



PIT Tag Information System Columbia Basin

Newsletter

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The PTAGIS Newsletter is published periodically by Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission.

We welcome input from the PTAGIS community, so email us at ptagis_newsletter@ptagis.org with your story ideas.

If you have questions regarding the contents of this publication, or about the PTAGIS program, please contact PTAGIS Staff.

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IN THIS ISSUE

1

[2024 PIT Tag Workshop Scheduled](#)

2

[FTP, MiniMon and Email Data Submission Retired](#)

3

[MRR Site Name Changes](#)

4

[New Releases of P4, I5, and M5](#)

5

[New Method for Requesting Interrogation Sites](#)

6

[Adult Ladders Report Updated](#)

7

[Annual PIT Tag Steering Committee Meeting](#)

8

[IPTDS Subcommittee Meetings](#)



2024 PIT TAG WORKSHOP SCHEDULED

NICOLE TANCRETO (PTAGIS Portland Office)

The 2024 PIT Tag Workshop will be held January 30 - February 1, 2024, at Skamania Lodge in Stevenson, Washington.

The goal of the workshop is to bring together those using PIT tag technology in fisheries management, monitoring, and research to share information and accomplishments.

Online registration for the workshop will begin September 11, 2023. An early registration fee of \$300 is available during the month of September. Starting October 1, the registration fee is \$370 per person. The workshop includes a hosted reception on the first night, breakfast and lunch on two days, and break refreshments.

Accommodations will be available at Skamania Lodge for the prevailing government rate (currently \$152 + tax).

A limited number of vendor booths are available with a fee of \$500 per booth plus registration fee for each member staffing the booth.

We will be calling for abstracts later this summer for posters and presentations.

Keep an eye on the [2024 PIT Tag Workshop page](#) on the PTAGIS website and make sure you are [subscribed to the PTAGIS newsletter](#) to receive email updates. 📧

FTP, MINIMON AND EMAIL DATA SUBMISSIONS RETIRED

NICOLE TANCRETO (PTAGIS Portland Office)

A few major milestones in securing and modernizing the PTAGIS network were accomplished at the beginning of this year. The PTAGIS FTP site, MiniMon and email data submissions have all been retired as of February 14, 2023.

The FTP site has been used for many years to provide anonymous access to PIT tag data files and other resources. It was also used for data submissions from PTAGIS software and to retrieve files exported from the PTAGIS advanced reporting system. Data files can now be retrieved manually by logging in to the PTAGIS website and navigating to Data Files > [Interrogation Files](#) or [MRR Files](#) on the dashboard, or programmatically by using the web API [Interrogation Data File](#) or [MRR Data File](#) endpoints.

Exports from the PTAGIS advanced reporting system can now be accessed manually through the MicroStrategy Exports link on the website dashboard or programmatically through the web API [reporting endpoints](#). For more information about using the web API to retrieve report exports, see this [FAQ](#). For more information about subscribing to a report to have it run on a schedule and be made available through the API, see this [tutorial video](#).


CONTINUED →

[HOME](#)

FTP, MINI-MON AND EMAIL DATA SUBMISSIONS RETIRED

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

MiniMon interrogation software was retired at the beginning of the year and email data submissions in the MiniMon file format were discontinued at the end of January. All interrogation data file submissions must now come from [I5](#), [M5](#), or via the web API [interrogation submission endpoints](#) in the [M5 file format](#).

These changes to eliminate anonymous FTP access and email data submissions have gone a long way to securing the PTAGIS network and modernizing data submission and processing systems. Thanks to all the community members who changed how they submitted and accessed files to allow us to make these milestones happen. 

MRR SITE NAME CHANGES

NICOLE TANCRETO (PTAGIS Portland Office)

PTAGIS changed the codes and names of six MRR sites that represent creeks that originally had the sq-- word in the name but have since been changed. The change was approved by the PIT Tag Steering Committee and was completed on March 20, 2023.

The site codes and names have been changed in the database, but not in the data files. All data previously associated with any of the old codes, is now only associated with the new codes and names. If you collect data at any of these locations, you will need to submit the records using the new site codes. If you query the data at any of these locations, you will need to replace the old site codes in the report filter with the new site codes.

The old site codes are still in the MRR site validation codes list for backwards compatibility but have now been marked as *Archaic*.

The table below shows the old site codes and the new codes and names. Please [contact us](#) if you have any questions.

Old Site Code	New Site Code	New Site Name
SQAW2C	PAASNA	Paasasikwana Naokwaide, Salmon River
SQAW3C	WALALC	Walaluks Creek, Rock Creek (WA) watershed, Columbia River
SQAWC	ISQUUC	Isqúulktpe Creek, Umatilla River
SQUAWC	WAWAAC	Waw'aalamnime Creek, Lochsa River
SQUAWP	PAANAP	Paasasikwana Naokwaide Pond
SQAW4C	WIWAAC	Wíwaanaytt Creek, Middle Fork John Day River Basin



NEW RELEASES OF P4, I5, AND M5

NICOLE TANCRETO (PTAGIS Portland Office)

New versions of PTAGIS tagging software P4, interrogation file utility I5, and real-time interrogation data collection software M5 have been released over the first part of 2023. These versions include updates and bug fixes as described below:

P4 Version 1.34

- Upgraded libraries for Windows 11. If you have been experiencing crashing while running P4 on Windows 11, this version will likely address those issues.
- Upgraded SQL Server 2014 Express to Service Pack 3.
- Added support for the Biomark Electronic Measuring Board.
- Added command line switch to skip reboot check for users who get stuck in a reboot check loop.

