

Naming scheme of archival data and metadata files for the West Coast Observation System

Document adapted from *West Coast Observing System (WCOS) Project Document Phase I, March 17, 2006*

Document last edited: September 18, 2008 by Steven Rutz, National Oceanographic Data Center

Files names consist of seven parts. Except for the extension, the data files and their associated metadata files will have the same name. The parts, in order from left to right, are:

1. **Site abbreviation** (characters 1 to 7): Six uppercase characters followed by an underscore.
 2. **Overall water depth at mooring or bottom-mounted ADCP, in meters below Mean Sea Level (MSL)** (characters 8 to 10): Three digits (000 for onshore temperature loggers or other onshore instruments)
 3. **Instrument type** (characters 11 to 14): Four uppercase characters – instrument abbreviations are listed below.
 4. **Depth of instrument, in meters below MSL** (characters 15 to 17): Three digits (for onshore instruments, its height of instrument, in meters above MSL).
 5. **Replicate instrument identifier** (characters 18 to 21): Uppercase “R” (for replicate) followed by a two-digit replicate number and an underscore – “R00_” for the first instrument, “R01_” for the second (replicate) instrument, etc.
 6. **Date of first measurement in data file** (characters 22 to 29): Eight digits in “YYYYMMDD” format (where YYYY is the four-digit year, MM is the two-digit month, and DD is the two-digit day of the month).
 7. **Extension** (characters 30 to 32 or 33): A period followed by two or three lowercase characters to indicate the file type – “.nc” for netCDF data files, “.cdl” for ASCII/text representation of the netCDF data files, and “.xml” for XML-tagged FGDC-standard metadata files.
-

Instrument abbreviation codes

ADCP - Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler

MXTI - Mooring (Onset) XTI temperature logger

MTBD - Mooring (Onset) Tidbit temperature logger