

Padilla Bay (PDB) NERR Meteorological Metadata
January through Dec 2015
Latest Update: 1 November 2016

I. Data Set and Research Descriptors

1) Principal investigator(s) and contact persons –

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2) Entry verification –

Data are uploaded from the CR1000 data logger to a Personal Computer (IBM compatible). Files are exported from or LoggerNet in a comma-delimited format and uploaded to the CDMO where they undergo automated primary QAQC and become part of the CDMO's online provisional database. During primary QAQC, data are flagged if they are missing or out of sensor range. The edited file is then returned to the Reserve where it is opened in Microsoft Excel and processed using the CDMO's NERRQAQC Excel macro. The macro inserts station codes, creates metadata worksheets for flagged data and summary statistics, and graphs the data for review. It allows the user to apply QAQC flags and codes to the data, append files, and export the resulting data file to the CDMO for tertiary QAQC and assimilation into the CDMO's authoritative online database. For more information on QAQC flags and QAQC codes, see Sections 11 and 12. Heath Bohlmann completed this process for entry verification and data verification and compiled this metadata for the 2015 data.

3) Research objectives –

The principal objective is to measure and record meteorological data at Padilla Bay for use in studies investigating correlations between meteorological data and water quality data, biological data, or other phenomenon in Padilla Bay and its watershed.

4) Research methods – The weather parameters, air temperature, relative humidity, barometric pressure, wind speed and direction, photosynthetically active radiation, and precipitation were measured with a Campbell Scientific weather station at the Padilla Demonstration Farm near the southeast shore of Padilla Bay. Fifteen minute data were stored in a data logger and downloaded monthly. The sensors were visually inspected for debris or damage when the data were downloaded. Due to the location of the weather station in the

middle of flat farm fields, the sensors require very little cleaning. The most common problem occurs seasonally from air borne seeds partially blocking the rain gauge funnel. To mitigate this problem weeds near the site were cut before they set seed. While at the station downloading data, a Kestrel 4000 Pocket Weather Tracker is used to make a general, comparative check of the Campbell station sensors. Suspicious data are also checked against other local weather data posted on Washington State University's website (<http://weather.wsu.edu>)*. All sensors were calibrated on a regular basis unless otherwise noted in section 9.

Campbell Scientific data telemetry equipment was installed at the Padilla Bay Farm station on 11/11/05 and transmits data to the NOAA GOES satellite, NESDIS ID #3B005706. The transmissions are scheduled hourly and contain four (4) data sets reflecting fifteen minute data sampling intervals. Upon receipt by the CDMO, the data undergoes the same automated primary QAQC process detailed in Section 2 above. The "real-time" telemetry data become part of the provisional dataset until undergoing secondary and tertiary QAQC and assimilation in the CDMO's authoritative online database. Provisional and authoritative data are available at <http://cdmo.baruch.sc.edu>.

The 15 minute Data are collected in the following formats for the **CR1000**:

Averages from 5-second data:

Air Temperature (°C), Relative Humidity (%), Barometric Pressure (mb), Wind Speed (m/s), Wind Direction (degrees), Battery Voltage (volts)

Maximum and Minimum Air Temperature (°C) and their times from 5-second data (these data are available from the Reserve)

Maximum Wind Speed (m/s) and time from 5-second data

Wind Direction Standard Deviation (degrees)

Totals:

Precipitation (mm), PAR (millimoles/m²), and Cumulative Precipitation (mm)

Recommended calibration frequency for the MET station sensors:

- Temperature/Humidity- yearly recalibration
- Rain Gauge- yearly recalibration
- Wind Speed/Direction- yearly or every 2 years (depending on the sensor)
- Barometric Pressure- every 2 years recalibration
- PAR- every 2 years recalibration
- CR1000-every 5 years (required beginning 2014, one year initial grace period)

5) Site location and character –

Padilla Bay (48° 30' N; 122° 30' W) is a shallow embayment in northern Puget Sound located in the greater Puget Sound-Georgia Basin estuary. It is an "orphaned" estuary in that the Skagit River, which formed the delta mud flats of Padilla Bay, no longer enters the bay directly. Most of the land in the 9300 ha Padilla Bay watershed is agricultural, and is drained by four sloughs which empty into the bay. Other major freshwater influences to Padilla Bay include the Skagit River from the south, flowing through the Swinomish Channel which connects Padilla Bay to Skagit Bay and the Nooksack and Fraser Rivers to the north. The tide flats are dominated by the eelgrass *Zostera marina*, which when last mapped in 2004 covered approximately 3,000 ha. *Zostera japonica*, a recent invader to the region, covered about 700 ha of the bay in 2004 and has since been expanded in coverage. Currently, Padilla Bay has large areas of mixed eelgrass beds throughout the mid-intertidal range. Tides are mixed semi-diurnal with a mean range of 2.4 m. Salinity varies from about 15 to 31 PSU. Padilla Bay is bordered on the east and south by flat,

diked farmland; farther to the east are foothills of the Cascade Range. March Point, on the western edge of the reserve, is the site of two large oil refineries. To the north and west are the San Juan Islands of northern Puget Sound.

