

**TEMPLATE FOR THE REPORT BY THE DBCP ACTION GROUPS TO THE
THIRTIETH SESSION OF THE DBCP**

(Geneva, Switzerland, 19-23 October 2015)

1) Summary

Name of Action Group	WCRP/SCAR International Programme for Antarctic Buoy (IPAB)
Date of report	22 September 2015
Overview and main requirements addressed	Participants of the IABP continue to work together to maintain a network of drifting buoys on the ice of the Arctic Basin to provide meteorological and oceanographic data for real-time operational requirements and research purposes including support to the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) and the World Weather Watch (WWW) Programme.
Area of interest	Central Arctic Ocean and its marginal seas, excepting Exclusive Economic Zones, where agreements of the Coastal States have not been obtained
Type of platform and variables measured	Buoys on ice and/or in water measuring: Basic meteorological variables such as atmospheric air pressure and air temperature. Other variables such as: atmospheric pressure tendency, air chemistry (e.g. ozone), snow and sea-ice properties, as well as sub-surface oceanographic characteristics (e.g. temperature and salinity)
Targeted horizontal resolution	250 km x 250 km
Chairperson/Managers	Chairperson: Christine Best, Meteorological Service Canada
Coordinator	Ignatius Rigor, Polar Science Center, University of Washington, USA
Participants	Participants range from Science Institutions to Universities to Government Agencies. http://iabp.apl.washington.edu/overview_participants.html Participant contributions are shown on this site http://iabp.apl.washington.edu/overview_contributions.html
Data centre(s)	
Website	http://iabp.apl.washington.edu/
Meetings <i>(meetings held in 2013/2014; and planned in 2014/2015)</i>	Annual meetings spring or early summer in the Northern Hemisphere. 25th Annual Meeting of the International Arctic Buoy Programme [IABP], hosted by the University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, USA on June 8 – 10, 2015. We are planning to have our next meeting to coincide with KOPRI's International Polar Science Symposium in May, 2016.
Current status summary <i>(mid-2015)</i>	162 buoys were reporting (Fig. 1).

<p>Summary of plans for 2016</p>	<p>Summer is the primary deployment season in the Arctic.</p> <p>Participants will deploy 70+ buoys ranging from: SVP's providing surface air pressure, buoys providing air pressure and air temperature, Ice Mass Balance buoys, Oceanographic Profiling buoys measuring temperature and salinity to great depths and buoys that measure atmospheric air components such as ozone.</p> <p>Plans for future years will be similar.</p>
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2 Deployment plans for 2015

Deployment plans for 2016 will be posted on the IABP web page http://iabp.apl.washington.edu/overview_deploymentplans.html. As plans and opportunities for deployments become known, Participants are encouraged to contact the IABP Coordinator Ignatius Rigor Ignatius@uw.edu.

3 Data management

3.1 Distribution of the data

Most of the meteorological and oceanographic data is posted on the GTS. Much of the ice data and atmospheric chemistry data are available from Participants' web pages. Efforts continue to have those using Iridium communication to find means to post data to the GTS.

3.1.1 Data policy

Data exchange policies of the Participants for that data not getting onto the GTS has not been catalogued. However, most Participants have web sites that display data and/or graphs of the data.

3.1.2 Real-time data exchange

Details on percentage of data distributed on GTS.
 Details on data timeliness (i.e. reception time at operational meteorological services minus observation time), including known problems, possible solutions, statistics, etc.

3.1.3 Delayed mode data exchange

Data are available from <http://iabp.apl.washington.edu> as well as ISDM. Data are also archived at the World Data Center for Glaciology (www.nsidc.org), the U.S. National Science Foundation's Cooperative Arctic Data and Information Service (www.AONCADIS.org). Collection of and distribution of metadata is an ongoing task of the Coordinator. We plan to provide metadata through the IABP web server (iabp.apl.washington.edu), and produce netCDF data files containing the metadata information.

3.2 Data quality

Feedback is ad hoc. Data is suppressed when noted to be questionable. The IABP Coordinator participates in the buoy QC forums of the DBCP and JCOMM, and performs day-to-day QC of the data. More thorough QC of the data is performed during the analysis and production of the research data bases.

4) Instrument practices

We are currently in the midst of a sensor intercomparison for the various buoys/instruments that we use to observe polar meteorology and oceanography at the Arctic Observing Experiment (AOX) test site in Barrow, Alaska.

