

This document lists the requirements for data to be incorporated into the **Global Oceanographic Database**. In a separate section, information that is requested, but not required, is also listed.

All data received as part of the GODAR (**Global Oceanographic Data Archaeology and Rescue**) project will be made available to the International scientific community without restriction. We appreciate feedback received from many scientists and data managers.

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## **REQUIRED INFORMATION**

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1. Data should be written in ASCII files.
2. Each data submission must be accompanied by a COMPLETE and ACCURATE format description.
3. Formats should be uniform throughout each file.
4. If formats differ between files, each file name must clearly identify which format it contains, e.g different extensions for different formats.
5. Each station should include ALL parameters measured at that station.
6. Each parameter must be accurately and completely defined, including units, a format description, and the value or symbol used to indicate 'missing value'.

## **REQUIRED PARAMETERS FOR ALL STATIONS:**

latitude  
longitude  
year  
month  
day  
depth (or pressure) sampled  
ship name

## **ADDITIONAL REQUIRED INFORMATION FOR BIOLOGICAL DATA:**

gear description  
net mesh size (if net used)  
upper depth (or pressure) sampled  
lower depth (or pressure) sampled  
taxon name (for taxa-specific observations)

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## **REQUESTED INFORMATION (please provide where available)**

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### **METADATA:**

country  
time (hour and minute)  
time zone or offset (if time is not GMT)  
principal investigator (PI)  
PI institution  
project name  
ship country and NODC code  
cruise number or name  
station number or name  
bottom depth  
water volume sampled

instrument type (e.g. XBT, MBT, plankton net; include reference, if available)

method for determining:

salinity

plankton weight

plankton volume

chlorophyll

pCO<sub>2</sub>

nutrients

for plankton net:

mouth area

sampler volume

type of tow (e.g. vertical, oblique)

duration of tow

average speed of tow

preservative and fixative used for sample

Time between preservation/fixation and weight/volume measurement

large plankters removed?

minimum volume/size of large plankters removed (e.g., 5 ml)

flowmeter used - give type

flowmeter calibration

wire length

wire angle

for specific taxa:

person making taxonomic identification

taxonomic literature used for identification (keys, papers, etc.)

institution where taxonomic identifications were made

institution where vouchers are stored (if applicable)

life history stage (e.g. egg, larva)

sex

US-NODC Taxonomic Serial Number (from version 8.0 CD-ROM)

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## PARAMETERS OF INTEREST

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### PHYSICAL:

temperature

salinity

conductivity

### NUTRIENTS:

phosphate

total phosphorus

nitrate

nitrite

nitrate plus nitrite

silicate

ammonia

### BIOLOGICAL:

primary productivity (phytoplankton)

chlorophyll-a, phaeopigments (and other pigments)

whole plankton sample:

biomass (volume, weight, carbon or nitrogen, per area, per volume or per sample)

individual planktonic taxon:

concentration

biomass (volume, weight, size, carbon or nitrogen)

relative abundance

**CHEMICAL:**

pH

Total Alkalinity

total carbon dioxide

Dissolved Organic Carbon

Particulate Organic Carbon

**DISSOLVED GASES:**

oxygen

dissolved carbon dioxide

partial pressure of carbon dioxide

**SURFACE MARINE:**

(meteorological data at time of profile; code tables are used for some parameters, for example WMO code table 0885 for wave direction and WMO code table 1555 for wave height)

weather conditions

visibility

barometric pressure

wet bulb temperature

dry bulb temperature

absolute humidity

wind speed

wind direction

wind force

cloud type

cloud cover

sea state

wave period

wave direction

wave height

**OPTICAL:**

water color (Forel-Ule Scale)

water transparency (secchi disk depth)

transmissivity

Ideally, each cruise will be a separate file. This makes quality control processing easier.