The weather station is located near the southeast corner (48° 27' 49.85" N; 122° 28' 09.49" W) of Padilla Bay on a 40 hectare demonstration farm that is owned by the Reserve. Flat fields that are farmed for seasonal crops surround the site. Access is off of Bayview-Edison Road about 150 m down a gravel driveway. Base elevation of the weather station in orthometric height is 2.2 m elevation (NAVD88, 2010).

The sensors are mounted on a 3 m tower that is secured to a concrete pad as specified by the manufacturer, Campbell Scientific. The relative humidity/temperature sensor is mounted 2 m high and the wind and PAR sensors are at the top of the tower 3 m above ground level. The barometric pressure sensor is mounted 1 m above the ground (inside the CR1000 enclosure). The rain gauge is mounted on a cement cylinder approximately 3 feet high. Surrounding the site is a six foot high chain link fence for security. The weather station is about 300 m from the diked edge of the bay and approximately 4 km SE of the Bayview Channel YSI deployment site and about 4 km south of the Padilla Bay NERR Laboratory.

6) Data collection period –

Data collection at the Padilla Bay Farm site began in January 2001. The following dates and times represent the raw data file collection periods for 2015 data.

12/09/2014 08:45 - 01/09/2015 10:30
01/21/2015 14:00* - 02/03/2015 09:00
02/03/2015 09:15- 03/03/2015 09:15
03/03/2015 09:30 - 04/07/2015 10:30
04/07/2015 10:45 - 05/08/2015 12:45
05/08/2015 13:00 -06/16/2015 10:15
06/16/2015 10:30 - 07/10/2015 09:45
07/10/2015 10:00 - 08/07/2015 08:15
08/07/2015 08:30 - 09/11/2015 11:00
09/11/2015 11:15 - 10/08/2015 11:30
10/08/2015 11:45 - 11/18/2015 11:45
11/18/2015 12:00 - 12/01/2015 09:15
12/01/2015 09:30 - 01/06/16 13:30

*The newly installed CR1000 recorded incorrect time stamps, 15:00 was recorded as the file start time, however, it should have been 14:00.

7) Distribution –

NOAA retains the right to analyze, synthesize and publish summaries of the NERRS System-wide Monitoring Program data. The NERRS retains the right to be fully credited for having collected and process the data. Following academic courtesy standards, the NERR site where the data were collected should be contacted and fully acknowledged in any subsequent publications in which any part of the data are used. The data set enclosed within this package/transmission is only as good as the quality assurance and quality control procedures

outlined by the enclosed metadata reporting statement. The user bears all responsibility for its subsequent use/misuse in any further analyses or comparisons. The Federal government does not assume liability to the Recipient or third persons, nor will the Federal government reimburse or indemnify the Recipient for its liability due to any losses resulting in any way from the use of this data.

Requested citation format:

NOAA National Estuarine Research Reserve System (NERRS). System-wide Monitoring Program. Data accessed from the NOAA NERRS Centralized Data Management Office website: <http://www.nerrsdata.org/>; accessed 12 October 2012.

NERR meteorological data and metadata can be obtained from the Research Coordinator at the individual NERR site (please see Principal Investigators and Contact Persons), from the Data Manager at the Centralized Data Management Office (please see personnel directory under the general information link on the CDMO home page) and online at the CDMO home page www.nerrsdata.org. Data are available in comma delimited format.

8) Associated researchers and projects

In coordination with the SWMP weather data collected at Padilla Bay, water quality and nutrient data are also collected. The water quality part of SWMP consists of placing YSI 6600 and EXO datasondes at four sites in Padilla Bay. The sondes collect such parameters as water temperature, salinity, dissolved oxygen, depth, pH, and turbidity. The nutrient component of SWMP consists of monthly grab samples taken at each of the same four sites and monthly diel sampling taken at one of the sites (Bayview Channel Site). The nutrients analyzed include, but are not limited to, nitrate, nitrite, ammonium, silicate, orthophosphate, and chlorophyll a.

