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Inside Track

Fighting Climate Change by Dumping Chemicals in the Ocean?



(piola666/iStock/Getty Images Plus)

Daily Caller reported on February 14 that scientists at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI) in Massachusetts are planning an experiment in which they will dump approximately 6,000 gallons of sodium hydroxide — a common ingredient in soaps, cleansers, and chemical pipe cleaners — into the waters off of Martha’s Vineyard to ascertain whether artificial alkalinity enhancement of oceans can help address so-called climate change.

“Ocean alkalinity enhancement (OAE) leverages a natural process to remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere by adding an alkaline solution to the sea surface,” says WHOI’s website. “The ocean’s pH (level of acidity/alkalinity) governs its ability to take up the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.”

The experimental process is not considered a solution to the scourge of climate change, but a supplemental strategy, possibly giving the world more time to get off of fossil fuels in favor of energy sources such as wind and solar.

“While emission reductions are key to minimizing human impact on Earth’s climate ... drastic emission reductions must be supplemented by efforts to actively remove existing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere in order to meet internationally accepted targets outlined in the Paris Climate Agreement and reaffirmed at the conclusion of the COP28 UN climate conference in Dubai,” WHOI’s website declares.

The scientists released 250 gallons of Rhodamine WT, a fluorescent dye, into the same waters off of Martha’s Vineyard last August to see if the treated waters could be reasonably tracked. The next phase of the experiment will see the sodium hydroxide used, along with more Rhodamine WT, with a larger test tentatively scheduled for the Gulf of Maine in 2025.

The project is funded in part by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and in part by private sources. The Environmental Protection Agency still needs to sign off on it.

The use of geoengineering as a means to address a climate crisis that doesn’t truly exist seems to be a



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Instead, the goal is to teach children how to overthrow the patriarchy, destroy the nuclear family, and change genders.

— *Michael Tennant*

Syrians Cross Border Wearing Pricey Tactical Gear



(THEPALMER/iStock/Getty Images Plus)

On February 21, news website National File reported on young Syrian men encountered illegally crossing the southern border wearing and carrying expensive tactical clothing and gear.

At least some of the Syrians' gear was made by 5.11 Tactical, which warns customers to "always be ready" and whose YouTube channel features a martial video of the same name that features cops and firefighters. The prices at 5.11 Tactical raise the question of how Syrians with apparently no jobs and no money could afford them.

Military-age nationals from hostile countries are crossing the border by the thousands. In detailing nationwide border encounters with illegals, U.S. Customs and Border Protection does not provide a separate category for Syrians, but includes them in its "Other" group. Illegals in "Other" number 113,640 since October 1, the beginning of fiscal 2024; 72,807 landed at the southwest border, and 66,759 of those were caught by the Border Patrol entering illegally. Last year's total was just shy of 300,000 nationwide.

Most worrisome, though, is that 93,197 of those illegals, or 80 percent, are single adults and mostly likely young men. Last year, that total was 236,148, about 79 percent.

Additionally, agents have encountered 30,000 Chinese nationals at the border since October 1, and so far in fiscal 2024, 86,139 Cubans have landed at the border (last year the figure was 200,287); the majority both years were single adults. More than 10,000 Russians have already shown up this fiscal year, with almost 60,000 entering last year. Again, the majority were single adults.

Former FBI intelligence and counterterrorism officials are greatly concerned about what is rightly called an invasion. "It would be difficult to overstate the danger represented by the presence inside our borders of what is comparatively a multi-division army of young single adult males from hostile nations and regions whose background, intent, or allegiance is completely unknown," the officials wrote in a



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January letter to congressmen.

— *R. Cort Kirkwood*

Russia Remarks on Favorite in Race for White House



(AP Images)

On February 20, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said that Russia is interested in policies, not personalities, and does not think the United States intends to change its hostile stance toward Russia regardless of who wins the November presidential election.

As noted by Russian media outlet RT (formerly Russia Today) on February 21, “[Lavrov] was asked [in an interview] whether Moscow preferred a return of Donald Trump to the White House [in 2024] over President Joe Biden staying in office. The interviewer from [Brazilian] Globo media group cited opinions that a new Trump presidency would make it easier to end the Ukraine conflict. ‘The ruling elites in the US consider Russia an enemy and a threat regardless of their political affiliation,’ Lavrov said. While Biden ‘did nothing’ in four years to boost relations with Russia, ‘we do not delude ourselves into expecting the anti-Russian course of the US to change anytime soon,’ the minister added.”

However, on February 14, RT had quoted Russian President Vladimir Putin as saying that he hoped Joe Biden would win the election. When asked by a journalist which presidential candidate would be better for Russia, Biden or Trump, Putin answered, “Biden. He is a more experienced and predictable person, he is a politician of the old sort. But we will work with any leader who gets the confidence of the American people.”

When asked about Biden’s cognitive decline, Putin said he didn’t notice it when he met with Biden in Switzerland three years ago. “So what if he whacked his head coming out of a helicopter? Who among us hasn’t hit his head on a helicopter, let him cast the first stone.... I am not a doctor.”

As did Lavrov, though, Putin emphasized that “the only thing that matters to Moscow is Washington’s policy, which he described as ‘harmful and mistaken.’”

Rumors over which presidential candidate is a “favorite” of Moscow have been part of U.S. electoral cycles for decades, and this year’s race is no different.

— *Angeline Tan*



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