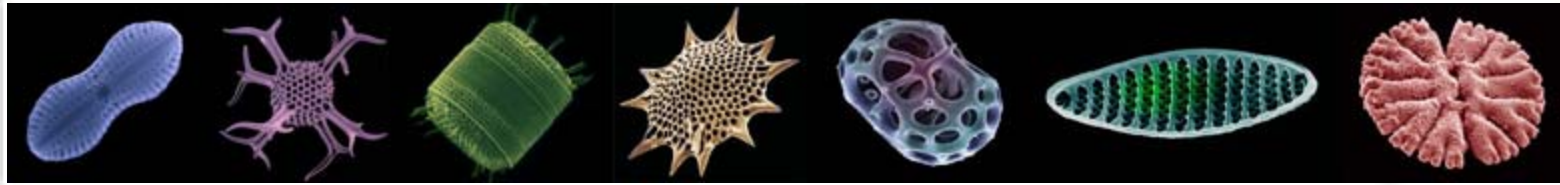


# PLANKTOS



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**The New York Times**

on Planktos' ocean work:  
"Can plankton power help  
save the planet?" 5/1/07

[Scienceline on Planktos tech](#)

## scienceline

A project of NYU's Science, Health and Environmental Reporting Program

## Greening-up the Ocean

Environmental business sets sail with hopes of creating a new frontier of ocean carbon storage.

Posted By [Peter Sergo](#) on June 8th, 2007 in [biology](#) | [technology](#) | [environment](#) | [etc](#)

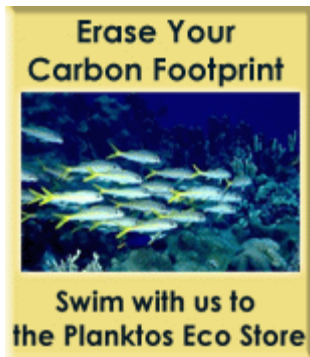
Businesses, pressured to curb carbon emissions due to global warming concerns, are increasingly relying on tree planting as a cheap way to offset their carbon pollution. Now a pioneering California firm wants to expand the frontier of carbon offsets from terra firma to the open sea.

[1] [Planktos](#) Inc. [2] [launched](#) their sea research vessel, the Planktos Weatherbird II, from Washington D.C. this past March. From there, it wound its way down toward a square patch of the southern Pacific, beginning a series of large-scale experiments in May. Within this patch, the company plans to carefully demonstrate the ocean's potential as a carbon catch. Some experts are skeptical, but if Planktos is right, converting portions of the ocean into enormous "carbon sinks" could become a lucrative and environment-friendly enterprise.

[Read more...](#)

[Voice of America introduces Planktos](#)

news  .com



## US Firm to Use Plankton to Combat Greenhouse Gas

By Brian Wagner  
Voice of America News, Miami  
01 June 2007

[Wagner report - Download 1MB](#)

**Scientists are seeking new ways to reverse the build-up of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, which many believe is the cause of global warming. VOA's Brian Wagner reports one U.S. project aimed at stimulating plankton growth in the oceans is raising some debate about its possible effectiveness.**

[Listen to Wagner report](#)

Environmental groups have long advocated planting trees as one way to reverse the build-up of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. Trees absorb small amounts of carbon dioxide to survive. Marine scientists say that growing tiny organisms in the ocean known as plankton also can help cut carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere.

The US firm Planktos is planning to revive plankton in several regions of the Pacific Ocean as an effective way to absorb atmospheric CO2 and counter global warming. Planktos climate expert Melodie Grubbs says iron is the key nutrient needed to stimulate plankton growth.

[Read more...](#)

[Australia's national newspaper features Planktos](#)



## Scientists to fight global warming with plankton

May 21, 2007

**ONE of the Earth's major natural barriers to global warming could be strengthened by the first commercial venture to grow vast plankton blooms.**

US eco-restoration firm Planktos intends to drop tonnes of powdered iron into the Pacific in a two-year project which aims to induce the growth of plankton.

Some scientists believe the iron seeding technique will help reduce the amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere after research published on Friday showed that atmospheric carbon dioxide is no longer being absorbed by the Southern Ocean at the rate it used to be.

"The ocean's rising acidity and surface water temperatures and most of all the dwindling wind-borne supply of vital iron micronutrients have literally decimated the marine plankton plants which generate half the planet's oxygen, remove half its CO2 and feed every higher form of ocean life," said Planktos CEO Russ George.

[Read more...](#)

[The UK Independent on Planktos' "Voyage of Recovery"](#)

**THE**   
**INDEPENDENT**



## **Researchers 'seed' ocean with iron to soak up CO2**

By Steve Connor, Science Editor

Published: 03 May 2007

A research ship is about to begin a project around the Galapagos Islands, in the Pacific Ocean, that will highlight the importance of marine plankton in the fight against global warming and climate change.

Waterbird II, the research ship of an eco-restoration organisation called Planktos, is on a "voyage of recovery" to "seed" the oceans with the iron in the hope of stimulating blooms of phytoplankton, the microscopic marine plants that soak up the energy of the Sun to convert carbon dioxide into organic matter.

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[Times of London covers Planktos](#)

## **How Surge in Plankton may be the Saviour of Mankind**

Lewis Smith, Environment Reporter  
The Times of London  
May 3, 2007

The first commercial venture into growing vast plankton blooms big enough to suck carbon from the atmosphere starts this month.

Tons of powdered iron will be poured into the Pacific to induce the growth of blooms big enough to be seen from space. The scheme's backers believe that the iron seeding technique could radically reduce the carbon in the atmosphere and will open up a multimillion-pound carbon-offsetting industry. Simultaneously, they hope to reverse the decline in plankton levels, which are estimated to have fallen by at least 9 per cent in the past two decades.

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**More...**

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- [Australian ocean scientists discuss Planktos approach](#)
- [USA Today spotlights Planktos](#)
- [Historic Cliff House Becomes Carbon Neutral](#)
- [Could Crazy Technology Save the Planet?](#)
- [Oxford Mail - A Spoonful of Sugar to Help Climate Change](#)
- [Nature - Climate Credits](#)
- [SF Chronicle - Saving the Earth Can Also Bring Profit to Startups](#)
- [Arizona Star - Planktos Makes EUEC 2006 Carbon Neutral](#)

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