

Law, Policy, and Logistics of Iron Fertilization

Iron fertilization will take place in international waters

- London Convention

London Convention- governing bodies decided to regulate iron fertilization Jan. 9, 2008

- Current knowledge insufficient to justify large scale operations.
- Currently figuring out how to regulate
 - decide what legal issues need to be addressed. How do they apply to london convention and protocol?

what would be “contrary to the aims of the convention/protocol”?

Needed for scientific questioning...

- what is meant by “large scale”

- Justification for large experiments (40000 km²)

- assessment of impacts of experiments

What scientific groups need to evaluate

- impacts of iron and other materials resulting from release of iron

 - gases

- impact of bacteria decay and phytoplankton blooms

 - reduced oxygen concentrations

- marine impacts

- timescales of sequestration

- carbon mass balance

How will Iron fertilization be used and governed?

- probably done by private companies
 - how to regulate companies out of non treaty countries?
 - impose will on others (tariffs?)
- scientific impartiality concerns?

- different markets

 - voluntary market

 - small, but hard to regulate

 - regulated market (iron fertilization for carbon credits?)

 - permanent

 - additional

 - no leaks

 - accountable (accurate monitoring of sequestered carbon)