

Climate change and our ailing oceans

Sea surface temperatures around the world have risen over the past 100 years.



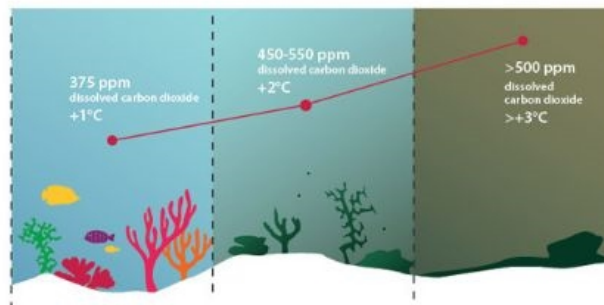
Sea surface temperature change since 1900¹
Sea surface temperature changes ecosystems and affects global fisheries.

Climate change is causing the ocean to now absorb
24 million tons
of carbon dioxide per day

Carbon dioxide reacts with seawater to create carbonic acid.



Carbonic acid lowers the pH level of the water².
This is called **ocean acidification**:



Rising sea surface temperatures and ocean acidification
are a deadly combination



¹Data from icoads.noaa.gov

²Graphic adapted from Hoegh-Guldberg, O. et al. (2007) Coral reefs under rapid climate change and ocean acidification. *Science*, 318(5857): 1737-1742