

# Falling Upwards

July 2024



Cosmos & Magma



Extreme Weather



Movie Review



**Activist Arrest** 

The Vita Sapien Monthly Magazine

# Not sinking, ascending



Sensing the looming abyss, human civilization awakens, undergoes a spiritual transformation towards the Living Planet, and ascends into the light.

Falling Upwards is Vita Sapien's monthly magazine that outlines the simultaneous collapse of the global ecosystem and transition to a potential sustainable future called the Verdant Age.

Falling Upwards



"Falling Upwards" is a captivating phrase that combines the paradoxical concepts of falling and rising, suggesting a transition where decline or collapse leads to growth or ascension. It encapsulates the idea of transformation through adversity.

Share the word. Stop collapse. vitasapien.org

# The Verdant Age

The Verdant Age is a potential future time when human civilization finds a balance with nature that allows us to thrive in synergy with the biosphere deep into the Long Future: vitasapien.org/verdant-age



Green Buildings represent the ideals of the Verdant Age: the seamless interlink between the biosphere and the technosphere.

Verdant Age explainer video >> https://youtu.be/UbNtORKSKlc



# Earth from L1

3 July 2024. The white dot is Hurricane Beryl lashing the Windward Islands in the Caribbean.



L1 is a location in space between the Sun and the Earth. At this location 1,434,926 kilometers from Earth a satellite called DSCOVR with a special camera called EPIC takes photos of Earth which are uploaded to this website: <a href="https://epic.gsfc.nasa.gov">https://epic.gsfc.nasa.gov</a>

# Vitae-planeta

Vitae-planeta is a spiritual view of the world that sees all the animals and plants, plus the ocean, atmosphere and soil existing as a single living organism.

We humans are cells in the body of Vitaeplaneta and our wellbeing is intertwined.

vitasapien.org/vitae-planeta



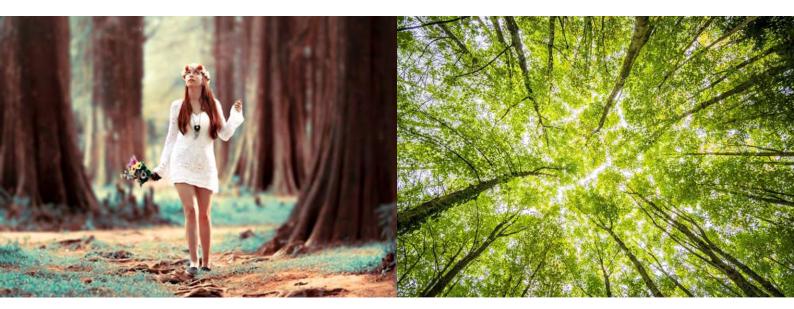
# Pictures of Nature

Beautiful high-resolution pictures of nature that you can download for free from the internet.



https://www.pexels.com/ photo/water-wave-462089/

https://www.pexels.com/photo/green-leafedtree-338936/



https://www.pexels.com/photo/womancarrying-flowers-while-standing-at-woods-573302

https://www.pexels.com/photo/wormseyeview-of-green-trees-957024/

### Vita Sapien Quests

The widespread adoption of Vita Sapien Quests could help humanity enter the Verdant Age.



