

Manual for Real-Time Quality Control of Water Level Data: A Guide to Quality Control and Quality Assurance for Water Level Observations. Version 2.1

Author(s): U.S. Integrated Ocean Observing System, Quality Assurance / Quality Control of Real-Time Oceanographic Data P(QARTOD) project

Essential Ocean, Climate, Biodiversity Variable(s): Sea Surface Height

Supporting or other variables: None, manual specifically addresses in-situ water level measurements

Network(s): U.S. IOOS and the thirteen Regional Associations

Sensors: Microwave radar, acoustic, float/stilling wells, pressure sensors, lasers, GPS Buoys

Endorsed by: U.S. IOOS

Endorsement date: December 12, 2023

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Brief description of community review process: The QARTOD community review process is described in the Project Plan (<https://doi.org/10.25923/1tcg-ht56>). Briefly:

- Committee of subject matter experts and QARTOD National Coordinator (NC) meet via telcom.
- NC and technical writer produce initial draft of manual (from committee input) and distribute to committee.
- Review 1: Committee reviews draft and provides input. NC incorporates feedback and updates draft.
- Review 2: IOOS Regional Associations (and others such as the QARTOD Board of Advisors) review 2nd draft and provide feedback. NC incorporates feedback and updates draft.
- Review 3: National and international-wide distribution is made to solicit final comments. Feedback is considered for final manual.
- All reviewers' comments are recorded and addressed within an adjudication matrix, which is part of the record and indicates whether a suggested revision was incorporated and why or why not.
- NC and technical writer review and finalize manual; distribute to committee and Board of Advisors.
- U.S. IOOS Program Office and QARTOD Board of Advisors sign the manual.
- Manual is posted on IOOS web site, in NOAA Institutional Repository, and the OBPS repository.