

National Aeronautics and Space Administration



# **Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE)**

## **Data User Guide**

Version 3.0

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NASA Goddard Space Flight Center  
Greenbelt, Maryland, USA



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# GLOBE Data User Guide

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## Preface

This document is under GLOBE Project configuration control. Once this document is approved, GLOBE-approved changes are handled in accordance with the change control requirements as described in the GLOBE Change Management Plan, and changes to this document shall be made by complete revision. Between version releases, updates are posted on the [GLOBE Data User Guide landing page](#) of the GLOBE website.

Questions or comments concerning this document should be addressed to:

GLOBE Implementation Office  
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# Change History Log

Revision	Effective Date	Description of Changes
v1.0	11 July 2019	Version 1.0 released
v2.0	23 Sep 2019	Description of GLOBE Observer elevation data
v2.0	06 Oct 2019	Aerosol dark voltage maximum value increased from 0.02 to 0.08
v2.0	08 Oct 2019	Datetime conforms with ISO-8601 format
v2.0	08 Oct 2019	Corrected release date for land cover feature in GLOBE Observer app
v2.0	21 Feb 2020	Updated latitude, longitude, and elevation variables in Appendix 2
v2.0	26 Jan 2020	GLOBE API-Out variables formerly output as strings are now output as integers, floats, and Booleans as appropriate
v2.0	08 April 2020	Release of Jupyter Notebook for pulling Mosquito Habitat Mapper (MHM) Data
v2.0	24 June 2020	Release of Jupyter Notebook for pulling MHM protocol bundle data from a user-defined geographic region
v2.0	08 July 2020	Release of Jupyter Notebook used to compare MHM bundle data.
v2.0	28 May 2021	ADAT and API provide the ability to pull data by GLOBE Team name
v2.0	30 Dec 2022	Version 2.0 released, incorporating all changes reported from September 2019 through May 2022
v3.0		Version 3.0 Released, incorporating all changes reported from December 2022 through March 2025



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# Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Definition
ADAT	<a href="#">Advanced Data Access Tool</a>
API	Application Programming Interface
CALIPSO	<a href="#">Cloud-Aerosol Lidar and Infrared Pathfinder Satellite Observation</a>
CERES	<a href="#">Clouds and the Earth's Radiant Energy System</a>
csv	Comma Separated Values
GLOBE	<a href="#">Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment</a>
GPS	Global Positioning System
I/O	Input/Output
JSON	JavaScript Object Notation
MGRS	Military Grid Reference System
MODIS	<a href="#">Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer</a>
MUC	Modified UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization) Classification
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NSF	National Science Foundation
S'COOL	Students' Cloud Observations On-Line
SMAP	<a href="#">Soil Moisture Active Passive</a>
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math
UTC	Coordinated Universal Time
Vis	<a href="#">GLOBE Visualization System</a>

## Abstract

The Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE) Program is an international Earth science and education program sponsored by NASA and supported by NSF, NOAA, and the US Department of State that provides students and citizen scientists the opportunity to contribute Earth observations. The GLOBE Program started in 1995, includes more than 126 participating countries, has a mobile app (GLOBE Observer), and has more than 260 million observations contributed from trained students and citizen scientists in its database. This User Guide is a technical document intended to help scientists and researchers understand, access, and use available GLOBE data. All GLOBE science data is freely accessible to all members of the public. A GLOBE system account is not required to access GLOBE science data.

## Purpose and Scope

The purpose of the GLOBE Data User Guide is to help scientists and researchers understand, access, and use available GLOBE data. The scope includes data collected by GLOBE-trained teachers and students, automated weather stations, as well as data collected by citizen scientists using the tools in the GLOBE Observer mobile application.

## Document Review, Approval, and Update

This document is reviewed, approved, and updated in accordance with the GLOBE Change Management Plan. This document is approved by the relevant stakeholders.

The GLOBE Data User Guide presents a snapshot of technical information about GLOBE data that is current at the time of signature. It is reviewed periodically thereafter to ensure currency at major milestones such as the addition of new tools to the GLOBE Observer mobile app, addition/modification of GLOBE science protocols, or if major program/project changes occur. The GLOBE Data User Guide contains the best-known information at the time of publication and is updated at the major milestones. Upon approval, this document is placed under configuration control. Approved changes are listed in the document's Change History Log.

Pending updates to the GLOBE Data User Guide are listed on the GLOBE website's GLOBE Data User Guide landing page under the heading "[User Guide Updates](#)". Each update notice describes an approved change to GLOBE data (e.g., a change in variable(s) formats, addition of variable(s), etc.) Once a new version of the UG is released that incorporates these changes, the update notices are removed from the GLOBE Data User Guide landing page and archived.

## Submitting Suggested Changes

Suggested updates, additions, edits, and corrections are welcomed. Please email your suggestion(s) to [science@nasaglobe.org](mailto:science@nasaglobe.org) and include the following information:

- **Suggested change** (please be as specific as possible)
- **Rationale for change**
- **Version of the guide**
- **Section**
- **Page number**
- **Your name**
- **Email address**
- **Date**
- **How are you using GLOBE data?**

# 1. Background

The Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE) Program is an international science and education program that provides students and the public worldwide with the opportunity to participate in data collection and the scientific process and contribute meaningfully to our understanding of the Earth system and global environment. Announced by the U.S. Government on Earth Day in 1994, GLOBE launched its worldwide implementation in 1995. GLOBE Educators (i.e., classroom teachers, informal educators) receive training to become certified for data entry for all of the GLOBE protocols. Protocols are specific data collection methods. Trained GLOBE Educators teach those protocols to their students, and then collect and contribute measurements to the GLOBE database. Today there are more than 38,000 schools, and 220,000 citizen scientists in the GLOBE network who have contributed 220 million observations. Live statistics about GLOBE are updated continuously on the [GLOBE website](#).

In 2016, the GLOBE Observer mobile application (hereafter “app”) was launched to broaden opportunities for teachers, students, and people who are outside formal classroom settings to contribute Earth observations. The app is a tool that allows users to collect and submit data for a subset of GLOBE protocols that do not require equipment or extensive training. Currently, four observations can be collected and submitted through the app: clouds, land cover, mosquito habitats, and trees. In 2017, a temporary Eclipse tool inside the app was created to facilitate the collection of air temperature observations during the 2017 North American Solar Eclipse. The Eclipse tool was re-activated in 2019 for the South American Solar Eclipse, and plans are to re-activate it for future Eclipse events. All observations submitted through the GLOBE Observer app are stored in the GLOBE database. Today there are close to [1 million observations submitted through the GLOBE Observer app](#). The GLOBE Observer app can be downloaded for free from [Google Play](#) or the [Apple App Store](#).

There are primarily two types of individuals contributing measurements to GLOBE’s database: (1) GLOBE trained Educators; and (2) GLOBE Basic Account Holders. GLOBE Educators complete protocol training by attending an in-person workshop or by completing a set of online training modules that include an introductory module, a module for a particular sphere, and a module for a protocol within the sphere (e.g., *Atmosphere* and *Air Temperature*). Once completed, the user may enter data for **any** of the other GLOBE protocols **in any sphere**. GLOBE Educators may submit data via a variety of methods, including the GLOBE Observer App. A user must request a GLOBE Educator account; requests are reviewed and approved by a user’s GLOBE Country Coordinator.

Any user from a GLOBE participating country can obtain a GLOBE Basic Account. GLOBE Basic Account Holders contribute environmental data for the four protocols available to citizen scientists via the GLOBE Observer app. Basic Account Holders are guided through an

in-app tutorial before submitting data for the first time for any of the citizen science protocols. Users may complete any/all of the four tutorials.

### NOTICE

GLOBE, in accordance with NASA policy, promotes the full and open sharing of all science data with research and applications communities, private industry, academia, and the public. A GLOBE account is not required to access GLOBE observation data.

## 1.1 Citation for GLOBE Data

Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE) Program, *Date Data was Accessed*, <https://www.globe.gov/globe-data>.

### NOTICE

If you publish a peer-reviewed article with GLOBE data, please credit the program and let us know so we can advertise your work on the [GLOBE Publications page](#). Send the citation for your published article to [help@nasaglobe.org](mailto:help@nasaglobe.org).

## 1.2 Data Set Characteristics

### 1.2.1 Sampling frequency

Discrete. Users can report a single observation at a site, or return to that site periodically to report one or more observations over a period of months-to-years.

### 1.2.2 Time

Time is reported in UTC (Universal Coordinated Time). Date and time formats conform to the [ISO-8601](#) standard.

### 1.2.3 Spatial coverage

Worldwide. More than 126 countries participate in GLOBE (see Figure 2). Visit the GLOBE website to see the complete list of countries.

### 1.2.4 Spatial characteristics

GLOBE data are point data. Each GLOBE observation is associated with a point latitude and longitude location.

For naming and visualization purposes, data submitted through the GLOBE Observer app are associated with the [Military Grid Reference System \(MGRS\)](#) (see Figure 1). An explanation of the MGRS grid, including examples, is available from the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency. Observations submitted through the GLOBE Observer app for the four protocols available to citizen scientists are associated with the nearest 100-meter x 100-meter MGRS

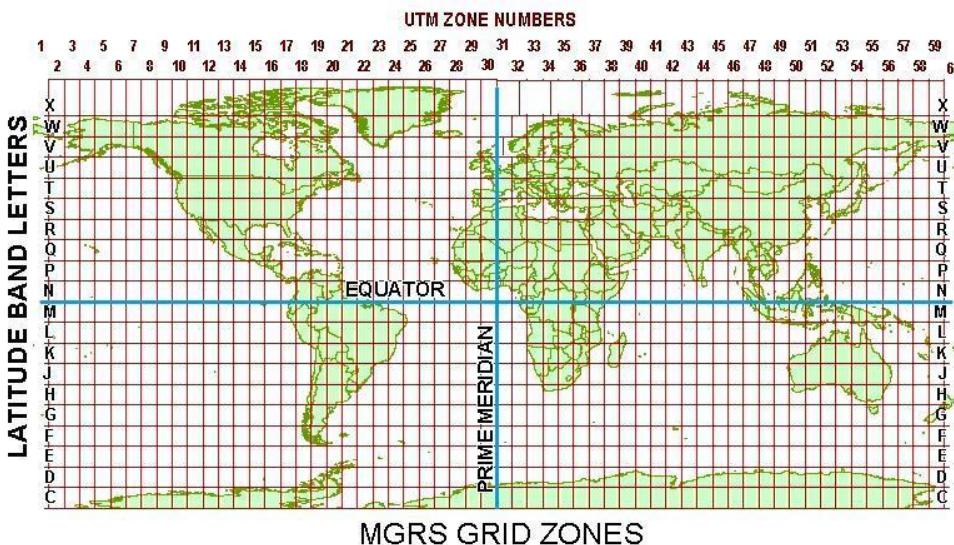
grid box based on the measured (or entered directly by the user) latitude and longitude from the user's smartphone Global Positioning System (GPS). A GLOBE measurement site and "site ID" is generated based on the associated MGRS grid box (see Appendix 2). In the future, if a measurement resolves to the same grid box and the site for this box is already defined, then those measurements are associated with that site.

In addition, data submitted through the GLOBE Observer app is also associated with a "true" measurement location. The "true" location of an Observer measurement is the latitude and longitude recorded by the Global Position System (GPS) reading from a person's mobile device. The GLOBE Observer app does not convey GPS elevation, but instead a Google web service is used that determines elevation based on WGS84 EGM96 geoid height. Thus, the four GLOBE observer protocols available to citizen scientists will have two sets of location data:

Site Location Variables	True Location Variables
latitude	<protocol name>:measurement latitude
longitude	<protocol name>:measurement longitude
elevation	<protocol name>:measurement elevation

In June 2022, GLOBE added the "location method" and "location accuracy" as output from both the ADAT and API-Out tools for the three following GLOBE Observer protocols: land cover, tree heights, mosquito habitat mapper. The location method can either be "Automatic" indicating that the phone-derived latitude and longitude were used, or "Manual", indicating that the user entered values for latitude and longitude. The location accuracy in meters is calculated by the phone. Users are instructed to wait to enter measurement data until the reported accuracy is within 12 meters or less. Measurements with a "manual" location method will not have a "location accuracy" value.

Appendix 2 provides the units and definitions for these and all other GLOBE data variables.



**Figure 1.** Military Grid Reference System (MGRS) Grid Zones.

Source: [National Geospatial Intelligence Agency](#).



**Figure 2.** Participating GLOBE countries. Current as of December 2022. Source: [GLOBE](#).

### 1.3 Data Set Variables and Metadata

Appendix 1 provides the lists of metadata associated with the GLOBE data. Appendix 2 provides a list of GLOBE data variables that can be downloaded. The metadata list includes descriptions and units for each variable in the GLOBE data set. The variables correspond to the measurements recorded in the GLOBE database.

Each observation submitted to GLOBE can be identified spatially, temporally, and by unique identifiers associated with entities (e.g., GLOBE school or GLOBE Team) and individuals

(numerical user ID). Spatial and temporal resolutions vary depending on the requirement of a protocol.

#### **1.4 User Privacy**

The GLOBE Data and Information System (DIS) assigns a unique numerical ID to each Member and Educator account. Each measurement submitted to the GLOBE database is associated with the numerical ID of the user that submitted the measurement. There is no way for any website visitor or GLOBE account holder to associate a userID with the user's name, email, or any other identifying information.

In addition, all photos that are submitted as part of an observation are screened for faces and identifiable location information, such as license plates or street signs. Before 2022, these photos were manually screened by GLOBE Program staff. Since early 2022, Amazon Web Services "Rekognition" computer vision platform performs the screening and blurs those features such that they are no longer recognizable. The "sanitized" photo is then stored in the database. Any photos that do not pass the automated screening process are then manually screened by GLOBE program staff and are either rejected or accepted into the database based on the photo's content.

## 2. Methods and Materials

There are more than 40 GLOBE science protocols (data collection methods) for collecting Earth observations. [GLOBE protocols are grouped by subject matter](#): atmosphere, hydrosphere, biosphere, and pedosphere. **Table 1** provides a list of GLOBE science protocols. There is [documentation about GLOBE science protocols](#) available online. GLOBE Educators can [submit data](#) five ways: desktop data entry forms, email data entry, application programming interfaces (APIs), the GLOBE data entry app, and the newly added sphere modules from within the GLOBE Observer app. Ingest of data submitted via email lacks the ability to process images.

Users with a GLOBE Basic Account are limited to the four citizen science protocols in the GLOBE Observer app to collect and submit observations of clouds, mosquito habitats, land cover, and tree height.

In 2021, the GLOBE Program began an effort to migrate data entry for all GLOBE protocols into the GLOBE Observer app, with a goal of eventually replacing the current GLOBE Data Entry app. At present, data entry for GLOBE atmosphere and hydrosphere protocols is available from the GLOBE Observer app for GLOBE Educators (GLOBE Members do not see the option to enter atmosphere or hydrosphere data.) Eventually, data entry for all GLOBE protocols will be available within the GLOBE Observer app for GLOBE educators and the existing GLOBE Data Entry app will be decommissioned. The redesigned GLOBE data entry includes improvements such as dynamic site definition based on the user's GPS location, as well as automated prompting for all information required for selected protocol(s). Users see the list of existing sites within their immediate area and can opt to have the observation associated with one of these sites, or they can choose to dynamically create a new site. Figure 3 depicts the "Home" screen of the GLOBE Observer app for GLOBE Educators. GLOBE Basic Account Holders see the same screen except for the "Atmosphere Data Entry" button.



**Figure 3.** GLOBE Observer app home screen.

A Hydrosphere module was added to the GLOBE Observer app in Summer 2022, with expectations to be followed by Biosphere and the Pedosphere modules in 2023.

## 2.1 GLOBE Educator Training

Training for GLOBE Educators has traditionally occurred at [in-person workshops](#), which are offered around the world and teach the appropriate data collection procedures for various protocols. As of 2017, educators can also be trained online (“eTraining”) by completing several required [online training modules](#). Any visitor to the GLOBE website can view the content of GLOBE’s eTraining modules. However, for a GLOBE user to complete eTraining assessments and be labeled as trained, one of the following must be true:

- Outside the United States: The user has an approved GLOBE Educator account and eTraining is approved by the user’s GLOBE Country Coordinator
- Within the United States: the user has a GLOBE Basic or GLOBE Educator account

The [GLOBE Teacher’s Guide](#) is a foundational resource for educators training their students to take measurements. It is also a useful resource for scientists who want to know more about

the procedures for collecting GLOBE data. The GLOBE Teacher's Guide is an online collection of background information, science protocols (data collection procedures), and learning activities organized by Earth spheres: atmosphere, biosphere, hydrosphere, and pedosphere (soil). Protocols provide step-by-step instructions on how to take measurements as well as guidance on instrumentation. Protocols are intended to be used as written, using instruments that meet certain specifications to ensure consistency and data accuracy worldwide. Participants should not submit data if it does not follow the protocol. Protocols include instructions for instrument calibration. The landing page for the Teacher's guide on the GLOBE website contains a list of the [Scientific Instruments for Collecting GLOBE Data](#) as well as clothing incorporating the GLOBE logo.

## 2.2 GLOBE Science Protocols

List 1 provides a list of GLOBE science protocols grouped by Earth sphere. The links in the table will take you directly to the science protocol page in an internet browser window, which includes the science protocol of interest plus supporting protocols. You must be a GLOBE Educator or a **trained** GLOBE Basic Account holder within the United States to enter data for all protocols listed, except for clouds, mosquitos, land cover, and tree height, which are the four protocols available to citizen scientists in the GLOBE Observer App.

**List 1. GLOBE Science Protocols<sup>1</sup>**

<b>Atmosphere</b>	<b>Hydrosphere</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <a href="#">Aerosols</a></li><li>● <a href="#">Air Temperature</a></li><li>● <a href="#">Barometric Pressure</a></li><li>● <a href="#">Clouds</a> (Sky Conditions)</li><li>● <a href="#">Precipitation</a></li><li>● <a href="#">Relative Humidity</a></li><li>● Surface Ozone [Deactivated]</li><li>● <a href="#">Surface Temperature</a></li><li>● <a href="#">Water Vapor</a></li><li>● <a href="#">Wind</a></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <a href="#">Alkalinity</a></li><li>● <a href="#">Conductivity</a></li><li>● <a href="#">Dissolved Oxygen</a></li><li>● <a href="#">Freshwater Macroinvertebrates</a></li><li>● Mosquito Larvae<sup>2</sup> [Deactivated]</li><li>● Mosquito Habitat Mapper<sup>2</sup></li><li>● <a href="#">Nitrates</a></li><li>● <a href="#">pH</a></li><li>● Salinity Titration [Deactivated]</li><li>● <a href="#">Water Temperature</a></li><li>● <a href="#">Water Transparency</a> (Turbidity)</li></ul>
<b>Biosphere</b>	<b>Pedosphere (Soil)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <a href="#">Biometry<sup>3</sup></a></li><li>● <a href="#">Carbon Cycle</a></li><li>● <a href="#">Green-Down</a> (Senescence)</li><li>● <a href="#">Green-Up</a></li><li>● <a href="#">Land Cover</a></li><li>● Lilac Phenology [Deactivated]</li><li>● <a href="#">Phenological Gardens</a></li><li>● Ruby-Throated Hummingbirds [Deactivated]</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <a href="#">Bulk Density</a></li><li>● <a href="#">Frost Tube</a></li><li>● <a href="#">Soil Characterization</a></li><li>● <a href="#">Soil Fertility</a></li><li>● <a href="#">Soil Infiltration</a></li><li>● <a href="#">Soil Moisture – Gravimetric</a></li><li>● Soil Moisture – Sensors [Deactivated]</li><li>● <a href="#">Soil Moisture – SMAP</a></li><li>● <a href="#">Soil Particle Density</a></li><li>● <a href="#">Soil Particle Size Distribution</a></li><li>● <a href="#">Soil pH</a></li><li>● <a href="#">Soil Temperature</a></li></ul>

<sup>1</sup> Table only includes protocols for which data is publicly available through the GLOBE database. Once a protocol is deactivated, new data for that protocol cannot be entered into the database; however, historical submitted data and materials will still be available for download. Learn [more about protocol deactivation](#).

<sup>2</sup> The Mosquito Habitat Mapper tool in the GLOBE Observer app is the GLOBE protocol for collecting and submitting mosquito measurements. The original GLOBE Mosquito Larvae protocol was retired in 2018. Students using the GLOBE Observer Mosquito Habitat Mapper are still encouraged to define a [GLOBE Hydrosphere Study Site](#), as they did with the original Mosquito Larvae protocol, if they collect specimens in a natural water body, so that they can monitor other water quality parameters that may impact survival of immature mosquitoes.

<sup>3</sup>The Biometry protocol consists of several measurements including Graminoid Biomasses, Vegetation Covers, and Tree Height. The GLOBE Observer app contains a tool for measuring tree height that may be used by untrained GLOBE users.

## 2.3 GLOBE Observer Mobile App

This section provides greater detail about the four protocols available to citizen scientists in the GLOBE Program’s app, GLOBE Observer. Observations collected using the GLOBE Observer mobile app are intended to be completed using a smartphone or other mobile device (e.g., tablet) with a built-in camera. GLOBE Observer tools are designed to work offline so they can be used in remote regions, although a cellular or wifi network is needed to download the app (as well as periodic software updates) and to upload any data collected for the protocols. Collected data can be stored on the user’s phone until the user is within range of a wifi or cellular network and can upload the data. Date, time, latitude, longitude, and elevation are logged automatically at the beginning of each new observation using the mobile device’s clock and GPS. The GLOBE Observer app lets GLOBE Basic Account holders (as well as GLOBE Educators) collect and report cloud, mosquito habitat, land cover, and tree height observations.

GLOBE Educators have access to the “All GLOBE Data Entry” portion of the app, which allows them to enter data for all of GLOBE’s protocols. At this writing, only the GLOBE Atmosphere and Hydrosphere protocols are available within GLOBE Observer as shown in Figure 3.

### Photographs/Images

The GLOBE Observer app gives users the option to take photographs with their device (e.g., smartphone, tablet) and send those images to GLOBE as part of their observation. For the cloud and land cover tools in the GLOBE Observer app, photos/images are taken in the four cardinal directions (north, south, east, west), as well as up and down to capture the overhead and surface conditions. North is the magnetic north pole (not the geographic north pole). Users can take these six photos in “automatic mode” or “manual mode”. Automatic mode uses the device’s internal compass and accelerometer and captures each photo when the user is in the correct orientation and pointed in the correct direction. Images captured in automatic mode are a standard size of 1920 pixels x 1080 pixels. Manually uploaded images are stored at the full mobile device resolution at which they were taken. For the mosquitoes protocol, images are captured and stored at their original photo resolution no cropping or resizing is performed.

It should be noted that most cell phone cameras auto-correct picture attributes such as contrast, clarity, and color saturation (to varying degrees depending on the make and model of the phone and user settings). This should be considered when evaluating observations that report sky color and sky visibility. User reported values for these attributes may outweigh what is represented in the corresponding photo.

Images are stored in the app on the user's device until they are uploaded to GLOBE; images are deleted from the app after being sent to conserve memory on the user's device. Images taken with the user's device are stored in the GLOBE database as .jpg files.



**Figure 4.** Taking directional images with the GLOBE Observer app. Image of a user making a cloud observation with the GLOBE Observer mobile app. The user is taking a south-facing sky photo in “automatic mode.” South is indicated by the “S” in the white circle on the smartphone’s display screen. In automatic mode, the smartphone must be held horizontally with screen lock turned off as demonstrated in the image. Image credit: Heather Mortimer, NASA.

### 2.3.1 GLOBE Observer Clouds

In 2016, GLOBE Observer launched with a single tool: GLOBE Observer Clouds. GLOBE Clouds is based on the predecessor Students' Cloud Observations Online (S'COOL) [Chambers et al., 2017]. In the GLOBE Observer app, users locate, photograph, and classify the cloud cover of the overhead sky. Each GLOBE Observer cloud observation contains information about the percent of sky covered by clouds, the presence of obscuration, and surface conditions (e.g., snow or ice on the ground). An obscuration occurs when more than 25% of the sky is obscured by either sand, smoke, haze, heavy snow, fog/stratus, spray, dust,

blowing snow, heavy rain, or volcanic ash. Optional fields for cloud observations are: sky color; sky visibility; presence of low-, mid-, and high-level clouds and contrails; types of clouds and contrails; and visual opacity. Users are encouraged to conduct their observations in an outdoor area with a relatively unobstructed view of the sky. Users have the option to take photographs of the sky (north, south, east, west, up) and surface conditions (down). The app guides users to align their smartphone cameras in the correct direction and tilted to a 14-degree angle, then automatically takes the photographs. GLOBE Observer Clouds requires no additional equipment beyond a smartphone. Required and optional elements of a cloud observation are below.

Required elements of a cloud observation include total cloud cover or obscuration covering more than 25% of the sky; and surface conditions. Total cloud cover categories are: no clouds (0%), few (>0-105%), isolated (10-25%), scattered (25-50%), broken (50-90%), overcast (90-100%). Obscuration types include: sand, smoke, haze, heavy snow, fog/stratus, spray, dust, blowing snow, heavy rain, and volcanic ash. Surface conditions (yes/no) include: snow/ice, standing water, muddy, dry ground, leaves on trees, and raining/snowing.

Optional elements of a clouds observation include cloud types, opacity, sky color, and visibility. Observers qualitatively estimate cloud altitude by low, mid, and high and then identify cloud types for each level. High cloud types include: contrails, cirrus, cirrocumulus, and cirrostratus. Mid-level clouds include: altostratus, and altocumulus. Low clouds include: fog/stratus, stratocumulus, cumulus, nimbostratus, and cumulonimbus. Observers can report percent cloud cover for all clouds present at each level (low, mid, high). Observers can also report opacity for each altitude level and cloud type as opaque, transparent, or translucent. Observers also have the option to report the darkest blue observed in the sky and also qualitatively report sky visibility. Sky color categories are: deep blue, blue, light blue, pale blue, and milky. Sky visibility categories are: unusually clear, clear, somewhat hazy, very hazy, and extremely hazy.

Dust events have been reported by GLOBE Observer users using the clouds tool through the obscuration option. Users enter the photographs of the event manually to capture the horizon and not the sky. The NASA GLOBE Clouds team created a section for [dust observations](#) with descriptions on how to report the dust event and submit photographs of the horizon. The section also contains information about dust events worldwide and available educator resources. A quality-assured [GLOBE Dust dataset](#) is available for download from the GLOBE Observer website.

The NASA GLOBE Clouds team at Langley Research Center matches GLOBE Observer cloud observations to corresponding satellite data for NASA's Aqua and Terra satellites. Users can opt-in to receive notifications on their phone about satellite flyovers, use the satellite overpass tool within the GLOBE Observer Clouds module, or send an email with satellite overpasses via the online [satellite overpass calculator](#) to see scheduled flyover times. If a user's clouds observation is matched to satellite data, the user will receive a satellite match

email from NASA within one week of submitting the observation. Observations are matched to multiple geostationary satellites, CERES instruments onboard Aqua and Terra, and CALIPSO. Guides on how to read the [satellite match tables for geostationary, Aqua and Terra satellites](#), as well as for [matches with the CALIPSO satellite](#) are all available on the NASA GLOBE Clouds website. Complete [documentation of the satellite matching method](#) is also available that include details on satellite footprint definition.

More information is available on [how to make cloud observations](#) in the GLOBE Observer app. Also available is a [toolkit for informal educators](#) on the GLOBE Observer website.

### 2.3.2 GLOBE Observer Solar Eclipse

GLOBE Observer was modified to support the August 21, 2017 total solar eclipse, Eclipse Across America. In addition to the standard clouds data collection already available in the app, a special temporary tool allowing untrained users to report air temperature data was added for the eclipse. During solar eclipses, the ability to enter current air temperature data has been/will be made available to users of the app who have not gone through GLOBE training, but are using the GLOBE Eclipse tool. Observers were asked to acquire a meteorological thermometer, either a traditional alcohol-filled glass model or a digital version, to measure temperature. The goal was to have observers measure the eclipse-induced temperature depression, which complemented temperature measurements from automated weather stations. Observers provided a nearly unbroken record of temperature measurements along the path of totality across the United States. This unique feature of the data would be difficult and expensive to replicate with automated stations. In addition to air temperature measurements, observers were encouraged to submit cloud observations periodically during the eclipse. Dodson et al. [2019] detail an analysis of GLOBE Observer cloud cover and surface temperature data reported during the 2017 eclipse. More information about the 2017 eclipse, including several [eclipse data sets](#) from the event, are posted on the GLOBE Observer website.

For eclipses after the 2017 event, the appearance of the GLOBE Eclipse tool has been constrained geographically to roughly the area experiencing the eclipse (notes about region with each individual eclipse below.)

Air temperatures reported through the Eclipse tool (by trained or untrained users) can be distinguished by the field labeled “airtempsComments” in the API and “air temps:comments” in ADAT. Data points with comments in the format {"temp": "36.2", "units": "C"} were entered via the Eclipse tool. The unit value will be C or F depending on whether the app user reported measurements in Celsius or Fahrenheit although temperatures are converted as needed and stored in Celsius only in the “airtempsCurrentTemp” or “air temps:current temp (deg C)” fields for the API/ADAT respectively. Other values in this comments field may indicate automated weather stations, such as (Phase 4 Email Data Entry), Earth Networks, or Weatherbug. Trained GLOBE users entering data via other means (online web forms or the

Data Entry app, which was incorporated into GLOBE Observer for the atmosphere protocols in July 2021) also have the opportunity to enter custom comments associated with the data, including observations about current conditions.