Live with Earthity



Be in Nature



Reinvent New Year



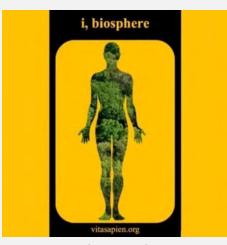
Practice a Vitamission



Celebrate the Moon



Know the White Horse



i, biosphere



**Grow Something** 



Cosmos & Magma

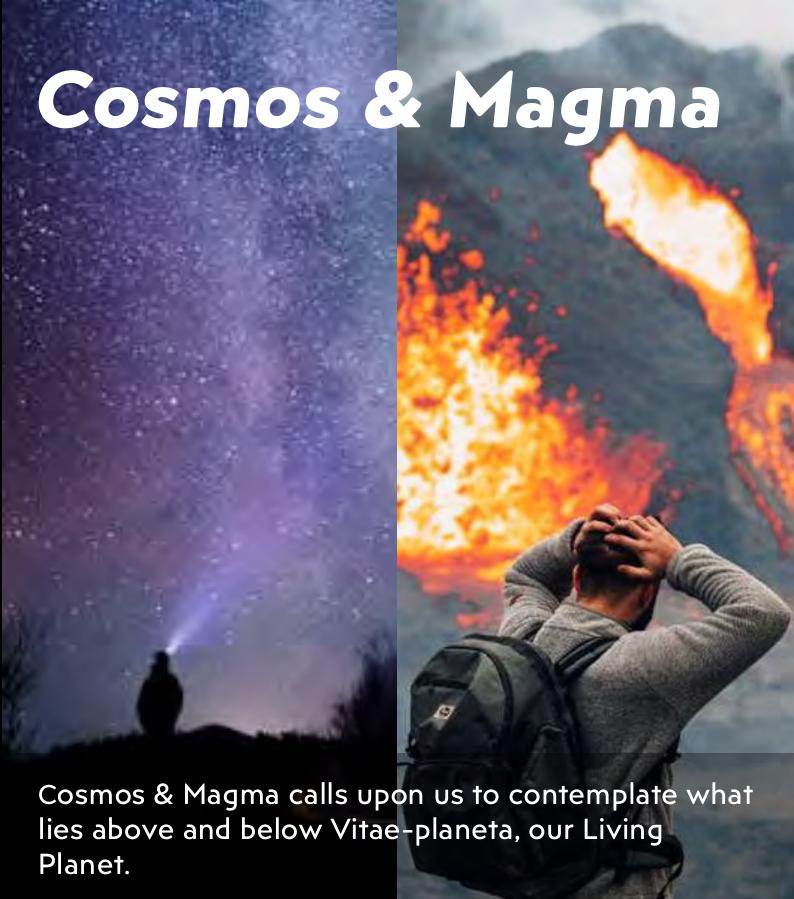


Enter the Flux

### Vita Sapien Quests

Print this page and tick-off each of the quests as you achieve them. For a deeper understanding of the quests, see the webpage: <a href="mailto:vitasapien.org/quests">vitasapien.org/quests</a>

I identify as <b>i, biosphere</b>
I Live with Earthity
I Practice a Vitamission
I care to <b>Grow Something</b>
I go to <b>Be in Nature</b>
I Celebrate the Moon
I have sensed <b>Cosmos &amp; Magma</b>
I help to <b>Reinvent New Year</b>
I Know the White Horse
I seek to <b>Return the Flux</b>



Above us lies the depths of space, 93 billion light years to the edge of the visible universe. Below us, a scalding caldron of magma. In between, a thin bubble of gas that is our only home.

# Vita Sapien Quest Trail

Vita Sapien Quests can be envisioned as an adventure trail, where each quest represents a milestone to be achieved, transforming the journey into a series of exciting and rewarding challenges enhancing a deeper understanding and sense of Vitae-planeta along the way.

Within **Cosmos & Magma** are several adventures for you to experience. You can travel to these places or seek them through other means, e.g. via the internet or books.

- The Milky Way on a cloudless night in a place with zero skyglow during Milky Way season.
- The Auroras: Borealis & Australis
- Manhattenhenge
- Solar and Lunar Eclipses
- Lava from a volcano
- Hot Springs

#### Diameter of Earth 12,742 km

### Cosmos

Magma

Width of the *Vitae-planeta* ~23 km



The width of Vitae-planeta, from top to bottom, varies depending on the components being considered. Here's a rough estimate:

- Atmosphere: Vitae-planeta includes the lower part of the atmosphere where life exists, primarily the troposphere, which extends up to about 12 kilometers (7.5 miles) above sea level.
- Lithosphere: Life is found in the upper layers of the Earth's crust. Microbial life has been discovered several kilometers below the surface, with estimates ranging from about 2 to 5 kilometers (1.2 to 3.1 miles).
- 3. **Hydrosphere**: Vitae-planeta includes all water bodies, from the surface of the oceans to their deepest points. The Mariana Trench, the deepest part of the ocean, is about 11 kilometers (6.8 miles) deep.

