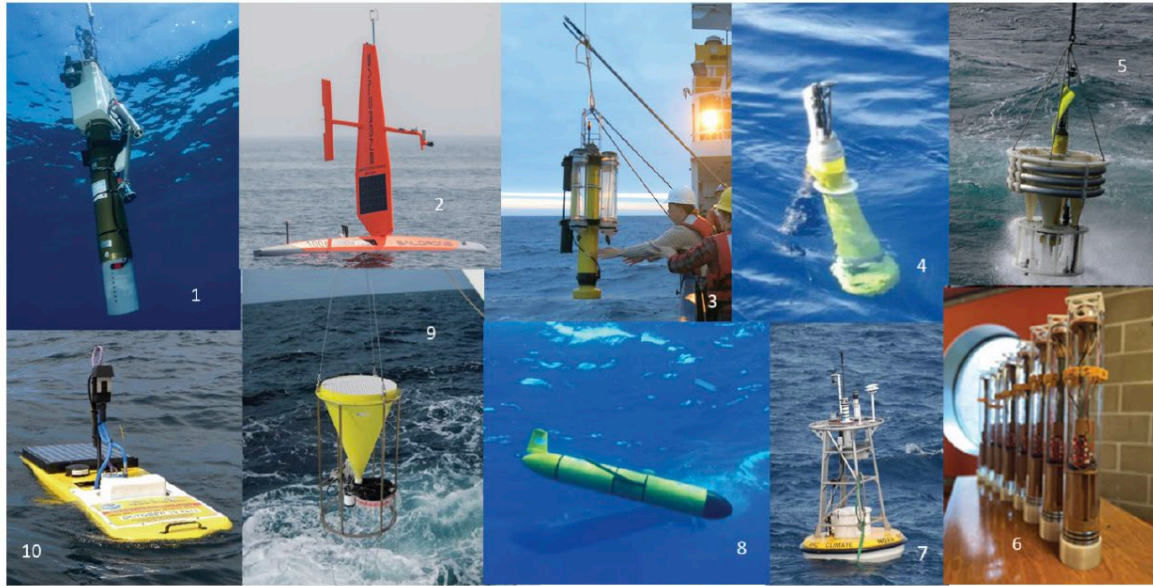
Lifecycle Analysis



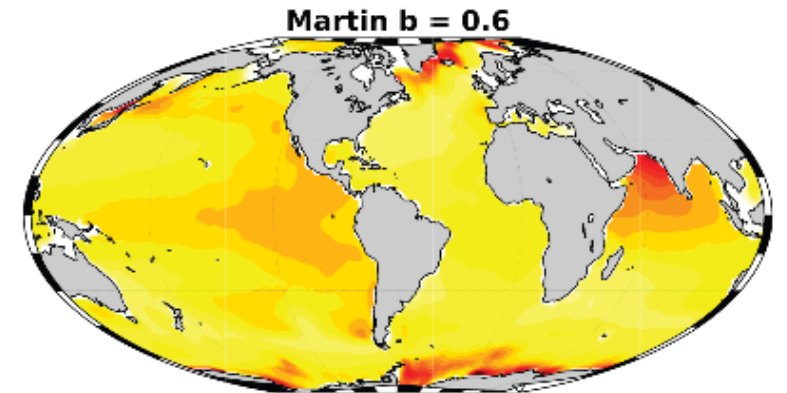
Mapping/Planning



Modeling



Existing platforms for (carbon) monitoring at sea



Fraction of CO₂ retention for 100yr or more in response to a surface bloom (modified from Seigel et al., 2021)

Southern Ocean (carbon) Observations

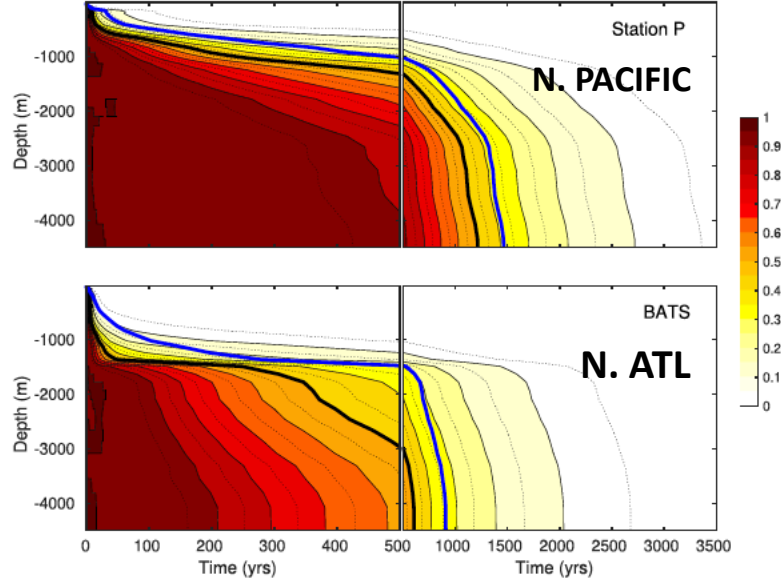
IOP Publishing Environ. Res. Lett. 16 (2021) 104003

ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH LETTERS

LETTER

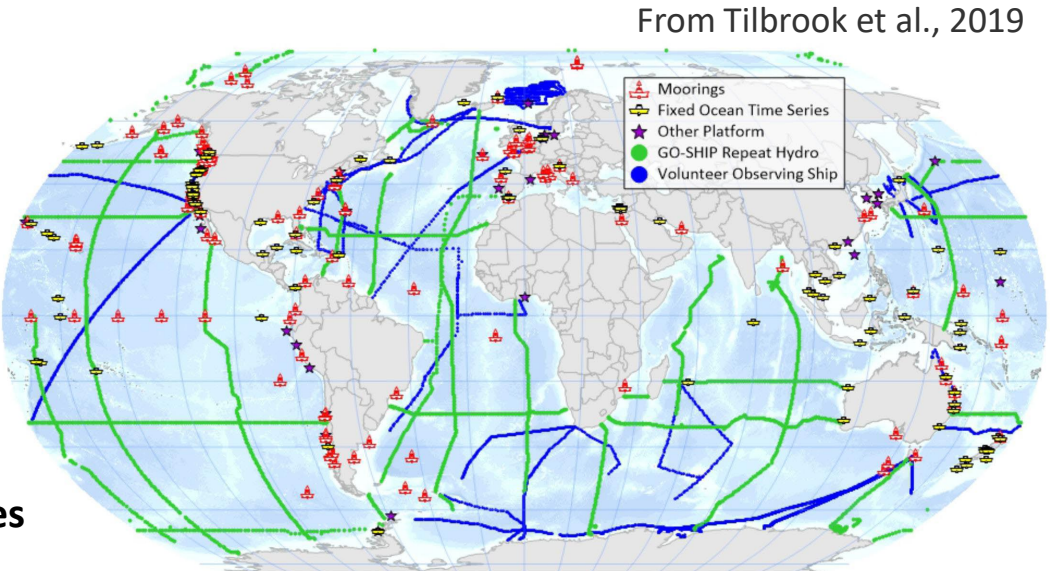
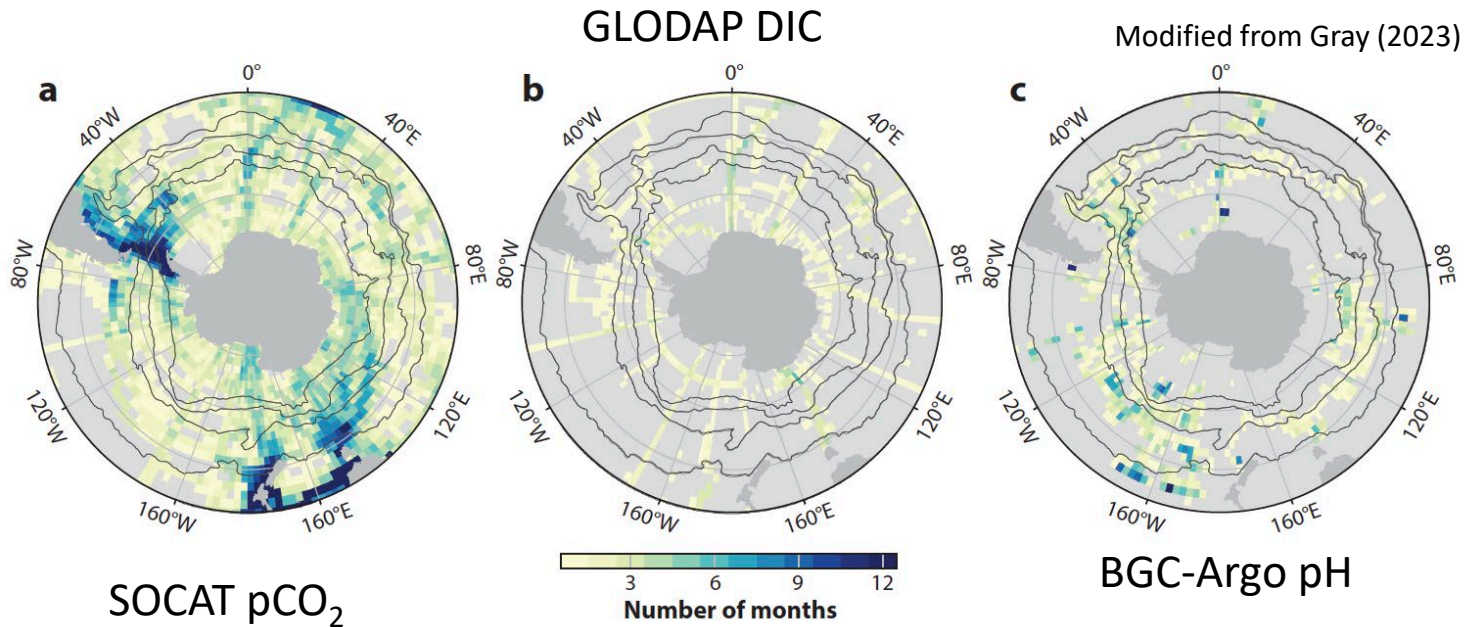
Assessing the sequestration time scales of some ocean-based carbon dioxide reduction strategies

