Report to the Fourteenth Session of the IOC Group of Experts On the Global Sea Level Observing System (GLOSS)

Chilean Sea Level Network: Current State

Juan J. Fierro and Jorge A. Gaete

Hydrographic and Oceanographic Service of the Chilean Navy (SHOA)

oceanografia@shoa.cl

Introduction

Since 1941, the Chilean Navy Hydrographic and Oceanographic Service (SHOA) has established a sea level network that currently comprises 40 sea level recorders covering a long coast of more than 4000 kilometers in the mainland, as well as in some islands and the Antarctic Continent (see fig.1).

During the year 2014, two new stations have been installed in order to increase the densification of sea level stations along the coast of Chile, particularly in areas where population centers are located and nearby country's main ports. In 2010 the original network considered 16 stations with an average distance between them of approximately 300 kilometers. Currently the average distance between the 40 stations is roughly 110 kilometers.

Up to date, all the sea level stations operate with a primary and a secondary sea level sensor (mainly a hydrostatic pressure sensor and a radar sensor), as well as redundant transmission system for the collected data.

Regarding telemetry systems, GOES remains the main data transmission system and text messages through cell phone GPRS network, is used as a secondary telemetry system. It should be noted that sea level stations of Caleta Meteoro (Lat: 52° 58' 00"S; Long: 74° 03' 58"W), San Felix Island (Lat: 26° 17' 32"S; Long: 80° 06' 31"W) and Puerto Soberanía (Lat: 62° 28' 00"S; Long: 59° 39' 00"W), are the only stations that have double satellite telemetry systems, GOES and INMARSAT-BGAN, due to the absence in these sectors of GPRS network.

The sampling interval of sea level data is set to 1 minute. The data transmission frequency mostly ranges from 2 to 5 minutes. Usually data is transmitted every 5 minutes via the GOES satellite system and GPRS, while transmission is every 2 minute in those stations that have Inmarsat BGAN antennas.

Currently, San Pedro, (Lat: 47° 43'S; Long: 74° 54'W) and Rada Covadonga, (Lat: 63° 19'S; Long: 57° 55'W), are the only sea level stations operating with AANDERAA devices, being the data downloaded in those places during annual field campaigns.

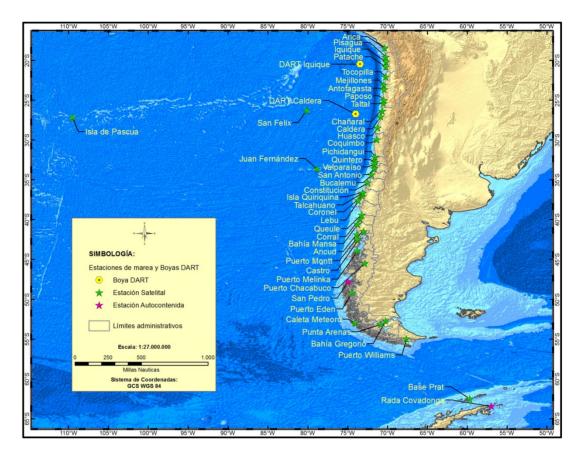


Figure 1: Chilean Sea Level Network

The new stations capabilities have allowed us to achieve a reliable network supplying data for operational and scientific purposes.

The data collected at the Chilean Sea Level Network are available through the website developed and maintained by VLIZ for UNESCO/IOC. Additionally, data can be accessed in real time at SHOA's website through the link: http://www.shoa.mil.cl/mareas/mapa.php

Additionally, at SHOA headquarters were installed more powerful data centers to implement a new data management and visualization system, strengthening the capabilities in data availability and response within the framework of the National Tsunami Warning System. Given the critical importance of this network during Tsunami emergencies, a stronger redundancy of all data center is ensured by having backup Servers hosted outside of the main country, by private companies that ensure a 24/7 reliability.

Chilean Sea Level Stations with real time telemetry

The table below summarizes the geographic location and year of installation of the data collection platforms with real time sea level data transmissions.

