INTERNATIONAL USER CONFERENCE ON ARGOS WILDLIFE APPLICATIONS

The International User Conference on Argos Wildlife Applications is a forum for Argos Wildlife Users to present their cutting-edge science and demonstrate how it can be applied in valuable ways to wildlife conservation, economics and society. It will showcase the incredible breadth of wildlife science that the international Argos satellite tracking system has enabled for decades; examine the evolving technology and capabilities of the Argos system; and explore the endless possibilities for wildlife monitoring that are within our reach for the future.  

AT A GLANCE

Daily Breakfast with Sodexo
7:00-8:30 AM | NATIONAL AQUARIUM
Harbor Overlook

PLEASE NOTE: For already registered attendees, VIPs, speakers and panelists, please allow yourself enough time to pass through the National Aquarium main entrance security checkpoint BEFORE the morning sessions commence.

THE PLENARY SESSIONS WILL BEGIN PROMPTLY AT 8:30 AM EACH DAY.

Daily Morning Plenary Sessions
8:30-11:30 AM | NATIONAL AQUARIUM
Lyn P. Meyerhoff Auditorium

Daily Afternoon Plenary Sessions and Panel Discussions
1-5 PM | PIER 5 HOTEL

Monday Evening Meet & Greet
for VIPs, speakers and panelists
5-7 PM | PIER 5 HOTEL
McCormick & Schmick’s Seafood Restaurant

Tuesday Speaker Book Signing
Wallace “J.” Nichols
12 PM | NATIONAL AQUARIUM
Aqua Shop

Tuesday Evening Reception
for all registrants
6:30-9:30 PM | NATIONAL AQUARIUM
Harbor Overlook

Wednesday Evening Icebreaker
for speakers and panelists
7-9 PM | PAZO RESTAURANT

Thursday Speaker Book Signing
P. Dee Boersma
12 PM | NATIONAL AQUARIUM
Aqua Shop

NATIONAL AQUARIUM
501 East Pratt Street
Baltimore, MD 21202
aqua.org

PIER 5 HOTEL
711 Eastern Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21202
thepier5.com
mccormickandschmicks.com

PAZO
1425 Aliceanna Street
Baltimore, MD 21231
pazorestaurant.com
(not included on map)
EDITORIAL

In the late 1970s the Argos Data Collection and Location System was conceived by engineers at the French government space agency after its successful operation of a similar experimental data relay satellite for acquiring and relaying telemetered data from meteorological balloons. Dedicated to the environment and begun as a cooperative program among CNES, NOAA and NASA (joined later with JAXA and now with EUMETSAT and ISRO as well), the Argos success story has spanned more than three decades and has had an enormous positive impact on our ever-evolving capabilities for Earth-based biological and physical sciences research.

In particular, Argos has enabled the wildlife community to continuously rewrite its textbooks on the migration patterns and habits of an increasingly wide variety of land, marine and avian animal species. This essential science-based data help to guide global conservation policy-making through informed management, economic and political decisions. At a time when field scientists were able to, at best, track animals at distances only marginally greater than line of sight, Argos allowed visionary biologists to begin dreaming beyond the horizon and think about wildlife tracking on global scales. As Argos capabilities have grown, the vital simplicity and very low power of the system essential for wildlife tracking has remained.

The spirit of Argos is captured in the innovative and breathtaking scientific efforts of the global wildlife community, a large portion of which will be showcased here at our conference. We are thrilled that you have joined us at the National Aquarium to celebrate the extraordinary 35-year-long combination of the science, the success and the system, and to assist your community in shaping the future of wildlife tracking with Argos.

ORGANIZING PARTNERS
THE HISTORY OF ARGOS

The Argos system was born in the late 1970s following the success of the CNES project Eole, which tracked 500-plus stratospheric balloons via satellite. The early collaboration among CNES, NASA and NOAA demonstrated the feasibility of tracking and collecting data from various terrestrial, maritime and airborne beacons via satellite.