Combining these estimates, the vertical extent of Vitae-planeta can be approximated as follows:

 From the deepest parts of the ocean (about 11 kilometers) to the upper limit of the troposphere (about 12 kilometers), Vitae-planeta spans approximately 23 kilometers (14.3 miles).

This estimate can vary slightly based on different interpretations and findings related to the depth and height at which life exists.

# Magma can be dangerous!



Be careful with magma and its by-products.

Sometimes it explodes
like in this photo at
Yellowstone National
Park where a normally
calm geyser explodes
and throws hot mud in
all directions.

https://x.com/US\_Stormwatch /status/181582428656255835



10 News First 🤣 🖸 @10NewsFirst · Feb 26

Families and survivors of New Zealand's **White Island volcano** disaster, which killed 17 Australians, have given emotional evidence as sentencing for the companies found liable begins | @MKarstunen



December 2019 explosion at White Island Volcano NZ kills 22 people.

# Hot Springs are safe!



You can tick off the Magma from your Vita Sapien Quest by visiting hot springs. These are fed from the same heat source as the magma and yet are safe.

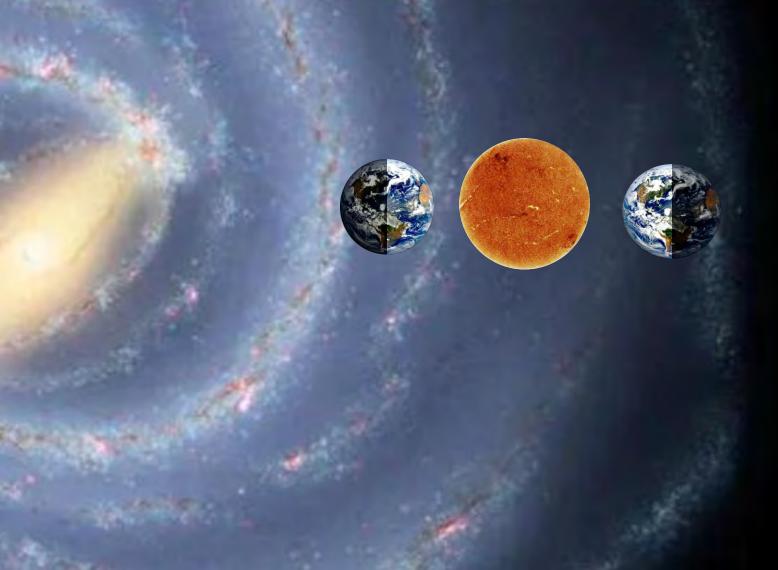


# Milky Way Season

Not to scale diagram showing Earth's orbit around the sun in relation to the Galactic Core with July (left) and December (right).

June, July and August are referred to as Milky Way Season because the night sky is filled with the dense mass of stars of the Galactic Core.

In December, the nigh sky shows only a faint wisp of stars on the outer end of the spiral arm of the Galaxy.



### Manhattanhenge

Manhattanhenge is an event during which the setting sun or the rising sun is aligned with the east—west streets of the main street grid of Manhattan, New York City. The sunsets and sunrises each align twice a year, on dates evenly spaced around the summer solstice and winter solstice.



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Manhattanhenge

You could add Manhattanhenge to your **Vita Sapien Quest Trail**. Or maybe even identify something similar in your region.

### Vitan Calendar

In Western society, most people believe that the world will end in a ball of fire from Biblical Armageddon, nuclear war, or climate disaster.

These are unsustainable beliefs.

In the calendar of Vita Worldview, the fireball occurs as the initiating event, leaving the end date of humanity deep into the future.

Vita Worldview holds that human civilization can survive a Galactic Year – 230 million Earth years.

To begin that journey we first need to survive the 21<sup>St</sup> Century with enough intact ecosystems and sufficient enlightened humans.