I5 Version 1.7.0

- Added support for parsing short noise reports and including them in interrogation files.
- Fixed a bug that allowed a Data Source to be deleted without first deleting an associated file.
- Fixed issue that caused the Update Specification prompt to show whenever I5 started.
- Added support for importing MiniMon files.
- Changed how a filter is built when excluding one or a few tag codes to be more efficient.
- Added command line switch to skip reboot check for users who get stuck in a reboot check loop.

These applications can be downloaded from the [P4 software page](#) and the [I5 software page](#).

M5 Control Panel, Monitor Service and Terminal Utility Version 2.1.5

- Added support for connecting to a GPS unit and writing location coordinates to data files.
- Added support for setting custom starting sequence for file number to allow for multiple computers at one site to be able to generate unique file names.
- Added support for logging the user, PC name, and M5 Control Panel version when Control Panel connects to the Monitor Service.
- Changed file submission process to launch only if previous submissions have completed.
- Added support for legacy PLC devices.

M5 File Manager Version 1.0.8

The M5 File Manager was released in April 2023. This utility allows users to download rejected M5 files directly from PTAGIS in order to edit and resubmit them. It includes a JSON file editor that validates the file against the PTAGIS M5 file specification. Files can be edited manually or with various text file editing tools. A special tool is available that will automatically clean up non-printable ASCII characters from files (represented by \u0000 in M5 files), which can cause file format issues. See the M5 File Manager section in the [M5 Help](#) for more information. 🌀

NEW METHOD FOR REQUESTING INTERROGATION SITES

NICOLE TANCRETO (PTAGIS Portland Office)

The PTAGIS website was updated in April to fix a few bugs, improve guidance on how some dashboard features work, and to include a feature for requesting to add new interrogation sites to PTAGIS.

The new process to request an interrogation site can be completed by logging into the website, navigating to [Interrogation Sites > Request Site](#) on the dashboard and clicking the *Create Site Request* link.

Start the process by completing the site Details section, which includes the proposed site code, name, description, site type and organization responsible for its operation. Other sections that need to be completed include the operational start date, site configuration, diagram, data submission notifications, site contacts and site location. Once all required sections have been completed, the request can be submitted to the [PIT Tag Steering Committee](#) (PTSC) for review.

Request New Interrogation Site

Complete each section below, starting with the Details and Operations sections, to create a request for a new interrogation site. Once all are complete, click the Submit button to send it to the PTSC for review.

Scroll to Section to Create

[Details](#) [Operations](#) [Diagram](#) [Configuration](#) [Submission Notifications](#) [Contacts](#) [Location](#) [Photos - optional](#)

Overall Progress

Request Status: Not Submitted

[Submit](#) [Delete All](#)

Site Details ✔

Site Code	NEW
Site Name	New Sample Interrogation Site
Site Type	Instream Remote Detection System
Organization	PSMFC
General Operational Period	Year Round
Description	Sample description goes here.

[Update](#)

CONTINUED 

[HOME](#)

NEW METHOD FOR REQUESTING INTERROGATION SITES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

A notification email will be sent to the requester identifying the PTSC member who is responsible for reviewing and responding to the request. Once reviewed, the PTSC member can mark the request as *Approved* if they approve its addition to PTAGIS or *Needs More Info* if they have questions or would like to see additional information in the request. A site request can also be marked as *Cancelled* if it is not approved by the PTSC or needs to be withdrawn for some other reason. In all cases, the requester will receive an email notification about the PTSC decision.

Site requests that have been approved will be added to PTAGIS within a day or two of approval and the site contacts notified. Once the site is added, data submission can proceed. Site requests marked as Need More Info will need to be updated by the requester and resubmitted for review.

Please [contact us](#) if you have any questions about how to request a new interrogation site or about any of the information that is required. 🌀

ADULT LADDERS REPORT UPDATED

NICOLE TANCRETO (PTAGIS Portland Office)

The [Adult Ladders quick report](#) was updated in June to change how the *First Obs Time* and *Last Obs Time* values are displayed. These fields previously displayed the first and last observation times within the selected *Time Period*. For example, if the Last Day was the selected Time Period but a fish had first been detected 5 days earlier, the *First Obs Time* would display the first time it was detected during the last day, instead of the first time it was detected 5 days ago.