The Eclipse tool was opened to users during these five previous eclipse events:

Total Solar Eclipse 21 August 2017 (North America):

- Limited testing with a few data points in the database beginning 15 August, full availability for data submission 18 August through 22 August
- No geographic limitation on visibility of Eclipse tool

Total Solar Eclipse 02 July 2019 (South America):

- Data submission available on 01 July and 02 July
- Eclipse tool visibility: -65 to 20 latitude, -100 to -35 longitude

Total Solar Eclipse 14 December 2020 (South America):

- Data submission available from 07 December to 15 December
- Eclipse tool visibility: -70 to 3 latitude, -100 to -25 longitude

Annular Solar Eclipse 14 October 2023 (North, Central and South America):

- Data submission available only on 14 October
- Eclipse tool visibility: polygon represented in this [GeoJSON file for 2023](#)

Total Solar Eclipse 08 April 2024 (North and Central America):

- Data submission available from 01 April 2024 to 08 April 2024
- Eclipse tool visibility: polygon represented in this [GeoJSON file for 2024](#)

### 2.3.3 GLOBE Observer Mosquito Habitat Mapper

In May 2017, the Mosquito Habitat Mapper tool was added to the GLOBE Observer app. There are four steps that users can take when using the Mosquito Habitat Mapper - and it is important to note that users do not have to do all of the steps to make observations. The first step involves identifying potential mosquito breeding habitats and taking pictures of them. To do this, users simply walk around their home, school, or neighborhood and look for standing water sources - natural or artificial- where an adult mosquito might lay her eggs. For example, users might find discarded items such as cans or bottles, old tires, and water storage containers such as animal feeding bowls and bird baths. Taking a picture of these potential mosquito breeding habitats completes the first step. The app then prompts users to eliminate the standing water source or cover it with a lid or a net when possible, thereby reducing the risk of mosquito-transmitted diseases in the user's community.

After this there are two optional steps. The app guides users through these identification activities step-by-step. One is to sample and count the mosquito larvae that users find in the water source, and the other is to use a microscope or cell phone magnifier to identify the larva type A user will need to use a lens with a 60x magnification or higher. The app is optimized for identification of the following genera and species:

- *Culex*, many species of which are implicated in a wide variety of diseases, including West Nile Virus

- *Anopheles*, the genus primarily responsible for transmission of malaria
- *Aedes*, many species of which are implicated in the transmission of pathogens causing a variety of diseases in humans, including dengue, chikungunya, yellow fever and Zika. *Aedes aegypti* and *Aedes albopictus*, in particular, are two species which originated in tropical and humid subtropical regions in Africa and Asia and are now invasive disease vectors in a variety of regions and environments.

It should be noted that any genus/species identification supplied by citizen scientists should be validated by scientists through examination of the associated voucher photographs.

[Tutorials, an instructional video, and additional training resources](#) about Mosquito Habitat Mapper are available on the GLOBE Observer website, where you will also find a [toolkit for informal educators](#). The app also contains a tutorial for taking a mosquito measurement.

### 2.3.4 GLOBE Observer Land Cover

In September 2018, Land Cover was added to the GLOBE Observer app. Land cover has been a GLOBE student protocol since the 1990s [Larsen Becker et al., 1998]. In the GLOBE Observer app, participants locate, photograph, and classify land cover for a 100-meter x 100-meter area. Users photograph surface conditions and land cover in the up, down, east, west, north, and south directions. Date, time, elevation, latitude, and longitude are logged by the user's device. The app guides users to align their smartphone cameras in the correct direction, adjust to an angle that best captures the land cover, and captures the photographs. Users enter yes/no information about surface conditions (e.g., snow and ice on the ground), then have the option to classify the land cover types seen in each photo. Users classify land cover in each photo, so there may be a different land cover classification in an east-facing photo compared to a west-facing photo. Next, users have the option to estimate percent cover for each type of land cover selected for each photo. Percentages may add up to more than 100 percent, since vegetation has vertical structure. Lastly, GLOBE Observer users are asked to compare their overall land cover classification to the MODIS land cover classification. If there is a difference between their classification and the MODIS classification, users may flag that pixel. Differences may occur because of land cover or land use change or because of the difference in scale between MODIS (500 meters) and GLOBE Observer (100 meters).

On December 22, 2023 the Observer app Landcover module was modified to allow users to include up to 4 "special feature" photos. The intent is to allow users to photograph up to 4 features which may exist in the landcover site being surveyed. These photos are optional and are not required to be taken in the cardinal directions. Directional information is obtained from the mobile device when available and is stored with the photos as "extra data" which can be used by researchers.

GLOBE Observer land cover classifications are based on the Modified UNESCO Classification (MUC) and the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme (IGBP) Land Cover Type Classification used in the [MODIS Land Cover Product](#). Historically, The GLOBE Program has used the [MUC system](#) for land cover protocol. Remote sensing land cover classification products widely use IGBP, which distinguishes land cover by plant functional type rather than ecosystem type (e.g., evergreen broad leaf forest vs. tropical forest). Because GLOBE land cover was meant to be a source of verification for remote sensing scientists, the GLOBE Observer app combines IGBP and MUC. Users select land cover types in line with IGBP and then provide a small amount of additional information about plant height and density that makes it possible to map IGBP land cover classifications to the MUC system.

The land cover tool in the GLOBE Observer app differs from the student protocol primarily in the classification system. To make GLOBE Observer land cover compatible with the historic GLOBE land cover measurement data, the combination of all estimates in all directions is converted into a single MUC code for the observed 100-m x 100-m pixel. Students, teachers, and others doing the traditional GLOBE land cover protocol collect the latitude and longitude for the center of a 90-m x 90-m homogenous pixel. They then photograph the site facing north, south, east, and West and estimate the MUC land cover type. GLOBE members can change the calculated MUC code in the GLOBE Observer app.

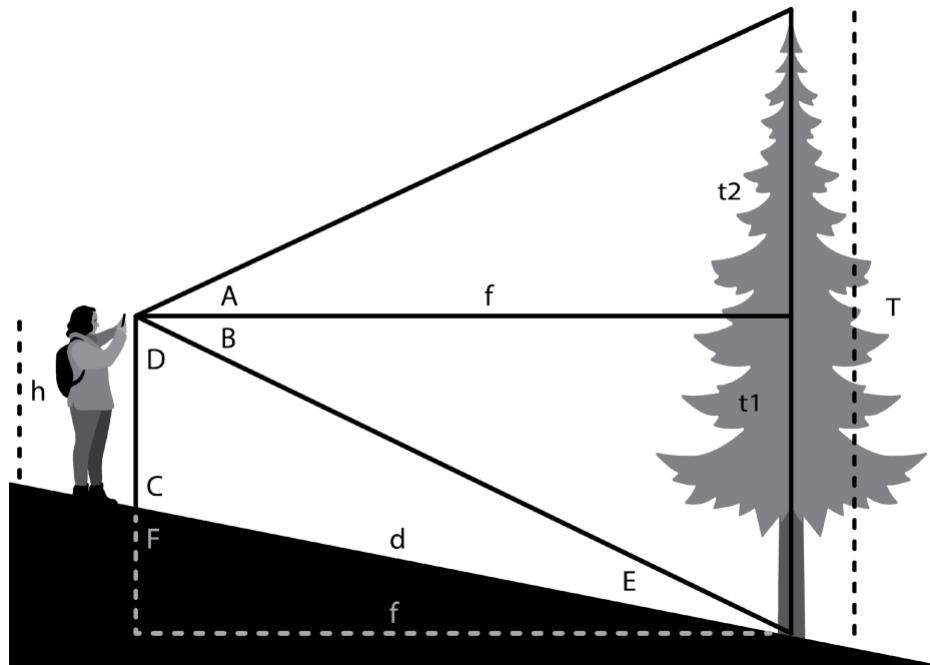
More information about [how to take land cover observations](#) using the GLOBE Observer app can be found on the GLOBE Observer website, where you will also find a [toolkit for informal educators](#).

### 2.3.5 GLOBE Observer Trees

In March 2019, Trees was added to the GLOBE Observer app. Participants locate, measure the height of, and take a photograph of trees. Each GLOBE Observer tree height observation includes finding a tree or trees and taking tree height measurements using the smartphone cameras and the Trees tool built-in angle measuring, clinometer techniques. Upon first use of the app, the user is asked to select the preferred system of measurement (either Metric or English) for entering their height and stride length. The user is asked his/her height, then the Trees tool estimates stride length in meters (L) and height of phone camera (h) of the user:

$$L = 0.413 \times \text{person's height}$$
$$h = \text{user's height} - 10.14 \text{ cm}$$

The user will first choose a tree and find a spot that allows a clear view of the top and bottom of the tree. The app then guides the user to use their smartphones to align to the bottom of the tree and then to the top of the tree, calculating the respective angles A and B as shown in Figure 5. The user will then walk to the base of the tree, counting steps, and entering the number of steps into the app. The user must be at least 12 steps from the base of the tree and is warned if the distance to the tree is large (> 50 steps) as large distances are prone to larger measurement errors. At the base of the tree, the user will record the latitude and longitude.



**Figure 5.** Geometry of tree height measurement. Schematic of tree height observation made using the Trees tool in the GLOBE Observer mobile app.

Tree height is computed as follows:

**Values reported by user via the app:**

n : number of steps to the tree

H : user height

**Values measured using the app:**

A : app-measured top angle (degrees)

B : app-measured bottom angle (degrees)

**Table 1.** Tree Height Calculation – Input Values

Variable	Description	Bounds
n	number of steps to the tree	Minimum: 12 steps. Maximum: Warning for values exceeding 50 steps, but submission allowed.
H	user height	2-8 feet (0.6094m-2.4382m)
A	app-measured top angle (degrees)	$-70^\circ \leq B < A \leq 70^\circ$
B	app-measured bottom angle (degrees)	$-70^\circ \leq B < A \leq 70^\circ$

**Calculated values:**

T : full tree height (meters)

d : ground distance to tree (meters)

L : stride length (meters)

h : camera height (meters)

f : horizontal distance to tree (meters)

t1 : lower tree height (meters)

t2 : upper tree height (meters)

**Table 2.** Tree Height Calculation – Derived Values

Step/Description	Formula	Bounds
Estimated stride length based on user height	$L = H * 0.413$	6-36 inches (15-91 cm)
Calculate ground distance based on number of steps and stride length	$d = n * L$	$\geq 25$ feet (7.62 m)
Estimated camera height based on user height	$h$ (meters) = $H$ (meters) – 0.1014	1 foot 8 inches - 7 foot 8 inches (51-234 cm)

Step/Description	Formula
Law of Sines	$\sin(E) / h = \sin(D) / d$
Multiply by $h$	$\sin(E) = h * \sin(D) / d$
Take inverse sine (arcsin)	$E = \arcsin(h * \sin(D) / d)$

Step/Description	Formula
Properties of a triangle	$F = 180 - C$ and $C = 180 - (D + E)$
Substitute for $C$	$F = 180 - (180 - (D + E))$
Simplify	$F = D + E$

Step/Description	Formula
Basic trigonometry, opposite side over hypotenuse	$f / d = \sin(F)$
Multiply by $d$	$f = d * \sin(F)$
Substitute for $F$	$f = d * \sin(D + E)$
Substitute for $E$	$f = d * \sin(D + \arcsin(h * \sin(D) / d))$
Properties of a triangle	$D = 90 - B$
Substitute for $D$	$f = d * \sin(90 - B + \arcsin(h * \sin(90 - B) / d))$

Step/Description	Formula
Basic trigonometry, opposite side over adjacent side	$t1 / f = \tan(B)$ and $t2 / f = \tan(A)$
Multiple by $f$	$t1 = f * \tan(B)$ and $t2 = f * \tan(A)$
Total tree height is the combination of $t1$ and $t2$	$T = t1 + t2$
Substitute for $t1$ and $t2$	$T = f * \tan(B) + f * \tan(A)$
Distributive property	$T = f(\tan(B) + \tan(A))$
Substitute for $f$	$T = d * \sin(90 - B + \arcsin(h * \sin(90 - B) / d)) * (\tan(B) + \tan(A))$

Final formula:

$$T = d * \sin(90 - B + \arcsin(h * \sin(90 - B) / d)) * (\tan(B) + \tan(A))$$

Based on user testing, the error in  $T$  is most sensitive to the ability to accurately estimate the distance to the tree. This is directly related to the ability to estimate a user's stride length ( $L$ ). This error can be mitigated by users validating the stride length the app automatically estimates for them. Most users are able to measure the top ( $A$ ) and bottom ( $B$ ) angles to a level of accuracy that results in relatively small  $T$  error (2-3%) when users are less than 100

(but greater than 11) steps away from the tree base. If the user is a very large number of steps away from the tree, the angle measurement uncertainties begin to result in larger T measurement error. The app warns users when they are more than 50 steps away.

Included in the app is an optional measurement of the tree circumference. A user needs a tape measure for measuring the circumference of the tree. Finally, before the user submits an observation, the user is asked to review and make any changes to the measurements. The user can review their measurements by clicking on the “My Map” button within the Trees tool. If they choose to change any of the app calculations, the data is flagged.

The GLOBE Observer website provides details about [taking tree height observations](#) in the GLOBE Observer app, as well as a [toolkit for informal educators](#).

## List 2. Required and optional trees fields

### Required Observations<sup>1</sup>

- **Surface conditions (yes/no)**
  - snow/ice
  - standing water
  - muddy
  - dry ground
  - leaves on trees
  - raining/snowing
- **Select a tree**
  - move to a location where you can see its base and top
  - measure the base of the tree
  - measure the top of the tree
  - walk to the tree using a natural stride, counting steps
- **Review**
  - camera height
  - stride length
  - number of steps
  - distance to tree

### Optional Observations

- **Photograph your tree**
- **Measure tree circumference (tape measure required)**

<sup>1</sup>Upon setting up the Trees tool in the GLOBE Observer app, users are required to (1) specify if they want to use English or metric measurements and (2) enter their height. Data is only stored in metric.

### 2.3.6 GLOBE Observer Data Entry Tool

After the initial creation of the main GLOBE Observer tools, functionality was added to the app allowing trained GLOBE users to submit data collected via the ‘traditional’ non-Observer GLOBE Protocols. The Data Entry Tool was expanded in phases, with each expansion encompassing all protocols in a given GLOBE sphere. These updates were made available on the following dates

- Atmosphere – 12 July 2021
  - Protocols included: Aerosols, Air Temperature, Barometric Pressure, Clouds (Sky Conditions), Precipitation, Relative Humidity, Surface Temperature, Water Vapor, Wind
- Hydrosphere – 22 July 2022
  - Protocols included: Alkalinity, Conductivity, Dissolved Oxygen, Freshwater Macroinvertebrates, Nitrates, pH, Water Temperature, Water Transparency (Turbidity)
- Biosphere – 25 June 2023
  - Protocols included: Biometry, Carbon Cycle, Green-Down (Senescence), Green-Up, Land Cover, Phenological Gardens
- Pedosphere – 12 March 2025
  - Protocols included: Soil Bulk Density, Soil Fertility, Soil Particle Density, Soil pH, Soil Infiltration, and Particle Size Distribution

## 3. Quality Assurance

### Training

GLOBE requires training to ensure quality and consistency in data collection. GLOBE Educators must complete the necessary training either by attending an in-person [GLOBE workshop](#) or by completing online [eTraining](#) modules and assessment tests to enter data via the GLOBE [data entry forms](#) for desktop, via the [GLOBE Data Entry app](#), through the GLOBE Observer “All Data Entry” option (currently available for atmosphere and hydrosphere protocols), and via email data entry. The user must complete three modules and take the corresponding assessment tests as follows to become a trained GLOBE Educator via eTraining:

- Introduction to GLOBE
- Introduction to a Sphere (Atmosphere, Biosphere, Hydrosphere, or Pedosphere)
- Protocol Module (from the same sphere as the introduction module)

The user can enter data for **any** of the GLOBE protocols after completing a workshop or the required eTraining modules and assessments.

### Best Practices Guides

In addition to training, written step-by-step instructions are given in the GLOBE [Teacher's Guide](#) for each science protocol, providing rigorous guidance on best practices for making observations. The science protocols are intended to be used as written, using instruments that meet certain specifications in order to ensure data accuracy worldwide. A [list of instruments](#), as well as instrument suppliers, is available on the GLOBE website.

### Completeness

A measurement must contain all required elements before it can be submitted and stored in the GLOBE database.

### Range and Logic Checks

Observations submitted to GLOBE must pass range and logic checks before the data are allowed in the database. For example, future time cannot be entered and minimum values cannot be greater than maximum values. Instant feedback is provided at the time of data entry to indicate if the value(s) pass checks and likewise will be stored in the GLOBE database. For example, the enforced maximum value for dark voltage in the aerosol protocol is 0.08. If a GLOBE participant tries to enter 0.03, she/he will get an error message and not be allowed to submit. The data entry form does not default to a value (e.g., 0.02) when an error message is triggered; a valid value must be entered by the participant in order to submit the data. Documentation about the date entry [range and logic checks](#) is available on the GLOBE website.

## Location Data

Location data has become more accurate over time. From 1995-2014, GLOBE members had two options to enter the latitude and longitude coordinates associated with their measurement site: (1) GPS or (2) other. Before 2014, teachers were encouraged at in-person GLOBE trainings to use [Garmin](#) or [GeoTrack](#) GPS devices. The “other” category includes techniques such as estimating latitude and longitude coordinates from a map. Not all techniques categorized as “other” are known. GLOBE requested five decimal places for all reported latitude and longitude coordinates to achieve high and consistent spatial accuracy. Four significant digits after the decimal place implies 100-meter accuracy; five digits implies 5-meter accuracy. After 2014, GPS is the standard for obtaining latitude and longitude coordinates.

In the [GLOBE Observer app](#), a person’s location is automatically located on a map by the GPS on the user’s device. The tools in the GLOBE Observer app have a button users can press to refresh their automatic GPS location to potentially improve the location accuracy. If users judge that their device places their location incorrectly as indicated by a red pin on the map, users have the option to manually adjust their location on map. Section 1.2 Data Set Characteristics explains how location is stored for measurements submitted via the GLOBE Observer app. If using the GLOBE Data Entry app, GLOBE data entry desktop forms, or email data entry, the measurement is associated with the user’s GLOBE site’s latitude and longitude.

### *Elevation:*

GLOBE's GPS protocol states that a site's elevation is in relation to mean sea level (MSL). In 1995, the thinking was that sites would be defined over land only and so the elevation would be based upon the topographic elevation difference from MSL. Most GPS devices in the 1990s and early 2000s used the ellipsoid model to determine elevation, which could be as much as 100m off from the geoid height. GLOBE's former database converted the GPS elevation values to geoid heights and presented those geoid heights on the legacy Vis system. In 2014, GLOBE discontinued this practice because more recent GPS devices are capable of determining elevation using the geoid height themselves. The GLOBE Observer app does not convey GPS elevation, but instead a Google web service is used that determines the height from MSL based upon the WGS84 EGM96 geoid height. It includes both bathymetry and topography values. The consumer of GLOBE data can assume that a returned elevation value for a site is based upon the geoid height of the landform from MSL. In other words, if the coordinates are over dry land, it will be the topographic height. If the coordinates are over the ocean or sea, then elevation is reported as the distance of the seafloor from MSL expressed as a negative value.

## Photo Approval

Photos submitted through the GLOBE Observer app are screened before being added to the public GLOBE database. Photos containing inappropriate content, faces, or personally

identifiable information (PII) (e.g., automobile license plate numbers or street signs) are removed or have the faces and/or PII blurred.

## Known Issues

Protocol	Issue
All GLOBE	<b>Latency.</b> On average, GLOBE measurements are submitted one month after being taken. Latency is decreasing with increased uptake of the GLOBE Observer app.
All GLOBE data, 2013 and earlier	<b>Timestamp.</b> In 2012 and 2013, the GLOBE database migrated from an Oracle to a Postgres system. As a result, most all measurements in the database were assigned a “createDate” timestamps relevant to the date of migration versus the date of original measurement. The “createDate” is no longer surfaced in the API-Out (GeoJSON) or ADAT tools. In the GLOBE database, GLOBE measurements are each associated with three timestamps: “measured at” (aka “measured on” when temporal resolution is just to the day), “createDate”, and “updateDate”. The “measured” timestamps records when the measurement was observed and is the timestamp relevant for research. The “createDate” timestamp indicates when a record of the measurement was created in the GLOBE database and “updateDate” indicates when the measurement was last updated in the GLOBE database for various reasons (and is also no longer surfaced in API-out (GeoJSON) or ADAT tools). The “measured at” timestamp was not impacted by the Oracle-to-Postgres migration.

## 4. Applications and Terms of Use

### Terms of Use

GLOBE promotes full and open sharing of its data for educational and scientific purposes. Use of data should be credited to the GLOBE Program (see 1.1 Citation for GLOBE Data.)

Any downloading and use of these data signifies a user's agreement to comprehension and compliance of the [NASA Earth Science Data & Information Policy](#).

Ensure all portions of metadata are read and clearly understood before using these data in order to protect both user and NASA interests (See Appendix I and II of this document.). **GLOBE data users are strongly encouraged to read and understand the science protocol(s) relevant to your data of interest (see Section 2 Methods and Materials).**

### Applications

Appropriate applications of GLOBE data may include, but are not limited to, community engagement, STEM education, student research, citizen science investigations, and scientific research in Earth, social, and biological and health sciences.

Browse the [GLOBE Publications](#) page to see previous applications of GLOBE data.

#### NOTICE

If you publish a peer-reviewed article with GLOBE data, please credit the program and let us know so we can advertise your work on the [GLOBE Publications page](#). Send the citation for your published article to [publications@nasaglobe.org](mailto:publications@nasaglobe.org).

## 5. Data Visualization

GLOBE data can be viewed on a map in your web browser using the GLOBE Visualization System. A tutorial on how to use the [GLOBE Visualization System](#) is already embedded in the mapping tool and appears when users visit the site. An additional [tutorial for the visualization system](#) (PowerPoint) is available on the GLOBE website. Below are several links to examples of how data is displayed in the GLOBE Visualization System, also simply referred to as “GLOBE Vis.” The instructions for producing these visualizations follow the links. In general, users can view data values for one or more selected protocols *for a single day* by selecting the “Measurements” tab. To see an estimate of the amount of data available for a specified protocol and time range, select the “Data Counts” tab.

### Quick links

[See cloud cover on a map.](#)

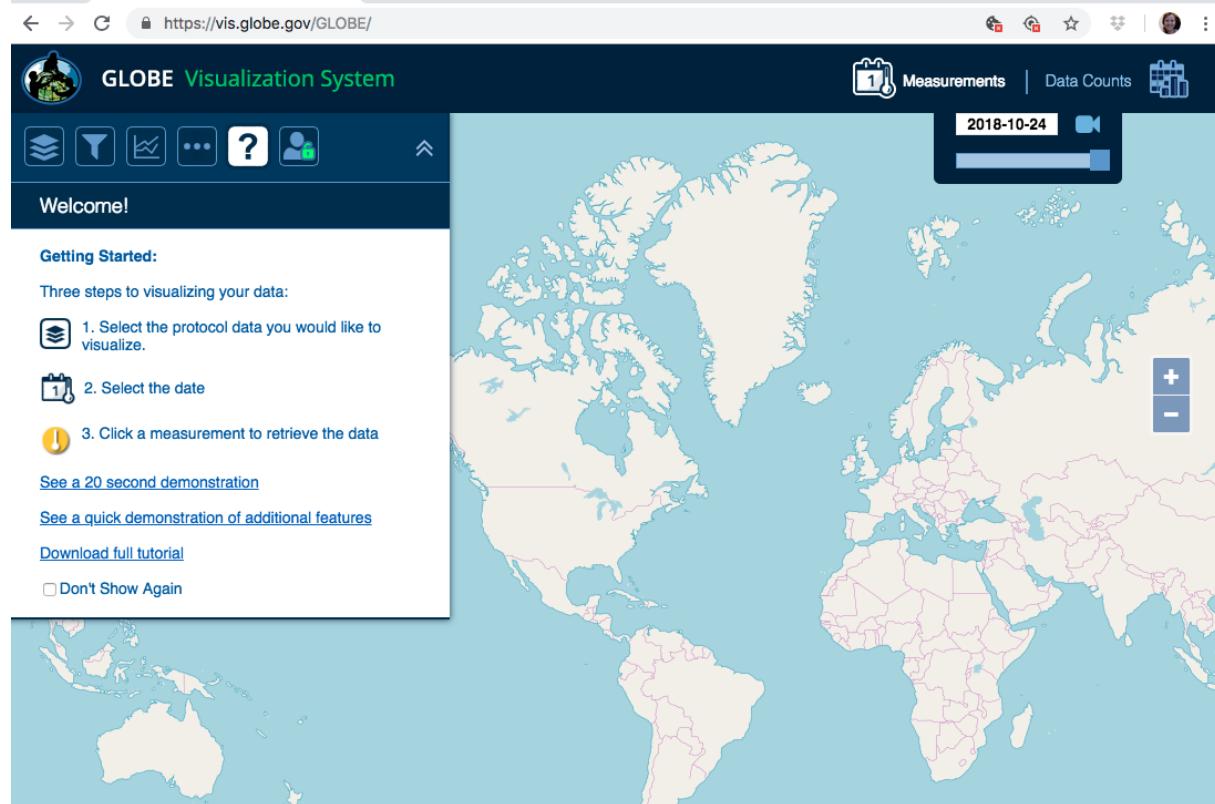
[See land cover photos on a map.](#)

[See mosquito habitats on a map.](#)

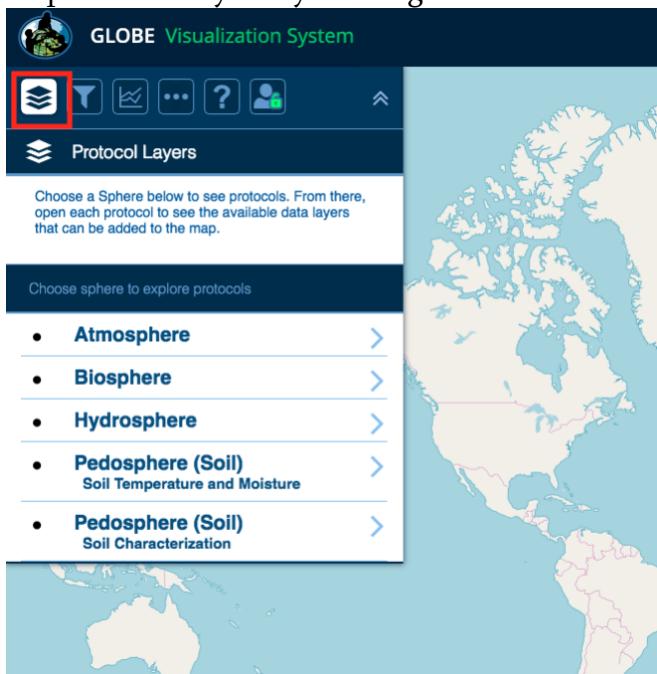
[See tree height photos on a map.](#)

### Example: View 2017-2018 cloud cover data on a map with the GLOBE Visualization System

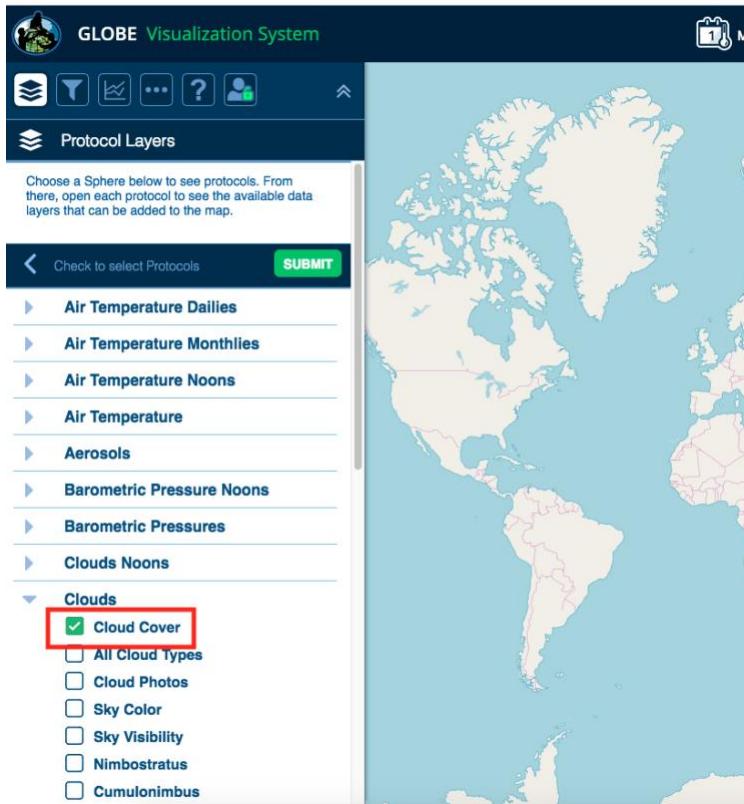
Step 1: Go to <https://vis.globe.gov/GLOBE/>. Here’s the landing page.