D A Siegel^{1,*}, T DeVries², S C Doney² and T Bell²

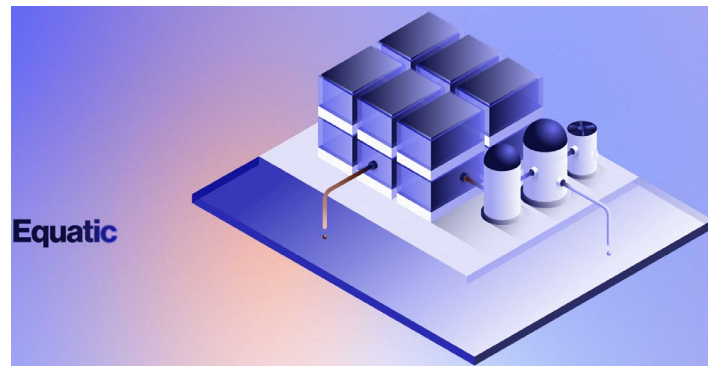
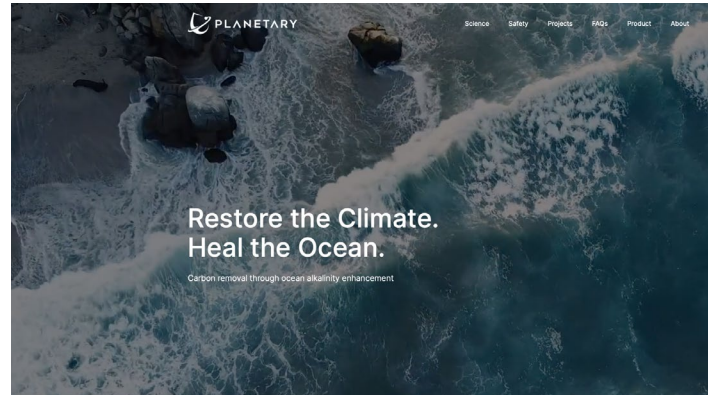
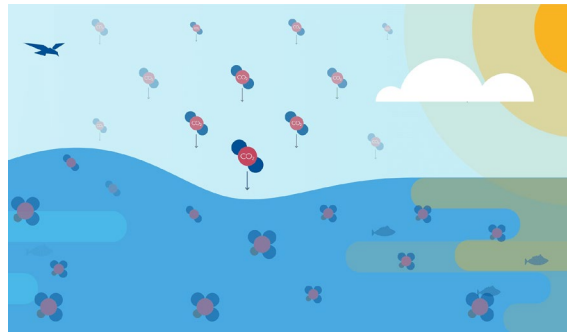
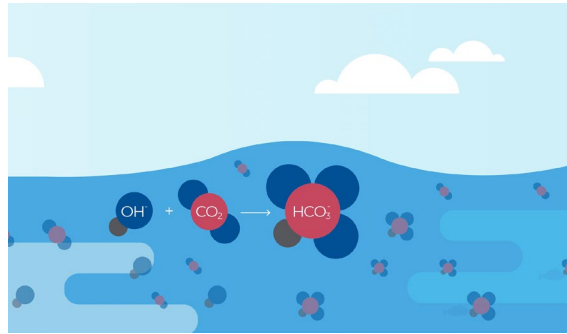


Amount of carbon that remains sequestered as a fraction of time after injection.