These fields have been replaced with *First Obs Time This Ladder* and *Last Obs Time This Ladder*, which will show the first and last time overall the fish was detected at any of the interrogation sites monitoring the ladder. For all reports run in the current calendar year, the *Last Obs Time This Ladder* will be the same as it was before. It will show a different value if the report is run for a previous calendar year and a fish was detected both in that year and in a later year.

The screenshot below shows an example of two records from the Last Day time period (as run on June 16, 2023) that were first detected at Bonneville Dam on dates earlier than June 15, 2023. 🌀

156 Total Tags Detected the Last Day

Tag	SRR	Mark Site	Release Site	Release Date	First Obs Time This Ladder	Last Obs Time This Ladder
3DD.0077AEDDCE	Hat. Summer Steelhead	SKAM	KLICKR - Klickitat River	04/23/2019	06/01/2021 16:25:18	06/15/2023 09:53:38
3DD.003D7592E5	Hat. Spring Chinook	DWOR	DWORNF - Dworshak NFH, release into North Fork Clearwater River	03/31/2021	05/11/2023 06:36:38	06/15/2023 13:44:33

[HOME](#)

ANNUAL PIT TAG STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

NICOLE TANCRETO (PTAGIS Portland Office)

The annual PIT Tag Steering Committee (PTSC) was held online on February 3, 2023. The [meeting notes](#) can be viewed in the [Document Library](#) along with meeting notes from all previous annual meetings.


John Tenney provided an overview of PTAGIS Portland accomplishments in 2022 and plans for 2023. Highlights include:

- Started work on P5 (upgrade of P4 tagging software)
- Released M5 interrogation software which is running at all PTAGIS sites except for most SbyC sites
- Successfully evaluated M5 and other SbyC features at LMJ
- Released community version of M5 that is capable of running on Linux, tested on Raspberry Pi
- Added interrogation site metadata management tools to the website
- For 2023, planning to migrate database, web and storage systems to the cloud

Also in 2023, coordinating PIT Tag Workshop for 2024

Don Warf provided an overview of PTAGIS Kennewick accomplishments in 2022 and plans for 2023. Highlights include:

- Completed relocation of antennas and PIT tag room for the Bonneville Dam Cascades Island ladder (BO2)
- Submitted 90% design for Bonneville Powerhouse 1 Ice and Trash sluiceway automated date detection system, which may work for at McNary Dam TSWs
- Participating in Bonneville Dam Washington Shore ladder serpentine section remodel
- Developed thin body antenna using NOAA-designed cable
- Plan to replace pneumatic gates at Lower Granite with electric gates winter 2023/2024
- Completed Klickitat Hatchery remodel PIT tag equipment design, work to start in 2023
- Easton Dam will become operational in 2023 and PTAGIS will install electronics and take over O&M when completed
- Plan to complete PIT tag infrastructure design for Cle Elum Dam in 2023

The committee also heard updates on the IPTDS Subcommittee, the NOAA R&D project, BPA PIT tag RFO planning, and a tool for working with PTAGIS query results. See the [meeting notes](#) for details. 

ANNUAL PIT TAG STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

NICOLE TANCRETO (PTAGIS Portland Office)

The [IPTDS Subcommittee](#) held the annual meeting on January 4, 2023. The [meeting notes](#) have been published and are available to view in the PTAGIS [Document Library](#).

Derrek Faber, presented a SOP for setting up a Raspberry Pi at remote instream sites running M5 and will send a new draft to the Subcommittee for review prior to the next meeting.

Nicole Tancreto updated the Subcommittee about progress made on the metadata management tools and diagnostic reports available to site stewards. Stewards can now update all site metadata using the Manage Sites tools on the website dashboard. A timer tag report is also available to stewards and site technicians. I5 has been updated to process short noise reports (NRPs).

Marika Dobos joined the meeting to discuss the PIT Tag Array task that the PNAMP Fish Monitoring Work group is working on.

Kyle Meier presented information about the Biomark BioProbe, which was developed to replace the CR1000 data logger for sites using the FS1001M multiplexor. It can also act as a datalogger for many different environmental sensors.

Gabriel Brooks discussed a proposed firmware modification for IS1001 devices to allow the master controller to power down a reader and asked the community to contact him with any additional firmware modification requests.

Derrek Faber volunteered to become the Subcommittee chair, with Carley Simpson as a co-chair.

Another IPTDS subcommittee meeting was held on May 25, 2023.

After reviewing the action items from the annual meeting and a brief round robin, Ryan Kinzer [presented](#) several tools used for abundance modelling with instream PIT tag data, primarily PITcleanR and how it can be used to select and summarize PIT tag data for use in the STADEM and DABOM models.

John Tenney then discussed recent updates to M5 and I5 software tools, along with the release of an online process to request new interrogation sites be added to PTAGIS. He also discussed the upcoming 2024 PIT Tag Workshop, scheduled for the end of January 2024, and how the IPTDS Subcommittee can be involved.

Kyle Meier gave an update from Biomark about transceiver availability, new PIT tags in development, and several other hardware and software developments that are in progress.

See the [meeting notes](#) for more details. 