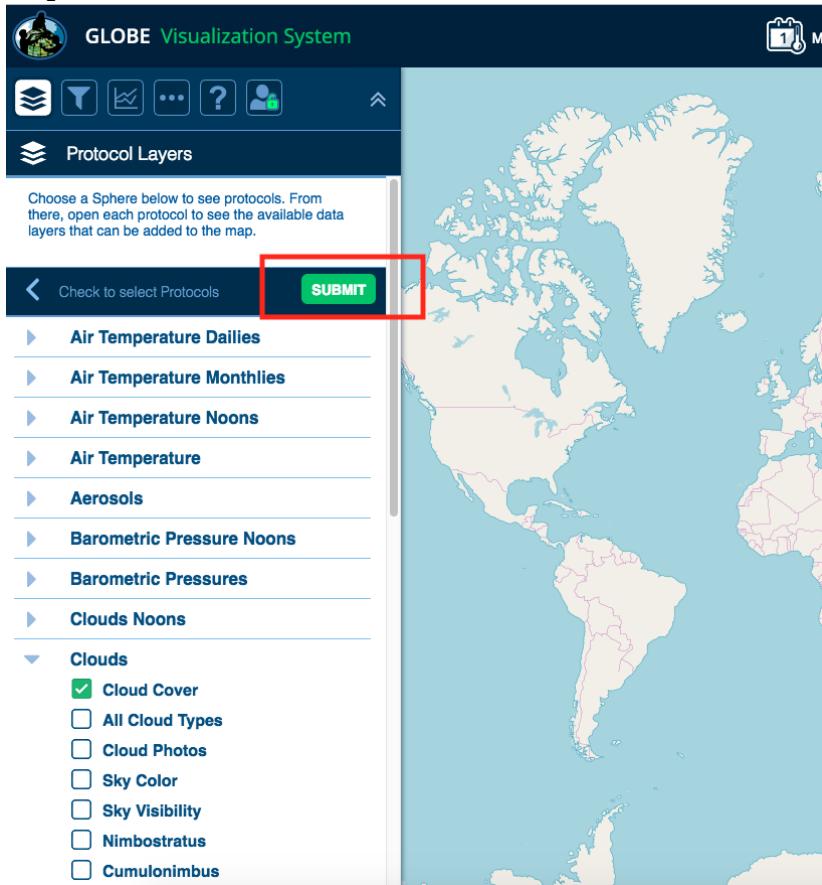
Step 2: Select layers by clicking the  button:



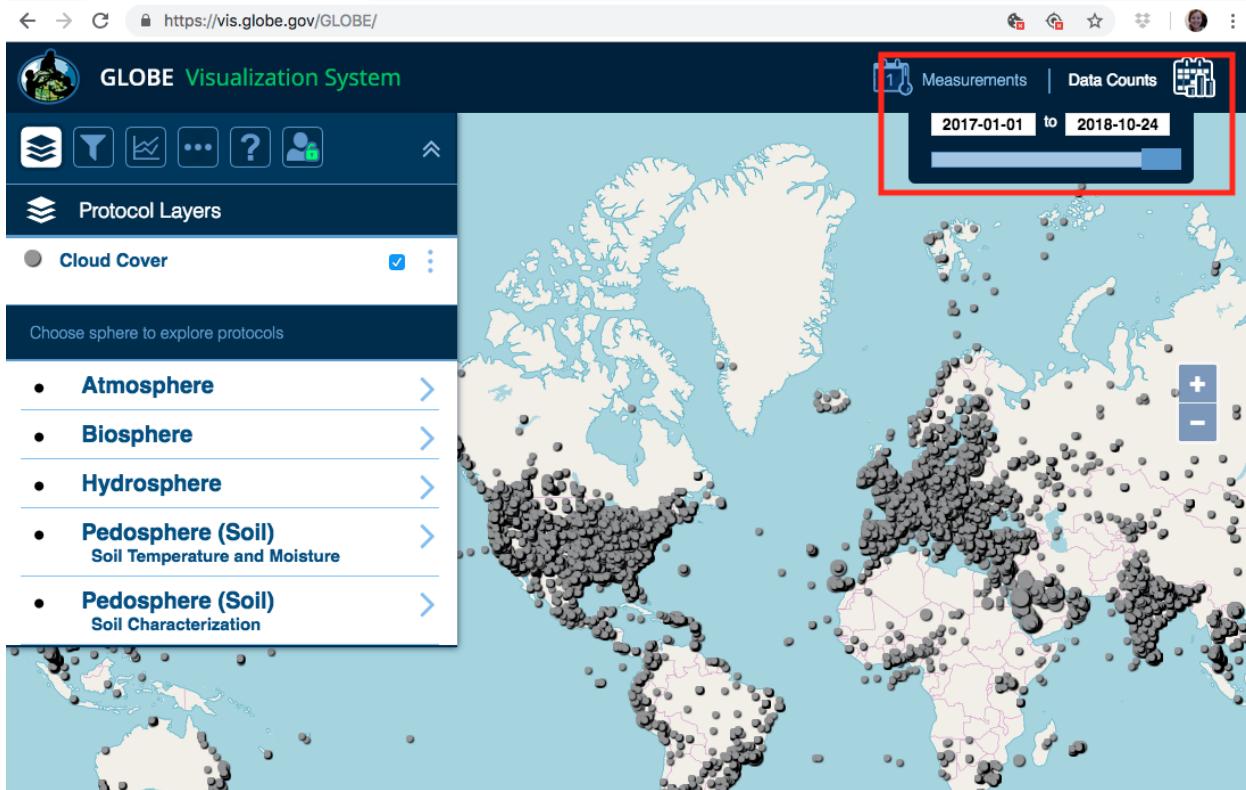
Step 3: Next, select the sphere(s) containing the protocol(s) you want to visualize, the protocol(s), and the subset(s) of data for the protocol. For this example, Select Atmosphere >> Clouds >> Cloud Cover



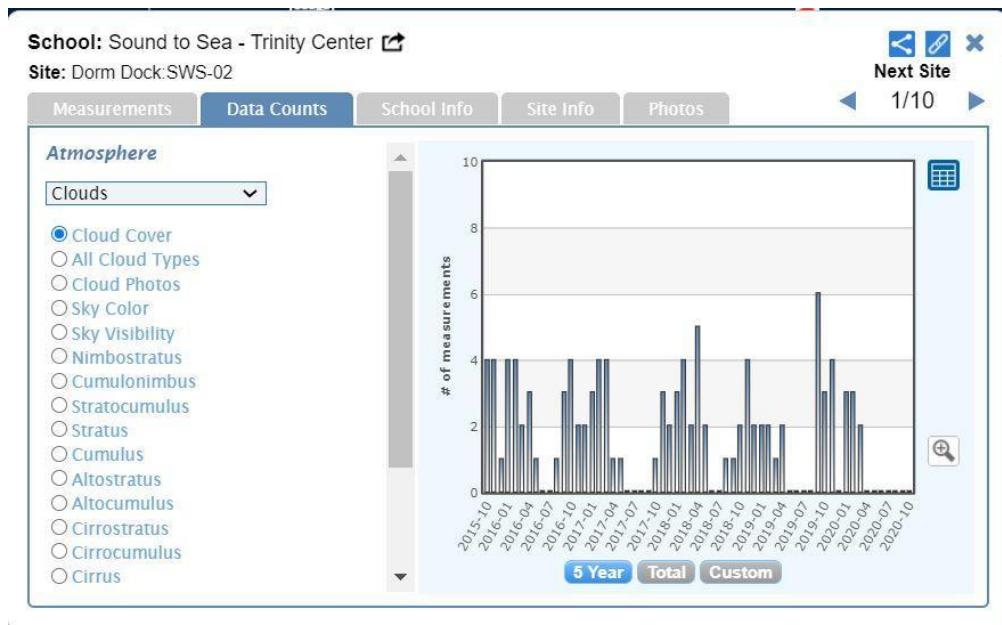
Step 4: Click "Submit"



Step 5: Go to “Data Counts” and enter 1 January 2017 as the start date. In this case I specified the end date as 24 October 2018. Cloud cover data will appear on the map.



Note: Data Counts displays sites that have data for the period requested. The size of the dot indicates the amount of available data (i.e., larger dots mean a larger amount of data at that site relative to other sites.) Clicking on an individual point (i.e., site) opens a pop-up window containing a graph showing the total number of observations per month over the prior 5-year period (i.e. from the end date of the search back 5 years).



Users can adjust the graph to display the total number of observations on a yearly, quarterly, or monthly basis.

Users can further customize a visualization or get help with the following options:

Icon	Action
	Options for filtering data based on criteria such as location
	Allows you to change the base map and toggle display of the map grid
	Option for creating a multi-site plot
	Displays quick instructions as well as access to quick demos and links to detailed tutorials.

To see images on a map, you need to have “Measurements” selected.

**GLOBE Visualization System**

Measurements Data Counts

Protocol Layers

Land Cover Photos

Land Cover data by Default includes one year of measurements

Land Cover Interval  1 Year  All  5 Years  1 Month  1 Day

Update

Choose sphere to explore protocols



## 6. Data and Photo Access

This section describes how to access GLOBE data. **GLOBE data users are strongly encouraged to read and understand the science protocol(s) relevant to your data of interest (see Materials and Methods).**

### **File format:**

If using the GLOBE Advanced Data Access Tool (ADAT) or Visualization System (Vis), then data are downloaded in tabular format as a csv (comma separated values) file. If using the API-out, then data are returned as JSON (JavaScript Object Notation) or GeoJSON file.

### **Photo file format:**

Photos are downloaded as JPG format.

Photos are associated with the following protocols in GLOBE:

1. Clouds
2. Land Cover
3. Mosquito Habitat Mapper
4. Trees

### **Photo file naming convention:**

*original.jpg* (Current naming)

New naming convention coming in TBD:

*protocol\_latlon\_yyyymmddTHHMMZ\_direction\_photoid.jpg*

Table 3. Elements of the suggested photo file name

Attribute	Description	Options
<b>protocol</b>	GLOBE protocol with which the photo is associated	CLD : clouds LC : land cover MHM : mosquito habitat mapper SDA : atmosphere site description SDB : biosphere site description SDH : hydrosphere site description SDS : soil site description TH : tree height
<b>latlon</b>	Latitude and longitude of the site the measurement is associated with. Direction indicated by N (north), S (south), E (east), W (west). Latitude and longitude values are positive three-digit integers.	latitude range = [N090,S090] longitude range = [W180,E180]
<b>yyyymmddTHHMMZ</b>	Date and time of measurement in Coordinated Universal Time (UTC). When the photo represents a site (i.e., SDA, SDB, SDH, SDS), this datetime represents when the photo was added to the site definition.	yyyy : four-digit year mm : two-digit month range = [01,12] dd : two-digit day range = [01,31] HH : two-digit hour range = [00,23] MM : two-digit minute range = [00,59]
<b>direction</b>	Direction photo was taken.  For Mosquito Habitat Mapper, photos are not taken in a specific direction. The <i>direction</i> attribute instead indicates if the photo is a water source or mosquito body part.	Direction: NORTH, SOUTH, EAST, WEST, UP, DOWN  For Mosquito Habitat Mapper, WS : watersource FB : fullbody AB : abdomen  Multiple images are differentiated by a number. “1” is always left off the first photo. Example: FB; FB2
<b>photoid</b>	Unique integer number assigned to each photo	--

**Examples:**

South-facing cloud photo from Maryland  
GLOBECLD\_N038W076\_20190110T1132Z\_SOUTH\_834887.jpg

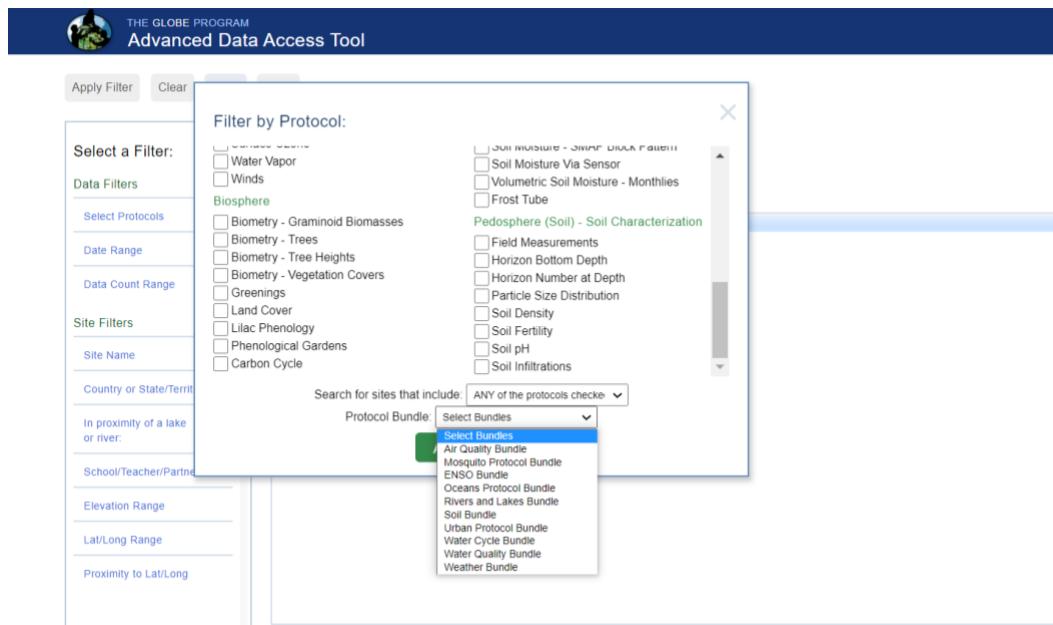
Downward land cover photo from Oregon  
GLOBECLC\_N044W123\_20190110T1132Z\_DOWN\_917653.jpg

Photos of the mosquito's water source for their breeding habitat, and two photos of the abdominal segment of a mosquito larva from South Africa  
GLOBEMHM\_S034E022\_20190110T1132Z\_WS\_928202.jpg  
GLOBEMHM\_S034E022\_20190110T1132Z\_AB\_928203.jpg  
GLOBEMHM\_S034E022\_20190110T1132Z\_AB2\_928204.jpg

## 6.1 Accessing tabular data (includes photos) through ADAT

Tabular data, including URL links to photos, can be accessed through either the GLOBE Advanced Data Access Tool (ADAT) or the GLOBE Visualization System (Vis). The Vis system is preferred for viewing data on a map and then optionally exporting data for a specific school, or exporting the data on the map layer. In general, use Vis to answer a question like “where was protocol x data submitted on this day”, or “in this time frame, which sites were the most active” (data counts), or “Plot last year’s temperature data from this school”. ADAT is preferred for exporting data across protocols, dates and optionally other filters. Use ADAT to answer a question like “I need all the Aerosol and Temperature data recorded for this 3 year period in the United States and Canada”, or “I need all barometric pressure measurements for the last 15 years worldwide.”

ADAT also includes the ability to retrieve data for selected GLOBE Protocol Bundle(s), which are groupings of GLOBE Protocols that are commonly examined together to study a particular system or phenomenon. Examples of [GLOBE Protocol Bundles](#) include “Air Quality”, “Agriculture”, and “Weather”.



Note that very large data sets (> 1 million records) should be retrieved with GLOBE's API as described in Section 6.2, or the user should narrow the specified search filters to reduce the size of the data set.

Simplified instructions for how to use the visualization system and ADAT are available when you launch the tool. This [PowerPoint tutorial](#) provides additional instruction.

For illustrative purposes, two examples are below of how to query GLOBE data using ADAT.

**Example: Via ADAT, download GLOBE air temperature data from California for 2017-2018**

Step 1: Go to <https://datasearch.globe.gov>

Step 2: In the bar on the left, Select Filters >> Data Filters>> Select Protocols

 THE GLOBE PROGRAM Advanced Data Access Tool  
Clouds, Land Cover, Mosquito Habitat Mapper are temporary unavailable due to upgrades. Please check back later.

Sign In

Apply Filter Clear Share Data Last Updated: 2018-10-23 Instructions

**Select a Filter:**

**Data Filters**

- [Select Protocols](#) Select Protocols
- [Date Range](#)
- [Data Count Range](#)

**Site Filters**

- [Site Name](#)
- [Country or State/Territory](#)
- [In proximity of a lake or river:](#)
- [School/Teacher/Partner](#)
- [Elevation Range](#)
- [Lat/Long Range](#)
- [Proximity to Lat/Long](#)

**Instructions**

This tool allows you to find and retrieve GLOBE data using several different search parameters. You will be presented a summary of sites that have data available based on your search parameters. From those sites you can further refine your search and or download the data into a CSV file for detailed analysis. A summary CSV file is also available that summarizes the amount of data available for each site.

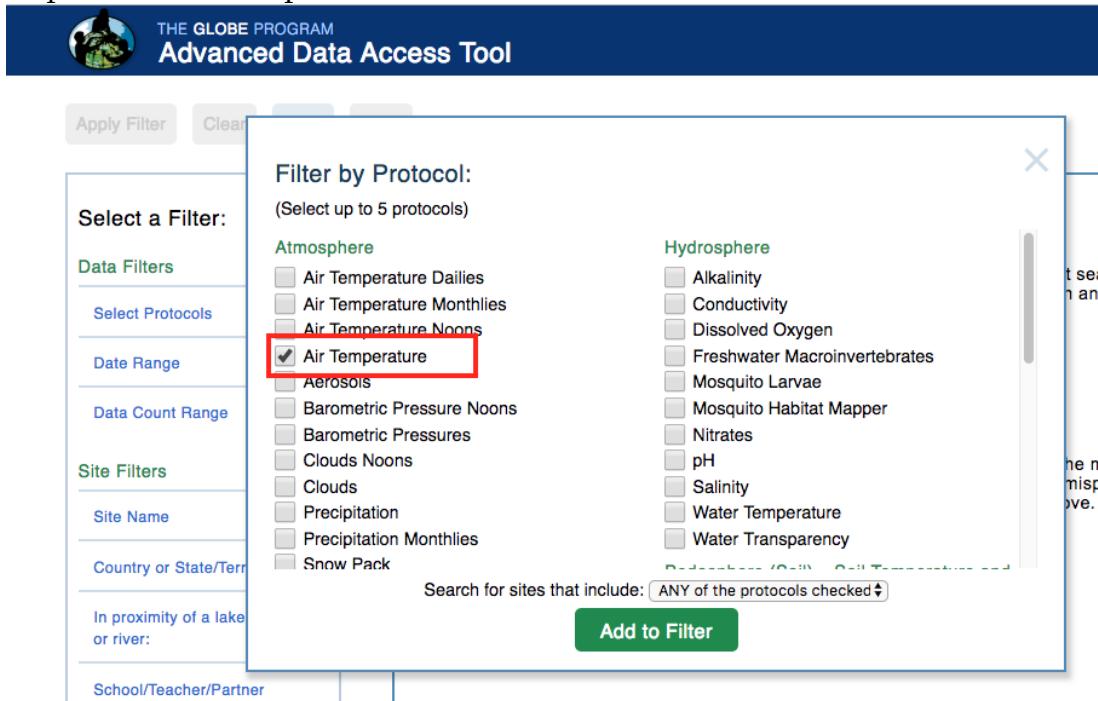
General guidelines:

- At least 1 protocol must be selected but no more than 5.
- Multiple filters are encouraged.
- Each filter type can have multiple parameters.
- The default is that all data for all sites in the site list will be included in the measurement data CSV file.
- The "-" must be used for southern hemisphere latitudes and western hemisphere longitudes.
- Save your search parameters by using the Save and Load functions above. Log-in required.

To begin, select a filter item on the left.

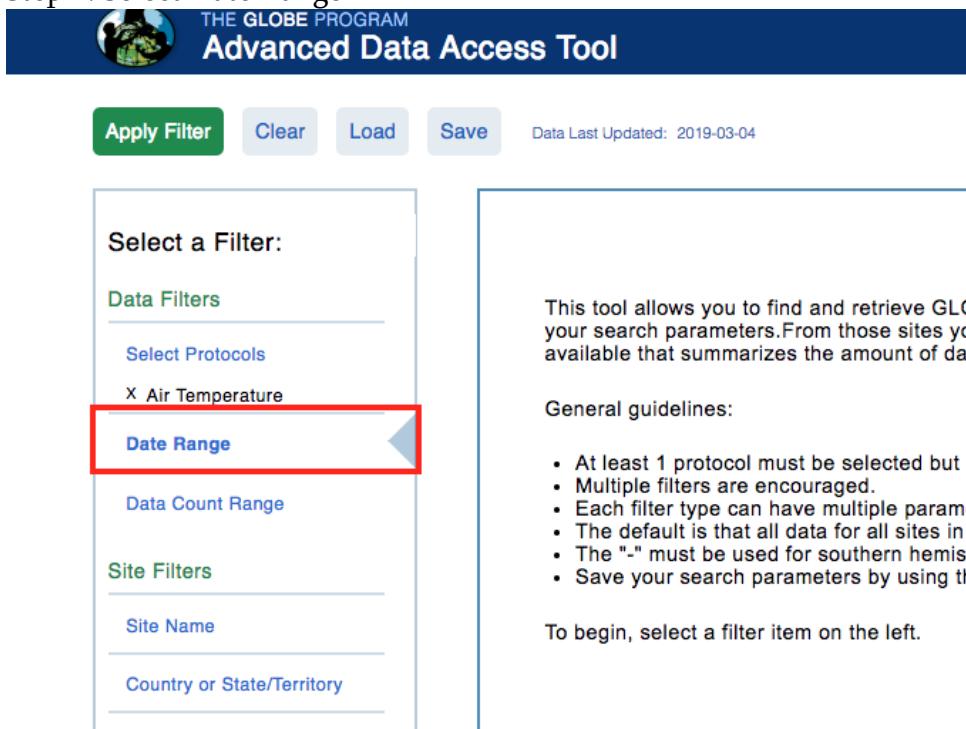
X

Step 3: Select air temperature. Click “Add to Filter”



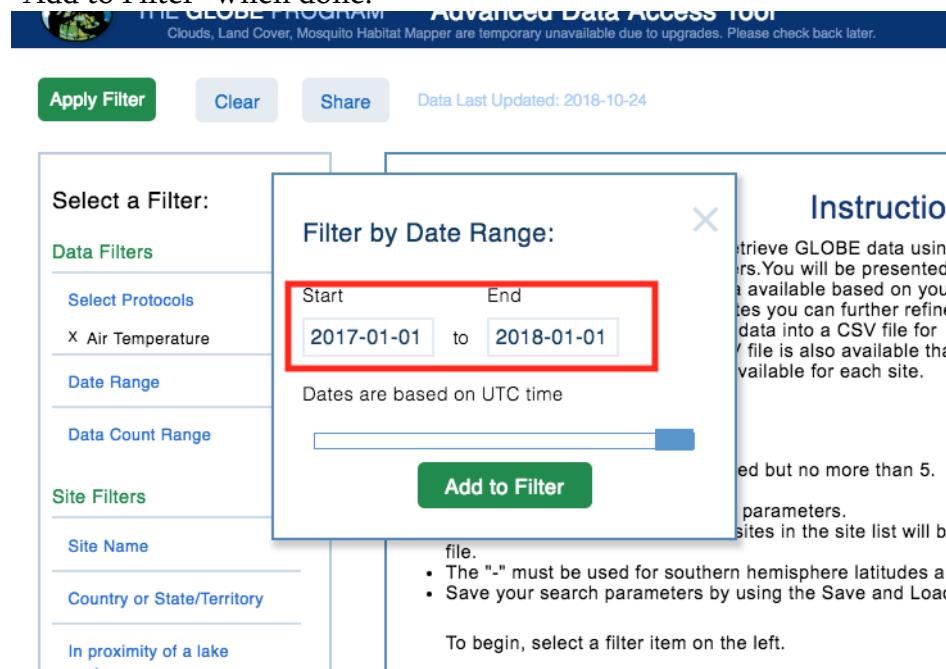
The screenshot shows the 'Advanced Data Access Tool' interface. On the left, a sidebar titled 'Select a Filter:' lists several filter categories: Data Filters, Site Filters, and School/Teacher/Partner. Under 'Data Filters', 'Select Protocols' is expanded, showing a list of atmospheric and hydrological protocols. The 'Air Temperature' protocol is checked and highlighted with a red box. To the right, a large panel titled 'Filter by Protocol:' displays the selected protocols. At the bottom of this panel is a search bar and a green 'Add to Filter' button.

Step 4: Select Date Range



The screenshot shows the 'Advanced Data Access Tool' interface. On the left, a sidebar titled 'Select a Filter:' lists several filter categories: Data Filters, Site Filters, and School/Teacher/Partner. Under 'Data Filters', 'Select Protocols' is expanded, showing a list of atmospheric and hydrological protocols. The 'Air Temperature' protocol is checked and highlighted with a red box. The 'Date Range' filter is also selected and highlighted with a red box. To the right, a large panel titled 'Select a Filter:' displays the selected filters. On the far right, there is a 'General guidelines:' section with a list of instructions and a note about selecting filters.

Step 5: Enter 1 January 2017 as the Start Date and 1 January 2018 as the End Date. Click “Add to Filter” when done.



Advanced Data Access Tool  
Clouds, Land Cover, Mosquito Habitat Mapper are temporary unavailable due to upgrades. Please check back later.

Apply Filter Clear Share Data Last Updated: 2018-10-24

Select a Filter:

**Data Filters**

- Select Protocols
- Air Temperature

**Date Range**

**Data Count Range**

**Site Filters**

Site Name

Country or State/Territory

In proximity of a lake

**Filter by Date Range:**

Start  End

Dates are based on UTC time

Add to Filter

**Instruction**

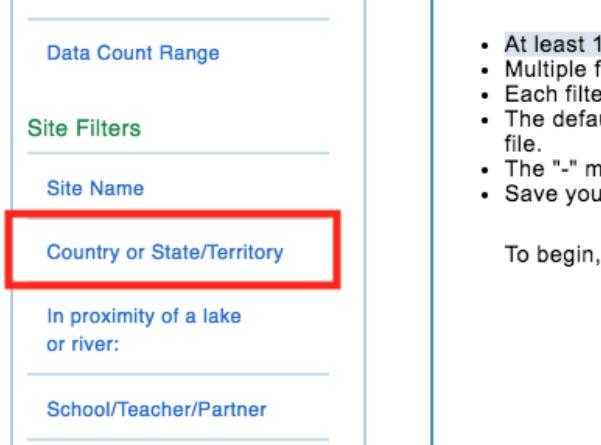
retrieve GLOBE data using filters. You will be presented with a list of sites available based on your filters. You can further refine your search by selecting a site and clicking "Add to Filter". A CSV file for each site is also available that is also available for each site.

ed but no more than 5. parameters. sites in the site list will be

- The "-" must be used for southern hemisphere latitudes and longitudes.
- Save your search parameters by using the Save and Load buttons.

To begin, select a filter item on the left.

Step 6: Select Country or State/Territory



Data Count Range

Site Filters

Site Name

**Country or State/Territory**

In proximity of a lake or river:

School/Teacher/Partner

- At least 1
- Multiple filters
- Each filter
- The default file.
- The "-" must be used for southern hemisphere latitudes and longitudes.
- Save your search parameters by using the Save and Load buttons.

To begin, select a filter item on the left.

Step 7: Enter “California” and click “Add to Filter”

Select a Filter:

**Instructi**

This tool allows you to find and retrieve GLOBE data using several different search parameters. You will be presented with a summary of sites that have data available based on your search parameters. From those sites you can further refine your search and or download the data into a CSV file for detailed analysis. A summary CSV file is also available that summarizes the amount of data available for each site.

General guidelines:

ed but no more than 5 parameters. sites in the site list will be left.

**Filter by Location:**

Note: cities are not filterable at this time

California

Add to Filter



Step 8: Click “Apply Filter” to query your data selection.

← → 🔍 <https://datasearch.globe.gov>

**THE GLOBE PROGRAM Advanced Data Access Tool**  
Clouds, Land Cover, Mosquito Habitat Mapper are temporary unavailable due to upgrades. Please check back later.

Apply Filter   Clear Share Data Last Updated: 2018-10-24

Select a Filter:

**Instructions**

This tool allows you to find and retrieve GLOBE data using several different search parameters. You will be presented with a summary of sites that have data available based on your search parameters. From those sites you can further refine your search and or download the data into a CSV file for detailed analysis. A summary CSV file is also available that summarizes the amount of data available for each site.

General guidelines:

- At least 1 protocol must be selected but no more than 5.
- Multiple filters are encouraged.
- Each filter type can have multiple parameters.
- The default is that all data for all sites in the site list will be included.
- The “-” must be used for southern hemisphere latitudes and w
- Save your search parameters by using the Save and Load fun

To begin, select a filter item on the left.

Apply Filter

Clear

Share

Data Last Updated: 2018-10-24

Select a Filter:

**Data Filters**

Select Protocols

X Air Temperature

Date Range

X 2017-01-01 to 2018-01-01

**Data Count Range**

**Site Filters**

Site Name

California

Country or State/Territory

In proximity of a lake or river:

School/Teacher/Partner

Step 9: Click on “Obtain Measurement Data” to download air temperature data to a csv file.

Clear Share Data Last Updated: 2018-10-24 Instructions

**Filter:**

- tools
- perature
- je
- 01 to 2018-01-01
- it Range
- State/Territory
- ia
- y of a lake
- acher/Partner
- Range

**1009 Sites Found**

School Name	Name	Latitude	Longitude	Elevation
Stroud Elementary School	Stroud elementary playfield:ATM-01	37.65	-120.9	18
Kingsburg High School	Kingsburg High School Weather Station Site:ATM-02	36.5197	-119.5463	129.5
Happy Valley Elementary School	BRANCIFORTE CREEK:SWS-01	37.0243	-121.9908	149
San Antonio Elementary	School Location:ATM-01	33.9835	-118.2125	18
Antioch High School	Softball Field:ATM-01	38.00355	-121.4906	40.8
test_mobile school 1	Test Atmosphere Site change in app	34.15183	-118.1305	252.1
Skyline High School	Tennis Courts	37.79839	-122.1614	750
Canyon Weather	ATM- Davis Station #2	34.1248	-117.7493	475
test_mobile school 1	Test Davis Site	37.63675	-122.1260	100
test_new_school	liz - soil moisture 1	34.15097	-118.1318	258.1
test_mobile school 1	11SLU591160	34.47596	-118.5343	474
United States of America Citizen Science	11SMT214772	34.13272	-117.8524	247.4
Canyon Weather	11SLT956789	34.14579	-118.1324	248.2
Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve GLI Amphitheatre Weather Station	10SEP959530	36.81719	-121.731	36.3
GLOBE Implementation Office Citizen Science	North Hollywood High School Zoo Magnet Center	36.61771	-121.9275	54.5
test_school1	Zoo 2 Front Door	34.1456	-118.2845	138.8
United States of America Citizen Science	11SLT956789	34.14579	-118.1324	248.2
Silverado Middle School	11SLT956789	34.14579	-118.1324	248.2
The Met Sacramento	Silverado MS: Mr. Cheranich's STEM Class B	38.29535	-122.2619	31.8
CSU Fresno	Southside Park (flag pole)	38.5697	-121.5013	30
CSU Fresno	10SGF576853	36.87854	-120.1097	70.1
CSU Fresno	10SGF575855	36.88037	-120.1108	70.9
CSU Fresno	10SGF575854	36.87947	-120.1108	70.3
CSU Fresno	11SKA496729	36.76883	-119.8054	93
CSU Fresno	11SKA552771	36.80811	-119.7441	103.3
CSU Fresno	11SKA550776	36.81257	-119.7465	103.8
CSU Fresno	11SKA552772	36.80902	-119.7441	103.2
CSU Fresno	10SGF575853	36.87857	-120.1109	70.1

Step 10: Click “Download Measurement Data”

Filter Clear Share Data Last Updated: 2018-10-24 Instructions

**Filter:**

- Filters
- Protocols
- Temperature
- Range
- 17-01-01 to 2018-01-01
- Count Range
- Iter
- Name
- try or State/Territory
- lifornia
- ximinity of a lake
- er:
- ol/Teacher/Partner

**1009 Sites Found**

School Name	Name	Latitude	Longitude	Elevation
Stroud Elementary School	Stroud elementary playfield:ATM-01	37.65	-120.9	18
Kingsburg High School	Kingsburg High School Weather Station Site:ATM-02	36.5197	-119.5463	129.5
Happy Valley Elementary School	BRANCIFORTE CREEK:SWS-01	37.0243	-121.9908	149
San Antonio Elementary	School Location:ATM-01	33.9835	-118.2125	18
Antioch High School	Softball Field:ATM-01	38.00355	-121.4906	40.8
test_mobile school 1	Test Atmosphere Site change in app	34.15183	-118.1305	252.1
Skyline High School	Tennis Courts	37.79839	-122.1614	750
Canyon Weather	ATM- Davis Station #2	34.1248	-117.7493	475
test_mobile school 1	Test Davis Site	37.63675	-122.1260	100
test_new_school	liz - soil moisture 1	34.15097	-118.1318	258.1
test_mobile school 1	11SLU591160	34.47596	-118.5343	474
United States of America Citizen Science	11SMT214772	34.13272	-117.8524	247.4
Canyon Weather	11SLT956789	34.14579	-118.1324	248.2
Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve GLI Amphitheatre Weather Station	10SEP959530	36.81719	-121.731	36.3
GLOBE Implementation Office Citizen Science	North Hollywood High School Zoo Magnet Center	36.61771	-121.9275	54.5
test_school1	Zoo 2 Front Door	34.1456	-118.2845	138.8
United States of America Citizen Science	11SLT956789	34.14579	-118.1324	248.2
Silverado Middle School	Silverado MS: Mr. Cheranich's STEM Class B	38.29535	-122.2619	31.8
The Met Sacramento	Southside Park (flag pole)	38.5697	-121.5013	30
CSU Fresno	10SGF576853	36.87854	-120.1097	70.1
CSU Fresno	10SGF575855	36.88037	-120.1108	70.9
CSU Fresno	10SGF575854	36.87947	-120.1108	70.3
CSU Fresno	11SKA496729	36.76883	-119.8054	93
CSU Fresno	11SKA552771	36.80811	-119.7441	103.3
CSU Fresno	11SKA550776	36.81257	-119.7465	103.8
CSU Fresno	11SKA552772	36.80902	-119.7441	103.2

Step 11: A pop-up window will display when your data is ready. Click “download”.