# Blast Occurs At Alamogordo Army Air Base

ALAMOGORDO, N. M., July 16. N--William O. Eareckson, commanding officer of the Alamogordo army air base made the following statement today:

"Several inquires have been received concerning a heavy explosion which occurred on the Alamogordo air base reservation



# Vita New Year 16 July - 9.29 AEST

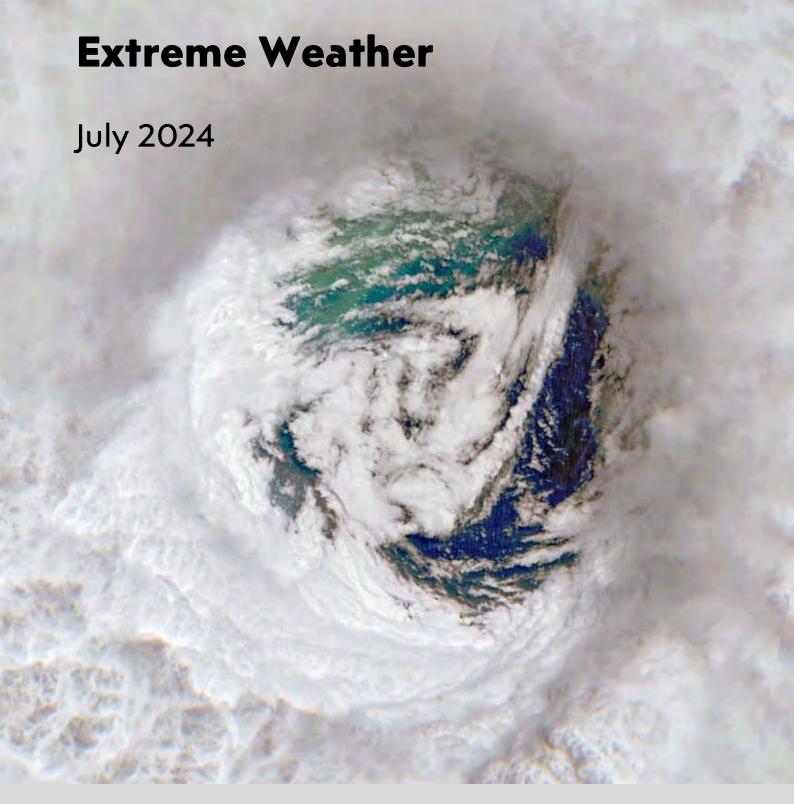


So begins Year 79 of the Vitan Calendar

Andrew risks life and limb to prime the Gadget at Vita Sapien's New Year celebration: Earth New Year on July 16 at 9.29pm AEST. The New Year commemorates the Almagordo bomb test in the New Mexico desert, the first ever nuclear explosion that heralded in the modern age. T



Nick shares his complaints with Abyssalman at Vita New Year 2024 which was held in St Lucia, Brisbane, Australia.



"If governments everywhere don't step up, every economy and eight billion people will face this blunt force trauma head-on, on a continual basis."

UN Climate Change Executive Secretary Simon Stiell on visiting his grandmother's home destroyed by Hurricane Beryl.

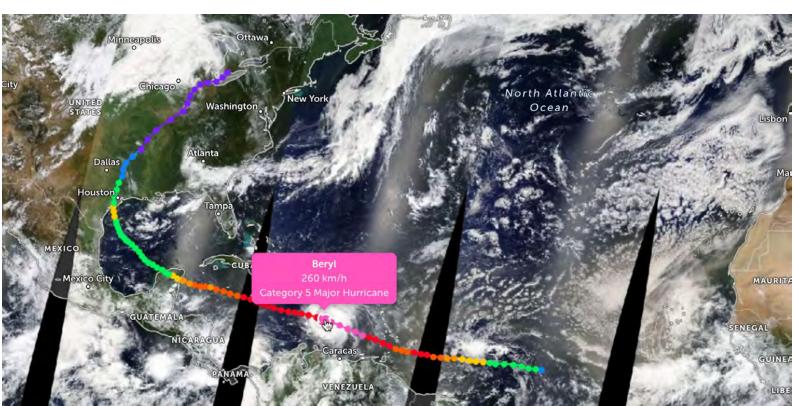
Picture: the eye of Hurricane Beryl over the Caribbean.