Sequestration times are decades to centuries, except for where C is injected to the abyss. Different basins, different sequestration times



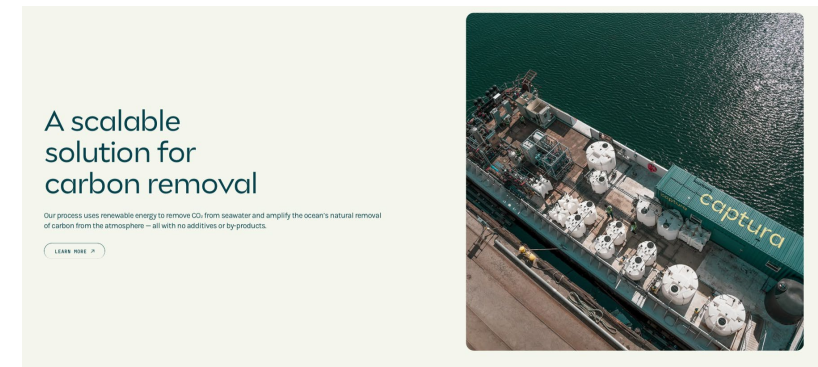
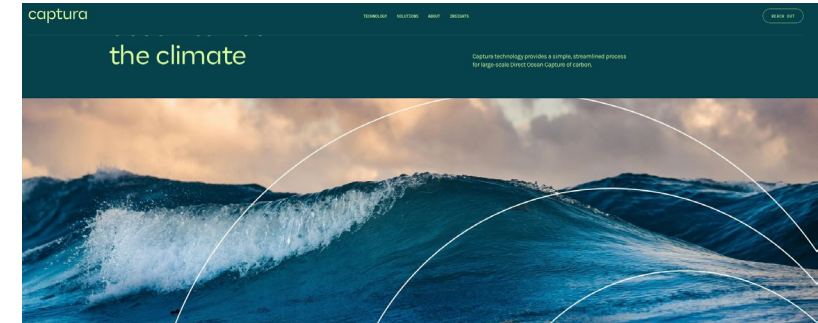
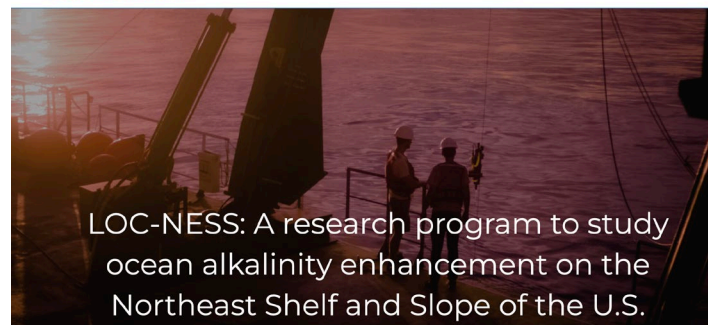
Emerging Efforts