The outstanding results from this demonstration generated the incentive to build an operational satellite-based system that would fulfill the environmental study and protection requirements of the global international scientific community. Thus, Argos was created. The first experimental satellite carrying an Argos instrument, called TIROS-N, was launched on October 13, 1978. The first satellite with an operational Argos instrument aboard was named NOAA-6 and was launched in June 1979. The Argos system has been operational on NOAA satellites since 1979 with 16 instruments of first, second and third generation.

Beginning in the late 1990s, CNES began expanding the Argos collaboration with other agencies (i.e., EUMETSAT, JAXA and ISRO) while at the same time continuing to increase Argos technical capabilities. Two third-generation instruments (Argos-3) were launched on the EUMETSAT Metop-A satellite at the end of 2006 and on the NOAA-19 satellite in February 2009. Additional Argos-3 instruments have since been launched on Metop-B and the ISRO satellite SARAL. The first fourth-generation (Argos-4) instrument is targeted for launch in the 2018 timeframe.

The CNES agent CLS operates the Argos system, while CNES is in charge of the technical development, the delivery of Argos instruments on the satellites, the system performances, the integration of the instruments onboard the satellites, the operations and the ground segment activities (data processing).

The associated costs of flying the Argos instruments on the satellites (e.g., integration of the instruments, antennas, launch and data acquisition by global ground stations) are the responsibility of NOAA, EUMETSAT for the Metop satellites, and ISRO for the SARAL satellite. This is organized in accordance with an international memorandum of agreement signed by each of the agencies.
KEYNOTE ADDRESS

ABOUT DR. WALLACE “J.” NICHOLS


Nichols takes a slow, collaborative approach with leaders in businesses, government, nonprofits and academia to inspire a deeper connection with nature and inventive solutions to pressing issues. He knows that what really moves people is feeling part of and touching something bigger than ourselves.

Nichols is a research associate at California Academy of Sciences and cofounder of oceanrevolution.org, an international network of young ocean advocates; seethewild.org, a conservation travel network; grupotortuguero.org, an international sea turtle conservation network; and livblue.org, a global campaign to reconnect us to our water planet.

He has authored and co-authored more than 50 scientific papers and reports, and his work has been broadcast on NPR, BBC, PBS, National Geographic and Animal Planet, and featured in Time, Newsweek, GQ, Outside Magazine, Fast Company, Scientific American and New Scientist, among others.

Nichols earned his bachelor’s degree in biology and Spanish from DePauw University; his master’s of environmental management in environmental policy and economics from Duke University’s Nicholas School of the Environment; and his doctorate in wildlife ecology from the University of Arizona’s School of Renewable Natural Resources, where he received both a Marshall Fellowship and a Fulbright Fellowship. In 2010, Nichols delivered the commencement address at DePauw University, where he also received an honorary doctorate in science. In May 2014, Nichols received the University of Arizona’s Global Achievement Award.

He advises a motivated group of international graduate students and serves as an adviser to numerous nonprofit boards and committees as part of his commitment to building a stronger, more progressive and connected environmental community.

Nichols and his team are working on the Blue Mind Collective, merging the fields of cognitive science and aquatic exploration, and sharing their findings across many diverse sectors of society with the goal of increasing appreciation for healthy oceans and waterways.
HONORABLE MENTION

2014 INDIANAPOLIS PRIZE

The Indianapolis Prize is given every other year to an individual who has made extraordinary contributions to conservation efforts involving a single animal species or multiple species. The professional wildlife conservation community frequently refers to it as the world's leading award for animal conservation.

TOP 6 FINALIST

Gerardo Ceballos
Scientist
Instituto de Ecologia, Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico
Champion for jaguars in Mexico, conducting the first country-level jaguar census and the most comprehensive jaguar study to date.