Other projects currently conducted at Padilla Bay include a zooplankton monitoring project with monthly sampling occurring at the three water quality/ nutrient sampling sites within the bay. In August 2009 Padilla Bay started long term monitoring of the rocky intertidal habitat in partnership with the Multi-Agency Rocky Intertidal Network (MARINE). See the MARINE website for further information on this monitoring project: <http://www.marine.gov/index.htm>. In 2011, Padilla Bay started a long term monitoring project of vegetative characteristics of two species of eelgrass: *Zostera marina* and *Z. japonica* on transects extending from the shoreline to the lower limit of distribution of eelgrasses. Dr. John Rybczyk, Western Washington University, established and maintains eighteen Surface Elevation Tables (SETs) throughout Padilla Bay. Padilla Bay sponsors graduate research in the bay through the Padilla Bay Research Assistantships in Estuarine Science and Coastal Zone Management. See the Padilla Bay NERR web site, <http://padillabay.gov/researchoverview.asp>, or contact the Research Coordinator (see I. above) for further information about these projects and other monitoring or research in Padilla Bay.

II. Physical Structure Descriptors

9) Sensor specifications –

Parameter: Temperature

Units: Celsius

Sensor type: Platinum resistance temperature detector (PRT)

Model #: HMP45C Temperature and Relative Humidity Probe

Operating Temperature: -40°C to +60°C

Range: -40°C to +60°C

Accuracy: ± 0.2 °C @ 20°C

Calibration Frequency: 1 year

Sensor Serial #	calibration date	deployment dates
X1130021	7/23/2015	9/11/2015- current as of 12/31/2015
X1130020	4/28/2014	6/6/2014- 9/11/2015

Parameter: Relative Humidity

Units: Percent

Sensor type: Vaisala HUMICAP® 180 capacitive relative humidity sensor

Model #: HMP45C Temperature and Relative Humidity Probe

Range: 0-100% non-condensing

Accuracy at 20°C: $\pm 2\%$ RH (0-90%) and $\pm 3\%$ (90-100%)

Temperature dependence of RH measurement: $\pm 0.05\%$ RH/°C

Calibration Frequency: 1 year

Sensor Serial #	calibration date	deployment dates
X1130021	7/23/2015	9/11/2015- current as of 12/31/2015
X1130020	4/28/2014	6/6/2014- 9/11/2015

Parameter: Barometric Sensor

Units: millibars (mb)

Sensor type: Vaisala Barocap © silicon capacitive pressure sensor

Model #: CS-106

Operating Range: Pressure: 500 to 1100 mb; Temperature: -40°C to +60°C;

Humidity: non-condensing

Accuracy: ± 0.3 mb @ 20°C; ± 0.6 mb @ 0°C to 40°C; ± 1 mb @ -20°C to 45°C; ± 1.5 mb @ -40°C to 60°C

Stability: ± 0.1 mb per year

Calibration Frequency: 2 years

Sensor Serial #	calibration date	deployment dates
K1420007 CS106	new	8/1/2014-current as of 12/31/2015
X0350002 CS105	4/5/2012	5/30/2012-8/1/2014

Parameter: Wind speed

Units: meter per second (m/s)

Sensor type: 12 cm diameter cup wheel assembly, 40 mm diameter hemispherical cups

Model #: R.M. Young 03001-5 Wind Sentry

Range: 0-50 m/s (112 mph); gust survival 60 m/s (134 mph)

Accuracy: $\pm 2\%$

Offset: 0.2

Calibration Frequency: 1 year

Sensor Serial #	calibration date	deployment dates
B	7/23/2015	9/11/2015-current as of 12/31/2015
A	5/14/2014	6/6/2014-9/11/2015

Parameter: Wind direction

Units: degrees

Sensor type: balanced vane, 16 cm turning radius

Model #: R.M. Young 03001-5 Wind Sentry

Range: 360° mechanical, 355° electrical (5° open)

Accuracy: +/- 5%

Calibration Frequency: 1 year

Sensor Serial #	calibration date	deployment dates
B	7/23/2015	9/11/2015-current as of 12/31/2015
A	5/14/2014	6/6/2014-9/11/2015

Parameter: Photosynthetically Active Radiation (PAR)

Units: mmols m⁻² (total flux)

Sensor type: LI-COR Quantum Sensor. High stability silicon photovoltaic detector (blue enhanced)

Model #: Quantum LI190SB

Light spectrum waveband: 400 to 700 nm

Temperature dependence: 0.15% per °C maximum

Stability: <±2% change over 1 yr

Operating Temperature: -40°C to 65°C; Humidity: 0 to 100%

Sensitivity: typically 5 µA per 1000 µmoles s⁻¹ m⁻²

Calibration Frequency: 2 years

Sensor Serial #	calibration date	deployment dates	PAR Multiplier
Q50052	New 6/6/2014	6/6/2014-current as of 12/31/2015	1.0973
Q46906	1/17/2012	5/30/2012-6/6/2014	1.2467