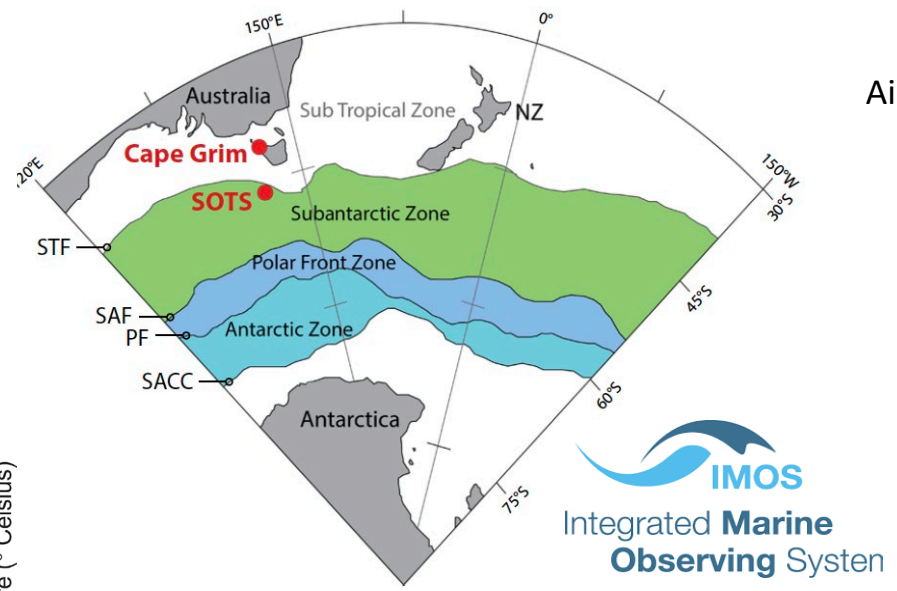
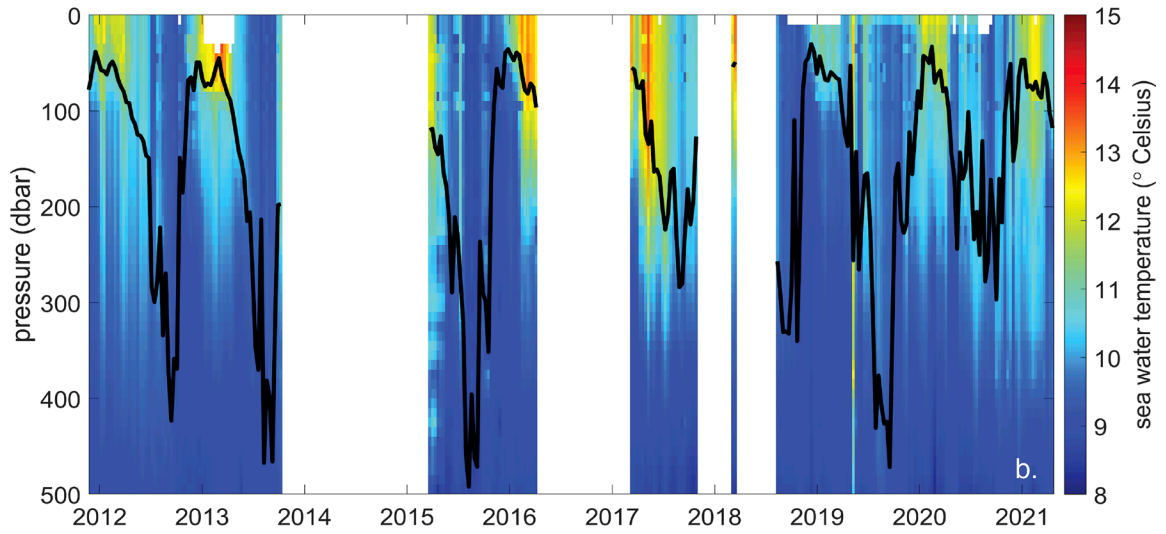
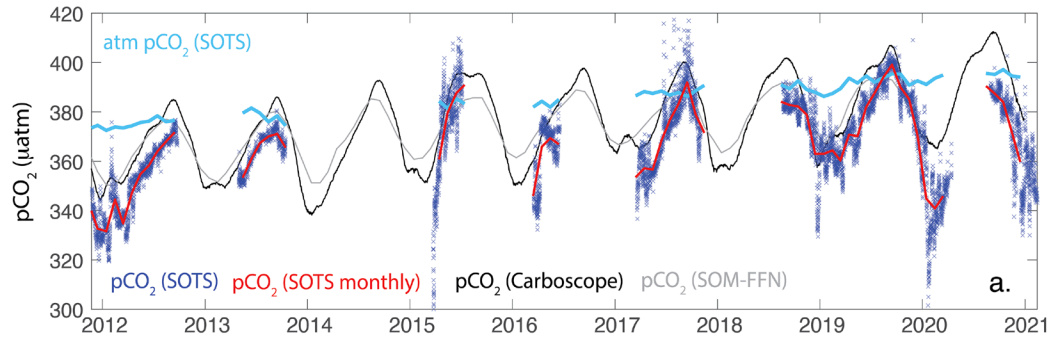
WOODS HOLE OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTION

SubhasLab

RESEARCH LOC-NESS TOUR THE LAB GALLERY



The Southern Ocean Time Series



frontiers | Frontiers in Marine Science
 TYPE Original Research
 PUBLISHED 13 October 2023
 DOI 10.3389/fmars.2023.1281854

Observed amplification of the seasonal CO₂ cycle at the Southern Ocean Time Series

Elizabeth H. Shadwick^{1,2*}, Cathryn A. Wynn-Edwards^{1,2},
 Richard J. Matear¹, Peter Jansen¹, Eric Schulz³
 and Adrienne J. Sutton⁴

SOFS
 Air-Sea Flux, Physics and
 Biogeochemistry
 Mooring