The screenshot shows the GLOBE Advanced Data Access Tool (ADAT) interface. On the left, there is a sidebar for 'Select a Filter' with sections for Data Filters, Select Protocols (Air Temperature selected), Date Range (2017-01-01 to 2018-01-01), Data Count Range, Site Filters, Site Name, and Country or State/Territory. The main area displays a table titled '1009 Sites Found' with columns for School Name, Name, Latitude, Longitude, and Elevation. A pop-up window titled 'Ready for Download' is overlaid on the table, containing file names like '11SLT956789' and '11SLT1214772'. The table has columns for School Name, Name, Latitude, Longitude, and Elevation.

School Name	Name	Latitude	Longitude	Elevation
Stroud Elementary School	Stroud elementary playfield:ATM-01	37.65	-120.9	18
Kingsburg High School	Kingsburg High School Weather Station Site:ATM-02	36.5197	-119.5463	129.5
Happy Valley Elementary School	BRANCIFORTE CREEK:SWS-01	37.0243	-121.9908	149
San Antonio Elementary	School Location:ATM-01	33.9835	-118.2125	18
Antioch High School	Softball Field:ATM-01	38.00355	-121.4906	40.8
test_mobile school 1	Test Atmosphere Site change in app	34.15183	-118.1305	252.1
Skyline High School	Tennis Courts	37.79839	-122.1614	750
Canyon Weather	ATM- Davis Station #2	34.1248	-117.7493	475
test_mobile school 1	11SLT956789	37.63675	-122.1260	100
test_new_school	11SLT1214772	34.15097	-118.1318	258.1
test_mobile school 1	11SLT1214772	34.47596	-118.5343	474
United States of America Citizen Science	11SLT1214772	34.13272	-117.8524	247.4
Canyon Weather	11SLT956789	34.14579	-118.1324	248.2
Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve GL Amphitheatre Weather Station	11SLT956789	36.81719	-121.731	36.3
GLOBE Implementation Office Citizen Science	10SEF959530	36.61771	-121.9275	54.5
North Hollywood High School Zoo Magnet Center	Zoo 2 Front Door	34.1456	-118.2845	138.8
test_school1	11SLT956789	34.14579	-118.1324	248.2
United States of America Citizen Science	11SLT956789	34.14579	-118.1324	248.2
Silverado Middle School	Silverado MS: Mr. Cheranich's STEM Class B	38.29535	-122.2619	31.8

The data will be downloaded as a compressed (\*.zip) file. Unzip the file to retrieve the tabular csv data file.

Tip #1: ADAT limits downloads to 1,000,000 rows of data. This may mean having to download large data sets, such as air temperature, in batches. As an alternative, use the GLOBE API to download large datasets (see Section 6.2).

Tip #2: If you have a GLOBE account and are logged in, you can save your search filters. This comes in handy when you want to repeat a search in the future, share your search filters with someone else, or contact [help@nasaglobe.org](mailto:help@nasaglobe.org) for help troubleshooting ADAT. (You can sign up for a GLOBE account on [www.globe.gov](http://www.globe.gov).) Upon clicking “Save” you will be asked to name the search filter set, which will then be stored under your GLOBE account within the GLOBE system.

https://datasearch.globe.gov

THE GLOBE PROGRAM Advanced Data Access Tool  
Clouds, Land Cover, Mosquito Habitat Mapper are temporary unavailable due to upgrades. Please check back later.

Apply Filter Clear Load Save Data Last Updated: 2018-10-24

**1009 Sites Found**

Obtain Measurement Data Download

School Name	Name	Latitude	Longitude
Stroud Elementary School	Stroud elementary playfield:ATM-01	37.65	-120
Kingsburg High School	Kingsburg High School Weather Station Site:ATM-02	36.5197	-119
Happy Valley Elementary School	BRANCIFORTE CREEK:SWS-01	37.0243	-121
San Antonio Elementary	School Location:ATM-01	33.9835	-118
Antioch High School	Softball Field:ATM-01	38.00355	-121
test_mobile school 1	Test Atmosphere Site change in app	34.15183	-118
Skyline High School	Tennis Courts	37.79839	-122
Canyon Weather	ATM- Davis Station #2	34.1248	-117
test_mobile school 1	Test Davis Site	37.63675	-122
test_new_school	liz - soil moisture 1	34.15097	-118
test_mobile school 1	11SLU591160	34.47596	-118
United States of America Citizen Science	11SMT214772	34.13272	-117
Canyon Weather	11SLT956789	34.14579	-118
Elkhorn Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve GLI Amphitheatre Weather Station	11SLT956789	36.81719	-121
GLOBE Implementation Office Citizen Science	10SEP959530	36.61771	-121
North Hollywood High School Zoo Magnet Center	Zoo 2 Front Door	34.1456	-118
test_school1	11SLT956789	34.14579	-118
United States of America Citizen Science	11SLT956789	34.14579	-118
Silverado Middle School	Silverado MS: Mr. Cheranich's STEM Class B	38.29535	-122
The Met Sacramento	Southside Park (flag pole)	38.5697	-121
CSU Fresno	10SGF576853	36.87854	-120
CSU Fresno	10SGF575855	36.88037	-120
In proximity of a lake	10SGF575855	36.88037	-120

To access the saved filter set, click “Load”, select from your list of saved filter set(s), and click “Load” (you must be logged in to your GLOBE Account):

THE GLOBE PROGRAM Advanced Data Access Tool

Apply Filter Clear Load Save Data Last Updated: 2020-05-18

**Saved Filter Sets**

<b>Load</b>	Maryland Air Temp and Clouds <a href="https://vis.globe.gov/GLOBE/?vis_mode=adat&amp;load_filter=843771386606273598">edit</a> <a href="https://vis.globe.gov/GLOBE/?vis_mode=adat&amp;load_filter=843771386606273598">https://vis.globe.gov/GLOBE/?vis_mode=adat&amp;load_filter=843771386606273598</a>
Date Range: 2018-01-26 to 2019-05-18	
Protocol: Air Temperature Dailies	
Protocol: Clouds	
Country or State/Territory: Maryland	
All Protocols Selection: All Protocols Selection	
<b>Load</b>	Pennsylvania Land Cover <a href="https://vis.globe.gov/GLOBE/?vis_mode=adat&amp;load_filter=933572830430263187">edit</a> <a href="https://vis.globe.gov/GLOBE/?vis_mode=adat&amp;load_filter=933572830430263187">https://vis.globe.gov/GLOBE/?vis_mode=adat&amp;load_filter=933572830430263187</a>
Protocol: Land Cover	
Country or State/Territory: pennsylvania	
Date Range: 2018-01-26 to 2019-05-18	
All Protocols Selection: All Protocols Selection	

**Example: Via ADAT, download GLOBE aerosol and cloud data from a particular school for 2016-2018**

Some GLOBE protocols are performed together, such as the cloud and aerosol protocols for GLOBE-trained students. If a user wants aerosol data, cloud data does not automatically download at the same time. In ADAT, users must explicitly search for the data sets associated with different protocols, even if those protocols were collected together. Here is an example of a query for cloud and aerosol protocols collected together at Our Lady of Mount Carmel School, Virginia, USA.

Step 1: Select “aerosols” and “clouds”.

THE GLOBE PROGRAM Advanced Data Access Tool

Apply Filter Clear Share Data Last Updated: 2019-01-21

Select a Filter:

Data Filters

X Aerosols X Clouds

Date Range

X 2016-01-01 to 2016-12-31

Data Count Range

Site Filters

Site Name

Country or State/Territory

In proximity of a lake or river:

School/Teacher/Partner

X Our Lady of Mount Carmel School

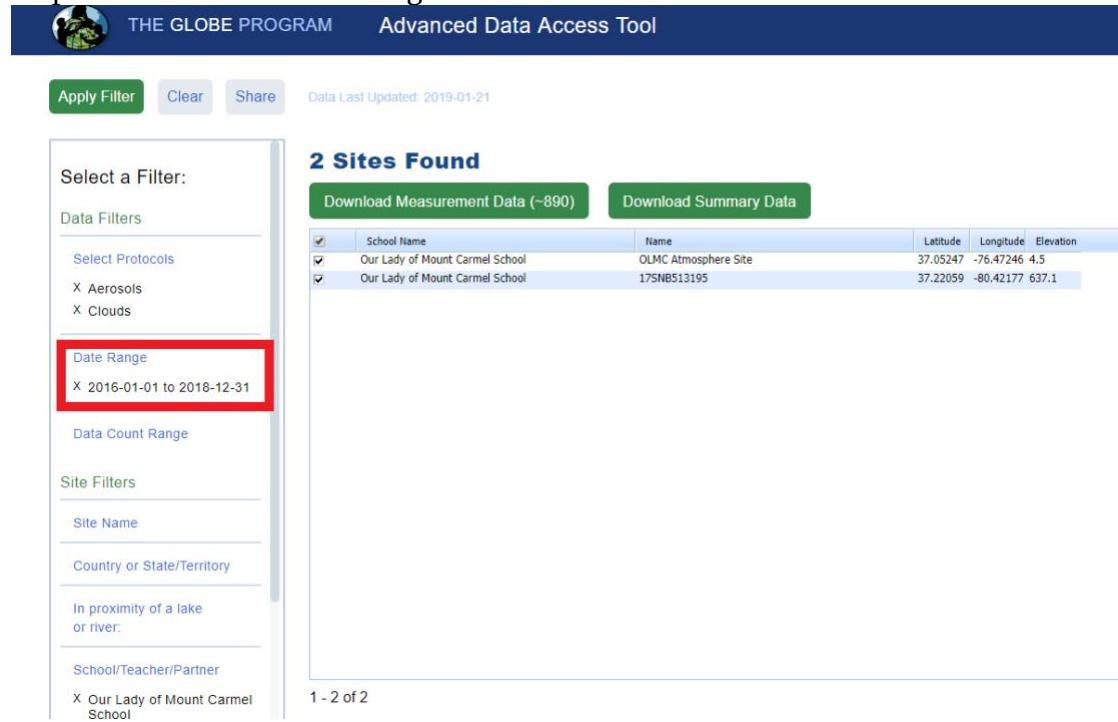
**2 Sites Found**

Download Measurement Data (~890) Download Summary Data

	School Name	Name	Latitude	Longitude	Elevation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Our Lady of Mount Carmel School	OLMC Atmosphere Site	37.05247	-76.47246	4.5
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Our Lady of Mount Carmel School	17SNB513195	37.22059	-80.42177	637.1

1 - 2 of 2

Step 2: Select desired date range.

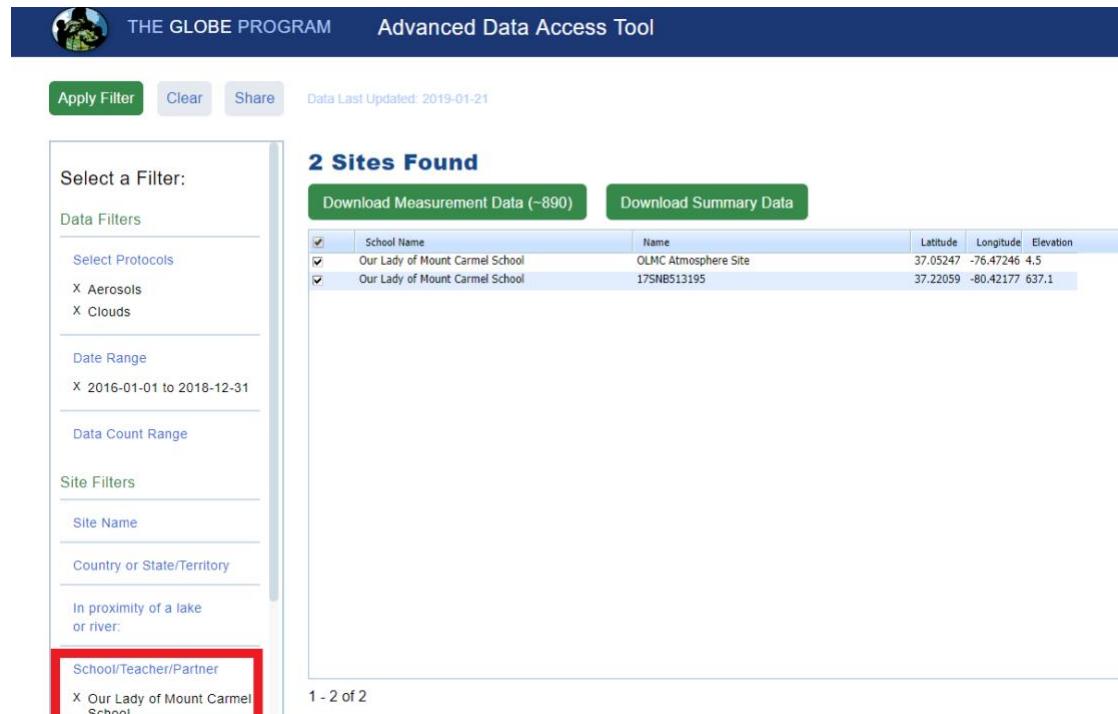


The screenshot shows the GLOBE Advanced Data Access Tool interface. On the left, a sidebar titled 'Select a Filter:' contains sections for 'Data Filters' (Select Protocols, X Aerosols, X Clouds), 'Date Range' (X 2016-01-01 to 2018-12-31), 'Data Count Range', and 'Site Filters' (Site Name, Country or State/Territory, In proximity of a lake or river, School/Teacher/Partner, X Our Lady of Mount Carmel School). The main area is titled '2 Sites Found' and contains two entries in a table:

School Name	Name	Latitude	Longitude	Elevation
Our Lady of Mount Carmel School	OLMC Atmosphere Site	37.05247	-76.47246	4.5
Our Lady of Mount Carmel School	17SNB513195	37.22059	-80.42177	637.1

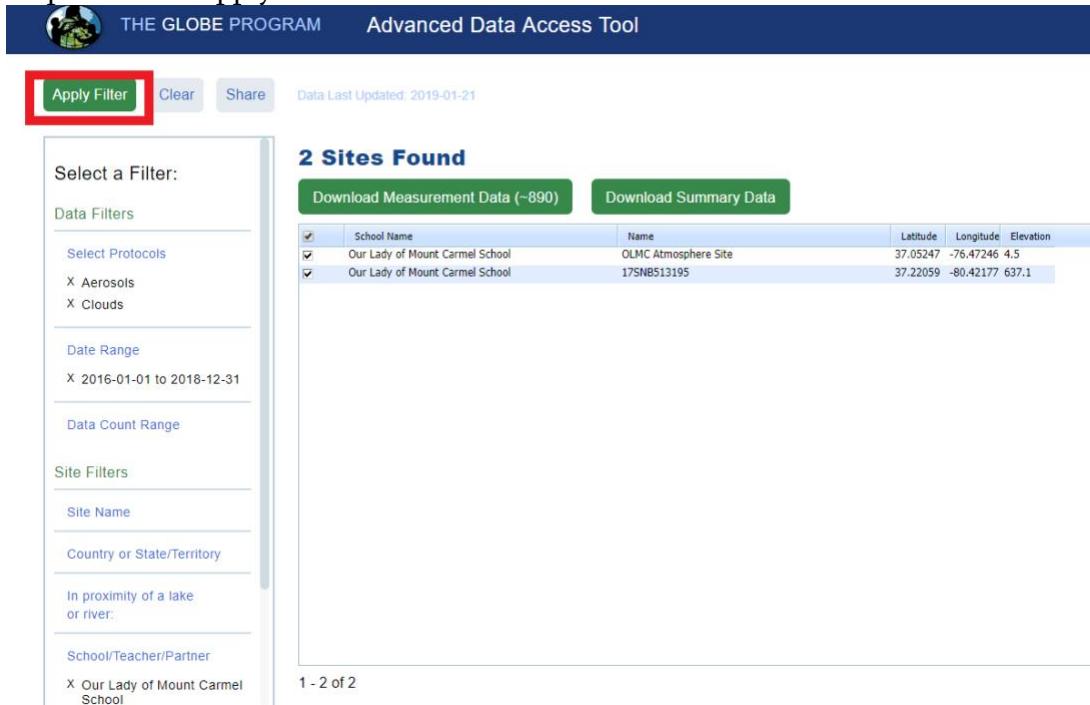
At the bottom, a page footer shows '1 - 2 of 2'.

Step 3: Select desired GLOBE school. In this example, we want Our Lady of Mount Carmel School.



The screenshot shows the GLOBE Advanced Data Access Tool interface. The sidebar and table structure are identical to the previous screenshot. The 'School/Teacher/Partner' section in the sidebar is highlighted with a red box, and the 'X Our Lady of Mount Carmel School' checkbox is also highlighted with a red box. The table in the main area shows the same two entries as the previous screenshot.

Step 4: Click “Apply Filter”



THE GLOBE PROGRAM Advanced Data Access Tool

Apply Filter Clear Share Data Last Updated: 2019-01-21

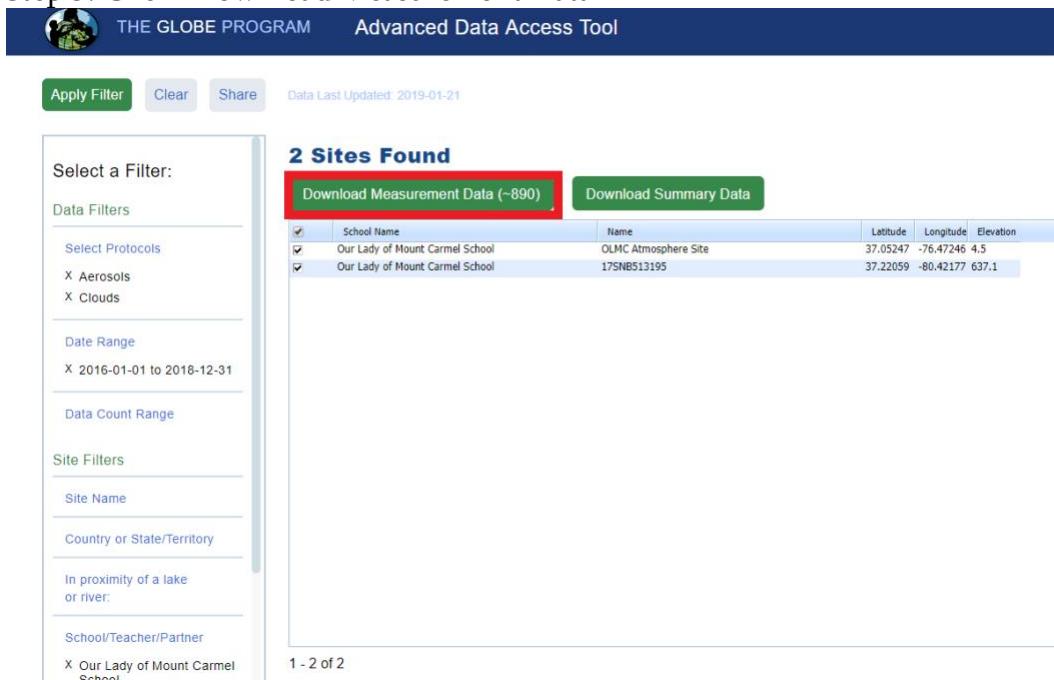
2 Sites Found

Download Measurement Data (~890) Download Summary Data

	School Name	Name	Latitude	Longitude	Elevation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Our Lady of Mount Carmel School	OLMC Atmosphere Site	37.05247	-76.47246	4.5
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Our Lady of Mount Carmel School	17SNB513195	37.22059	-80.42177	637.1

1 - 2 of 2

Step 5: Click “Download Measurement Data”



THE GLOBE PROGRAM Advanced Data Access Tool

Apply Filter Clear Share Data Last Updated: 2019-01-21

2 Sites Found

Download Measurement Data (~890) Download Summary Data

	School Name	Name	Latitude	Longitude	Elevation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Our Lady of Mount Carmel School	OLMC Atmosphere Site	37.05247	-76.47246	4.5
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Our Lady of Mount Carmel School	17SNB513195	37.22059	-80.42177	637.1

1 - 2 of 2

## 6.2 Accessing data through the API

In 2019, GLOBE developed an [API-out tool](#). The API-out expands the options available to end users to query and retrieve GLOBE data. The API-out is provided in addition to GLOBE's existing methods for querying and retrieving data: [ADAT](#) and [Vis](#). While ADAT and Vis are built more for general audiences, programmers and developers are the intended end user of the API-out tool. The API out uses the open-source Swagger UI for visually constructing and testing database queries and uses Elasticsearch to perform database queries. The API-out overcomes key limitations of ADAT and Vis by providing end users a way to retrieve large batches of GLOBE data and automate data retrieval (e.g., write code to automatically retrieve new GLOBE observations every day). The API-out tool also offers a significant speed-up in query time. Appendix 1 lists the metadata returned through the API that is provided for each recorded measurement. Users have the option of requesting results in a custom JSON format, or in GeoJSON format. Access to the API-out tool as well as detailed instructions for use are available on the [GLOBE API-Out landing page](#).

### 6.2.1 Jupyter Notebooks

GLOBE provides access to three Python-based Jupyter Notebooks which can be used to pull data from the GLOBE API related to the Mosquito Habitat Mapper protocol. These notebooks were developed in support of the [GLOBE Mission Mosquito Project](#). Each notebook includes code and instructions for pulling the data, removing outliers and graphing the results.

#### [2020-04-08 Python Notebook to retrieve and graph MHM data](#)

The [mosquitoes.zip](#) file includes code and instructions for use.

#### [2020-06-24 Python Notebook for Selecting Data on a Map](#)

Python notebook used to pull all MHM protocol bundle data from a geographic region defined by the user. User draws a region on a map and all bundle data is returned for that region. The [bundler.zip](#) file contains the code and usage instructions.

#### [2020-07-08 Python Notebook for Non-Linear Regression MHM Protocols](#)

Python notebook used to compare MHM protocol bundle data. Uses linear regression as initial parameters for non-linear regression between two protocols. The [regression.zip](#) file contains the code and usage instructions.

## 6.3 Example Data

Want to get started with GLOBE data? Here is an example dataset to explore:

[North American Solar Eclipse, August 21, 2017](#). Data are available in csv and xlsx (Excel) format.

## Report Issues in the Data

Users are encouraged to report errors or inconsistencies they discover in GLOBE data. Please report issues to [science@nasaglobe.org](mailto:science@nasaglobe.org) and include the following information in your email:

- Your name
- Your organization
- Brief description of how you are using GLOBE data
- Date (approximate) issue was discovered
- Description of the issue

## Acknowledgements

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## References

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A [full list of GLOBE publications](#) is available on the GLOBE website. A curated list of [publications related to the GLOBE Observer app](#) tools is on the GLOBE Observer website.

## Appendix 1. API Metadata

Metadata returned through the API that is provided for each recorded measurement. The example below is for an air temperature measurement collected using the GLOBE [Aerosols Protocol](#).

Definition	Example - Aerosol measurement
protocol	Name of the selected GLOBE protocol, e.g. air_temps
pid	68887527 (unique ID used internally by GLOBE DIS)
measuredDate (UTC, yyyy-mm-ddTHH:MM:SSZ)	2018-10-10
createDate (UTC, yyyy-mm-ddTHH:MM:SSZ)	2018-10-10T15:06:00 (Date used internally by DIS; returned with custom JSON format only)
updateDate (UTC, yyyy-mm-ddTHH:MM:SSZ)	2018-10-10T15:06:00 (Date used internally by DIS; returned with custom JSON format only)
publishDate (UTC, yyyy-mm-ddTHH:MM:SSZ)	2018-10-11T08:13:00 (Date used internally by DIS; returned with custom JSON format only)
organizationID	25765 Unique ID assigned to each organization (school, partnership, etc.)
organizationName	Littleton Middle School
siteId	23092 Unique ID assigned to each measurement site
siteName	Weather Station:ATM-01
countryName	united-states The country in which the user's <i>organization</i> resides (note: this is not the country in which the actual measurement resides)
countryCode	Three letter country code associated with <b>countryName</b> based on ISO 3166 International Standard
latitude (degrees north)	45.1245
longitude (degrees east)	-117.4832
elevation (meters above sea level)*	512 *See note in Section 3 about elevation over water bodies
userID	1529487
<protocol>:GlobeTeams	The name(s) of the team(s) that this measurement has been credited to (this applies to measurements dated on or after 01/01/2019).

## Appendix 2. Data Variables, Units, and Definitions

The list below provides units and definitions of the GLOBE data variables users can download through the [Advanced Data Access tool \(ADAT\)](#). Universal metadata variables are provided at the top, then measurement-level variables are provided in alphabetical order by protocol thereafter. For protocols with large quantities of variables, the tables are split into groupings, with thematic labels where possible.

### Universal metadata variables (no protocol label)

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
organization_id	n/a	The GLOBE ID assigned to the school or organization
org_name	n/a	The name of the reporting school or other institution.  <i>Guidance: org_name should not include commas (,).</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Good: "Smith Company LLC"</li><li>• Bad: "Smith Company, LLC"</li></ul>
site_id	n/a	The GLOBE ID assigned to site.
site_name	n/a	The name assigned to the site where the data were collected; the name is selected by the reporting person as part of site definition.  <i>Guidance: org_name should not include commas (,).</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Good: "CacheCreek123"</li><li>• Bad: "CacheCreek, 123"</li></ul> Note: There are two ways a site name is generated. (1) GLOBE schools create their own site_name. (2) The GLOBE Observer app, on the other hand, automatically assigns a site_name to an observation; the site_name is not created by the user. The GLOBE Observer app generates a site_name based on the MGRS grid. Read a <a href="#">brief overview of MGRS</a> .
latitude	decimal degrees north	The latitude of the measurement site. Sites are associated with the lower-left corner of the 100x100m MGRS grid cell. Range: [-90, 90] <i>See also "measured latitude".</i>
longitude	decimal degrees east	The longitude of the measurement site. Sites are associated with the lower-left corner of the 100x100m MGRS grid cell. Range: [-180, 180] <i>See also "measured longitude".</i>
elevation	meters above sea level	The elevation of the measurement. Sites are associated with the lower-left corner of the 100x100m MGRS grid cell.  <i>See note in Section 3 about elevation over water bodies.</i> <i>See also "measured elevation".</i>
measured_on	yyyy-mm-dd	The date only of when the data were observed in UTC. (Spreadsheet programs may convert to a different date format automatically).

### Universal metadata variables (labeled by protocol)

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
<protocol>:userid	n/a	The numerical GLOBE user-id of the person that submitted the measurement.
<protocol>:measured at	yyyy-mm-ddTHH:MM:SS	The date and time when the data were observed in UTC. This is listed for each protocol returned in ADAT.
<protocol>:solar measured at	yyyy-mm-ddTHH:MM:SS	The date and time when the data were observed in solar time which is the apparent local time based on the position of the sun at the site (this applies to a subset of the GLOBE protocols.)
<protocol>:solar noon at	yyyy-mm-ddTHH:MM:SS	Date and time in UTC when local solar noon occurs at the measurement site (this applies to a subset of the GLOBE protocols.)
<protocol>:globe teams	n/a	A list of all of the GLOBE Teams to which this measurement has been credited (this field may be blank, or may contain one to several GLOBE Team names)

## Measurement-level data variables

Measurement-level variables in alphabetical order by protocol name. Protocols with many variables were divided into multiple tables, with thematic labels where possible.

