WHAT ARE THE MARINE **ECOSYSTEM IMPACTS OF** GEOENGINEERING? kroberts3@lsu.edu

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HIGHLIGHTS

Research and implementation of geoengineering moving forward faster than oversight

Increased scattering by Stratospheric Aerosols

Thinning high clouds to allow more heat to escape

STRATOSPHERIC

AEROSOL ~16-25 KM

CIRRUS

CLOUDS

~6-13 KM

CLOUDS

~0-3 KM

Increased scattering by brightened clouds

NSF

SUN

- > High degree of uncertainty in how marine systems will respond to geoengineering scenarios
- > We need holistic and crossdisciplinary investigation of impacts

BACKGROUND

<u>Geoengineering</u> = deliberate largescale manipulation of the environment to counteract anthropogenic global warming and maintain temperature targets

Types of geoengineering we're interested in:

• Stratospheric Aerosol Injection (SAI)

CULTIVATION ARTIFICIAL UPWELLING & DOWNWELLING

NUTRIEN

15931



Stratospheric aerosol injection: increasing the number of liquid or solid particles (e.g., sulfate) in stratosphere to reflect sunlight (analogue: volcanic eruptions) Marine cloud brightening increasing the reflectivity of low clouds over certain parts of the ocean (analogue: ship tracks)

- Marine Cloud Brightening (MCB)
- Marine Carbon Dioxide Removal (mCDR)

The potential tradeoffs of geoengineering on marine ecosystems must be explored to determine plausible scenarios or provide 'exit ramps' for discontinuing research & avoiding implementation

CO, STORAGE mCDR; National Academies report 2022

ECOSYSTEM

RECOVERY

ENHANCEMENT

SEAWEED

CO

Seaweed cultivation: producing macrophyte biomass and transporting that carbon into a reservoir such as the deep sea or sediments Alkalinity enhancement: chemical

alteration of seawater chemistry via addition of alkalinity through various mechanisms





ONGOING WORK

- Use output from Community Earth System Model (CESM) simulations of SAI and MCB (ARISE 1.5; SSP2-4.5) to drive global fisheries models (Fish-MIP) and explore impacts to the spatiotemporal fish biomass distribution (Tittensor et al. 2021; Heneghan et al. 2021)
- Evaluate risk to marine ecosystems under SAI and MCB simulations using pre-existing metrics (i.e., thermal habitat loss, time to hazardous exposure, ecosystem disruption) from Boyce et al. 2022 'A climate risk index for marine life'