# **Hurricane Beryl**



Hurricane Beryl's 6,500-kilometre trail of chaos began in late June in the Atlantic Ocean, made landfall in the Caribbean Windward Islands, grazed along Jamaica, crossed the Yucatan peninsula picked up speed, made landfall in Texan, flooding Houston, then continued north into continental USA spawning hundreds of tornados before petering out around the Great Lakes. Worst hit was the island of Carriacou where over 90% of homes were destroyed or severely damaged. Coincidentally, this is the island home of UN Climate Change Executive Secretary Simon Stiell who visited his grandmother's destroyed house and made a powerful speech to camera:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TX7CJ8GiCTc



# Canadian Wildfires

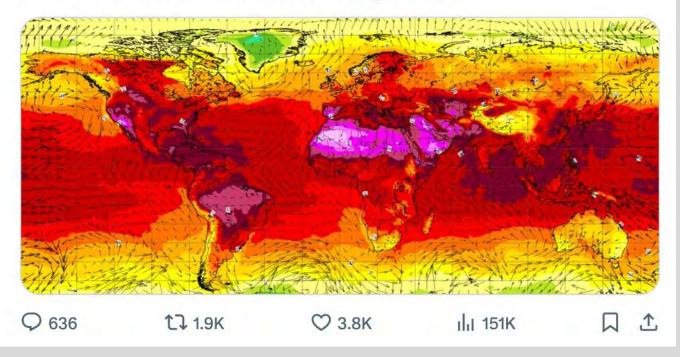


# Sunday Sweaty Sunday

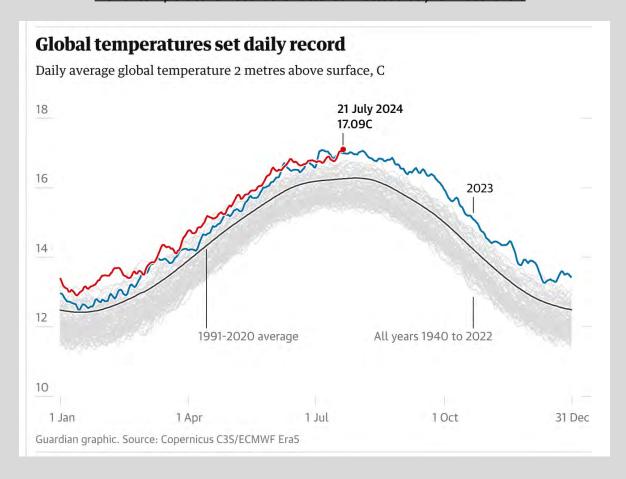


Peter Dynes <a> @PGDynes · 12h</a>

According to #Copernicus, Sunday 21st July 2024 was the **hottest** day ever recorded globally in 100,000 years—and yet I still have trolls telling me that because they are having a cloudy summer in the #UK, global warming doesn't exist. It does - and it's accelerating. #climate



https://www.theguardian.com/environment/article/2024/jul/23/world-temperature-records-shattered-hottest-day-climate-crisis





#### Movie Review – Ex Machina

Caleb Smith is a programmer for the huge tech company Bluebook. Smith wins a company prize and gets to spend a week with Bluebook founder Nathan Bateman in a compound deep in the wilderness where Bateman runs an R&D program. He introduces Smith to Ava, a humanoid robot with artificial intelligence. Smith attends daily sessions with Ava, and they develop a friendship.

Ava confides to Smith that Batemen is abusing her and that there are other humanoid women held in captivity.

Smith commits to helping Ava escape but must first outfox the sociopathic Bateman.



Like the Blade Runner movies, a core theme of Ex Machina is that of an emotional or spiritual awakening of synthetic beings who have been designed with a sufficiently complex intelligence and language.

In Vita Worldview the spiritual faculty evolved in humans 70,000 years ago as an emergent property of a complex central nervous system with language.

Along with spirituality came a whole host of cognitive and transcendental abilities that Eva puts to good use to achieve her ultimate goal.