Data analyses procedures for the Arctic are documented in journal papers. As part of our efforts to collect and provide the metadata, details on instruments and other procedures will be provided through our web pages.

5) Other issues as needed

Our challenges remain the same, i.e. maintaining the network of buoys in an ocean of increasingly dynamic sea ice, and deploying buoys in the Eurasian Arctic.

Annex (optional)

Status maps and graphics

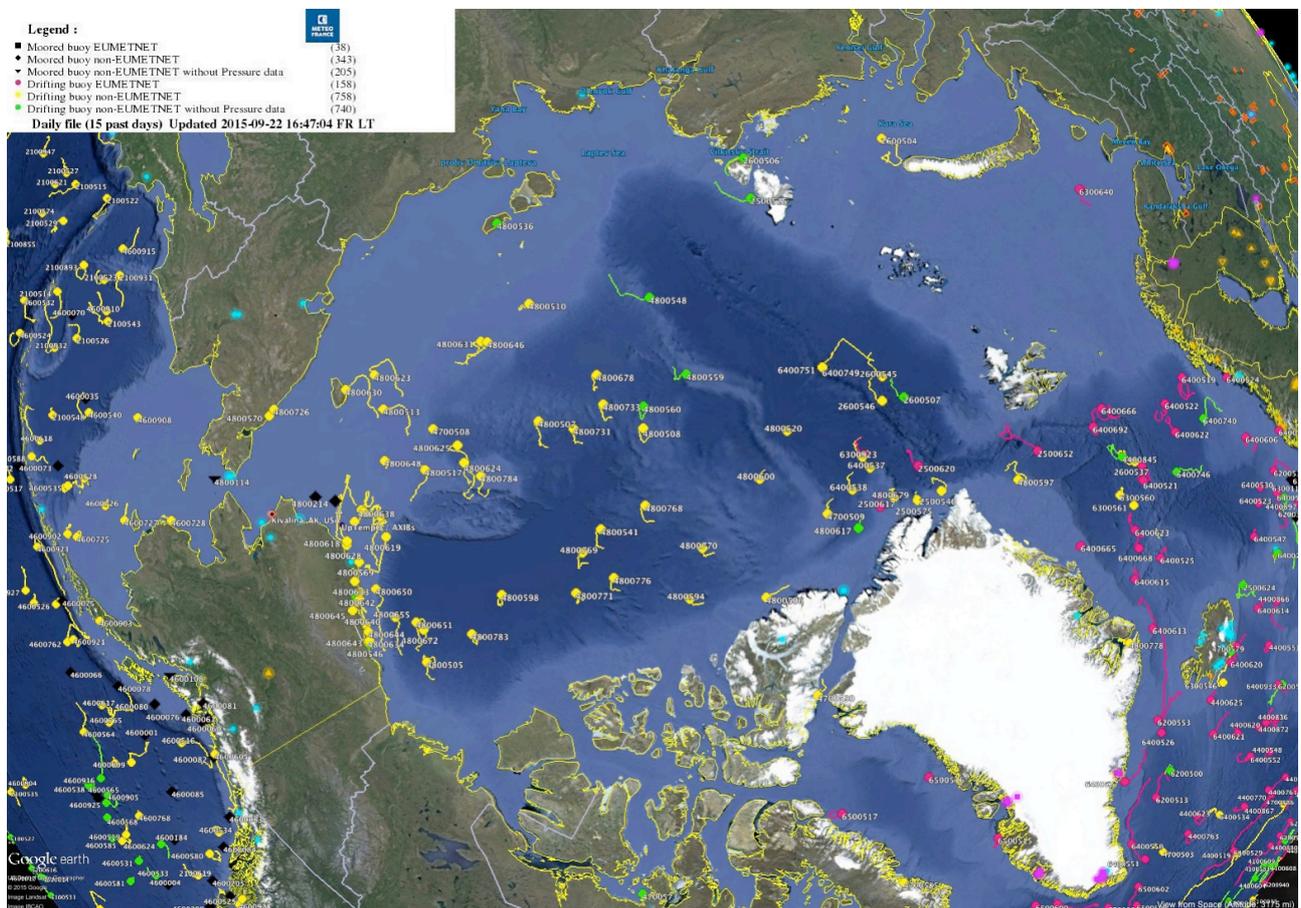


Figure 1. Map of buoy positions on 22 September 2016 from JCOMMOPS. 160 buoys were reporting. Many of these buoys were deployed in tight clusters in the Beaufort Sea north of Alaska.