

Argos Data Consultation Website

Instructions for use

Supplied by the Australian Marine Mammal Centre,
Australian Antarctic Division


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To find a recent tag location and acquire details...

Go to <https://www.argos-system.org>

Click 'LOGIN'

- Enter Username & password
- Select your preferred time zone (GMT, Perth or Hobart etc.)

This brings you into the **Welcome** page. Online help is available by clicking on the  icon at the top right of each page. Lower on this page there is also a brief description on how to use the left menu bar.

To view a map of your buoy:

1. Go to the left hand menu bar, then select **Data access**
2. Select **Mapping**. This opens a new window with a map of the world.
3. **Platform**: Specify the whale buoy satellite tag number. In the drop-down box, select "by ID numb. (s)" and enter the tag number manually in the field to the right.
4. **Time frame**: The map displays recent data to a *maximum* of 10 days previously. We suggest you look at the previous 2 days.
5. **Location Class**: allows specific classes (please see table below) to be displayed or omitted. We suggest you leave this box unchecked to display all location classes.
6. Click '**Search**'

Several buttons control the map display itself. Each of these displays a short description if you hold your mouse above the button.



To get details of a recent location the important buttons are:

1. The **zoom** buttons (4th and 5th buttons from the left) allow you to zoom in or out of selected areas by clicking and dragging to your selection. The **world view** (3rd) button goes back to the widest view available. **USE THE + BUTTON (4TH BUTTON) TO CLICK AND DRAG A SMALL BOX OVER YOUR DATA POINT(S), WHICH WILL ZOOM IN ON THAT AREA.** Repeat if necessary (note: there is a maximum zoom limit at which the map will no longer zoom).

2. USE THE **INFORMATION BUTTON** (6TH BUTTON) TO CLICK ON A DATA POINT OF INTEREST; THIS WILL DISPLAY THE ID NUMBER (NAMED “MOBILE”), DATE/TIME (YOU SET THE TIME ZONE WHEN YOU LOGGED IN), LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE AND THE LOCATION CLASS. The location classes give an indication of accuracy of the location fix (see table below), *if you have several locations received within a few hours, give priority to the point with the highest location class.*

Location Class Details:

| Class | Estimated Accuracy in latitude and longitude |
|-------|--|
| 3 | < 150m |
| 2 | ≥ 150m but < 350m |
| 1 | ≥350m but < 1000m |
| 0 | >1000m |
| A | 3 messages received, no estimate of location or accuracy |
| B | 2 messages received, no estimate of location or accuracy |
| Z | Rejected locations |


3. The **distance** (7th) button can measure distance between any series of *mouse clicks*. Click on your tag location, then on your next point of interest (eg coastline or another data point); to display the distance you need to *click the tick button* on the left toolbar (displayed below). You can remove the last or all points using the 2nd or 3rd buttons on this toolbar respectively




Before you **log out**, please return to the **world view** layout in the map, this makes it easier for you or the next person who logs in.

To view (and then download) the argos data from your buoy:

1. Go to the left hand menu, then select **Data access**
2. Select **Messages**
3. **Platform:** Specify the whale buoy satellite tag number. In the drop-down box, select “by ID numb. (s)” and enter the tag number manually in the field to the right.
4. On the **Filter by messages** dropdown box at the top right of the data filter window, you may choose to download all messages received from the tag, or the most significant or best on satellite pass (The most significant message is defined as the one received from your transmitter the most times, consecutively, in identical form during a satellite pass. In Argos jargon, this is called the message with the highest compression index.)
5. **Time frame:** The map displays recent data to a *maximum* of 10 days previously. Enter the number of days of data you would like to download.
6. **Location Class:** allows specific classes (please see table below) to be displayed or omitted. We suggest you leave this box unchecked to display all location classes.
7. Click ‘**Search**’

After your data appears onscreen, you may **print data** by clicking on . You can print either all data or selected data by clicking on “selection”. Your selected data will be printed.

You may **export data** from this window by clicking . You can choose to export data in CSV, Excel, Google Earth or Map format. You can choose to export all or a selection. You can export up to 1 500 messages from Messages or Most Recent Message. To download an unlimited number of messages, please use the Message Download or Download COM/PRV/DIAG function on the left menu bar.

To download using the Message Download.

This function is useful for downloading data without previewing, or for downloading large amounts of data

1. Go to the left hand menu, then select **Data access**
2. Select **Message Download**.
3. **Platform:** Specify the whale buoy satellite tag number. In the drop-down box, select “by ID numb. (s)” and enter the tag number manually in the field to the right.
4. On the dropdown box at the top right of the data filter window, you may choose to download all messages received from the tag, or the most significant or best on satellite pass (The most significant message is defined as the one received from your transmitter the most times, consecutively, in identical form during a satellite pass. In Argos jargon, this is called the message with the highest compression index.)
5. **Time frame:** The map displays recent data to a *maximum* of 10 days previously. Enter the number of days of data you would like to download.
6. **Location Class:** allows specific classes (please see table below) to be displayed or omitted. We suggest you leave this box unchecked to display all location classes.
7. Choose columns to display (we recommend you choose all)
8. Click ‘**download**’
9. Choose your preferred download format (.csv, excel, google earth, Map), and click download. The file will download to your computers default download folder.