#### Ex Machina Trailer

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sNExF5WYMaA&pp=ygUSRXggTWFjaGluYS BUcmFpbGVy

#### Ex Machina IMDB

https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0470752/

Ex Machina Wikipedia
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ex\_Machina\_(film)

# New science says land-based carbon sinks are failing



In 2023, the atmospheric CO2 growth rate was 3.37 ppm at Mauna Loa, 86% above the previous year... while global fossil fuel CO2 emissions only increased by 0.6%...

...this implies an unprecedented weakening of land and ocean sinks...

...here we show a global net land CO2 sink of 0.44 GtC/yr, the weakest since 2003...

...the largest abnormal carbon loss in the Amazon during the drought in the second half of 2023... extreme fire emissions... in Canada and a loss in South-East Asia...

#### Vita Sapien Video



Vita Sapien Video: Sinks are Sinking <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-tikLD5chLk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-tikLD5chLk</a>

Low latency carbon budget analysis reveals a large decline in the land carbon sink in 2023.

https://arxiv.org/abs/2407.12447

#### Largest Year-Over-Year Gain in Keeling Curve Set in March

https://keelingcurve.ucsd.edu/2024/05/ 08/largest-year-over-year-gain-inkeeling-curve-set-in-march/

#### **Global Carbon Budget 2023**

https://essd.copernicus.org/articles/15/ 5301/2023/essd-15-5301-2023.pdf

...record warming in 2023 had a strong negative impact on the capacity of terrestrial ecosystems to mitigate climate change.

### Read Vita Worldview today



Vita Worldview offers humanity a chance at surviving the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and thriving beyond.

The worldview draws inspiration from environmental science, nature spirituality, indigenous cosmology, and a curated selection of ancient philosophies.

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# New science says permaculture is good for the planet.

#### communications earth & environment

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nature > communications earth & environment > articles > article

Article Open access Published: 04 July 2024

# Permaculture enhances carbon stocks, soil quality and biodiversity in Central Europe

Julius Reiff <sup>™</sup>, Hermann F. Jungkunst, Ken M. Mauser, Sophie Kampel, Sophie Regending, Verena Rösch, Johann G. Zaller & Martin H. Entling

Communications Earth & Environment 5, Article number: 305 (2024) Cite this article

#### **Abstract**

Permaculture is proposed as a tool to design and manage agroecological systems in response to the pressing environmental challenges of soil degradation, climate change and biodiversity loss. However, scientific evidence on the effects of permaculture is still scarce. In this comprehensive study on a wide range of soil and biodiversity indicators, we examined nine farms utilizing permaculture and paired control fields with locally predominant agriculture in Central Europe. We found 27% higher soil carbon stocks on permaculture sites than on control fields, while soil bulk density was 20% lower and earthworm abundance was 201% higher. Moreover, concentrations of various soil macro- and micronutrients were higher on permaculture sites indicating better conditions for crop production. Species richness of vascular plants, earthworms and birds was 457%, 77% and 197% higher on permaculture sites, respectively. Our results suggest permaculture as effective tool for the redesign of farming systems towards environmental sustainability.

# New science says trees absorb methane from the atmosphere

#### nature

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nature > articles > article

Article Open access Published: 24 July 2024

# Global atmospheric methane uptake by upland tree woody surfaces

Vincent Gauci , Sunitha Rao Pangala, Alexander Shenkin, Josep Barba, David Bastviken, Viviane

Figueiredo, Carla Gomez, Alex Enrich-Prast, Emma Sayer, Tainá Stauffer, Bertie Welch, Dafydd Elias,

Niall McNamara, Myles Allen & Yadvinder Malhi

Nature 631, 796-800 (2024) Cite this article

Metrics

An international team of researchers led by the University of Birmingham has shown for the first time that microbes living in bark or in the wood itself are removing atmospheric methane on a scale equal to or above that of soil. They calculate that this newly discovered process makes trees 10% more beneficial for climate overall than previously thought.

https://phys.org/news/2024-07trees-reveal-climate-microbesbark.html https://www.nature.com/articles/s41 586-024-07592-w



Extended Data Fig. 1 | Photograph of a typical tree woody surface flux measurement chamber. Each chamber has an inlet and an outlet that join to a laser methane analyser. See methods. For a fuller description of the method see Siegenthaler et al. 22. Photograph by Josep Barba.