NOMINEE

Randall Wells
Program Director
Sarasota Dolphin Research Program, Chicago Zoological Society
Wells directs the Sarasota Dolphin Research Program, the world's longest-running study of a wild dolphin population.
**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17**

**WELCOME**

5 pm to 7 pm  
Meet and Greet for VIPs, Speakers and Panelists
Pier 5 Hotel | McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18**

**PLENARY 1**

8:30 am to 10:10 am  
Opening Session
National Aquarium | Lyn P. Meyerhoff Auditorium
Moderator | Bill Woodward

Welcoming Remarks | John Racanelli, National Aquarium
Jean-Yves Le Gall | President, Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales
Marc Cohen | Associate Director for LEO Programmes, European Organisation for the Exploitation of Meteorological Satellites
Francisco Werner | Science and Research Director, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Southwest Fisheries Science Center
Frédéric Doré | Deputy of Mission, French Embassy

Keynote Address | Dr. Wallace “J.” Nichols

10:10 am to 10:30 am  
COFFEE BREAK
National Aquarium | Lyn P. Meyerhoff Auditorium

**PLENARY 2A**

10:30 am to 11:30 am  
Diversity and Ecology of Species Tracked by Argos
National Aquarium | Lyn P. Meyerhoff Auditorium
Moderator | George Durner

The Wired Ocean: Using Biologging Technology to Track Wildlife and Predict the Impacts of Climate Change
Barbara Block | Charles and Elizabeth Prothro Chair in Marine Sciences, Hopkins Marine Station, Stanford University

21 Years’ Satellite Tracking of Raptors—Some Highlights
Bernd Meyburg | Professor Dr., World Working Group on Birds of Prey and Chairman of the Raptor Working Group of BirdLife Germany

Use of Protected Areas by Marine Turtles Tagged in Dry Tortugas National Park, Florida, USA
Kristen Hart | Research Ecologist, USGS

11:30 am to 1:00 pm  
LUNCH BREAK
On your own

**PLENARY 2B**

1 pm to 2 pm  
Diversity and Ecology of Species Tracked by Argos
Pier 5 Hotel | Harbor West Ballroom
Moderator | George Durner

Avian Tracking Studies by the U.S. Geological Survey
David C. Douglas | Research Wildlife Biologist, USGS Alaska Science Center

Tracking Tropical Manatees; Use of Argos Tags on Antillean Manatees from the Bahamas to Brazil
James Reid | Biologist, USGS

Use of Solar-Powered Satellite Transmitters in Assessing Migration Patterns of Burrowing Owls in Western North America
David Johnson | Wildlife Biologist, Idaho Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit

**PLENARY 3A**

2 pm to 2:40 pm  
Wildlife Tracking Applications Using Argos
Pier 5 Hotel | Harbor Club
Moderator | Greg Skomal

Satellite Tracking Migratory Birds from the United Arab Emirates—Opportunities for Species and Site Conservation
Salim Javed | Section Head, Terrestrial Assessment and Conservation, Terrestrial and Marine Biodiversity

Learning the Spatial Distribution of Sea Turtles in the Gulf of Mexico for Conservation and Management Strategies
Eduardo Amir Cuevas Flores | Scientist, Pronatura Peninsula de Yucatan

2:40 pm to 3 pm  
COFFEE BREAK
Pier 5 Hotel | Harbor Club

**PLENARY 3B**

3 pm to 4:40 pm  
Wildlife Tracking Applications Using Argos
Pier 5 Hotel | Harbor Club
Moderator | Greg Skomal

From Jaguars to Bison: Ecology and Conservation Science in Mexico
Gerardo Ceballos | Scientist, Instituto de Ecología, Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico, 2014 Indianapolis Prize Finalist

Satellite-Linked Tagging of Small Cetaceans: A Crucial Tool for Conservation
Randall Wells | Director, Chicago Zoological Society's Sarasota Dolphin Research Program, 2014 Indianapolis Prize Nominee
Use of Argos-Linked GPS Technology to Study Florida Manatee Ecology and Behavior: Discoveries from the Past 12 Years of Tracking for Conservation

Charles “Chip” Deutsch | Associate Research Scientist, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

The Monitoring of the Long-Term Movements and Diving Behavior of Released Rehabilitated Marine Turtles in New Zealand Waters