- [Aerosols](#)
- [Air Temperature](#)
- [Air Temperature Dailies](#)
- [Air Temperature Monthlies](#)
- [Air Temperature Noons](#)
- [Alkalinity](#)
- [Barometric Pressure](#)
- [Barometric Pressure Noons](#)
- [Biometry – Graminoid Biomasses](#)
- [Biometry – Tree Height](#)
  - [Surface Conditions and Photos](#)
- [Biometry – Trees](#)
- [Biometry – Vegetation Covers](#)
  - [Canopy Cover](#)
  - [Ground Cover](#)
  - [Shrub Cover](#)
- [Carbon Cycle](#)
- [Clouds/Sky Conditions](#)
  - [Cloud Types](#)
  - [Obscurations](#)
  - [Contrails](#)
  - [Citizen Science/Training](#)
  - [Cloud Cover and Opacity by Altitude](#)
  - [Surface Conditions](#)
  - [Photos and Captions](#)
- [Clouds/Sky Conditions Noons](#)
  - [Cloud Types](#)
  - [Obscurations](#)
  - [Contrails](#)
  - [Citizen Science/Training](#)
  - [Cloud Cover and Opacity by Altitude](#)
  - [Surface Conditions](#)
- [Conductivity](#)
- [Dissolved Oxygen](#)
- [Freshwater Macroinvertebrates](#)
- [Frost Tube](#)
- [Greenings \(Green-up/Green-Down\)](#)
- [Land Cover](#)
  - [Surface Conditions](#)
  - [Photo URLs and Directional Classifications](#)
- [Lilac Phenology](#)
- [Mosquitoes](#)
- [Mosquito Habitat Mapper](#)
- [Nitrates](#)
- [pH](#)
- [Phenological Gardens](#)
- [Precipitation](#)
- [Precipitation Monthlies](#)
- [Relative Humidity](#)
- [Relative Humidity Monthlies](#)
- [Relative Humidity Noons](#)
- [Salinity](#)
- [Snow Pack/Solid Precipitation](#)
- [Soil Characterization – Field Measurements](#)
- [Soil Characterization – Horizon Number at Depth/Horizon Bottom Depth](#)
- [Soil Characterization – Particle Size Distribution](#)
- [Soil Density](#)
- [Soil Fertility](#)
- [Soil Infiltration](#)
- [Soil Moisture - Gravimetric](#)
- [Soil Moisture – Sensors](#)
- [Soil Moisture – SMAP Block Pattern](#)
- [Soil Moisture Monthlies aka Volumetric](#)
- [Soil Moisture Monthlies](#)
- [Soil pH](#)
- [Soil Temperature](#)
- [Soil Temperature Dailies](#)
- [Soil Temperature Monthlies](#)
- [Soil Temperature Noons](#)
- [Surface Ozone](#)
- [Surface Ozone One Hour After Noons](#)
- [Surface Temperature](#)
- [Surface Temperature Noons](#)
- [Water Temperature](#)
- [Water Transparency](#)
- [Water Vapor](#)
- [Water Vapor Noons](#)
- [Wind](#)

## Aerosols

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
aerosols:comments	n/a	Comments on the aerosols measurement <i>Note: Before May 2016, serial numbers were not recorded. Some observers recorded serial numbers in the comments.</i>
aerosols:observed sky color	n/a	Sky color. Options: [deep blue, blue, light blue, pale blue, milky] <i>Note: a guide to sky color is provided on page 14 of the <a href="#">GLOBE Clouds Protocol</a></i>
aerosols:observed sky clarity	n/a	Sky clarity (i.e., visibility). Options: [unusually clear, clear, somewhat hazy, very hazy, extremely hazy] <i>Note: a guide to sky color and clarity/visibility is provided on page 14 of the <a href="#">GLOBE Clouds Protocol</a></i>
aerosols: associated remote sensor	n/a	Satellite mission or instrument to which aerosol observation may be compared. Note: open text field filled in by observer
aerosols:remote sensor overflight time	yyyy-mm-ddTHH:MM	Time the associated remote sensor most nearly flies over the aerosol measurement site in UTC <i>Note: open text field filled in by observer</i>
aerosols:remote sensor maximum elevation angle (deg)	degrees	The highest angle the satellite mission is above the horizon for the location and time of the aerosol measurement <i>Note: open text field filled in by observer</i>
aerosols:aerosol photometer type	n/a	The type of instrument (sun photometer) used to measure aerosols
aerosols:aerosol photometer serial number	n/a	The serial number of the instrument used to measure aerosols <i>Note: not available before May 2016</i>
aerosols:aot 505 measured	--	--
aerosols:aot 625	--	--
aerosols:aot 465	--	--
aerosols:aot 540	--	--
aerosols:aot 619	--	--
aerosols:aot misc	--	--
aerosols:aot 505 calculated	--	--
aerosols:aot 505 all	--	--
aerosols:transmission percent at 505nm	--	--
aerosols:transmission percent at 625nm	--	--
aerosols:transmission percent at 465nm	--	--
aerosols:transmission percent at 540nm	--	--

aerosols:transmission percent at 619nm	--	--
--	----	----

### Air Temperature

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
air_temps:current_temp (deg C)	degrees Celsius	Ambient temperature at time of measurement
air_temps:comments	n/a	Comments on current air temperature measurement

### Air Temperature Dailies

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
air temp dailies:current temp (deg C)	degrees Celsius	Current ambient air temperature recorded at time of maximum and minimum temperature
air temp dailies:minimum temp (deg C)	degrees Celsius	The minimum air temperature since the previous day's temperature report
air temp dailies:maximum temp (deg C)	degrees Celsius	The maximum air temperature since the previous day's temperature report
air temp dailies:comments	n/a	Comments on air temperature measurement

### Air Temperature Monthlies

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
air temp monthlies:averaged month	yyyy-mm-01	First day of the month for which air temperature measurements are averaged. (Spreadsheet programs may automatically convert to a different date format.)
air temp monthlies:number of days reported	n/a	Number of days in the month on which ambient air temperature observations were reported
air temp monthlies:number of obs	n/a	Number of ambient air temperature observations reported in the month
air temp monthlies:maximum temp (deg C)	degrees Celsius	Maximum ambient air temperature reported in the month
air temp monthlies:minimum temp (deg C)	degrees Celsius	Minimum ambient air temperature reported in the month
air temp monthlies:average temp (deg C)	degrees Celsius	Monthly average ambient air temperature

### Air Temperature Noons

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
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air temp noons:current temp (deg C)	degrees Celsius	The ambient air temperature at the time of the measurement and measured within one hour of local solar noon
air temp noons:comments	n/a	Comments on air temperature measurements

## Alkalinity

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
hydrology alkalinitiess:water body state	n/a	The state of the water body, either normal, frozen, flooded, dry, or unreachable
hydrology alkalinitiess: alkalinity via direct (mg/l)	milligrams per liter (mg L <sup>-1</sup> )	Alkalinity measured directly
hydrology alkalinitiess: alkalinity via drop (mg/l)	milligrams per liter (mg L <sup>-1</sup> )	Alkalinity measured by the number of drops used in an alkalinity kit
hydrology alkalinitiess: alkalinity kit mfg	n/a	Alkalinity kit manufacturer
hydrology alkalinitiess: alkalinity kit model	n/a	Alkalinity kit model number
hydrology alkalinitiess:drops alkalinity kit mfg	n/a	Manufacturer of the kit that uses drop and color change to measure alkalinity
hydrology alkalinitiess:drops alkalinity kit model	n/a	Model number of the kit that uses drop and color change to measure alkalinity
hydrology alkalinitiess: comments	n/a	Comments on the alkalinity measurement

### Barometric Pressure

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
barometric pressures: pressure method	n/a	Type of barometer use to measure atmospheric pressure
barometric pressures: pressure	millibars (mb)	Atmospheric pressure at the measurement site
barometric pressures: sea level pressure	millibars (mb)	Atmospheric pressure at the measurement site adjusted to the value that would be observed if the sight were at sea level; these values allow pressure comparisons independent of topography.

### Barometric Pressure Noons

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
barometric pressure noons: pressure	millibars (mb)	Barometric pressure <b>NOT</b> adjusted to sea level pressure (i.e., station pressure) measured closest to and within one hour of local solar noon
barometric pressure noons: sea level pressure	millibars (mb)	Barometric pressure adjusted to sea level pressure measured closest to and within one hour of local solar noon
barometric pressure noons: pressure method	n/a	The method or type of instrument used to measure barometric pressure
barometric pressure noons: comments	n/a	Comments reported on the barometric pressure temperature readings

### Biometry – Graminoid Biomasses

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
graminoid biomasses: average green mass g	grams (g)	Average mass of green graminoid (grass) samples
graminoid biomasses: average green (%)	percent (%)	Average percent of green biomass in the three samples
graminoid biomasses: average brown mass g	grams (g)	Average mass of brown graminoid (grass) samples
graminoid biomasses: average brown (%)	percent (%)	Average percent of brown biomass in the three samples
graminoid biomasses: number of samples	n/a	Number of graminoid (grass) samples
graminoid biomasses: comments	n/a	Comments on the graminoid biomass measurement

## Biometry – Tree Height

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
tree heights:biometry id	n/a	Measurement ID for an entire Biometry protocol measurement
tree heights:biometry trees id	n/a	ID for a tree sample set (up to 5 individual trees) within a Biometry protocol measurement
tree heights:biometry trees sample id	n/a	ID for a single tree within a tree sample set within a Biometry protocol measurement
tree heights:data source	n/a	Indicates if the measurement was entered via the GLOBE Observer Trees tool or some other data entry method
tree heights:tree latitude	n/a	Latitude for a single tree within a tree sample set within a Biometry protocol measurement
tree heights:tree longitude	n/a	Longitude for a single tree within a tree sample set within a Biometry protocol measurement
tree heights:tree elevation	n/a	Elevation for a single tree within a tree sample set within a Biometry protocol measurement
tree heights: measurement latitude	decimal degrees north	Latitude recorded by the GPS of a participant using the GLOBE Observer app at the time of measurement. Range: [-90,90]
tree heights: measurement longitude	decimal degrees east	Longitude recorded by the GPS of a participant using the GLOBE Observer app at the time of measurement.
tree heights: measurement elevations	meters (m) above sea level	Elevation at the latitude/longitude location recorded by the GPS of a participant using the GLOBE Observer app at the time of measurement.
tree heights:height avg(m)	meters (m)	Tree height value: If the data was entered via the GLOBE Observer Trees tool, this number represents a single height measurement; if the data was entered via the GLOBE Biometry protocol, this number is an average of from 1-3 height measurements for a single tree within a tree sample set within a Biometry Protocol measurement.
tree heights: circumferences	centimeters (cm)	Tree circumference
tree heights:genus	n/a	Tree genus <i>*Note: This value currently can't be entered via the Trees tool in the GLOBE Observer app.</i>
tree heights:species	n/a	Tree species <i>*Note: This value currently can't be entered via the Trees tool in the GLOBE Observer app.</i>
tree heights:comments	n/a	Comments from the observer about the tree height measurement
tree heights:location method	n/a	Indicates if the measurement location was determined by the device GPS or if the user entered it manually
tree heights:location accuracy (m)	meters (m)	The estimated accuracy within meters of the calculated measurement location determined by the device GPS

**Biometry – Tree Height, continued (Surface Conditions and Photos)**

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
tree heights:snow ice	n/a	True/False indicating if this surface condition is present (this value is blank if the user submitted data via a means other than the GLOBE Observer app.)
tree heights:standing water	n/a	True/False indicating if this surface condition is present (this value is blank if the user submitted data via a means other than the GLOBE Observer app.)
tree heights:muddy	n/a	True/False indicating if this surface condition is present (this value is blank if the user submitted data via a means other than the GLOBE Observer app.)
tree heights:dry ground	n/a	True/False indicating if this surface condition is present (this value is blank if the user submitted data via a means other than the GLOBE Observer app.)
tree heights:leaves on trees	n/a	True/False indicating if this surface condition is present (this value is blank if the user submitted data via a means other than the GLOBE Observer app.)
tree heights:raining snowing	n/a	True/False indicating if this surface condition is present (this value is blank if the user submitted data via a means other than the GLOBE Observer app.)
tree heights:tree photo urls	n/a	The URL of the photo taken of the tree, if available.

## Biometry – Trees

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
biometry trees:dominant genus	n/a	Genus of the species of tree that dominates at a land cover site
biometry trees:dominant species	n/a	Species of tree that dominates at a land cover site
biometry trees:codominant genus	n/a	Genus of the species of tree that codominates or is second in prevalence at a land cover site
biometry trees:codominant species	n/a	Species of tree that codominates or is second in prevalence at a land cover site
biometry trees:mixed dominant	n/a	A flag indicating that one species of tree does not dominate the land cover site
biometry trees:dominant average height (m)	meters (m)	The average height of the five tallest trees of the dominant species
biometry trees:dominant average circumference (cm)	centimeters (cm)	The average circumference of the five tallest trees of the dominant species
biometry trees:dominant number of trees	n/a	The number of trees of the dominant species found in the 30-meter x 30-meter land cover site
biometry trees:codominant average height (m)	meters (m)	The average height of the five tallest trees of the codominant species
biometry trees:codominant average circumference (cm)	centimeters (cm)	The average circumference of the five tallest trees of the codominant species
biometry trees:codominant number of trees	n/a	The number of trees of the codominant species found in the 30-meter x 30-meter land cover site
biometry trees:comments	n/a	Comments on the biometry measurements

### Biometry – Vegetation Covers (Canopy Cover)

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
vegetation covers:canopy cover observations count	n/a	The total number of observation samples where each sample is when one looks directly overhead while conducting the protocol. It is the sum of canopy cover plus count and canopy cover minus count
vegetation covers:canopy cover plus count	n/a	The number of observations with canopy cover along diagonals
vegetation covers:canopy cover minus count	n/a	The number of observations without canopy cover along diagonals
vegetation covers:canopy cover tree count	n/a	Number of observations with tree canopy along diagonals
vegetation covers:canopy cover shrub count	n/a	Number of observations with shrub canopy along diagonals
vegetation covers:canopy cover deciduous count	n/a	Number of observations with deciduous canopy along diagonals
vegetation covers:canopy cover evergreen count	n/a	Number of observations with evergreen canopy along diagonals
vegetation covers:canopy cover plus percent	percent (%)	The percentage based upon canopy cover plus count / canopy cover observations count regardless of the type of vegetation canopy.
vegetation covers:canopy cover tree percent	percent (%)	Percent of tree canopy cover.
vegetation covers:canopy cover shrub percent	percent (%)	Percent of shrub canopy cover.
vegetation covers:canopy cover deciduous percent	percent (%)	Percentage of the canopy cover that is deciduous trees
vegetation covers:canopy cover evergreen percent	percent (%)	Percentage of the canopy cover that is evergreen trees

**Biometry – Vegetation Covers, continued (Ground Cover)**

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
vegetation covers:ground cover observations count	n/a	Number of canopy cover observations taken
vegetation covers:ground cover plus count	n/a	Number of observations with ground cover along diagonals
vegetation covers:ground cover minus count	n/a	Number of observations without ground cover along diagonal
vegetation covers:ground cover green count	n/a	Number of observations with green ground cover
vegetation covers:ground cover brown count	n/a	Number of observations with brown ground cover
vegetation covers:ground cover graminoid count	n/a	Number of observations with graminoid ground cover
vegetation covers:ground cover forb count	n/a	Number of observations with forb ground cover
vegetation covers:ground cover other count	n/a	Number of observations with other ground cover
vegetation covers:ground cover shrub count	n/a	Number of observations with shrub ground cover
vegetation covers:ground cover dwarf shrub count	n/a	Number of observations with dwarf shrub ground cover
vegetation covers:ground cover plus percent	percent (%)	Percent ground cover
vegetation covers:ground cover green percent	percent (%)	Percent green ground cover
vegetation covers:ground cover brown percent	percent (%)	Percent brown ground cover
vegetation covers:ground cover graminoid percent	percent (%)	Percent of graminoid ground vegetation type
vegetation covers:ground cover forb percent	percent (%)	Percent of forb ground vegetation type
vegetation covers:ground cover other percent	percent (%)	Percent of other ground vegetation type
vegetation covers:ground cover shrub percent	percent (%)	Percent shrub ground cover

vegetation covers:ground cover dwarf shrub percent	percent (%)	Percent dwarf shrub ground cover
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**Biometry – Vegetation Covers, continued (Shrub Cover)**

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
vegetation covers:shrub cover observations count	n/a	Total observation samples used in determining percentage of shrub cover
vegetation covers:shrub cover plus count	n/a	The number of observation samples where a shrub was present
vegetation covers:shrub cover minus count	n/a	The number of observation samples where a shrub was not present
vegetation covers:dwarf shrub cover observations count	n/a	Total observation samples used in determining percentage of dwarf shrub cover
vegetation covers:dwarf shrub cover plus count	n/a	The number of observation samples where a dwarf shrub was present
vegetation covers:dwarf shrub cover minus count	n/a	The number of observation samples where a dwarf shrub was not present
vegetation covers:shrub cover plus percent	percent (%)	Percentage of shrub coverage at the site
vegetation covers:dwarf shrub cover plus percent	percent (%)	Percentage of dwarf shrub coverage at the site
vegetation covers:comments	n/a	Comments about vegetation covers

## Carbon Cycle

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
carbon cycle:plot size m sqr	square meters (m <sup>2</sup> )	The area of the Carbon Cycle Plot in meters squared
carbon cycle:site type	n/a	"Standard" or "Non-Standard"
carbon cycle:total biomass g per m sqr	grams per meter squared (g m <sup>-2</sup> )	Total biomass of all measured vegetation in grams per meter squared
carbon cycle:total carbon storage g c per m sqr	grams per meter squared (g m <sup>-2</sup> )	Total carbon storage of all measured vegetation in grams carbon per meter squared
carbon cycle:tree biomass g per m sqr	grams per meter squared (g m <sup>-2</sup> )	Total biomass of all measured trees (greater than 15 centimeters circumference at breast height) in grams per meter squared
carbon cycle:tree carbon storage g c per m sqr	grams per meter squared (g m <sup>-2</sup> )	Total carbon storage of all measured trees (greater than 15 centimeters circumference at breast height) in grams carbon per meter squared
carbon cycle:tree diversity	n/a	Tree species diversity calculated using Shannon's Diversity Index. The lower the value the lower the diversity.
carbon cycle:herbaceous biomass g per m sqr	grams per meter squared (g m <sup>-2</sup> )	Total biomass of all sampled herbaceous vegetation in grams per meter squared
carbon cycle:herbaceous carbon storage g c per m sqr	grams per meter squared (g m <sup>-2</sup> )	Total carbon storage of all sampled herbaceous vegetation in grams carbon per meter squared
carbon cycle:shrub biomass g per m sqr	grams per meter squared (g m <sup>-2</sup> )	Total biomass of all sampled shrubs/saplings in grams per meter squared (saplings are tree less than 15 centimeters circumference at breast height)
carbon cycle:shrub carbon storage g c per m sqr	grams per meter squared (g m <sup>-2</sup> )	Total carbon storage of all sampled shrubs/saplings in grams carbon per meter squared (saplings are tree less than 15 centimeters circumference at breast height)
carbon cycle:shrub percent coverage deciduous	percent (%)	Percent cover of deciduous shrubs/saplings on the Plot
carbon cycle:shrub avg height deciduous (m)	meters (m)	Average height in meters of deciduous shrubs/saplings measured
carbon cycle:shrub biomass deciduous g per m sqr	grams per meter squared (g m <sup>-2</sup> )	Total biomass of all sampled deciduous shrubs/saplings (less than 15 centimeters circumference at breast height) in grams per meter squared
carbon cycle:shrub percent coverage evergreen	percent (%)	Percent cover of evergreen shrubs/saplings on the Plot

Carbon Cycle, continued

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
carbon cycle:shrub avg height evergreen (m)	meters (m)	Average height in meters of evergreen shrubs/saplings measured
carbon cycle:shrub biomass evergreen g per m sqr	grams per meter squared ( $\text{g m}^{-2}$ )	Total biomass of all sampled evergreen shrubs/saplings (less than 15 centimeters circumference at breast height) in grams per meter squared
carbon cycle:tree sample number	n/a	Number assigned to the tree for identification purposes
carbon cycle:tree species group	n/a	Species group of the tree, needed for allometric equations that estimate biomass from circumference measurements.
carbon cycle:tree cbh (cm)	centimeters (cm)	Tree circumference in centimeters at breast height (1.35 m)
carbon cycle:tree dead date	yyyy-mm-dd	Date a tree was recorded as 'dead.' (Spreadsheet programs may automatically convert to a different date format.)
carbon cycle:tree removed date	yyyy-mm-dd	Date a tree was recorded as removed from the Plot. (Spreadsheet programs may automatically convert to a different date format.)
carbon cycle:tree plot biomass g per plot	grams (g)	Total biomass (in grams) of all measured trees (greater than 15 centimeters circumference at breast height) on the Plot
carbon cycle:tree aboveground biomass g	grams (g)	Total aboveground biomass (in grams) of all measured trees (greater than 15 centimeters circumference at breast height) on the Plot
carbon cycle:tree foliage biomass g	grams (g)	Total foliage biomass (in grams) of all measured trees (greater than 15 centimeters circumference at breast height) on the Plot
carbon cycle:tree stem biomass g	grams (g)	Total stem biomass (in grams) of all measured trees (greater than 15 centimeters circumference at breast height) on the Plot
carbon cycle:tree branch biomass g	grams (g)	Total branch biomass (in grams) of all measured trees (greater than 15 centimeters circumference at breast height) on the Plot
carbon cycle:tree coarse root biomass g	grams (g)	Total coarse root biomass (in grams) of all measured trees (greater than 15 centimeters circumference at breast height) on the Plot
carbon cycle:tree comments	n/a	Comments pertaining to an individual tree on the Plot
carbon cycle:comments	n/a	Comments pertaining to this Carbon Cycle measurement

## Clouds/Sky Conditions

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
sky conditions:measurement latitude	decimal degrees north	Latitude recorded by the GPS of a participant using the GLOBE Observer app at the time of measurement. Range: [-90,90] <i>Note: See also "latitude".</i>
sky conditions:measurement longitude	decimal degrees east	Longitude recorded by the GPS of a participant using the GLOBE Observer app at the time of measurement. <i>Note: See also "longitude".</i>
sky conditions:measurement elevation	meters (m) above sea level	Elevation at the latitude/longitude location recorded by the GPS of a participant using the GLOBE Observer app at the time of measurement. <i>Note: See also "elevation".</i>
sky conditions:observation id	n/a	Identification number (integer) for the latitude, longitude, date, and time of the observation
sky conditions:cloud cover	n/a	Total amount of sky covered by clouds regardless of altitude Options: [Blank, None (0%), Few or Clear (1-10%), Isolated (10-25%), Scattered (25-50%), Broken (50-90%), Overcast (90-100%)]
sky conditions:sky color	n/a	Sky color Options: [deep blue, blue, light blue, pale blue, milky] <i>Note: a guide to sky color is provided on page 14 of the <a href="#">GLOBE Clouds protocol</a>.</i>
sky conditions:sky clarity	n/a	Sky clarity (i.e., visibility) Options: [unusually clear, clear, somewhat hazy, very hazy, extremely hazy] <i>Note: a guide to sky visibility is provided on page 14 of the <a href="#">GLOBE Clouds protocol</a>.</i>
sky conditions:location method	n/a	Indicates if the user's device GPS was used to determine the measurement location, or if the user entered it manually
sky conditions:location accuracy(m)	meters (m)	The estimated accuracy within meters of the measurement latitude and longitude as determined by the device GPS
sky conditions:comments	n/a	Comments made by the observer

## Clouds/Sky Conditions, continued (Cloud Types)

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
sky conditions:cirrus	n/a	<p>Cirrus clouds were observed                  Options: [TRUE, FALSE]  <i>Note: Data downloaded from Vis returns X. Data downloaded from ADAT returns TRUE.</i></p>
sky conditions:cirrocumulus	n/a	<p>Cirrocumulus clouds were observed                  Options: [TRUE, FALSE]  <i>Note: Data downloaded from Vis returns X. Data downloaded from ADAT returns TRUE.</i></p>
sky conditions:cirrostratus	n/a	<p>Cirrostratus clouds were observed                  Options: [TRUE, FALSE]  <i>Note: Data downloaded from Vis returns X. Data downloaded from ADAT returns TRUE.</i></p>
sky conditions:altostratus	n/a	<p>Altocstratus clouds were observed                  Options: [TRUE, FALSE]  <i>Note: Data downloaded from Vis returns X. Data downloaded from ADAT returns TRUE.</i></p>
sky conditions:altocumulus	n/a	<p>Altocumulus clouds were observed                  Options: [TRUE, FALSE]  <i>Note: Data downloaded from Vis returns X. Data downloaded from ADAT returns TRUE.</i></p>
sky conditions:cumulus	n/a	<p>Cumulus clouds were observed                  Options: [TRUE, FALSE]  <i>Note: Data downloaded from Vis returns X. Data downloaded from ADAT returns TRUE.</i></p>
sky conditions:nimbostratus	n/a	<p>Nimbostratus clouds were observed                  Options: [TRUE, FALSE]  <i>Note: Data downloaded from Vis returns X. Data downloaded from ADAT returns TRUE.</i></p>
sky conditions:stratus	n/a	<p>Stratus clouds were observed                  Options: [TRUE, FALSE]  <i>Note: Data downloaded from Vis returns X. Data downloaded from ADAT returns TRUE.</i></p>
sky conditions:stratocumulus	n/a	<p>Stratocumulus clouds were observed                  Options: [TRUE, FALSE]  <i>Note: Data downloaded from Vis returns X. Data downloaded from ADAT returns TRUE.</i></p>
sky conditions:cumulonimbus	n/a	<p>Cumulonimbus clouds were observed                  Options: [TRUE, FALSE]  <i>Note: Data downloaded from Vis returns X. Data downloaded from ADAT returns TRUE.</i></p>

### Clouds/Sky Conditions, continued (Obscurations)

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
sky conditions:fog	n/a	<p>Fog obscured &gt;25% of the sky                  Options: [TRUE, FALSE]  <i>Note: Data downloaded from Vis returns X. Data downloaded from ADAT returns TRUE.</i></p>
sky conditions:smoke	n/a	<p>Smoke obscured &gt;25% of the sky                  Options: [TRUE, FALSE]  <i>Note: Data downloaded from Vis returns X. Data downloaded from ADAT returns TRUE.</i></p>
sky conditions:haze	n/a	<p>Haze obscured &gt;25% of the sky                  Options: [TRUE, FALSE]  <i>Note: Data downloaded from Vis returns X. Data downloaded from ADAT returns TRUE.</i></p>
sky conditions:volcanic ash	n/a	<p>Volcanic Ash obscured &gt;25% of the sky                  Options: [TRUE, FALSE]  <i>Note: Data downloaded from Vis returns X. Data downloaded from ADAT returns TRUE.</i></p>
sky conditions:dust	n/a	<p>Dust obscured &gt;25% of the sky                  Options: [TRUE, FALSE]  <i>Note: Data downloaded from Vis returns X. Data downloaded from ADAT returns TRUE.</i></p>
sky conditions:sand	n/a	<p>Sand obscured &gt;25% of the sky                  Options: [TRUE, FALSE]  <i>Note: Data downloaded from Vis returns X. Data downloaded from ADAT returns TRUE.</i></p>
sky conditions:spray	n/a	<p>Sea spray obscured &gt;25% of the sky                  Options: [TRUE, FALSE]  <i>Note: Data downloaded from Vis returns X. Data downloaded from ADAT returns TRUE.</i></p>
sky conditions:heavy rain	n/a	<p>Heavy rain obscured &gt;25% of the sky                  Options: [TRUE, FALSE]  <i>Note: Data downloaded from Vis returns X. Data downloaded from ADAT returns TRUE.</i></p>
sky conditions:heavy snow	n/a	<p>Heavy snow obscured &gt;25% of the sky                  Options: [TRUE, FALSE]  <i>Note: Data downloaded from Vis returns X. Data downloaded from ADAT returns TRUE.</i></p>
sky conditions:blowing snow	n/a	<p>Blowing snow obscured &gt;25% of the sky                  Options: [TRUE, FALSE]  <i>Note: Data downloaded from Vis returns X. Data downloaded from ADAT returns TRUE.</i></p>

### Clouds/Sky Conditions, continued (Contrails)

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
sky conditions:contrail cover deprecated	n/a	<i>Note: This field is no longer used</i>
sky conditions:short lived contrails	n/a	Number (integer) of short lived contrails observed (This value is “null” if the user selects “skip contrails” when entering a cloud observation, or if the user indicates if the sky is “obscured”.)
sky conditions:spreading contrails	n/a	Number (integer) of persistent spreading contrails observed (This value is “null” if the user selects “skip contrails” when entering a cloud observation, or if the user indicates if the sky is “obscured”.)
sky conditions:non spreading contrails	n/a	Number (integer) of persistent, non-spreading contrails observed (This value is “null” if the user selects “skip contrails” when entering a cloud observation, or if the user indicates if the sky is “obscured”.)