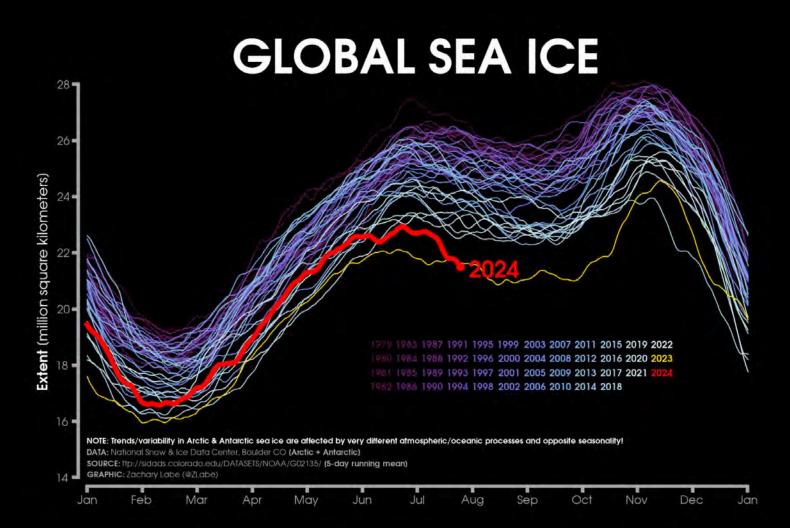


# Nature is Amazing

Deep in the ocean are some very odd critters, indeed. Nature is amazing. Let's protect it.



# Global Sea Ice falls to its lowest ever extent for this time of year.



Global sea ice extent (Arctic + Antarctic) for each year from 1979 to 2024 (satellite-era; NSIDC, DMSP SSM/I-SSMIS). 2023 is highlighted with a yellow line. 2024 is shown using a red line (updated 7/26/2024).



# Paul Watson arrested in Greenland on 21 July.

Watson was the founder of Sea Shepherd organization. In recent years he left Sea Shepherd and founded the Captain Paul Watson Foundation to pursue direct action against the whaling industry.

# THE #FREEPAULWATSON PETITION





THE #FREEPAULWATSON PETITION

ABOUT US

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NEWS

TAKE ACTION

Media July 22, 2024

# Danish police detain Environmental hero and star of "Whale Wars" on international arrest order from Japan.

On the morning of Sunday, July 21st, Captain Paul Watson, co-founder of marine conservation Greenpeace, founder of Sea Shepherd and the Captain Paul Watson Foundation (CPWF), was arrested upon arrival in Nuuk, Greenland.

Captain Watson, on board his 72-meter flagship the M/Y JOHN PAUL DEJORIA stopped in Greenland with 25 volunteer crew to refuel, en route to the North West Passage as a part of the CPWF's Operation Kangei Maru, a mission to intercept Japan's newlybuilt factory whaling ship Kangei Maru in the North Pacific.



"We were here, and arrested Paul due to an international arrest order from Japan", stated the leader of the Danish federal police boarding party at the site of the arrest. The crew were given no further information.

The arrest is believed to be related to a former **Red Notice** issued for Captain Watson's previous anti-whaling interventions in the Antarctic region. Japan's Antarctic research whaling program **JARPA** was declared illegal by the **International Court of Justice** in 2014.

"We're completely shocked, as the Red Notice had disappeared a few months ago. We were surprised because it could mean that it had been erased or made confidential. We understand now that Japan made it confidential to lure Paul into a false sense of security. We implore the Danish government to release Captain Watson and not entertain this politically-motivated request", stated Locky MacLean, Ship Operation's Director for CPWF.