Chris Andrews | Senior Curator, Sea Life US

Migration Ecology and Population Delineation of Pacific Barrow’s Goldeneye

Walter “Sean” Boyd | Research Scientist, Environment Canada

AN EVENING RECEPTION

6:30 pm to 9:30 pm

With Author Dr. Wallace J. Nichols

National Aquarium | Harbor Overlook (enter at the main entrance)

To Include: VIPs, speakers, panelists and conference registrants (additional information to follow)


Wallace “J.” Nichols | Research Associate and Author, California Academy of Sciences and Cofounder of oceanrevolution.org

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

PLENARY 4

8:30 am to 10:10 am

Using Argos to Understand Protected Habits and Species

National Aquarium | Lyn P. Meyerhoff Auditorium

Moderator | P. Dee Boersma

Using Argos to Understand Protected Habits and Species—From Single Animals to Animal Telemetry Networks

Richard Merrick | Chief Science Advisor and Director of Scientific Programs, NOAA Fisheries

Broad and Fine-Scale Movements of White Sharks in the Western North Atlantic Derived from Multiple Technologies

Greg Skomal | Program Manager, Senior Marine Fisheries Biologist, Energy and Environmental Affairs, Massachusetts Marine Fisheries

Identification of Whale Migratory Routes and High-Use Areas from Argos Satellite Telemetry Data

Helen Bailey | Research Assistant Professor, Chesapeake Biological Laboratory, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Sciences

The Use of Argos Tags as a Tool for Understanding Large Whale Ecology and Management

Amy Kennedy | Research Scientist, National Marine Mammal Laboratory, NOAA

COFFEE BREAK

National Aquarium | Lyn P. Meyerhoff Auditorium

PLENARY 5A

10:30 am to 11:30 am

Argos as a Tool to Advance Global Conservation and Improve Environmental Policy, Economics and Society

National Aquarium | Lyn P. Meyerhoff Auditorium

Moderator | David Douglas

Sushi and Satellites: Using Satellite Technology as a Conservation Tool for Protecting Marine Fishes and Ecosystems

Barbara Block | Chair in Marine Sciences, Hopkins Marine Station, Stanford University

Satellite Tracking Red-Breasted Geese

Meenakshi “Mini” Nagendran | Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Satellite Telemetry and The Conservation Ecology of Imperiled Raptors and Water Birds

Ken Meyer | Executive Director, Avian Research and Conservation Institute

LUNCH BREAK

On your own

PLENARY 5B

1 pm to 2 pm

Argos as a Tool to Advance Global Conservation and Improve Environmental Policy, Economics and Society

Pier 5 Hotel | Harbor West Ballroom

Moderator | David Douglas

How Satellite Tracking Has Helped Advance Marine Vertebrate Conservation Science

Matthew Witt | Scientist, Marine Turtle Research Group, Centre for Ecology and Conservation, University of Exeter in Cornwall

Satellite Telemetry of Intra-Amazonian Migrant Birds: What We Know and Where We Are Going

Lisa Davenport | Research Associate, Duke University Center for Tropical Conservation

Golden Eagles’ Use of the North American Landscape from Natal to Adult Breeding Territories

John “Dave” Bittner | Executive Director, Wildlife Research Institute
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19 CONTINUED

2 pm to 2:40 pm
POSTER SESSION
Pier 5 Hotel | Harbor Club

2:40 pm to 3 pm
COFFEE BREAK
Pier 5 Hotel | Harbor Club

3 pm to 4 pm
PANEL DISCUSSION 1
How Results and Conclusions are Effectively Communicated to the General Public
Pier 5 Hotel | Harbor West Ballroom

Moderator | Barbara Block
Eric Schwaab | Chief Conservation Officer, Conservation and Science Division, National Aquarium
Wallace “J.” Nichols | Research Associate and Author, California Academy of Sciences and Cofounder of oceanrevolution.org
Richard Merrick | Chief Science Advisor and Director of Scientific Programs, NOAA Fisheries
Nan Hauser | President and Director, Center for Cetacean Research and Conservation