### Clouds/Sky Conditions, continued (Citizen Science/Training)

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
sky conditions:is citizen science	n/a	<p>Options: [TRUE, FALSE]</p> <p>TRUE: the observer used the GLOBE Observer app to enter the data and they do not have a GLOBE Educator account</p> <p>FALSE: the observer has a GLOBE Educator account and used the GLOBE Observer app, the GLOBE Data Entry website, the GLOBE Email Data Entry form, or the GLOBE Data Entry app to enter the data</p>
sky conditions:is globe trained	n/a	<p>Options: [TRUE, FALSE]</p> <p>TRUE: the observer did a GLOBE or GLOBE Observer training</p> <p>FALSE: the observer has not done a GLOBE or GLOBE Observer training</p>

**Clouds/Sky Conditions, continued (Cloud Cover and Opacity by Altitude)**

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
sky conditions:cloud cover low	n/a	<p>Total amount of sky covered by low clouds (cumulus, fog/stratus, stratocumulus, nimbostratus, cumulonimbus)</p> <p>Options: [Blank, None (0%), Few or Clear (1-10%), Isolated (10-25%), Scattered (25-50%), Broken (50-90%), Overcast (90-100%)]</p>
sky conditions:opacity low	n/a	<p>Average opacity of low clouds observed (cumulus, fog/stratus, stratocumulus, nimbostratus, cumulonimbus)</p> <p>Options: [Blank, Transparent (satellite optical depth = transparent), Translucent (satellite optical depth = 3-10), Opaque (satellite optical depth = above 10)]</p> <p>An <a href="#">explanation of the comparison of reported opacity to satellite data</a> from the GLOBE Clouds Team at NASA Langley Research Center is on the GLOBE Clouds page.</p>
sky conditions:cloud cover mid	n/a	<p>Total amount of sky covered by mid clouds (altostratus, altocumulus)</p> <p>Options: [Blank, None (0%), Few or Clear (1-10%), Isolated (10-25%), Scattered (25-50%), Broken (50-90%), Overcast (90-100%)]</p>
sky conditions:opacity mid	n/a	<p>Average opacity of mid clouds observed (altostratus, altocumulus)</p> <p>Options: [Blank, Transparent (satellite optical depth = transparent), Translucent (satellite optical depth = 3-10), Opaque (satellite optical depth = above 10)]</p> <p>An <a href="#">explanation of the comparison of reported opacity to satellite data</a> from the GLOBE Clouds Team at NASA Langley Research Center is on the GLOBE Clouds page.</p>
sky conditions:cloud cover high	n/a	<p>Total amount of sky covered by high clouds (contrails: short-lived, persistent non-spreading, persistent spreading, cirrus, cirrocumulus, cirrostratus)</p> <p>Options: [Blank, None (0%), Few or Clear (1-10%), Isolated (10-25%), Scattered (25-50%), Broken (50-90%), Overcast (90-100%)]</p>
sky conditions:opacity high	n/a	<p>Average opacity of high clouds observed (contrails: short-lived, persistent non-spreading, persistent spreading, cirrus, cirrocumulus, cirrostratus)</p> <p>Options: [Blank, Transparent (satellite optical depth = transparent), Translucent (satellite optical depth = 3-10), Opaque (satellite optical depth = above 10)]</p> <p>An <a href="#">explanation of the comparison of reported opacity to satellite data</a> from the GLOBE Clouds Team at NASA Langley Research Center is on the GLOBE Clouds page.</p>

### Clouds/Sky Conditions, continued (Surface Conditions)

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
sky conditions:snow/ice	n/a	<p>Presence of snow and/or ice on the ground                  Options: [TRUE, FALSE]  <i>Note: Data downloaded from Vis returns X. Data downloaded from ADAT returns TRUE.</i></p>
sky conditions:standing water	n/a	<p>Presence of standing water on the ground                  Options: [TRUE, FALSE]                  Note: Data downloaded from Vis returns X. Data downloaded from ADAT returns TRUE.  <i>Note: standing water includes large bodies of water</i></p>
sky conditions:muddy	n/a	<p>Ground was reported as muddy                  Options: [TRUE, FALSE]  <i>Note: Data downloaded from Vis returns X. Data downloaded from ADAT returns TRUE.</i></p>
sky conditions:dry ground	n/a	<p>Ground was reported as dry                  Options: [TRUE, FALSE]  <i>Note: Data downloaded from Vis returns X. Data downloaded from ADAT returns TRUE.</i></p>
sky conditions:leaves on trees	n/a	<p>Options: [TRUE, FALSE]                    TRUE: More than 50% of the trees have leaves (this includes evergreens)                    FALSE: Less than 50% of the trees have leaves (this includes evergreens)  <i>Note: Data downloaded from Vis returns X. Data downloaded from ADAT returns TRUE.</i></p>
sky conditions:raining snowing	n/a	<p>The observation was taken while it rained or snowed                  Options: [TRUE, FALSE]  <i>Note: Data downloaded from Vis returns X. Data downloaded from ADAT returns TRUE.</i></p>

**Clouds/Sky Conditions, continued (Photos and Captions)**

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
sky conditions:north photo url	n/a	URL to image taken in the north cardinal direction <i>Note: this variable only appears when data is downloaded from ADAT (not Vis)</i>
sky conditions:north caption	n/a	Comments made by the observer about the image <i>Note: this variable only appears when data is downloaded from ADAT (not Vis)</i>
sky conditions:south photo url	n/a	URL to image taken in the south cardinal direction <i>Note: this variable only appears when data is downloaded from ADAT (not Vis)</i>
sky conditions:south caption	n/a	Comments made by the observer about the image <i>Note: this variable only appears when data is downloaded from ADAT (not Vis)</i>
sky conditions:east photo url	n/a	URL to image taken in the east cardinal direction <i>Note: this variable only appears when data is downloaded from ADAT (not Vis)</i>
sky conditions:east caption	n/a	Comments made by the observer about the image <i>Note: this variable only appears when data is downloaded from ADAT (not Vis)</i>
sky conditions:west photo url	n/a	URL link to image taken in the west cardinal direction <i>Note: this variable only appears when data is downloaded from ADAT (not Vis)</i>
sky conditions:west caption	n/a	Comments made by the observer about the image <i>Note: this variable only appears when data is downloaded from ADAT (not Vis)</i>
sky conditions:upward photo url	n/a	URL link to image taken in the upward direction <i>Note: this variable only appears when data is downloaded from ADAT (not Vis)</i>
sky conditions:upward caption	n/a	Comments made by the observer about the image <i>Note: this variable only appears when data is downloaded from ADAT (not Vis)</i>
sky conditions:downward photo url	n/a	URL link to image taken in the downward direction <i>Note: this variable only appears when data is downloaded from ADAT (not Vis)</i>
sky conditions:downward caption	n/a	Comments made by the observer about the image <i>Note: this variable only appears when data is downloaded from ADAT (not Vis)</i>

### Clouds/Sky Conditions Noons

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
sky condition noons:observation id	n/a	Identification number (integer) for the latitude, longitude, date, and time of the observation
sky condition noons:cloud cover	n/a	Total amount of sky covered by clouds measured within one hour of local solar noon Options: [Blank, None (0%), Few or Clear (1-10%), Isolated (10-25%), Scattered (25-50%), Broken (50-90%), Overcast (90-100%)]
sky condition noons:sky color	n/a	Sky color Options: [deep blue, blue, light blue, pale blue, milky] <i>Note: a guide to sky color is provided on page 14 of the <a href="#">GLOBE Clouds protocol</a>.</i>
sky condition noons:sky clarity	n/a	Sky clarity (i.e., visibility) Options: [unusually clear, clear, somewhat hazy, very hazy, extremely hazy] <i>Note: a guide to sky visibility is provided on page 14 of the <a href="#">GLOBE Clouds protocol</a>.</i>
sky condition noons: comments	n/a	Comments made by the observer

**Clouds/Sky Conditions Noons, continued (Cloud Types)**

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
sky condition noons:cirrus	n/a	Cirrus clouds were observed Options: [yes, no]
sky condition noons: cirrocumulus	n/a	Cirrocumulus clouds were observed Options: [yes, no]
sky condition noons: cirrostratus	n/a	Cirrostratus clouds were observed Options: [yes, no]
sky condition noons: altostratus	n/a	Altocumulus clouds were observed Options: [yes, no]
sky condition noons: altocumulus	n/a	Altocumulus clouds were observed Options: [yes, no]
sky condition noons:cumulus	n/a	Cumulus clouds were observed Options: [yes, no]
sky condition noons:nimbostratus	n/a	Nimbostratus clouds were observed Options: [yes, no]
sky condition noons:stratus	n/a	Stratus clouds were observed Options: [yes, no]
sky condition noons: stratocumulus	n/a	Stratocumulus clouds were observed within one hour of local solar noon Options: [yes, no]
sky condition noons: cumulonimbus	n/a	Cumulonimbus clouds were observed within one hour of local solar noon Options: [yes, no]

### Clouds/Sky Conditions Noons, continued (Obscurations)

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
sky condition noons:fog	n/a	Fog obscured at least 25% of the sky within one hour of local solar noon. Options: [yes, no]
sky condition noons:smoke	n/a	Smoke obscured at least 25% of the sky within one hour of local solar noon. Options: [yes, no]
sky condition noons:haze	n/a	Haze obscured at least 25% of the sky within one hour of local solar noon. Options: [yes, no]
sky condition noons: volcanic ash	n/a	Volcanic ash obscured at least 25% of the sky within one hour of local solar noon. Options: [yes, no]
sky condition noons: dust	n/a	Dust obscured at least 25% of the sky within one hour of local solar noon. Options: [yes, no]
sky condition noons: sand	n/a	Sand obscured at least 25% of the sky within one hour of local solar noon. Options: [yes, no]
sky condition noons: spray	n/a	Spray obscured at least 25% of the sky within one hour of local solar noon. Options: [yes, no]
sky condition noons: heavy rain	n/a	Heavy rain obscured at least 25% of the sky within one hour of local solar noon. Options: [yes, no]
sky condition noons: heavy snow	n/a	Heavy new snow obscured at least 25% of the sky within one hour of local solar noon. Options: [yes, no]
sky condition noons: blowing snow	n/a	Blowing snow obscured at least 25% of the sky within one hour of local solar noon. Options: [yes, no]

### Clouds/Sky Conditions Noons, continued (Contrails)

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
sky condition noons:contrail cover deprecated	n/a	<i>Note: This field is no longer used</i>
sky condition noons: short lived contrails	n/a	Total number (integer) of short lived contrails observed within one hour of local solar noon (This value is “null” if the user selects “skip contrails” when entering a cloud observation, or if the user indicates if the sky is “obscured”).)
sky condition noons: spreading contrails	n/a	Total number (integer) of persistent spreading contrails observed within one hour of local solar noon (This value is “null” if the user selects “skip contrails” when entering a cloud observation, or if the user indicates if the sky is “obscured”).)
sky condition noons:non spreading contrails	n/a	Total number (integer) of persistent non-spreading contrails observed within one hour of local solar noon (This value is “null” if the user selects “skip contrails” when entering a cloud observation, or if the

		user indicates if the sky is “obscured”.)
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**Clouds/Sky Conditions Noons, continued (Citizen Science/Training)**

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
sky condition noons:is citizen science	n/a	Flag indicating if the measurement site ID was MGRS-generated Options: [TRUE, FALSE] TRUE: observation came from the GLOBE Observer app FALSE: observation did not come from the GLOBE Observer app
sky condition:is globe trained	n/a	Options: [TRUE, FALSE] TRUE: the observer did a GLOBE or GLOBE Observer training FALSE: the observer has not done a GLOBE or GLOBE Observer training

**Clouds/Sky Conditions Noons, continued (Cloud Cover and Opacity by Altitude)**

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
sky condition noons:cloud cover low	n/a	<p>Total amount of sky covered by low clouds (cumulus, fog/stratus, stratocumulus, nimbostratus, cumulonimbus)</p> <p>Options: [Blank, None (0%), Few or Clear (1-10%), Isolated (10-25%), Scattered (25-50%), Broken (50-90%), Overcast (90-100%)]</p>
sky condition noons:opacity low	n/a	<p>Average opacity of low clouds observed (cumulus, fog/stratus, stratocumulus, nimbostratus, cumulonimbus)</p> <p>Options: [Blank, Transparent (satellite optical depth = transparent), Translucent (satellite optical depth = 3-10), Opaque (satellite optical depth = above 10)]</p> <p>An <a href="#">explanation of the comparison of reported opacity to satellite data</a> from the GLOBE Clouds Team at NASA Langley Research Center is on the GLOBE Clouds page.</p>
sky condition noons:cloud cover mid	n/a	<p>Total amount of sky covered by mid clouds (altostratus, altocumulus)</p> <p>Options: [Blank, None (0%), Few or Clear (1-10%), Isolated (10-25%), Scattered (25-50%), Broken (50-90%), Overcast (90-100%)]</p>
sky condition noons:opacity mid	n/a	<p>Average opacity of mid clouds observed (altostratus, altocumulus)</p> <p>Options: [Blank, Transparent (satellite optical depth = transparent), Translucent (satellite optical depth = 3-10), Opaque (satellite optical depth = above 10)]</p> <p>An <a href="#">explanation of the comparison of reported opacity to satellite data</a> from the GLOBE Clouds Team at NASA Langley Research Center is on the GLOBE Clouds page.</p>
sky condition noons:cloud cover high	n/a	<p>Total amount of sky covered by high clouds (contrails: short-lived, persistent non-spreading, persistent spreading, cirrus, cirrocumulus, cirrostratus)</p> <p>Options: [Blank, None (0%), Few or Clear (1-10%), Isolated (10-25%), Scattered (25-50%), Broken (50-90%), Overcast (90-100%)]</p>
sky condition noons:opacity high	n/a	<p>Average opacity of high clouds observed (contrails: short-lived, persistent non-spreading, persistent spreading, cirrus, cirrocumulus, cirrostratus)</p> <p>Options: [Blank, Transparent (satellite optical depth = transparent), Translucent (satellite optical depth = 3-10), Opaque (satellite optical depth = above 10)]</p> <p>An <a href="#">explanation of the comparison of reported opacity to satellite data</a> from the GLOBE Clouds Team at NASA Langley Research Center is on the GLOBE Clouds page.</p>

**Clouds/Sky Conditions Noons, continued (Surface Conditions)**

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
sky condition noons:snow/ice	n/a	<p>Presence of snow and/or ice on the ground                  Options: [TRUE, FALSE]  <i>Note: Data downloaded from Vis returns X. Data downloaded from ADAT returns TRUE.</i></p>
sky condition noons:standing water	n/a	<p>Presence of standing water on the ground                  Options: [TRUE, FALSE]                  Note: Data downloaded from Vis returns X. Data downloaded from ADAT returns TRUE.  <i>Note: standing water includes large bodies of water</i></p>
sky condition noons:muddy	n/a	<p>Ground was reported as muddy                  Options: [TRUE, FALSE]  <i>Note: Data downloaded from Vis returns X. Data downloaded from ADAT returns TRUE.</i></p>
sky condition noons:dry ground	n/a	<p>Ground was reported as dry                  Options: [TRUE, FALSE]  <i>Note: Data downloaded from Vis returns X. Data downloaded from ADAT returns TRUE.</i></p>
sky condition noons:leaves on trees	n/a	<p>Options: [TRUE, FALSE]                    TRUE: More than 50% of the trees have leaves (this includes evergreens)                    FALSE: Less than 50% of the trees have leaves (this includes evergreens)  <i>Note: Data downloaded from Vis returns X. Data downloaded from ADAT returns TRUE.</i></p>
sky condition noons:raining snowing	n/a	<p>The observation was taken while it rained or snowed                  Options: [TRUE, FALSE]  <i>Note: Data downloaded from Vis returns X. Data downloaded from ADAT returns TRUE.</i></p>

## Conductivity

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
conductivities:water body state	n/a	The state of the water body Options: [normal, frozen, flooded, dry, unreachable]
conductivities:conductivity micro siemens per cm	microsiemens per centimeter ( $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ )	Conductivity
conductivities:electrical conductivity mfg	n/a	Manufacturer of the conductivity meter
conductivities:electrical conductivity model	n/a	Model number of the conductivity meter
conductivities:comments	n/a	Comments on the conductivity measurement

## Dissolved Oxygen

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
dissolved oxygens:water body state	n/a	The state of the water body, either normal, frozen, flooded, dry, or unreachable
dissolved oxygens:dissolved oxygen via kit mgl	milligrams per liter ( $\text{mg L}^{-1}$ )	Dissolved oxygen amount as measured using a measurement kit
dissolved oxygens:dissolved oxygen via probe mgl	milligrams per liter ( $\text{mg L}^{-1}$ )	Dissolved oxygen amount as measured by a probe
dissolved oxygens:salinity via dokit ppt	parts per thousand (ppt)	Salinity of the sample used to measure dissolved oxygen
dissolved oxygens:oxygen kit mfg	n/a	Manufacturer of the dissolved oxygen kit
dissolved oxygens:oxygen kit model	n/a	Model of dissolved oxygen kit
dissolved oxygens:oxygen probe mfg	n/a	Manufacturer of the dissolved oxygen probe
dissolved oxygens:oxygen probe model	n/a	Model of dissolved oxygen probe
dissolved oxygens:comments	n/a	Comments on the dissolved measurement

## Freshwater Macroinvertebrates

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
freshwater macroinvertebrates:year	yyyy	The year when freshwater macroinvertebrates were measured
freshwater macroinvertebrates:season	n/a	The season when freshwater macroinvertebrates were measured
freshwater macroinvertebrates:habitat type	n/a	Habitat type Options: [all habitats combined, riffle, run, pool]
freshwater macroinvertebrates:area percent	percent (%)	Percentage estimate of area that was sub sampled
freshwater macroinvertebrates:number of collection samples	n/a	Number of samples collected
freshwater macroinvertebrates:number of taxa reported for habitat type	n/a	Number of different taxa reported of this habitat
freshwater macroinvertebrates:taxonomic rank	n/a	Taxonomic rank Options: [family, genus, species]
freshwater macroinvertebrates:taxon latin name	n/a	Taxon Latin name
freshwater macroinvertebrates:taxonomic rank level one above	n/a	Taxonomic one level higher rank Options: [phylum, class, order]
freshwater macroinvertebrates:taxon latin name level one above	n/a	Taxon one level higher Latin name
freshwater macroinvertebrates:taxonomic rank level two above	n/a	Taxonomic two levels higher rank Options: [phylum, class, order]
freshwater macroinvertebrates:taxon latin name level two above	n/a	Taxon two levels higher Latin name
freshwater macroinvertebrates:number of organisms in taxon	n/a	Number of organisms found in the taxa
freshwater macroinvertebrates:is subsampled	n/a	Was subsampling used? Options: [yes,no]

freshwater macroinvertebrates: comments	n/a	Comments on the macroinvertebrate measurement
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### Frost Tube

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
frost tubes:frost tube installed	yyyy-mm-ddTHH:MM:SS	The date the Frost Tube was installed at the site.
frost tubes:height above ground (cm)	centimeters (cm)	The length of the Frost Tube that extends above the surface.
frost tubes:depth below ground (cm)	centimeters (cm)	The length of the Frost Tube that extends below the surface
frost tubes:total length (cm)	centimeters (cm)	The total length of the Frost Tube
frost tubes:depth of freezing (cm)	centimeters (cm)	Distance in the inner tube of the Frost Tube from the soil surface to the boundary between the ice layer and unfrozen water. This represents the depth of freezing between the soil surface and the underlying unfrozen soil.
frost tubes:permafrost	n/a	Flag to indicate permafrost. Options: [present, absent, unknown]
frost tubes:permafrost state	n/a	If permafrost is present, indicates the state of the permafrost. Options: [continuous, discontinuous, unknown]
frost tubes:permafrost depth to table (cm)	centimeters (cm)	If permafrost is present, indicates the distance from x to Y
frost tubes:permafrost measured on	yyyy-mm-ddTHH:MM:SS	If permafrost is present, the date the permafrost was measured.
frost tubes:comments	n/a	Comments pertaining to the Frost Tube measurement.

### Greenings (Green-Up/Green-Down)

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
greenings:year	yyyy	Year of measurement
greenings:greening cycle number	n/a	Greening cycle Note: in some locations there is more than one cycle in a year.
greenings:vegetation type	n/a	Type of vegetation for which greening was observed Options: [tree, shrub, graminoid, other]
greenings:vegetation label	n/a	Species or common name
greenings:genus	n/a	Genus of the plant whose green-up is measured
greenings:species	n/a	Species of the plant whose green-up is measured
greenings:in understory	n/a	Is green-up or green-down observed for a plant that is the understory? Options: [yes, no]
greenings:stage	n/a	A reference for if the measurement is related to green-up or green-down phenophase Options: [up,down]
greenings:leaf state	n/a	The state of a leaf at time of observation during phenophase Options: [color change, fallen, snow covered, budburst, dormant, length measurable, lost, no shoot, swelling]
greenings:predomoinate leaf color	n/a	At time of measurement the most frequent color observed in Munsell color notation Options: [2.5R:4/12, 2.5R:4/2, 2.5R:4/4, 2.5R:4/6, 2.5R:4/8, 2.5Y:6/6, 2.5Y:8/12, 2.5Y:8/6, 5G:4/2, 5G:6/2, 5G:7/4, 5G:8/4, 5GY:3/2, 5GY:4/8, 5GY:5/10, 5GY:6/10, 5GY:7/12, 5R:3/4, 5Y:8/4, 5YR:7/12, 7.5YR:3/4, 7.5YR:5/4, 7.5YR:6/4, 7.5YR:8/4 ]
greenings:leaf color list	n/a	A whitespace delimited list of up to 4 leaf colors observed at time of measurement Example: "2.5R:4/12 2.5R:4/12 2.5R:4/12"
greenings:leaf length mm	millimeters (mm)	Length of emerged leaves
greenings:number of same plants	n/a	Number of plants observed of a given spies
greenings:comments	n/a	Comments on green-up and green-down measurement

## Land Cover

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
land covers:measurement latitude	decimal degrees north	Latitude recorded by the GPS of a participant using the GLOBE Observer app at the time of measurement. Range: [-90,90]
land covers:measurement longitude	decimal degrees east	Longitude recorded by the GPS of a participant using the GLOBE Observer app at the time of measurement.
land covers:measurement elevation	meters (m) above sea level	Elevation at the latitude/longitude location recorded by the GPS of a participant using the GLOBE Observer app at the time of measurement.
land covers:site_name	n/a	<p>Name of the land cover site.</p> <p>Guidance: land covers:site_name should not include commas (,).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good: "MountRainier123"</li> <li>• Bad: "MountRainer, 123"</li> </ul> <p>Note: There are two ways a site name is generated. (1) GLOBE schools create their own site_name. (2) The GLOBE Observer app, on the other hand, automatically assigns a site_name to an observation; the site_name is not created by the user. The GLOBE Observer app generates a site_name based on the MGRS grid.</p>
land covers:muc code	n/a	MUC code of the land cover site
land covers:muc details	n/a	Code that indicates alignment of MUC and IGBP classifications (See Appendix 4)
land covers:muc description	n/a	Description of the land cover site MUC code
land covers:field notes	n/a	Comments on land cover site measurement
land covers:location method	n/a	Indicates if the measurement location was determined by the device's GPS ("automatic") or if the user supplied it manually ("manual")
land covers:location accuracy (m)	meters (m)	Accuracy of this location within "x" meters
land covers:data source	n/a	Descriptor indicating whether the data were reported by a GLOBE Educator via a method other than the app ("GLOBE Data Entry Site Definition") or reported from the GLOBE Observer app ("GLOBE Observer App")

### Land Cover, continued (Surface Conditions)

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
land covers:snow ice	n/a	True/False indicating if this surface condition is present (this value is blank if the user submitted data via a means other than the GLOBE Observer app.)
land covers:standing water	n/a	True/False indicating if this surface condition is present (this value is blank if the user submitted data via a means other than the GLOBE Observer app.)
land covers:muddy	n/a	True/False indicating if this surface condition is present (this value is blank if the user submitted data via a means other than the GLOBE Observer app.)
land covers:dry ground	n/a	True/False indicating if this surface condition is present (this value is blank if the user submitted data via a means other than the GLOBE Observer app.)
land covers:leaves on trees	n/a	True/False indicating if this surface condition is present (this value is blank if the user submitted data via a means other than the GLOBE Observer app.)
land covers:raining snowing	n/a	True/False indicating if this surface condition is present (this value is blank if the user submitted data via a means other than the GLOBE Observer app.)

**Land Cover, continued (Photo URLs and Directional Classifications)**

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
land covers:north classifications	n/a	MUC code(s) and associated percentage(s) assigned for this direction
land covers:east classifications	n/a	MUC code(s) and associated percentage(s) assigned for this direction
land covers:south classifications	n/a	MUC code(s) and associated percentage(s) assigned for this direction
land covers:west classifications	n/a	MUC code(s) and associated percentage(s) assigned for this direction
land covers:north photo url	n/a	URL for the photo in the north direction
land covers:north caption	n/a	Caption for the photo in the north direction (currently n/a for entry from the GLOBE Observer Land Cover tool.)
land covers:north extra data	n/a	Extra data associated with the photo in this direction
land covers:east photo url	n/a	URL for the photo in the east direction
land covers:east caption	n/a	Caption for the photo in the east direction (currently n/a for entry from the GLOBE Observer App Land Cover tool.)
land covers:east extra data	n/a	Extra data associated with the photo in this direction
land covers:south photo url	n/a	URL for the photo in the south direction
land covers:south caption	n/a	Caption for the photo in the south direction (currently n/a for entry from the GLOBE Observer Land Cover tool.)
land covers:south extra data	n/a	Extra data associated with the photo in this direction
land covers:west photo url	n/a	URL for the photo in the West direction
land covers:west caption	n/a	Caption for the photo in the west direction (currently n/a for entry from the GLOBE Observer Land Cover tool.)
land covers:west extra data	n/a	Extra data associated with the photo in this direction
land covers:upward photo url	n/a	URL for the photo in the upward direction
land covers:upward caption	n/a	Caption for the photo in the upward direction (currently n/a for entry from the GLOBE Observer Land Cover tool.)
land covers:upward extra data	n/a	Extra data associated with the photo in this direction
land covers:downward photo url	n/a	URL for the photo in the downward direction
land covers:downward caption	n/a	Caption for the photo in the downward direction (currently n/a for entry from the GLOBE Observer Land Cover tool.)
land covers:downward extra data	n/a	Extra data associated with the photo in this direction
land covers:feature 1 photo url	n/a	Optional photo of a land cover feature not captured by cardinal direction photos
land covers:feature 1 caption	n/a	Caption for the optional photo of land cover feature 1 not captured

		by cardinal direction photos
land covers:feature 1 extra data	n/a	Extra data associated with the land cover feature 1 photo
land covers:feature 2 photo url	n/a	Optional photo of a second land cover feature not captured by cardinal direction photos
land covers:feature 2 caption	n/a	Caption for the optional photo of land cover feature 2 not captured by cardinal direction photos
land covers:feature 2 extra data	n/a	Extra data associated with the land cover feature 2 photo
land covers:feature 3 photo url	n/a	Optional photo of a third land cover feature not captured by cardinal direction photos
land covers:feature 3 caption	n/a	Caption for the optional photo of land cover feature 3 not captured by cardinal direction photos
land covers:feature 3 extra data	n/a	Extra data associated with the land cover feature 3 photo
land covers:feature 4 photo url	n/a	Optional photo of a fourth land cover feature not captured by cardinal direction photos
land covers:feature 4 caption	n/a	Caption for the optional photo of land cover feature 4 not captured by cardinal direction photos
land covers:feature 4 extra data	n/a	Extra data associated with the land cover feature 4 photo

## Lilac Phenology

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
lilacs:year	yyyy	Year when lilac phenophases were observed
lilacs:plant phenophase	n/a	Lilac phenophase
lilacs:lilac type	n/a	Lilac type Options: [common, cloned]
lilacs:shrub label	n/a	Type of lilac plant Options: [common, cloned]
lilacs:genus	n/a	Lilac genus
lilacs:species	n/a	Lilac species
lilacs:height (cm)	centimeters (cm)	Height of the lilac plant
lilacs:plant health	n/a	Options: [healthy, no change]
lilacs:planted date	yyyy-mm-dd	Date when the lilac bush was planted in UTC. (Spreadsheet programs may automatically convert to a different date format.)
lilacs:planted height (cm)	centimeters (cm)	Initial height of the lilac plant
lilacs:died date	yyyy-mm-dd	Date when the lilac bush died in UTC. (Spreadsheet programs may automatically convert to a different date format.)
lilacs:comments	n/a	Comments on lilac phenology measurements

## Mosquitoes

Note: The Mosquito Larvae protocol (mosquitoes:\*) was retired in 2018. Mosquito Habitat Mapper ( mosquito habitat mapper:\*) replaced it as the sole mosquito protocol.