Parameter: Precipitation

Units: millimeters (mm)

Sensor type: Tipping Bucket Rain Gauge

Model #: RG-2000-C

Rainfall per tip: 0.01 inch

Operating range: Not specified

Accuracy: +/- 1.0% at 14 inches per hour

Calibration Frequency: 1 year

Sensor Serial #	calibration date	deployment dates
PDBGR3	1/21/2015	1/21/2015-current as of 12/31/2015
PDBGR3	6/5/2014	6/6/2014-1/9/2015

CR1000 Measurement and Control System

The CR1000 has 2 MB of Flash EEPROM that is used to store the Operating System.

Another 128 K Flash is used to store configuration settings. A minimum of 2 MB SRAM is (4 MB optional upgrade) available for program storage (16K), operating system use, and data storage. Additional storage is available by using a compact flash card in the optional CFM100 Compact Flash Module.

Serial #	calibration date	deployment dates
69902	12/24/2014 (New)	1/21/2015-current as of 12/31/2015
5097	2006	8/1/2006-1/9/2015

CR1000 Firmware Version (s):

OS Version: CR1000.Std.27.04

OS Date: 01/08/2014

CR1000 Program Version(s):

Current program - PDBPFMET_6.3_072914.CR1

Previous program - PDBPFMET_6.2_053012.CR1

10) Coded variable definitions –

Sampling station:	Sampling site code:	Station code:
Padilla Farm	PF	pdbpfmet

11) QAQC flag definitions –

QAQC flags provide documentation of the data and are applied to individual data points by insertion into the parameter's associated flag column (header preceded by an F_). During primary automated QAQC (performed by the CDMO), -5, -4, and -2 flags are applied automatically to indicate data that is above or below sensor range, or missing. All remaining data are then flagged 0, as passing initial QAQC checks. During secondary and tertiary QAQC 1, -3, and 5 flags may be used to note data as suspect, rejected due to QAQC, or corrected.

- 5 Outside High Sensor Range
- 4 Outside Low Sensor Range
- 3 Data Rejected due to QAQC
- 2 Missing Data
- 1 Optional SWMP supported parameter
- 0 Passed Initial QAQC Checks
- 1 Suspect Data
- 2 *Open - reserved for later flag*
- 3 *Open - reserved for later flag*
- 4 Historical Data: Pre-Auto QAQC
- 5 Corrected Data

12) QAQC code definitions –

QAQC codes are used in conjunction with QAQC flags to provide further documentation of the data and are also applied by insertion into the associated flag column. There are three (3) different code categories, general, sensor, and comment. General errors document general problems with the CR1000, sensor errors are sensor specific, and comment codes are used to further document conditions or a problem with the data. Only one general or sensor error and one comment code can be applied to a particular data point, but some comment

codes (marked with an * below) can be applied to the entire record in the F_Record column.

General Errors

GIM	Instrument Malfunction
GIT	Instrument Recording Error, Recovered Telemetry Data
GMC	No Instrument Deployed due to Maintenance/Calibration
GMT	Instrument Maintenance
GPD	Power Down
GPF	Power Failure / Low Battery
GPR	Program Reload
GQR	Data Rejected Due to QA/QC Checks
GSM	See Metadata

Sensor Errors

SDG	Suspect due to sensor diagnostics
SIC	Incorrect Calibration Constant, Multiplier or Offset
SIW	Incorrect Wiring
SMT	Sensor Maintenance
SNV	Negative Value
SOC	Out of Calibration
SQR	Data rejected due to QAQC checks
SSD	Sensor Drift
SSN	Not a Number / Unknown Value
SSM	Sensor Malfunction
SSR	Sensor Removed

Comments

CAF	Acceptable Calibration/Accuracy Error of Sensor
CCU	Cause Unknown
CDF	Data Appear to Fit Conditions
CML	Snow melt from previous snowfall event
CRE*	Significant Rain Event
CSM*	See Metadata
CVI*	Possible Vandalism/Tampering
CWE*	Significant weather event

13) Other remarks/notes –

Data are missing due to equipment or associated specific sensors not being deployed, equipment failure, time of maintenance or calibration of equipment, or repair/replacement of a sampling station platform. Any NANs in the dataset stand for “not a number” and are the result of low power, disconnected wires, or out of range readings. If additional information on missing data is needed, contact the Research Coordinator at the reserve submitting the data.