Station Name	Latitude	Longitude	Date of installation Satellite platform	
Arica	18° 28 '33"	070° 19' 23"	1999	
Pisagua	19° 35' 48"	070° 12' 49"	2010	
Iquique	20° 12′ 16″	070° 08' 52"	1999	
Patache	20° 48' 01"	070° 11' 39"	2011	
Tocopilla	22° 05' 35"	070° 12' 53"	2010	
Mejillones	23° 05' 51"	070° 27' 03"	2011	
Antofagasta	23° 39' 11"	070° 24' 16"	1999	
Paposo	25° 00' 32"	070° 28' 07"	2013	
Taltal	25° 24' 26"	070° 29' 23"	2010	
Isla San Félix	26° 17' 32"	080° 06' 31"	1999	
Isla de Pascua	27° 09' 17"	109° 28' 22"	1999	
Chañaral	26° 21' 24"	070° 38 46"	2012	
Caldera	27° 03' 52"	070° 49' 29"	1999	
Huasco	28° 27' 39"	071° 13' 25"	2010	
Coquimbo	29° 57' 00"	071° 20' 07"	1999	
Pichidangui	32° 08' 08"	071° 31' 46"	2010	
Isla Robinson Crusoe	33° 38' 09"	078° 49' 47"	1999	
Quintero	32° 46′ 32″	071° 31' 31"	2011	
Valparaíso	33° 01' 38"	071° 37' 33"	1999	
San Antonio	33° 34′ 56″	071° 37' 08"	1999	
Bucalemu	34° 38' 22"	072° 02' 46"	2014	
Constitución	35° 21' 21"	072° 27' 28"	2010	
Talcahuano	36° 41' 43"	073° 06' 23"	1999	
Isla Quiriquina	36° 38' 10"	073° 03' 25"	2013	
Coronel	37° 01' 44"	073° 09' 07"	2012	
Lebu	37° 35′ 39″	073° 39' 50"	2010	
Queule	39° 23′ 52″	073° 12' 54"	2013	
Corral	39° 52′ 42″	073° 25' 22"	1999	
Bahía Mansa	40° 34' 51"	073° 44' 14"	2011	
Puerto Montt	41° 29' 06"	072° 57' 39"	1999	
Ancud	41° 52' 01"	073° 49' 55"	1999	
Castro	42° 28' 50"	073° 45' 30"	2011	
Melinka	43° 53' 54"	073° 44' 54"	2011	
Puerto Chacabuco	45° 28' 02"	072° 49' 13"	2001	
Puerto Edén	49° 07' 54"	074° 25' 19"	2011	
Punta Arenas	53° 07' 25"	070° 51' 37"	2001	
Bahía Gregorio	52° 38' 54"	070° 12' 29"	2014	
Caleta Meteoro	52° 58' 00"	074° 03' 58"	2011	
Puerto Williams	54° 56' 00"	067° 36' 36"	1999	
Base Prat, Antártica	62° 28' 00"	059° 39' 00"	2013	

Status of GLOSS Stations in Chile

The seven chilean stations that have been considered in the GLOSS core network are as follows :

GLOSS ID.	Location	Status
137	I. Pascua Lat: 27º 09' S Lon: 109º 27' W	Field Unit : VAISALA MAWS110 Sea Level Sensors : - Differential Pressure Transducer
74	Antofagasta Lat: 23° 39' S Lon: 70° 24' W	Field Unit : VAISALA MAWS110 Sea Level Sensors : - Differential Pressure Transducer
175	Valparaíso Lat: 33º 02' S Lon: 71º 37' W	Field Unit : VAISALA MAWS110 Sea Level Sensors : - Differential Pressure Transducer
176	I.J.Fernández Lat: 33º 37' S Lon: 78º 50' W	Field Unit : VAISALA MAWS110 Sea Level Sensors : - Differential Pressure Transducer
177	I.San Félix Lat : 26° 17' S Lon: 80° 07' W	Field Unit : VAISALA MAWS110 Sea Level Sensors : - Differential Pressure Transducer

GLOSS	Location	Status		
ID.				
178	P.Montt Lat: 41° 29' S Lon: 72° 58' W	Field Unit : VAISALA MAWS110 Sea Level Sensors : - Differential Pressure Transducer		
		Hourly Height Data up to 2014, has been sent to UHSLC Field Unit : VAISALA MAWS110		
189	P. Soberanía (Base Prat)	 Field Offit : VAISALA MAWSTTO Sea Level Sensors : Differential Pressure Transducer (2) DRUCK PTX1830 Record Spans : 1984 – 2013 		
	Lat: 62° 29' S Lon: 59° 38' W	 Gaps : 2004 – 2008 Station closed in January 2004 and reactivated in January 2009. Monthly Height Data up to Aug 2013, has been sent to PSMSL Hourly Height Data up to Aug 2013, has been sent to UHSLC 		

Data Streams

Chile contributes to GLOSS maintaining adequate data streams to GLOSS archiving Centres.

We have delivered to PSMSL the following monthly mean sea level data for some specific locations along the Chilean coast:

Location	Lat (S)	Long (W)	Record
Arica	18º 29'	70° 19'	1992 – 2014
Iquique	20º 13'	70° 10'	1984 – 2014
Caldera	27º 04'	70° 50'	1992 – 2014
Talcahuano	36° 41'	73° 06'	1992 – 2014
Corral	39° 52'	73º 26'	1984 – 2014
Ancud	41° 52'	73º 51'	1999 – 2014
Melinka	43° 54'	73° 45'	2011 – 2014
Punta Arenas	53º 10'	70° 54'	1988 – 2014
Puerto Williams	54° 56'	67° 37'	1971 – 2014