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
mosquitoes:season	n/a	The season in which the mosquito observation is made Options: [fall, winter, spring, summer, dry, wet]
mosquitoes:comments	n/a	Comments on the mosquito observations
mosquitoes:water body depth at 50cm	n/a	Size of the water body being sampled greater than ("gt") 50 cm Options: [TRUE (t), FALSE (f)]
mosquitoes:water body size m	meters (m)	The approximate size of the water body being sampled (<1 m, 1-10 m, 10 m)
mosquitoes:shaded area percent	percent (%)	Percent of the water body being sampled that is in the shade
mosquitoes:plants	n/a	Plant presence in the water body being sampled Options: [TRUE (t), FALSE (f)]
mosquitoes:algae	n/a	Algal presence in the water body being sampled Options: [TRUE (t), FALSE (f)]
mosquitoes:odor	n/a	Presence of odor from sampled water body Options: [sewage, normal, none]
mosquitoes:surface oil	n/a	Oil presence on the water's surface Options: [none, flecks]
mosquitoes:turbidity subjective	n/a	A subjective assessment by the individual making the observation if the water in which the mosquitoes were found is turbid or clear
mosquitoes:container types	n/a	The type of container in which the mosquito sample is found Options: [plastic bottle, cement tank] Note: multiple containers can be recorded at a single site.
mosquitoes:most freq habitat type	n/a	Most frequently observed type of mosquito habitat Options: [natural, artificial]
mosquitoes:net pole size cm	centimeters (cm)	Length of the pole on the net used (if used at all) to collect mosquitoes
mosquitoes:net diameter cm	centimeters (cm)	Diameter of the net used (if used at all) to collect mosquitoes
mosquitoes:container water level percent median	percent (%)	Median percent water level in the containers sampled (e.g., 50%)
mosquitoes:lid types	n/a	The type of lid associated with each container in which mosquito samples were found Options: [plastic, wood, clay, metal, none]

### Mosquitoes, continued

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
mosquitoes:most freq container color	n/a	A flag indicating if most of the sampled containers have a light or dark color
mosquitoes:most freq cleaning frequency	n/a	Most common cleaning frequency of the containers or water bodies sampled (e.g., 1-2 times/week, >2 times/week)
mosquitoes:number of collection samples	n/a	Number (integer) of samples collected Note: The protocol asked for at least three samples taken at least two minutes apart.
mosquitoes:larvae genus	n/a	Genus of the mosquitoes sampled Options: [Aedes, Culex, Anopheles, other]
mosquitoes:larvae species	n/a	Species of the mosquitoes sampled (e.g., aegypti, albopictus)
mosquitoes:larvae count	n/a	Number (integer) of mosquito larvae present
mosquitoes:larvae count ratio	n/a	This is the ratio of the number of larvae reported / the number of collection samples

## Mosquito Habitat Mapper

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
mosquito habitat mapper: measurement latitude	decimal degrees north	Latitude recorded by the GPS of a participant using the GLOBE Observer app at the time of measurement. Range: [-90,90] <i>Note: See also "latitude".</i>
mosquito habitat mapper: measurement longitude	decimal degrees east	Longitude recorded by the GPS of a participant using the GLOBE Observer app at the time of measurement. <i>Note: See also "longitude".</i>
mosquito habitat mapper: measurement elevations	meters (m) above sea level	Elevation at the latitude/longitude location recorded by the GPS of a participant using the GLOBE Observer app at the time of measurement. <i>Note: See also "elevation".</i>
mosquito habitat mapper: data source	n/a	Indicates if the data was entered via the GLOBE Observer App (currently, that is the only option)
mosquito habitat mapper: water source type	n/a	High-level classification of the mosquito habitat type Options: [container: artificial, container: natural, flowing: still water found next to river or stream, still: lake/pond/swamp]
mosquito habitat mapper: water source	n/a	Further classification of the mosquito habitat type Options: [can, bottle, pond, cistern]
mosquito habitat mapper: larvae count	n/a	Number (integer) of mosquito larvae present
mosquito habitat mapper: mosquito eggs	n/a	Are mosquito eggs present? Options: [TRUE, FALSE]
mosquito habitat mapper: mosquito egg count	n/a	<i>This field is currently not used.</i>
mosquito habitat mapper: mosquito pupae	n/a	Are mosquito pupae present? Options: [TRUE (t), FALSE (f)]
mosquito habitat mapper: mosquito adults	n/a	Are adult mosquitoes present? Options: [TRUE (t), FALSE (f)]
mosquito habitat mapper: last identify stage	n/a	Flag indicating the last identification stage a user completed in the Mosquito Habitat Mapper tool in the GLOBE Observer mobile app
mosquito habitat mapper: genus	n/a	Genus of the mosquitoes Options: [Aedes, Anopheles, Culex] <i>Note: This is unvalidated data submitted by citizen scientists and should be validated by scientists through examination of associated voucher photographs.</i>
mosquito habitat mapper: species	n/a	Species of the mosquitoes (e.g., aegypti, albopictus) <i>Note: This is unvalidated data submitted by citizen scientists and should be validated by scientists through examination of associated</i>

		<i>voucher photographs.</i>
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### Mosquito Habitat Mapper, continued

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
mosquito habitat mapper: breeding ground eliminated	n/a	Was the breeding ground eliminated? Options: [TRUE (t), FALSE (f)]
mosquito habitat mapper: extra data	n/a	Optional entry if user wants to report the presence of a mosquito species that is not part of the prompts in the GLOBE Observer mobile app
mosquito habitat mapper: water source photo urls	n/a	URL of the mosquito water source photo
mosquito habitat mapper: larva full body photo urls	n/a	URL of the mosquito full body photo
mosquito habitat mapper: abdomen closeup photo urls	n/a	URL for the mosquito abdomen photo
mosquito habitat mapper: comments	n/a	Comments about the mosquito observation
mosquito habitat mapper: location method	n/a	Indicates if the measurement location was determined automatically by device GPS or entered manually
mosquito habitat mapper: location accuracy (m)	meters (m)	For locations determined by device GPS, this is the estimate of accuracy within “n” meters

### Nitrates

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
nitrates:nitrate and nitrite mgL	milligrams per liter (mg L <sup>-1</sup> )	Concentration of both nitrates and nitrites of a water body in milligrams per liter
nitrates:nitrite only mgL	milligrams per liter (mg L <sup>-1</sup> )	Concentration of nitrites of a water body
nitrates:comments	n/a	Comments on water body nitrate measurement
nitrates:water body state	n/a	The state of the water body Options: [normal, frozen, flooded, dry, or unreachable]
nitrates:nitrate kit mfg	n/a	Manufacturer of the nitrate measurement kit

nitrates:nitrate kit model	n/a	Model name of the nitrate measurement kit
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**pH**

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
hydrology phs:water body state	n/a	The state of the water body Options: [normal, frozen, flooded,dry, unreachable]
hydrology phs:ph	n/a	pH of the water body
hydrology phs:ph method	n/a	The method used to measure water body pH: paper, pen, or meter
hydrology phs:ph meter model	n/a	Model number of the pH meter used
hydrology phs:ph meter mfg	n/a	Name of the pH meter manufacturer
hydrology phs:ph buffer 4	n/a	Was the pH 4 buffer used in calibration? Options: [yes, no]
hydrology phs:ph buffer 7	n/a	Was the pH 7 buffer used in calibration? Options: [yes, no]
hydrology phs:ph buffer 10	n/a	Was the pH 10 buffer used in calibration? Options: [yes, no]
hydrology phs:comments	n/a	Comments on measurements of water body pH

## Phenological Gardens

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
phenological gardens: year	yyyy	The year when measurements of a phenology garden were taken
phenological gardens: common name	n/a	The common name of the plant in a phenology garden observed
phenological gardens: plant number	n/a	The number of the plant in a phenology garden observed
phenological gardens: planted date	yyyy-mm-dd	The date in UTC when the plant in a phenology garden was planted. (Spreadsheet programs may automatically convert to a different date format.)
phenological gardens: genus	n/a	The genus of the plant in a phenology garden that was observed
phenological gardens: species	n/a	The species of the plant in a phenology garden that was observed
phenological gardens: plant state	n/a	The state (phenophase) of the plant in a phenology garden that was observed
phenological gardens: height cm	centimeters (cm)	Measure of height of each plant in autumn of year except snowdrops
phenological gardens: comments	n/a	Comments on phenology garden measurements
phenological gardens: fertilizer types dates	yyyy-mm-dd	Type(s) of fertilizer applied to garden and date(s) of application. (Spreadsheet programs may automatically convert to a different date format.)
phenological gardens: watered dates	yyyy-mm-dd	Date(s) on which the garden was watered. (Spreadsheet programs may automatically convert to a different date format.)
phenological gardens: pruned dates	yyyy-mm-dd	Date(s) on which plant was pruned. (Spreadsheet programs may automatically convert to a different date format.)

## Precipitation

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
precipitations: snowfall accumulation flag	n/a	A notation if the snowfall amount is missing or was a trace Options: [missing, trace]
precipitations:ph method	n/a	The method used to measure pH Options: [pH paper, pH meter]
precipitations:vis total liquid equivalent	millimeters (mm)	The liquid equivalent depth of new precipitation (rain or melted snow) that has accumulated since last observation
precipitations:occurrence type	n/a	The type of precipitation observed Options: [rain, snow, rain mixed with snow, no occurrence, unknown]
precipitations:liquid accumulation	millimeters (mm)	The depth of precipitation (rain or melted snow) since the previous measurement of precipitation
precipitations:snowfall accumulation	millimeters (mm)	Depth of snowfall since the previous measurement of precipitation
precipitations:liquid accumulation flag	n/a	A notation if the liquid accumulation amount is missing or was a trace
precipitations:days accumulated	n/a	The number of days precipitation has accumulated since the previous measurement (maximum allowed is 7 days)
precipitations:pH	n/a	The pH of the rain and/or melted snow
precipitations:vis rain depth	millimeters (mm)	The depth of rainfall since the previous measurement of precipitation
precipitations:vis snow depth	millimeters (mm)	The depth of snowfall since the previous measurement of precipitation
precipitations:comments	n/a	Comments on the precipitation measurement

## Precipitation Monthlies

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
precipitation monthlies:averaged month	yyyy-mm-01	First day of the month for which precipitation measurements are averaged. (Spreadsheet programs may automatically convert to a different date format.)
precipitation monthlies:number of days reported	n/a	Number of days in month on which precipitation measurements were reported
precipitation monthlies:number of obs	n/a	Number of precipitation observations reported in the month
precipitation monthlies:liquid accumulation mm	millimeters (mm)	Accumulation of liquid precipitation reported for the month
precipitation monthlies:liquid accumulation flag	n/a	Flag for precipitation monthlies marked trace for trace precipitation reported.

## Relative Humidity

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
humidities:relative humidity percent	percent (%)	Relative humidity
humidities:dewpoint	degrees Celsius	<p>Dew point temperature. Dew point is computed based on data entered by the GLOBE member:</p> <p>If a sling psychrometer is used, wet bulb and dry bulb temperatures along with standard pressure based off elevation of the GLOBE site are used to determine relative humidity.</p> <p>If a hygrometer is used, relative humidity and ambient air temperature are used.</p> <p>Dewpoint is determined based off the following calculation.</p> $  \begin{aligned}  tk &= \text{dry\_bulb\_temp} + 273.15; \\  es &= 6.11 \cdot \exp(19.834 - (5417.7/tk)); \\  ea &= es \cdot \text{humidity\_percent}/100.0; \\  tdk &= -5417.7/(\ln(ea/6.11) - 19.834); \\  td &= tdk - 273.15;  \end{aligned}  $
humidities:comments	n/a	Comments on humidity measurement

## Relative Humidity Monthlies

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
humidity monthlies: averaged month	yyyy-mm-01	First day of the month for which humidity measurements are averaged. (Spreadsheet programs may automatically convert to a different date format.)
humidity monthlies:number of days reported	n/a	Number of days in month on which humidity measurements were reported
humidity monthlies:number of obs	n/a	Number of humidity observations reported in the month
humidity monthlies:max relative humidity (%)	percent (%)	Maximum reported relative humidity in the month
humidity monthlies:min relative humidity (%)	percent (%)	Minimum reported relative humidity in the month
humidity monthlies:average relative humidity (%)	percent (%)	Monthly average relative humidity  Monthly average relative humidity provided only when there is at least 21 days reported or there is >2000 individual measurements.
humidity monthlies:maximum dewpoint (deg C)	degrees Celsius	Dew point temperature associated with the maximum relative humidity measurement in the month  Monthly maximum dewpoint provided only when there is at least 21 days reported or there is >2000 individual measurements.
humidity monthlies:minimum dewpoint (deg C)	degrees Celsius	Dew point temperature associated with the minimum relative humidity measurement in the month  Monthly minimum dewpoint provided only when there is at least 21 days reported or there is >2000 individual measurements.
humidity monthlies:average dewpoint (deg C)	degrees Celsius	Monthly average dew point temperature  Monthly average dewpoint provided only when there is at least 21 days reported or there is >2000 individual measurements.

## Relative Humidity Noons

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
humidity noons:comments	n/a	Comments on the relative humidity measurement
humidity noons:dewpoint	degrees Celsius	The dewpoint measurement closest to and within one hour of local solar noon
humidity noons:relative humidity (%)	percent (%)	The relative humidity measurement closest to and within one hour of local solar noon

## Salinity

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
salinities:water body state	n/a	The state of the water body Options: [normal, frozen, flooded, dry, unreachable]
salinities:salinity via hydrometer ppt	parts per thousand (ppt)	Salinity as measured using a hydrometer
salinities:salinity via titration ppt	n/a	Salinity in parts per thousand as measured by titration
salinities:tide latitude	decimal degrees north	The latitude of the location for which tide information is reported. Range: [-90, 90]
salinities:tide longitude	decimal degrees east	The longitude of the location for which tide information is reported. Range: [-180, 180]
salinities:tide location description	n/a	Description of the location for which tide information is reported
salinities:before salinity measurement tide at	HH:MM	Time in UTC of high or low tide preceding the salinity measurement
salinities:before salinity measurement tide type	n/a	Type of tide Options: [high, low]
salinities:after salinity measurement tide at	n/a	Time of high or low tide following the salinity measurement
salinities:after salinity measurement tide type	n/a	Type of tide Options: [high, low]
salinities:salinity kit mfg	n/a	Name of the manufacturer of the salinity kit used
salinities:salinity kit model	n/a	Salinity test kit model number
salinities:comments	n/a	Comments on salinity measurement

### Snow Pack/Solid Precipitation

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
snowpacks:snow depth	millimeters (mm)	Depth of the snowpack
snowpacks:depth flag	n/a	Options: [trace, missing]
snowpacks:liquid equivalent	millimeters (mm)	Depth of the melted (i.e., liquid) snowpack
snowpacks:liquid equivalent flag	n/a	Options: [trace, missing]
snowpacks:ph	n/a	pH of the melted snowpack
snowpacks:ph method	n/a	Method used to measure snowpack pH Options: [pH paper, pH meter]
snowpacks:comments	n/a	Comments on the snowpack measurement

## Soil Characterization – Field Measurements

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
soil layer descriptions: horizon number	n/a	Horizon number of the soil characterization measurements
soil layer descriptions: horizon top depth cm	centimeters (cm)	Soil horizon top depth
soil layer descriptions: horizon bottom depth cm	centimeters (cm)	Soil horizon bottom depth
soil layer descriptions: reference depth level 5cm	n/a	Number of the soil horizon at 5 cm depth
soil layer descriptions: reference depth level 10cm	n/a	Number of the soil horizon at 10 cm depth
soil layer descriptions: reference depth level 30cm	n/a	Number of the soil horizon at 30 cm depth
soil layer descriptions: reference depth level 50cm	n/a	Number of the soil horizon at 50 cm depth
soil layer descriptions: reference depth level 60cm	n/a	Number of the soil horizon at 60 cm depth
soil layer descriptions: reference depth level 90cm	n/a	Number of the soil horizon at 90 cm depth
soil layer descriptions: collected on	yyyy-mm-dd	Date on which soil horizon samples were collected in UTC. (Spreadsheet programs may automatically convert to a different date format.)
soil layer descriptions: moisture estimate	n/a	Soil horizon moisture Options: [wet, moist, dry]
soil layer descriptions: structure	n/a	Soil horizon structure Options: [granular, blocky, platy, prismatic, columnar, single grained, massive, unknown]
soil layer descriptions: consistence	n/a	Soil horizon consistency Options: [loose, friable, firm, extra firm]
soil layer descriptions: main color code	n/a	Code of the primary soil horizon color
soil layer descriptions: secondary color code	n/a	Code of the secondary soil horizon color, if there is one
soil layer descriptions: texture field estimate	n/a	Soil horizon texture as determined by feel
soil layer descriptions: rock quantity estimate	n/a	Presence of rocks in the soil horizon Options: [many, few, none]
soil layer descriptions: root quantity estimate	n/a	Presence of roots in the soil horizon Options: [many, few, none]
soil layer descriptions: carbonates	n/a	Presence of carbonate in the soil horizon Options: [much, some, none]
soil layer descriptions: comments	n/a	Comments on soil characterization measurements



### Soil Characterization – Horizon Number at Depth/ Horizon Bottom Depth

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
soil characterizations: horizon number	n/a	Horizon number of the soil characterization measurements
soil characterizations: horizon top depth cm	centimeters (cm)	Soil horizon top depth
soil characterizations: horizon bottom depth cm	centimeters (cm)	Soil horizon bottom depth
soil characterizations: reference depth level 5cm	n/a	Number of the soil horizon at 5 cm depth
soil characterizations: reference depth level 10cm	n/a	Number of the soil horizon at 10 cm depth
soil characterizations: reference depth level 30cm	n/a	Number of the soil horizon at 30 cm depth
soil characterizations: reference depth level 50cm	n/a	Number of the soil horizon at 50 cm depth
soil characterizations: reference depth level 60cm	n/a	Number of the soil horizon at 60 cm depth
soil characterizations: reference depth level 90cm	n/a	Number of the soil horizon at 90 cm depth
soil characterizations: collected on	mm/dd/yyyy	Day soil sample was collected for characterization measurements in UTC
soil characterizations: moisture estimate	n/a	Moisture of the soil horizon Options: [wet, moist, dry]
soil characterizations: structure	n/a	Soil horizon structure Options: [granular, blocky, platy, prismatic, columnar, single grained, massive, unknown]
soil characterizations: consistence	n/a	Soil horizon consistency Options: [loose, friable, firm, extra firm]
soil characterizations: main color code	n/a	Code of the primary soil horizon color
soil characterizations: secondary color code	n/a	Code of the secondary soil horizon color if secondary soil horizon is present
soil characterizations: texture field estimate	n/a	Soil horizon texture as determined by feel (see <a href="#">Soil Texture Triangle</a> ) Options: [sand, silt, clay, combination]

**Soil Characterization – Horizon Number at Depth/Horizon Bottom Depth, cont.**

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
soil characterizations: rock quantity estimate	n/a	Presence of rocks in the soil horizon Options: [many, few, none]
soil characterizations: root quantity estimate	n/a	Presence of roots in the soil horizon Options: [many, few, none]
soil characterizations: carbonates	n/a	Presence of carbonate in the soil horizon Options: [much, few, none]
soil characterizations:ph	n/a	pH of the soil horizon
soil characterizations: ph method	n/a	Method used to measure soil pH Options: [pH paper, pH meter]
soil characterizations: bulk density g per cm <sup>3</sup>	grams per cubic centimeter (g cm <sup>-3</sup> )	Bulk density of the soil horizon
soil characterizations: particle density g per cm <sup>3</sup>	grams per cubic centimeter (g cm <sup>-3</sup> )	Soil particle density
soil characterizations: porosity percent	percentage (%)	Percentage of the soil horizon that is empty and/or filled with water
soil characterizations: clay percent	percentage (%)	Percentage of soil particles that are clay
soil characterizations: sand percent	percentage (%)	Percentage of soil particles that are sand
soil characterizations: silt percent	percentage (%)	Percentage of soil particles that are silt
soil characterizations:texture	n/a	Soil horizon texture based on the measured percentages of sand, silt, and clay (see <a href="#">Soil Texture Triangle</a> )
soil characterizations: nitrate estimate	n/a	Amount of nitrate Options: [high, medium, low, none, unknown]
soil characterizations: phosphate estimate	n/a	Amount of phosphate Options: [high, medium, low, none, unknown]
soil characterizations: potassium estimate	n/a	Amount of potassium Options: [high, medium, low, none, unknown]
soil characterizations: comments	n/a	Comments on soil characterization measurements

## Soil Characterization – Particle Size Distribution

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
soil particle size distributions: horizon number	n/a	Students number horizons starting at surface going downward up to 1 meter in depth
soil particle size distributions: horizon top depth cm	centimeters (cm)	The depth from the surface to the top of each horizon
soil particle size distributions: horizon bottom depth cm	centimeters (cm)	This is the depth from the surface to the bottom of each horizon
soil particle size distributions: reference depth level 5cm	n/a	A means of referencing the soil characteristics including the horizon number for the specified depth based upon the depth level falling between the top and bottom depth of the measured soil horizon.
soil particle size distributions: reference depth level 10cm	n/a	A means of referencing the soil characteristics including the horizon number for the specified depth based upon the depth level falling between the top and bottom depth of the measured soil horizon.
soil particle size distributions: reference depth level 30cm	n/a	A means of referencing the soil characteristics including the horizon number for the specified depth based upon the depth level falling between the top and bottom depth of the measured soil horizon.
soil particle size distributions:reference depth level 50cm	n/a	A means of referencing the soil characteristics including the horizon number for the specified depth based upon the depth level falling between the top and bottom depth of the measured soil horizon.
soil particle size distributions:reference depth level 60cm	n/a	A means of referencing the soil characteristics including the horizon number for the specified depth based upon the depth level falling between the top and bottom depth of the measured soil horizon.
soil particle size distributions:reference depth level 90cm	n/a	A means of referencing the soil characteristics including the horizon number for the specified depth based upon the depth level falling between the top and bottom depth of the measured soil horizon.
soil particle size distributions:collected on	yyyy-mm-dd	Date soil was collected on in UTC. (Spreadsheet programs may automatically convert to a different date format.)
soil particle size distributions:clay percent	percent (%)	Percent clay particles in sample
soil particle size distributions:sand percent	percent (%)	Percent sand particles in sample
soil particle size distributions:silt percent	percent (%)	Percent silt particles in sample
soil particle size distributions:texture	n/a	Taken from the textural triangle (see Soil Texture Triangle in the <a href="#">particle size distribution protocol</a> )
soil particle size distributions:comments	n/a	Comments on particle size distribution

## Soil Density

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
soil densities:horizon number	n/a	Number of the horizon for which density measurements are provided
soil densities:horizon top depth cm	centimeters (cm)	Top depth of horizon for which densities were measured
soil densities:horizon bottom depth cm	centimeters (cm)	Bottom depth of horizon for which densities were measured
soil densities:reference depth level 5cm	n/a	Number of the soil horizon at 5 cm depth
soil densities:reference depth level 10cm	n/a	Number of the soil horizon at 10 cm depth
soil densities:reference depth level 30cm	n/a	Number of the soil horizon at 30 cm depth
soil densities:reference depth level 50cm	n/a	Number of the soil horizon at 50 cm depth
soil densities:reference depth level 60cm	n/a	Number of the soil horizon at 60 cm depth
soil densities:reference depth level 90cm	n/a	Number of the soil horizon at 90 cm depth
soil densities:collected on	yyyy-mm-dd	Date when samples were collected for soil densities measurements. (Spreadsheet programs may automatically convert to a different date format.)
soil densities:bulk density g per cm <sup>3</sup>	grams per cubic centimeter (g cm <sup>-3</sup> )	Bulk density of soil sample.
soil densities:particle density g per cm <sup>3</sup>	grams per cubic centimeter (g cm <sup>-3</sup> )	Particle density
soil densities:porosity percent	percent (%)	Ratio of bulk density to particle density
soil densities:comments	n/a	Comments on soil density measurement

## Soil Fertility

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
soil fertilities:horizon number	n/a	Horizon number of the soil characterization measurements
soil fertilities:horizon top depth cm	centimeters (cm)	Soil horizon top depth
soil fertilities:horizon bottom depth cm	centimeters (cm)	Soil horizon bottom depth
soil fertilities:reference depth level 5cm	n/a	Number of the soil horizon at 5 cm depth
soil fertilities:reference depth level 10cm	n/a	Number of the soil horizon at 10 cm depth
soil fertilities:reference depth level 30cm	n/a	Number of the soil horizon at 30 cm depth
soil fertilities:reference depth level 50cm	n/a	Number of the soil horizon at 50 cm depth
soil fertilities:reference depth level 60cm	n/a	Number of the soil horizon at 60 cm depth
soil fertilities:reference depth level 90cm	n/a	Number of the soil horizon at 90 cm depth
soil fertilities:collected on	yyyy-mm-dd	Date when samples were collected for soil fertility measurements. (Spreadsheet programs may automatically convert to a different date format.)
soil fertilities:nitrate estimate	n/a	Soil nitrate estimate from the NPK (nitrogen-K, phosphorus-P, potassium-K) kit Options: [high, medium, low, none]
soil fertilities:phosphate estimate	n/a	Soil phosphate estimate from the NPK (nitrogen-K, phosphorus-P, potassium-K) kit Options: [high, medium, low, none]
soil fertilities:potassium estimate	n/a	Soil potassium estimate from the NPK (nitrogen-K, phosphorus-P, potassium-K) kit Options: [high, medium, low, none]
soil fertilities:comments	n/a	Comments from the NPK kit results

### Soil Infiltration

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
soil infiltrations:max flow rate mm per min	millimeters per minute (mm min <sup>-1</sup> )	The maximum flow rate of all the sequence measurements for the given date and site.
soil infiltrations:min flow rate mm per min	millimeters per minute (mm min <sup>-1</sup> )	The minimum flow rate of all the sequence measurements for the given date and site.
soil infiltrations:average saturated soil water content g per g	grams per gram (g g <sup>-1</sup> )	Gravimetric soil moisture of the sample taken where the infiltration measurement was taken
soil infiltrations:comments	n/a	Comments on soil infiltration measurement

### Soil Moisture – Gravimetric

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
soil moisture via gravimetrics:depth level (cm)	centimeters (cm)	Moisture for the top 5 cm
soil moisture via gravimetrics:moisture method	n/a	Options: [star gravimetric, transect gravimetric, hole depth gravimetric, smap]
soil moisture via gravimetrics:saturated flag	n/a	A flag indicating that the surface soil was saturated at the time of measurement
soil moisture via gravimetrics:water content (g per g)	grams per gram (g g <sup>-1</sup> )	Gravimetric surface soil moisture measurement taken following
soil moisture via gravimetrics:comments	n/a	Comments on surface soil moisture measurements taken
soil moisture via gravimetrics:soil state	n/a	The ground surface conditions at the time of when a measurement was observed. A soil moisture value can only be determined when the value of “measurable” is selected. Options: [snow, measurable, frozen, frozen water, graupel, hail]

### Soil Moisture - Sensors

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
soil moisture via sensors: depth level cm	centimeters (cm)	Depth in cm of the sensor soil moisture measurement: 10, 30, 60, or 90 centimeters
soil moisture via sensors: moisture method	n/a	Type of sensor used to measure soil moisture
soil moisture via sensors: saturated flag	n/a	A flag indicating if soils are fully saturated and there is standing water.
soil moisture via sensors: meter reading	n/a	Soil moisture meter reading
soil moisture via sensors: installation date	yyyy-mm-dd	Date soil moisture sensor was installed at the site in UTC. (Spreadsheet programs may automatically convert to a different date format.)
soil moisture via sensors: water content g per g	grams per gram (g g <sup>-1</sup> )	Soil moisture meter reading converted to grams per gram by application of a calibration curve based on 15 or more gravimetric measurements
soil moisture via sensors: comments	n/a	Comments on the soil moisture measurements taken using sensors

### Soil Moisture – SMAP Block Pattern

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
soil moisture for smap: depth level cm	centimeters (cm)	Moisture for the top 5 cm
soil moisture for smap: saturated flag	n/a	A flag indicating that the surface soil was saturated at the time of measurement
soil moisture for smap: gravimetric soil moisture g per g	grams per gram ( $g\ g^{-1}$ )	Gravimetric surface soil moisture measurement taken following the SMAP Block Pattern protocol
soil moisture for smap: average sample volume ml	milliliters (ml)	Average of the sample volume measurements taken following the SMAP Block Pattern protocol
soil moisture for smap: first volume measurement	milliliters (ml)	Volume of water poured into the can. Volume is measured three times; this is the first of those three measurements.
soil moisture for smap: volumetric soil moisture ml per ml	milliliters per milliliter ( $ml\ ml^{-1}$ )	Volumetric surface soil moisture measurement taken following the SMAP Block Pattern protocol
soil moisture for smap: sample bulk density g per ml	grams per milliliter ( $g\ ml^{-1}$ )	Sample bulk density used in converting up to 10 gravimetric soil moisture measurements to volumetric soil moisture
soil moisture for smap: comments	n/a	Comments on surface soil moisture measurements taken following the SMAP Block Pattern protocol
soil moisture for smap: soil state	n/a	The ground surface conditions at the time of when a measurement was observed. A soil moisture value can only be determined when the value of “measurable” is selected. Options: [snow, measurable, frozen, frozen water, graupel, hail]

**Soil Moisture Monthlies aka Volumetric Soil Moisture Monthlies**

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
volumetric soil moisture monthlies:averaged month	yyyy-mm-01	First day of the month for which soil moisture measurements are averaged. (Spreadsheet programs may automatically convert to a different date format.)
volumetric soil moisture monthlies:number of days reported	n/a	Number of days in the month on which soil moisture observations were reported
volumetric soil moisture monthlies:number of obs	n/a	Number of soil moisture observations reported in the month
volumetric soil moisture monthlies:depth level (cm)	centimeters (cm)	Depth at which soil moisture measurements were taken
volumetric soil moisture monthlies:maximum soil moisture (ml per ml)	milliliters per milliliter (ml ml <sup>-1</sup> )	Maximum soil moisture measurement reported in the month
volumetric soil moisture monthlies:minimum soil moisture (ml per ml)	milliliters per milliliter (ml ml <sup>-1</sup> )	Minimum soil moisture measurement reported in the month
volumetric soil moisture monthlies:average soil moisture (ml per ml)	milliliters per milliliter (ml ml <sup>-1</sup> )	Average soil moisture measurement reported in the month

## Soil pH

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
soil phs:horizon number	n/a	Horizon number of the soil characterization measurements
soil phs: horizon top depth cm	centimeters (cm)	Soil horizon top depth
soil phs: horizon bottom depth cm	centimeters (cm)	Soil horizon bottom depth
soil phs: reference depth level 5cm	n/a	A means of referencing the soil characteristics including the horizon number for the specified depth based upon the depth level falling between the top and bottom depth of the measured soil horizon.
soil phs: reference depth level 10cm	n/a	A means of referencing the soil characteristics including the horizon number for the specified depth based upon the depth level falling between the top and bottom depth of the measured soil horizon.
soil phs: reference depth level 30cm	n/a	A means of referencing the soil characteristics including the horizon number for the specified depth based upon the depth level falling between the top and bottom depth of the measured soil horizon.
soil phs: reference depth level 50cm	n/a	A means of referencing the soil characteristics including the horizon number for the specified depth based upon the depth level falling between the top and bottom depth of the measured soil horizon.
soil phs: reference depth level 60cm	n/a	A means of referencing the soil characteristics including the horizon number for the specified depth based upon the depth level falling between the top and bottom depth of the measured soil horizon.
soil phs: reference depth level 90cm	n/a	A means of referencing the soil characteristics including the horizon number for the specified depth based upon the depth level falling between the top and bottom depth of the measured soil horizon.
soil phs:collected on	yyyy-mm-dd	Date soil sample was collected on in UTC. (Spreadsheet programs may automatically convert to a different date format.)
soil phs:ph	n/a	pH of the soil horizon
soil phs:ph method	n/a	Method used to measure soil pH Options: [pH paper, pH meter]
soil phs:comments	n/a	Comments on the soil pH measurement

### Soil Temperature

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
soil temp sub days: depth level cm	centimeters (cm)	The depth reported as a positive number below the ground surface. It is the depth at which measurements were collected.
soil temp sub days: current temp c	degrees Celsius	The soil temperature at the measurement time.

