

# Argos Data Consultation Website

## Instructions for use

Supplied by the Australian Marine Mammal Centre, AAD

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

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

Under User access click ' > Data '

- Enter Username and password (Please contact [Buoy@aad.gov.au](mailto:Buoy@aad.gov.au) if you have any issues)
- Select your preferred time zone (GMT, Perth or Hobart etc.)

This brings you into the **Welcome** page. Help files on the website are located by clicking ? (top right of screen) or using the menu on the left side of the page. You have several options on how to view your data:

To view the most recent data received from the tag, go to the **Data access** tab on the left hand menu, then click **Most recent message**. You will need to find your platforms on the list- Hint: sort by platform number or location date.

To view up to 10 days of data received from the tag in tabular form:

1. Go to the **Data Access** tab on the left hand menu, then click **Messages**.  
In the data filter section:
  - A. **Platform:** Specify the whale satellite tag number. In the drop-down box, select "by ID numb. (s)" and enter the tag number using the select/dialogue box to the right of the field, or you can manually enter the tag numbers in the field, separated by a comma.
  - B. **Time frame:** The map displays recent data to a *maximum* of 10 days previously. We suggest you look at the previous 2 days.
  - C. **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.
  - D. Click **Search**. This will display your data.

#### What does each column mean?

<b>ID No.:</b>	Corresponds to the platform ID No. for the concerned platform.
<b>Platform:</b>	Corresponds to the Platform name. You can give your Platform a name by clicking on Settings then Platforms in the left menubar.
<b>Prg No.:</b>	Corresponds to the Program Number that the platform belongs to.
<b>Latitude:</b>	Platform calculated location.
<b>Longitude:</b>	Platform calculated location.
<b>Location quality:</b>	Can be 3, 2, 1, 0, A, B, Z, also called location class.
<b>Location date:</b>	Date (calendar) and time of location. All locations are processed in GMT by default but are displayed according to the time zone selected by the user on the login page.
<b>Satellite:</b>	Code the satellite that received the corresponding message.
<b>Pass in seconds:</b>	Duration of the satellite pass over your platform.
<b>Altitude in km:</b>	Transmitter altitude in km, used in location calculation, as supplied in your Technical File and registered in our system.
<b>Frequency in Hz:</b>	Calculated transmit frequency.
<b>Message date:</b>	Date of data collection.
<b>Comp.:</b>	Compression Index: Number of identical messages received during the satellite pass.
<b>Sensors N:</b>	Value of Sensor N

If you wish to download the data, go to the **Data Access** tab on the left hand menu, then click **Message Download** tab and enter details (as above) and follow the prompts after you click 'Download'.

To view a map of your tag:

1. Go to the **Data Access** tab on the left hand menu, then click **Mapping**. This opens a new window with a map of the world.
  - A. **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.
  - B. **Time frame:** The map displays recent data to a *maximum* of 10 days previously. We suggest you look at the previous 2 days.
  - C. **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.
  - D. Click ‘**Search**’.

Several buttons control the map display itself, others are save and export options. Each of these displays a short description if you hold your mouse above the button on the Argos site.



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

1. The **zoom** buttons (4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> buttons from the left) allow you to zoom in or out of selected areas by clicking and dragging to your selection. The **world view** (3<sup>rd</sup> button) goes back to the widest view available. **USE THE + BUTTON (4<sup>TH</sup> 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 (6<sup>TH</sup> BUTTON) TO CLICK ON A DATA POINT OF INTEREST; THIS WILL DISPLAY THE ID NUMBER, LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE, DATE/TIME (YOU SET THE TIME ZONE WHEN YOU LOGGED IN) 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

- The **distance** (7<sup>th</sup>) 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 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> buttons on this toolbar respectively



You can also use the **Google Earth export** button (14<sup>th</sup> button) to save the data as a .kml file and view your data in Google Earth.

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.