



SPOT-S DEPLOYMENT CHECKLIST

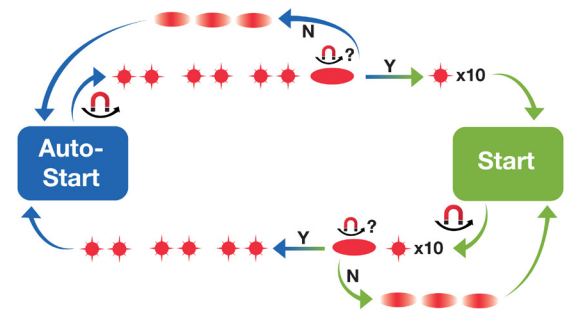
Before you deploy your tags, there are a few important steps we recommend you complete. Completion of these steps will help ensure a successful deployment.

BEFORE the Tags Arrive

- Create a Wildlife Computers Data Portal account.**
 - Learn more in the [Portal & Tag Agent User Guide](#) or access the website to log in: <https://my.wildlifecomputers.com>.
- Link your Argos username and password to the Portal.**
 - Learn more in the [Portal & Tag Agent User Guide](#). *SPOT-S tags are pre-configured and adjust their transmission effort based on battery voltage.*

AFTER the Tags Arrive

- Read the SPOT-S User Guide**
- Understand the Tag Modes and Battery Capacity states:**
 - **Auto-Start Mode**
 - A tag will automatically deploy when submerged in seawater.
 - A magnet swipe will show three double blinks, followed by one long blink, and one to three slow, battery capacity blinks. LED will show slow fades or “breaths” to indicate the charge level:
 - 1 breath=0%-50%
 - 2 breaths=50%-90%
 - 3 breaths=90%-100%
 - **Start Mode**
 - LED will blink rapidly 10 times, followed by one long blink and one to three slow battery capacity blinks.
 - Tag begins transmitting.



Important Tips!

- Do NOT cover the solar panels during storage.
- Do NOT charge in direct sunlight. Use shade to prevent overheating.
- Charge and initialize the tags. Tags must make two “breaths” (be at a 50%-90% charged) before deployment.**
 - Learn how to charge and initialize your tags: <http://bit.ly/initializetags>. **Set a personal alert to connect to the tags three months prior to deployment to exercise the batteries.**
- If tags will go into long-term storage**—keep in a cool, dry place (non-refrigeration). Every three months, put the tags outside, in the shade for a total of eight hours of daylight. This will keep the batteries at the proper charge level for long-term storage of two years or more.
 - Confirm the tag has 50%-90% charge (two slow blinks) before returning to storage. **Set a personal alert to connect to the tags three months prior to deployment to exercise the batteries.**

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BEFORE the Tags Are Deployed

Sign in to the Wildlife Computers Data Portal (the Portal): <https://my.wildlifecomputers.com/>

Data Sharing—establish data sharing collaboration and rules.

- Researchers are responsible for establishing data collaboration with others. This is optional. [Learn more in the Portal & Tag Agent User Guide.](#)

Data Alerts—set up batch or specific ID data alerts.

- Data alerts can be set up to email researchers when tags begin transmitting. This is optional. [Learn more in the Portal & Tag Agent User Guide.](#)

The Wildlife Computers Data Portal (Portal), a collection of data management tools and services. Developed specifically for the display and investigation of data from Wildlife Computers tags, the Portal streamlines the processes of acquiring, preserving, and sharing data services. The Portal helps collect, prepare, and analyze the data returned from the tag—via Argos or the archive.

AFTER the Tags Start Transmitting Data

Sign in to the Portal: <https://my.wildlifecomputers.com/>.

Integrate Kineis data into the Portal.

- Integrating Kineis data greatly improves how often your tag's transmissions are received and how accurately their positions can be calculated. Learn more here: <https://static.wildlifecomputers.com/Kineis-Data-Integration-Quick-Guide.pdf>

Select a row of data: [Learn more in the Portal & Tag Agent User Guide.](#)

- Summary tab—uplink, message, data, and release information (when applicable).
- Map tab—click the purple square for tracks of Argos locations.

Download Row of Data: <http://bit.ly/DownloadWCData>.

- Open the zipped data file, right click, and "Extract All" to access the output files (.csv) to begin analysis.
- There are many categories of data reported. Learn more in the Spreadsheet File Descriptions: <https://bit.ly/spreadsheetsfiledescriptions>