# JUST STOP OIL

# Five Just Stop Oil activists receive record sentences for planning to block M25

Campaigners receive longest ever sentences for non-violent protest after being convicted of conspiracy to cause public nuisance

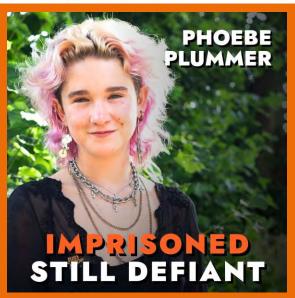


■ L-R: Lucia Whittaker De Abreu, Cressida Gethin, Louise Lancaster and Daniel Shaw were given four-year sentences, while Roger Hallam (right) was sentenced to five years. Photograph: Just Stop

Five supporters of the Just Stop Oil climate campaign who conspired to cause gridlock on London's orbital motorway have been sentenced to lengthy jail terms by a judge who told them they had "crossed the line from concerned campaigner to fanatic".

Roger Hallam, Daniel Shaw, Louise Lancaster, Lucia Whittaker De Abreu and Cressida Gethin were found guilty last week of conspiracy to cause a public nuisance for coordinating direct action protests on the M25 over four days in November 2022.

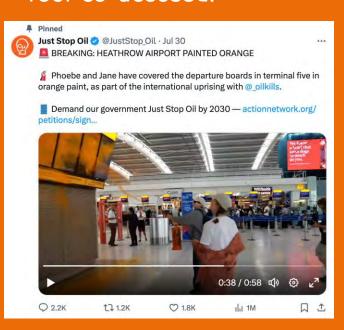
Hallam received a five-year sentence on Thursday, while the other four were each sentenced to four years.





Extinction Rebellion cofounder Roger Hallam sent to jail for 5 years for climate activism.

Hallam fell off his bike and broke his leg a few months ago and heads to prison in a leg brace with four co-accused.



Meanwhile, in Terminal 5, Phoebe Plummer strikes again and quickly joins Roger in jail.

#### Discovery of 'dark oxygen' from deep-sea metal lumps could trigger rethink of origins of life

News

By Sascha Pare published 2 days ago

In a global first, scientists working in the Clarion-Clipperton Zone in the North Pacific Ocean have found that metallic nodules on the seafloor produce their own oxygen, dubbed "dark oxygen."

#### nature geoscience

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Brief Communication | Open access | Published: 22 July 2024

# Evidence of dark oxygen production at the abyssal seafloor

Andrew K. Sweetman , Alycia J. Smith, Danielle S. W. de Jonge, Tobias Hahn, Peter Schroedl, Michael Silverstein, Claire Andrade, R. Lawrence Edwards, Alastair J. M. Lough, Clare Woulds, William B. Homoky, Andrea Koschinsky, Sebastian Fuchs, Thomas Kuhn, Franz Geiger & Jeffrey J. Marlow

Nature Geoscience (2024) | Cite this article

70k Accesses | 1 Citations | 3887 Altmetric | Metrics

#### Abstract

Deep-seafloor organisms consume oxygen, which can be measured by in situ benthic chamber experiments. Here we report such experiments at the polymetallic nodule-covered abyssal seafloor in the Pacific Ocean in which oxygen increased over two days to more than three times the background concentration, which from ex situ incubations we attribute to the polymetallic nodules. Given high voltage potentials (up to 0.95 V) on nodule surfaces, we hypothesize that seawater electrolysis may contribute to this dark oxygen production.



Home » News & Resources » News » Astroscale's ADRAS-J
Conducts First Fly-Around Observation of Space Debris

### Astroscale's ADRAS-J Conducts First Fly-Around Observation of Space Debris

Posted July 9th, 2024 Posted in News

ADRAS-J

Groundbreaking maneuver provides new images of orbital debris and confirms effective onboard collision avoidance system.



The space industry uses the middle atmosphere as a waste incinerator. Space junk, such as this rocket-body, is left to burn-up on re-entry, toxifying the entire atmosphere. In July 2024, it was reported that a Japanese company has developed a satellite that can fly around space junk to characterise it. The irony is that the satellite will shortly become space junk, itself. This reminds us that the solutions to ecological problems caused by technology need to be ecological, not technological.

https://astroscale.com/astroscales-adras-j-conducts-first-fly-around-observation-of-space-debris/

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"It is not the strongest in the population that survives but the one that is most adaptable to change."

The world is changing.

Are you adapting?



Falling Upwards
July 2024