Small negative PAR values are within range of the sensor and are due to normal errors in the sensor and the CR1000 Datalogger. The Maximum signal noise error for the Licor sensor is +/- 2.214 mmol/m² over a 15 minute interval.

Relative Humidity data greater than 100 are within range of the sensor accuracy of +/-3%.

Please note that the 3101 Wind Monitor has an offset of 0.2 and does not record values of 0.

Data recorded for all parameters (with the exception of cumulative precipitation) at the midnight timestamp (00:00) are the 15 minute averages and totals for the 23:45-23:59 time period of the previous day. Cumulative precipitation data at the midnight timestamp (00:00) are the sum of raw (unrounded) precipitation data from 00:00 to 23:59 of the previous day. Summing each individual 15-minute total precipitation value from the same period will result in small differences from cumulative precipitation due to rounding. It is especially important to note how data at the midnight timestamp are recorded when using January 1st and December 31st data. **Note: Cumulative precipitation is no longer available via export from the CDMO. Please contact the Reserve or the CDMO for more information or to obtain these data.**

All Data

The station was powered down for CR1000 data logger calibration. Datalogger was replaced by Campbell Scientific due to a shipping mishap, so a new CR1000 was installed. The following data are missing due to CR1000 recalibration and station maintenance.

01/09/2015 10:45 through 1/21/2015 13:45, 14:00 rejected

When the CR1000 datalogger was replaced, the time stamp was incorrect (+1hr off) until it adjusted to the GPS time. The following data were corrected (subtracted 1hr) to the correct standard time stamp. Timestamps for maximum and minimum values were also corrected (max and min ATemp are available from the Reserve and not included in the dataset).

1/21/2015 14:00 through 1/22/2015 11:00

Wind Data

The wind sensor was swapped on 09/11/2015; data are rejected from 11:15 - 12:15.

Precip Data

All Total precip (Totprcp) data from the following time period rejected due to a clogged rain gauge funnel. Data rejected after a known good data period was established and confirmed by other local weather stations, until the funnel was cleaned out. There was a significant rain and wind event during this period of time, so monthly and annual averages will be affected by the loss of data. Check data from other local stations* to get a representation of the precipitation data during this period.

10/28/2015 5:00 through 11/13/2015 12:00

All Cumulative precip (Cumprcp) data from the following time period were rejected due to a clogged rain gauge funnel. Data were rejected after a known good data period was established and confirmed by other local weather stations, until the funnel was cleaned out. There was a significant rain and wind event during this period of time, so monthly and annual averages will be effected by the loss of data. Check data from other local stations* to get a representation of the precipitation data during this period. Cumulative precipitation data recorded when the clog cleared were corrected so that actual precipitation amounts that occurred later in the day were recorded accurately.

10/28/2015 5:00 through 11/13/2015 11:30 rejected

11/13/2016 11:45 through 11/14/2015 00:00 corrected

Temp Data

MaxTemp and MinTemp data associated with rejected (-3) ATemp data should be considered erroneous and deleted before any analysis of these data.

The temperature sensor was swapped on 09/11/2015; data are rejected from 11:15 - 12:15.

PAR Data

Small negative PAR values are within range of the sensor and are due to normal errors in the sensor and the CR1000 Datalogger. The Maximum signal noise error for the Licor sensor is +/- 2.214 mmol/m² over a 15 minute interval.

Elevated nighttime PAR values were recorded during some nights over the year. Nighttime Par values <2.214 but >0 are marked as suspect, <1> CSM.

PAR data was marked suspect due to dirty optics found on sensor during routine maintenance. Dried silt/dust was cleaned off of the PAR sensor. Data were flagged from the nearest rain event until the sensor was cleaned during maintenance. Interpret the following data with caution.

05/04/2015 19:15 through 05/08/2015 12:45

Rh Data

Relative Humidity data greater than 100 are within range of the sensor accuracy of +/-3%.

The RH sensor was swapped on 09/11/2015; data are rejected from 11:15 - 12:15.

* Meteorological Data References:

Meteorological data used for comparison can be found at the AgWeatherNet network. To access raw data for the AgWeatherNet network, go to the AgWeatherNet web site URL as follows: www.weather.wsu.edu.

Station: **WSU Mt Vernon** Lat: 48.43849, Lng: -122.38566, Elevation: 7.01m, Distance from Padilla Bay Farm MET station: 6.5 km.

Station: **Sakuma** Lat: 48.49735, Lng: -122.37847, Elevation: 8.53m, Distance from Padilla Bay Farm MET station: 8 km.

Station: **Fir Island** Lat: 48.35654, Lng: -122.42188, Elevation: 0m, Distance from Padilla Bay Farm MET station: 16 km.