PANEL DISCUSSION 2A
3 pm to 4 pm
Advances in Argos Wildlife Tracking Tools
Pier 5 Hotel | Harbor East D

Moderator | Matthew Witt
Argos Data Access
Debbie Stakem | Manager of Argos User Services, CLS America
Movebank as a Free and Flexible Web-Based Interface for Analyzing Argos Wildlife Tracking Data
John Wilson | Postdoctoral Researcher, Department of Civil, Environmental and Geodetic Engineering, The Ohio State University
STAT: Building Capacity to Manage, Analyze and Share Animal Tracking Data
Michael Coyne | Executive Director, seaturtle.org

PANEL DISCUSSION 2B
4 pm to 5 pm
Argos Data Access and Advances in Argos Wildlife Tracking Tools (Interactive)
Pier 5 Hotel | Harbor East D

Moderator | Matthew Witt
Debbie Stakem | Manager of Argos User Services, CLS America
John Wilson | Postdoctoral Researcher, Department of Civil, Environmental and Geodetic Engineering, The Ohio State University
Michael Coyne | Executive Director, seaturtle.org

PANEL DISCUSSION 3
4 pm to 5 pm
Conservation and Policy Applications of the Argos System—A Success Story
Pier 5 Hotel | Harbor West Ballroom

Moderator | Helen Bailey
Tracking Marine Diving Birds in the Mid-Atlantic
James Woehr | Avian Biologist, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
Determining Offshore Use of Seaduck Species in Federal Waters of the Mid-Atlantic United States Using Satellite Tracking
Alicia Berlin | Research Wildlife Biologist, USGS
Determining Wintering Areas and Migration Routes of Red-Throated Loons in Atlantic Offshore Waters Using Satellite Tracking
Iain Stenhouse | Marine Bird Program Director, Biodiversity Research Institute
Satellite Tracking of Northern Gannet (Morus bassanus) Activity in U.S. Mid-Atlantic Waters
Bill Montvecchi | University Research Professor, Memorial University of Newfoundland

EVENING ICEBREAKER EVENT
7 pm to 9 pm
By Invitation Only; Includes All Conference Speakers and Panelists
Pazo Restaurant

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20

PLENARY 6
8:30 am to 10:10 am
Using Argos Tracking to Assess the Impacts of Climate Change on Wildlife
National Aquarium | Lyn P. Meyerhoff Auditorium

Moderator | Helen Bailey
Use of Argos Data to Design a Marine Protected Area for the Largest Penguin Colony in the World
P. Dee Boersma | Wadsworth Endowed Chair in Conservation, University of Washington
Using Argos to Assess the Response of Polar Bears and Pacific Walruses to Arctic Sea Ice Loss
George Durner | Research Zoologist, USGS Alaska Science Center
Penguins and Climate Variability: Foraging Responses of King Penguins in the South Indian Ocean
Charles-Andre Bost | Scientist, Centre d’Etudes Biologiques de Chizé/Le Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CEBC-CNRS)
Defining Loggerhead Sea Turtle (Caretta caretta) Intensive Use Areas: A Cumulative Analysis of Seasonal Utilization Distributions
Gwendolyn Lockhart | GIS/Research Specialist, Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Center

2:40 pm to 3 pm
COFFEE BREAK
Pier 5 Hotel | Harbor Club

PLENARY 9
3 pm to 3:30 pm
How Must Argos Evolve in Order to Keep Pace With the Increasingly Complex Wildlife Tracking Requirements?
Pier 5 Hotel | Harbor West Ballroom
Moderator | Greg Skomal

Prospects for the Argos System: Getting More With Less
David Douglas | Research Wildlife Biologist, USGS Alaska Science Center

PLENARY 10
4:15 pm to 4:30 pm
Closing Remarks
Pier 5 Hotel | Harbor West Ballroom
Bill Woodward | Vice President of Environmental Monitoring, CLS America

 Fisher Futures: Observation, Adaptation and Response to Climate Change
Kevin Weng | Assistant Professor, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, College of William and Mary

PLENARY 7
The Argos System
National Aquarium | Lyn P. Meyerhoff Auditorium
Moderator | Bill Woodward

An Overview: The Argos System
Michel Guigue | Data Collection Missions Manager, CLS Group

Improving Argos Location and Data Collection for Low Power Platforms
Remy Lopez | Scientist, System Activities and Radiolocation, CLS Group

LUNCH BREAK
On your own

PLENARY 8
Argos Tracking—Best Practices and Lessons Learned
Pier 5 Hotel | Harbor West Ballroom
Moderator | Randall Wells

Considering the Fate of Satellite Tags: Interactions With Stakeholders and User Responsibility When Encountering Tagged Animals
Neil Hammerschlag | Research Assistant Professor, Department of Marine Ecosystems and Society, Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science, University of Miami

Satellite Telemetry Gives Endangered Whales a Voice to Solve Conservation Challenges and Mitigate Anthropogenic Risks
Bruce Mate | Director and Endowed Chair, Marine Mammal Institute, Oregon State University

Techniques For Implant Surgery of Satellite Transmitters in Seaducks
Glenn Olsen | DMV, USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center

The Way Forward For Tagging Marine Pelagic Animals With Pop-Up Satellite Archival Tags—Lessons Learnt and Perspectives For Future Studies
Molly Lutcavage | Director of Large Pelagics Research Center and Research Professor, UMass Amherst

Fish Futures: Observation, Adaptation and Response to Climate Change
Kevin Weng | Assistant Professor, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, College of William and Mary

COFFEE BREAK
National Aquarium | Lyn P. Meyerhoff Auditorium

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### GUEST SPEAKERS

* Denotes Invited Speakers

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Gwen Lockhart
GIS/Research Specialist,
Virginia Aquarium and Marine
Science Center

Meenakshi “Mini” Nagendran
Wildlife Biologist,
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Iain Stenhouse*
Marine Bird Program Director,
Biodiversity Research Institute

Remy Lopez
Scientist, System Activities and
Radiolocalisation, CLS Group

Wallace “J.” Nichols*
Research Associate and
Author, California Academy
of Sciences and Cofounder
of oceanrevolution.org

Jeremy Weirich*
Subcommittee Staff Director,
U.S. Senate Committee
on Appropriations,
Subcommittee on Commerce,
Justice and Science

Molly Lutcavage
Director of the Large Pelagics
Research Center and Research
Professor, UMass Amherst

Glenn Olsen*
DMV, USGS Patuxent
Wildlife Research Center

Randall Wells*
Director, Chicago Zoological
Society’s Sarasota Dolphin
Research Program, 2014
Indianapolis Prize Nominee

Bruce Mate*
Director and Endowed Chair,
Marine Mammal Institute,
Oregon State University

James Reid
Biologist, USGS

Kevin Weng
Assistant Professor,
Virginia Institute of Marine
Science, College of William
and Mary

Richard Merrick*
Chief Science Advisor and
Director of Scientific Programs,
NOAA Fisheries

Eric Schwaab*
Chief Conservation Officer,
National Aquarium

John Wilson
Postdoctoral Researcher,
Department of Civil,
Environmental and
Geodetic Engineering,
The Ohio State University

Bernd Meyburg
Professor Dr.,
World Working Group on Birds
of Prey and Chairman of the Raptor
Working Group of BirdLife Germany

Greg Skomal*
Program Manager, Senior
Marine Fisheries Biologist,
Energy and Environmental Affairs,
Massachusetts Marine Fisheries

Matthew Witt*
Scientist, Marine Turtle
Research Group, Centre for
Ecology and Conservation,
University of Exeter in Cornwall

Ken Meyer
Executive Director,
Avian Research and
Conservation Institute

Richard Spinrad*
Chief Scientist, NOAA

James Woehr*
Avian Biologist,
Bureau of Ocean Energy
Management

Bill Montvecchi*
University Research Professor,
Memorial University of
Newfoundland

Debbie Stakem*
Manager of Argos
User Services, CLS America

* Denotes Invited Speakers