### Soil Temperature Dailies

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
soil temp dailies: depth level cm	centimeters (cm)	The depth reported as a positive number below the ground surface. It is the depth at which measurements were collected.
soil temp dailies: minimum temp c	degrees Celsius	The lowest soil temperature measured since the previous day's temperature report
soil temp dailies: maximum temp c	degrees Celsius	The highest soil temperature measured since the previous day's temperature report
soil temp dailies: average temp c	degrees Celsius	The average soil temperature since the previous day's temperature report
soil temp dailies: comments	n/a	Comments on soil temperature measurements

### Soil Temperature Monthlies

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
soil temp monthlies: averaged month	yyyy-mm-01	First day of the month for which soil temperature measurements are averaged. (Spreadsheet programs may automatically convert to a different date format.)
soil temp monthlies: number of days reported	n/a	Number of days in month on which soil temperature measurements were reported
soil temp monthlies: number of obs	n/a	Number of soil temperature observations reported in the month
soil temp monthlies: depth level (cm)	centimeters (cm)	Depth at which soil temperature measurements were reported
soil temp monthlies: maximum temp (deg C)	degrees Celsius	Maximum soil temperature reported during the month
soil temp monthlies: minimum temp (deg C)	degrees Celsius	Minimum soil temperature reported during the month
soil temp monthlies: average temp (deg C)	degrees Celsius	Monthly average soil temperature

### Soil Temperature Noons

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
soil temp noons: depth level cm	centimeters (cm)	The depth reported as a positive number below the ground surface. It is the depth at which measurements were collected.
soil temp noons: current temp c	degree Celsius	The soil temperature closest to local solar noon and within one hour of local solar noon.
soil temp noons: comments	n/a	Comments on soil temperature measurements

### Surface Ozone

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
ozones:ozone ppb	parts per billion (ppb)	Ozone concentration  <i>Note: Surface Ozone to be measured approximately one hour after an ozone strip is exposed to the elements.</i>
ozones:ozone flag	n/a	Surface Ozone to be measured approximately one hour after an ozone strip is exposed to the elements. Flag value of missing is reported if something happens to the strip during the period of exposure.
ozones:ozone method	n/a	The method used to measure ozone concentration. As of April 2019 only one method is defined (GLOBE 2000 method).
ozones:comments	n/a	Comments on the measurement of ozone concentration

### Surface Ozone One Hour After Noons

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
ozone one hour after noons: ozone ppb	parts per billion (ppb)	Surface Ozone to be measured approximately one hour after an ozone strip is exposed to the elements. Ozone concentration is measured one hour after the initial atmospheric measurements were conducted and those measurements were observed within 1 hour of Local Solar Noon.
ozone one hour after noons: ozone flag	n/a	Surface Ozone to be measured approximately one hour after an ozone strip is exposed to the elements. Flag value of missing is reported if something happens to the strip during the period of exposure. Protocol requirements expect that if the initial atmospheric measurements were conducted within 1 hour of Local Solar Noon that the reading of the ozone strip is to occur approximately one hour after local solar noon.
ozone one hour after noons: ozone method	n/a	Surface Ozone to be measured approximately one hour after an ozone strip is exposed to the elements. Ozone method is the process used to measure Ozone concentrations. As of April 2019 only one method is defined (GLOBE 2000 method).
ozone one hour after noons: comments	n/a	Comments on the measurement of ozone concentration

## Surface Temperature

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
surface temperatures: average surface temperature c	degrees Celsius	Average of surface temperatures for one homogeneous site (1-9 observations)
surface temperatures:surface condition	n/a	Surface condition (wet or dry) taken for one homogeneous site
surface temperatures: average snow depth mm	millimeters (mm)	Average snow depth taken with surface temperature observations for one homogeneous site (1-9 observations)
surface temperatures:snow depth flag	n/a	Snow flag taken with surface temperature observations for one homogeneous site Options: [yes; no]
surface temperatures: number of samples taken	n/a	Number of surface temperature samples taken
surface temperatures: comments	n/a	Comments about surface temperature measurement
surface temperatures: surface cover type	n/a	Cover type (e.g. grass, asphalt, etc.) taken for one homogeneous site
surface temperatures: homogeneous site short length m	meters (m)	Width of homogeneous area if dimensions less than 30 m x 30 m
surface temperatures: homogeneous site long length m	meters (m)	Length of homogeneous area if dimensions less than 30 m x 30 m
surface temperatures: site area m squared	square meters (m <sup>2</sup> )	Area measured

### Surface Temperature Noons

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
surface temperature noons: average surface temperature c	degrees Celsius	Average of surface temperatures taken within one hour of solar noon for one homogeneous site (1-9 observations)
surface temperature noons: surface condition	n/a	Surface condition (wet or dry) taken within one hour of solar noon for one homogeneous site
surface temperature noons: average snow depth mm	millimeters (mm)	Average snow depth taken with surface temperature observations taken within one hour of solar noon for one homogeneous site (1-9 observations)
surface temperature noons: snow depth flag	n/a	Flag indicating that the land surface was covered by snow
surface temperature noons: number of samples taken	n/a	Number of places on the ground at which surface temperature was measured
surface temperature noons: comments	n/a	Comments on surface temperature measurements
surface temperature noons: surface cover type	n/a	Cover type (e.g., grass, asphalt, etc.) taken within one hour of solar noon for one homogeneous site
surface temperature noons: homogeneous site short length m	meters (m)	Width of surface temperature homogeneous area if dimensions less than 30 m x 30 m
surface temperature noons: homogeneous site long length m	meters (m)	Length of surface temperature homogeneous area if dimensions less than 30 m x 30 m
surface temperature noons: site area m squared	square meters (m <sup>2</sup> )	Area of surface temperature homogeneous area site

## Water Temperature

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
water temperatures: comments	n/a	Comments about water temperature
water temperatures: water body state	n/a	State of water body site Options: [normal, frozen, flooded, dry, unreachable]
water temperatures: water temp c	degrees Celsius	Temperature of water
water temperatures: temperature method	n/a	Method used thermometer or probe
water temperatures: thermometer probe mfg	n/a	Manufacturer of thermometer probe
water temperatures: thermometer probe model	n/a	Thermometer probe model

## Water Transparency

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
transparencies:comments	n/a	Comments on the transparency measurement
transparencies:water body state	n/a	The state of the water body Options: [normal, frozen, flooded, dry, unreachable]
transparencies:transparency disk image disappearance m	meters (m)	The depth at which the Secchi disk cannot be seen
transparencies:transparency disk does not disappear	n/a	A flag indicating that the Secchi disk could be seen even when resting on the bottom
transparencies:tube image disappearance cm	centimeters (cm)	The depth at which the pattern at the bottom of the turbidity tube cannot be seen
transparencies:tube image does not disappear	n/a	A flag indicating that the pattern at the bottom of the turbidity tube could be seen even when the tube was full

## Water Vapor

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
water vapors:precipitable water	centimeters (cm)	Precipitable water vapor (cm of water in a vertical column of atmosphere directly above the observer) measured
water vapors:comments	n/a	Comments on water vapor measurement
water vapors:observed sky color	n/a	Sky color Options: [deep blue, blue, light blue, pale blue, milky] <i>Note: a guide to sky color is provided on page 14 of the <a href="#">GLOBE Clouds protocol</a>.</i>
water vapors:observed sky clarity	n/a	Sky clarity (i.e., visibility) Options: [unusually clear, clear, somewhat hazy, very hazy, extremely hazy] <i>Note: a guide to sky visibility is provided on page 14 of the <a href="#">GLOBE Clouds protocol</a>.</i>
water vapors:associated remote sensor	n/a	Satellite mission or instrument to which water vapor observation may be compared <i>Note: open text field filled in by observer</i>
water vapors:remote sensor overflight time	mm/dd/yy HH:MM	Time the associated remote sensor most nearly flies over the water vapor measurement site in Universal Coordinated Time (UTC) <i>Note: open text field filled in by observer</i>
water vapors:remote sensor maximum elevation angle	degrees	The highest angle the satellite mission is above the horizon for the location and time of the water vapor measurement <i>Note: open text field filled in by observer</i>

## Water Vapor Noons

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
water vapor noons: precipitable water	centimeters (cm)	Precipitable water vapor (cm of water in a vertical column of atmosphere directly above the observer) measured within 1 hour of local solar noon
water vapor noons: comments	n/a	Comments on water vapor measurement
water vapor noons: observed sky color	n/a	Sky color Options: [deep blue, blue, light blue, pale blue, milky] <i>Note: a guide to sky color is provided on page 14 of the <a href="#">GLOBE Clouds protocol</a>.</i>
water vapor noons: observed sky clarity	n/a	Sky clarity (i.e., visibility) Options: [unusually clear, clear, somewhat hazy, very hazy, extremely hazy] <i>Note: a guide to sky visibility is provided on page 14 of the <a href="#">GLOBE Clouds protocol</a>.</i>
water vapor noons: associated remote sensor	n/a	Satellite mission or instrument to which water vapor observation may be compared <i>Note: open text field filled in by observer</i>
water vapor noons: remote sensor overflight time	mm/dd/yy HH:MM	Time the associated remote sensor most nearly flies over the water vapor measurement site in UTC <i>Note: open text field filled in by observer</i>

water vapor noons: remote sensor maximum elevation angle	degrees	The highest angle the satellite mission is above the horizon for the location and time of the water vapor measurement <i>Note: open text field filled in by observer</i>
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## Wind

Variable	Units/Format	Definition
winds:speed mps	meters per second (mps)	Wind speed (usually reported via automated weather station)
winds:speed flag	n/a	--
winds:gust mps	meters per second (mps)	Wind gust speed (usually reported via automated weather station)
winds:direction	degrees	Direction the wind is coming from, with 0 = north <i>Note: Automated weather stations may give a precise number, while data entered through Atmosphere Data Entry in the GLOBE Observer app gives the options: [north, northeast, east, southeast, south, southwest, west, northwest] stored as numeric values.</i>
winds:direction flag	n/a	--
winds:direction precision	n/a	Number with a range of 1 to 180
winds:wind direction method	n/a	Method used for measuring wind direction Options: [automated, GLOBE instrument]
winds:comments	n/a	Comments related to the wind observation

## Appendix 3. MUC Code Derivation

This appendix contains a description of the methodology for determining MUC codes for a pixel given one or more GLOBE Observer land cover measurements in one or more directions. This only applies to land cover observations submitted via the GLOBE Observer app.

1. Sum the percent coverage for each direction by MUC Code
  - a. *i.e.*, sum all “01n” MUC Code percentages for each direction (north, south, east, west).  
If the user put 50% 01n coverage in all N/E/S/W directions, the sum would be 200%.  
If the user input 20% coverage for the 02b MUC Code in only the N and E directions, the sum would be 40%.
2. Divide the sum per MUC code by the number of directions the user input. For example, if the user input 4 directions – divide by 4. In the case above, 01n has  $200\%/4 = 50\%$  overall, while 02b has  $40\%/4 = 10\%$  overall.
  - a. Note: divide by the total number of directional measurements made, not the number of times a specific MUC code shows up in a given direction. Even though 02b was only reported in 2 directions, the user made a total of 4 directional measurements.
3. If any individual MUC code percent is greater than 60%, use that MUC code to store as the representative value for that pixel, and lookup the corresponding MODIS values to use for the associated map color.
  - a. If two or more MUC codes exceed 60%, use the one with the highest value.
  - b. If two or more MUC codes exceed 60% and are equal, we have no way of choosing one over the other, so the system will randomly choose one.
4. If no individual MUC code exceeds 60%, sum MUC codes percentages by MODIS grouping.
5. Use the highest total MUC-MODIS grouping to determine the representative MODIS color, and use the highest MUC code value from within the grouping for the representative GLOBE pixel MUC code.
  - a. Since GLOBE’s MUC code does not exactly map to the land cover app MUC codes which have the letter suffix, store the MUC code as 01 in the GLOBE database with the “n” suffix stored separately.
  - b. For the example initially provided:
    - i. On the Map page - display the code with the suffix if used (01n) on the user’s map. Use the 01n to lookup the correct MODIS match (Evergreen Needle leaf forests) and color. Display that color on the map’s pixel.
    - ii. On the user’s review page, the user will see: Overall Land Cover: MUC Code 01n – Closely Spaced, Evergreen – Needle Leaved.

There are 3 MODIS land cover classifications that do not map exactly to specific MUC codes, and are not measured directly, but instead are a combination of one or more MUC codes.

1. Mixed Forests
  - a. Dominated by trees with a percent canopy cover of greater than 60% and height exceeding 2 meters. It consists of tree communities with interspersed mixtures or mosaics of the four forest cover types. None of the forest types exceed 60% of landscape.

2. Woody Savannas (open canopy – 30-60% trees)
  - a. Lands with herbaceous and other understory systems, and with forest canopy cover between 30-60%. The forest cover height exceeds 2 meters.
3. Savannas (open canopy with grass)
  - a. Lands with herbaceous and other understory systems, and with forest canopy cover between 10-30%. The forest cover height exceeds 2 meters.

Reference: [Definition of MODIS Land Cover Classes](#)

To see if any of these calculated values should be used to represent the pixel color:

1. If the sum of any single forest grouping of MUC codes are less than 60%.
  - a. *I.e.*, all Evergreen Needleleaf Forests (00, 01n, 03, 1, 11n, 13) or all Evergreen Broadleaf Forests (01b, 11b) or Deciduous Needleleaf (02n, 12n), or Deciduous Broadleaf (02b, 12n).
2. Then sum all forest types (the combination of all four forest MUC codes listed above).
3. If the sum of all forest types is greater than 60%,
  - a. use the “Mixed Forests” color for MODIS matching on the map,
  - b. use the one forest MUC code with the highest percentage from the grouping with the highest percentage to store in the GLOBE databased to represent the pixel
    - i. *I.e.*, if Evergreen Needleleaf Forests is the highest percentage grouping, choose the MUC code from that grouping which has the highest value (like 01n).
  - c. On the user’s review page, the user will see: Overall Land Cover: Mixed Forest. Dominant MUC Code 01n – Closely Spaced, Evergreen – Needle Leaved.
4. If the sum of forest types is 30-60%:
  - a. If the sum of Grasslands (41,42,43,44) and Forest types\*\* totals at least 90%\* of the classification
    - i. *I.e.*, if forest is 30% and grass at least 60%, or forest 40%, grass at least 50% etc.)
  - b. Use the “Woody Savanna” color for MODIS matching on the map
  - c. From the grouping (all Forests combined or Grasslands) which totals the highest percentage, use the highest MUC code from that grouping to represent the pixel
    - i. *I.e.*, if there’s more total forest, choose the MUC code from the forest groupings which is highest. If there’s more grass, choose the MUC code from the grass grouping.
  - d. On the user’s review page, the user will see: Overall Land Cover: Woody Savanna. Dominant MUC Code 01n – Closely Spaced, Evergreen – Needle Leaved.
5. If the sum of the forest types is 10-30%:
  - a. If the sum of Grasslands (41,42,43,44) and Forest types\*\* totals at least 90%\* of the classification
    - i. *I.e.*, if forest is 10% and grass at least 80%, or forest 20%, grass at least 70% etc.
  - b. Use the “Savanna” color for MODIS matching on the map

- c. Use the highest MUC code from the grass grouping to represent the pixel
- d. On the user's review page, the user will see: Overall Land Cover: Savanna. Dominant MUC Code 41 – Tall Grass

\* 90% - it is assumed that trees plus grass must be at least 90% of the constituents before this is considered a savanna or woody savanna. If they total less than 90%, it is not a savanna.

\*\* All MODIS forest type groupings are summed. No differentiation is made between "open" and "closed" trees.

## Appendix 4. MUC Alignment with IGBP

This appendix provides an explanation of the `land_covers:muc_details` field. The MUC details field describes the added details needed to align MUC with the classification systems used by satellites, primarily the International Geosphere-Biosphere Programme IGBP, which is the basis for the MODIS classification system. This field is left blank where no reasonable alignment could be made.

The MUC classifies land cover and land use into nine primary categories, each of which contain secondary, tertiary, and, in some cases, quaternary categories based on ecosystem type. The IGBP Land Cover Type Classification is based on plant functional types. The GLOBE Observer hybrid classification system builds on the primary and secondary-level MUC classes that tend to be grouped by plant or land use type. In some cases, GLOBE Observer Land Cover's system requires additional information from end users not in the original GLOBE Land Cover measurement protocol. For example, users indicate whether shrubs are closely or loosely spaced to determine which of IGBP's shrubland classifications best match the MUC's evergreen or deciduous shrubland classifications. Not all classification types had a corresponding category or definition in the other system. IGBP's mixed forest did not align with any GLOBE MUC classification, but could be derived from the data provided based on user estimates of the density of tree cover. MUC's xeromorphic or tall grassland classifications did not align with any category in the IGBP system.

For example, the MUC code for loosely space evergreen needleleaf trees is 11, and the MUC code for loosely spaced evergreen broadleaf trees is also 11, but the IGBP differentiates between the two. The GO land cover tool differentiates the MUC between these two by adding a n or b to the MUC code, and this differentiating code is in the MUC details field.

The tables below indicate where the `land_covers:muc_details` field will be needed and what the value represents.

### Trees (Closely Spaced)

GO App Land Cover Key	MUC Classification	IGBP Classification
Evergreen – needle-leaved	MUC 01n, Closed Needle-leaved Evergreen Forest	1, Evergreen Needleleaf Forests
Evergreen – broad-leaved	MUC 01b, Closed Broad-leaved Evergreen Forest	2, Evergreen Broadleaf Forests
Deciduous – needle-leaved	MUC 02n, Closed Needle-leaved Deciduous Forest	3, Deciduous Needleleaf Forests
Deciduous – broad-leaved	MUC 02b, Closed Broad-leaved Deciduous Forest	4, Deciduous Broadleaf Forests
Extremely dry	MUC 03, Extremely Xeromorphic	--
Not sure which	MUC 0, Closed Forest	1, Evergreen Needleleaf Forests

**Trees (Loosely Spaced)**

GO App Land Cover Key	MUC Classification	IGBP Classification
Evergreen – needle-leaved	MUC 11n, Evergreen Needle-leaved Woodland	8, Woody Savannas
Evergreen – broad-leaved	MUC 11b, Evergreen Broad-leaved Woodland	8, Woody Savannas
Deciduous – needle-leaved	MUC 12n, Deciduous Needle-leaved Woodland	8, Woody Savannas
Deciduous – broad-leaved	MUC 12b, Deciduous Broad-leaved Woodland	8, Woody Savannas
Extremely dry	MUC 13, Extremely Xeromorphic Woodland	8, Woody Savannas
Not sure which	MUC 0, Closed Forest	1, Evergreen Needleleaf Forests

**Shrubs (Closely Spaced)**

GO App Land Cover Key	MUC Classification	IGBP Classification
Tall Evergreen	MUC 21c, Mainly Evergreen Shrubland or Thicket	6, Closed Shrublands
Tall Deciduous	MUC 22c, Mainly Deciduous Shrubland or Thicket	6, Closed Shrublands
Tall Extremely Dry	MUC 23c, Extremely Xeromorphic Shrubland	6, Closed Shrublands
Short Evergreen	MUC 31c, Mainly Evergreen Dwarf-Shrubland or Dwarf-Thicket, Heath	6, Closed Shrublands
Short Deciduous	MUC 32c, Mainly Deciduous Dwarf-Shrubland or Dwarf-Thicket, Heath	6, Closed Shrublands
Short Extremely Dry	MUC 33c, Extremely Xeromorphic (Subdesert) Dwarf Shrubland	6, Closed Shrublands
Not sure which	MUC 3c, Dwarf-Shrubland or Dwarf Thicket, Heath	6, Closed Shrublands

**Shrubs (Loosely Spaced)**

GO App Land Cover Key	MUC Classification	IGBP Classification
Tall Evergreen	MUC 21l, Mainly Evergreen Shrubland or Thicket	7, Open Shrublands
Tall Deciduous	MUC 22l, Mainly Deciduous Shrubland or Thicket	7, Open Shrublands
Tall Extremely Dry	MUC 23l, Extremely Xeromorphic Shrubland	7, Open Shrublands
Short Evergreen	MUC 31l, Dwarf Thicket	7, Open Shrublands
Short Deciduous	MUC 32l Dwarf-Shrubland or Dwarf-Thicket, Mainly Deciduous	7, Open Shrublands
Short Extremely Dry	MUC 33l, Extremely Xeromorphic Dwarf-Shrubland	7, Open Shrublands
Not sure which	MUC 3l, Dwarf-Shrubland or Dwarf Thicket, Heath	7, Open Shrublands

**Herbaceous/Grassland**

GO App Land Cover Key	MUC Classification	IGBP Classification
Tall Grass	MUC 41, Tall Grasslands	--
Medium Grass	MUC 42, Medium-Tall Grassland	10, Grasslands
Short Grass	MUC 43, Short grassland	10, Grasslands
Ferns or Flowers	MUC 44, Forb Vegetation	10, Grasslands

**Barren**

GO App Land Cover Key	MUC Classification	IGBP Classification
Dry Salt Flats	MUC 51, Barren Land, Dry Salt Flats	16, Barren
Sandy	MUC 52, Barren Land, Sandy Areas	16, Barren
Bare Rock	MUC 53, Barren Land, Bare Rock	16, Barren
Perennial Snowfields	MUC 54, Barren Land, Perennial Snowfields	15, Permanent Snow and Ice
Glaciers	MUC 55, Barren Land, Glaciers	15, Permanent Snow and Ice
Dirt/Other	MUC 56, Barren Land, Other	16, Barren

**Wetlands**

GO App Land Cover Key	MUC Classification	IGBP Classification
In Freshwater Riverine (Riverine)	MUC 61 Wetland, Riverine	11, Permanent Wetlands
In Salt/Brackish Tidal (Estuarine)	MUC 63 Wetland, Estuarine	11, Permanent Wetlands
In Freshwater Lake or Pond (Lacustrine)	MUC 64 Wetland, Lacustrine	11, Permanent Wetlands

**Open Water**

GO App Land Cover Key	MUC Classification	IGBP Classification
Freshwater	MUC 71, Open Freshwater	17, Water Bodies
Marine	MUC 72, Open Marine Water	17, Water Bodies

**Cultivated**

GO App Land Cover Key	MUC Classification	IGBP Classification
Crops or Pastures	MUC 811, Cultivated Land, Agriculture, Row Crop, and Pasture	12, Croplands
Orchards	MUC 812, Cultivated Land, Agriculture, Orchard, and Horticulture	12, Croplands
Other Agriculture	MUC 814, Cultivated Land, Agriculture, Confined Livestock and Other Agriculture	12, Croplands
Athletic Field, Golf Course, Cemetery	MUC 82, Cultivated Land, Non-Agriculture	12, Croplands

**Urban**

GO App Land Cover Key	MUC Classification	IGBP Classification
Residential Property	MUC 91, Urban, Residential	13, Urban and Built-up Lands
Commercial Property	MUC 92, Urban, Commercial and Industrial	13, Urban and Built-up Lands
Roads and Parking	MUC 93, Urban, Transportation	13, Urban and Built-up Lands
Other	MUC 94, Urban, Other	13, Urban and Built-up Lands

## Appendix 5. Tree Species Expansion

On June 5, 2024, the taxa table utilized by the GLOBE database was expanded. Prior to the expansion of the taxa table, many observations from the GLOBE Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) region containing tree species data could not be submitted to the website; it is mandatory to select genus and species from a defined list in order to upload data. The "Trees within LAC" campaign was promoting projects on carbon cycle, land cover, and green up and green down, and needed a broader range of possible taxa, reflective of the great biodiversity of the LAC region.

Given the motivations above, this expansion to taxa list includes species for all of the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) GLOBE Countries: Argentina, Bahamas, Belize, Bermuda, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay

The taxa table (including this expansion) is called upon when observations for the following protocols are submitted via the web data entry form:

- Land Cover (dominant tree) requires genus and species as mandatory.
- Green up and Green down requires genus and species as mandatory.
- Carbon Cycle requires genus and species as mandatory.

And for the following protocols when observations are submitted via the GLOBE Observer Data Entry tool:

- Green up and Green down requires genus and species as mandatory.
- Carbon Cycle requires genus and species as mandatory.

How taxa were identified for inclusion in this expansion:

- Family, genus, and species information was aggregated from country-level tree lists obtained from: <https://www.bgci.org/resources/bgci-databases/globaltree-portal/country-search/>

Higher-order taxonomic classifications (Phylum, Class, and Order) for the list were obtained as follows:

- First, search the Catalogue of Life 2014 Annual Checklist for each family. If present, include the classification from that source as well as a hyperlink.
- If a taxon is not present in the Catalogue of Life 2014 annual checklist, locate it on Tropicos.org and include the classification from that source as well as a hyperlink.

## Considerations

Equisetopsida vs Magnoliopsida: Tropicos uses the Equisetopsida class, instead of Magnoliopsida. Catalogue of Life uses the Magnoliopsida class instead of Equisetopsida

## Credits

This taxa list was compiled by GLOBE Latin America and Caribbean "Trees within LAC" Campaign leaders: Mariana Savino - Regional Coordinator (GLOBE LAC Regional Office), Josefina González (Communications Assistant, GLOBE LAC Regional Office), Ana Prieto, Andrea Ventoso, Claudia Caro

## Citations

BGCI 2024. GlobalTree Portal. Botanic Gardens Conservation International. Richmond, U.K. Available at <https://www.bgci.org/resources/bgci-databases/globaltree-portal/country-search/>. Accessed 05/2024.

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Tropicos, Botanical Information System at the Missouri Botanical Garden - [www.tropicos.org](http://www.tropicos.org). Accessed May 2024.

Details of this expansion can be viewed as an Excel file:

[https://www.globe.gov/documents/10157/2592674/LAC\\_TaxaTable\\_Expansion.xlsx](https://www.globe.gov/documents/10157/2592674/LAC_TaxaTable_Expansion.xlsx)

## Appendix 6. GLOBE Observer App Update History

For the latest changes, refer to the [GLOBE Observer App Status](#) page at <https://observer.globe.gov/about/app-status>

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### 22 August 2025: Update via the app

This update (35.5 MB) includes the following features:

- Special feature photos capability for the Clouds tool (as is already available in Land Cover)
- Satellite flyover notifications for Landsat and Sentinel satellites to facilitate land cover satellite comparisons
- A practice mode for users to try out the app without creating an account, and for use in training situations
- Minor Pedosphere and other bug fixes
- You can read more about the new practice mode and special feature capabilities in the news article ["Try it out" with the Latest GLOBE Observer Update](#), and learn more about the [new land cover satellite comparisons](#) in a separate article on that topic.

### 18 April 2025: Update via the app

This release (37.3 MB) mostly consists of minor enhancements and clean up actions from the Pedosphere protocols (available to trained users). It also includes initial Google translations for Pedosphere and some that were missing for Biosphere, and removes references to the Terra satellite, which is no longer being used for clouds satellite comparison.

### 12 March 2025: Update via the app

This release includes the following new features and updates:

- For trained users, the addition of the soil characterization protocols for Pedosphere with the Data Entry section: Soil Bulk Density, Soil Fertility, Soil Particle Density, Soil pH, Soil Infiltration, and Particle Size Distribution.
- New handling of the “Measured at Already Taken” error in the app. The app will now ignore the error and remove the duplicate measurement from the user’s device.

#### **04 November 2024: Update via the app**

This update provides the ability to (optionally) capture genus and species in the GLOBE Trees tool. It also includes a number of minor bug fixes and enhancements to the app.

#### **21 October 2024: Update via the app (iOS only)**

This update fixes the issue that wasn't allowing users to link to their SciStarter accounts via GLOBE Observer. A video showing how to connect your data to the SciStarter dashboard is available on the [Explore the App page](#). This update also include the ability to link directly to internal sections of the app, rather than just the main home screen.

#### **30 September 2024: Update in the Play Store**

This update provides a new version of GLOBE Observer for Android devices. (A new version of the updated code was provided on 04 October 2024, correcting an error that photos from some users were not being sent properly to the database. Android users should make sure they have downloaded this important update.)

#### **15 August 2024: Update via the app**

This update (12.6 MB) includes a fix for a bug that was not allowing users to select check-boxes when setting up satellite overpass notifications, among other minor updates.

#### **20 June 2024: Update via the app**

This update (36.9 MB) includes a new achievement notification on the app home screen, continued 508 compliance accessibility improvements across the app, updates to help desk email addresses, and various bug fixes. For trained users using the Data Entry portion of GLOBE Observer, it also includes a new site creation process and an expanded list of tree genus/species options for biometry data collection.

#### **27 March 2024: Update via the app**

A small update (2 MB) to fix a problem with iOS 17.4.1 that was blocking website links (such as the page to create a new account and the My Observations page) from opening. NOTE: As a result of this iOS update, it is not possible to make the connection to a SciStarter account on the latest iOS versions. The option is still available on the settings page in the GLOBE Observer app for iPhones running

previous versions of iOS and on Android phones. The app development team is working on a fix for this issue, which will be released at a later date.

### **21 March 2024: Update via the app**

This update (17.7 MB) releases the Eclipse tool in practice mode for users experiencing any level of partial or total eclipse (the region represented by this [GeoJSON polygon](#)). During practice mode, air temperature data can be collected and graphed, but will not be sent to the GLOBE database. (Clouds, Land Cover and the other tools operate normally, with data going to the database as usual.) On 01 April, the tool will switch to live mode, allowing people to record air temperature measurements that are submitted to the database, which will continue through the eclipse on 08 April. On 09 April, the Eclipse tool will switch to review mode, allowing users to view their eclipse day data and graph, but no longer collect new air temperature measurements. The Eclipse tool will automatically be removed from the GLOBE Observer home screen on 08 May.

### **06 March 2024: Update via the app**

Items in this update (35.8 MB):

- The new My Achievements button on the GLOBE Observer app home page
- The new My Achievements section that includes achievements for all applicable Data Entry protocols and Observer tools with displays of the user's [streaks and milestone badges](#) including progress towards the next milestone (users will receive email notifications when awarded new milestone badges)
- Updated GLOBE Observer tool home pages that now gives details of your current and longest streaks
- Several minor bug fixes

### **22 December 2023: Update via the app**

Items in this update (20 MB):

- A special feature photo option in the Land Cover tool. The new capability allows users to capture up to four extra photos in addition to the cardinal direction and up/down photos. The option appears on the Field Notes page, and is especially intended to capture unique features such as erosion, river ice, the coastline, etc. that may not happen to fall in the field of view of one of the regular photos. Descriptive comments in the field notes or as captions on the

special photos are always encouraged, but especially when a special feature is seen.

- New Swahili translations and updates to the German translation
- New leaf color selector for the greenings protocols (available to trained users in the Biosphere Data Entry module)
- Other minor bug fixes

## 22-24 September 2023: Website down for maintenance

The GLOBE website and database will be down for [necessary maintenance](#). During this time, the GLOBE and GLOBE Observer website will be unavailable, and data will not be able to be sent in to the database. Users should store data in the GLOBE Observer app and send it after the maintenance is complete. **UPDATE:** Planned maintenance is complete and the database and website are back to normal operation.

## 25 June 2023: Updates to account types

The GLOBE Program has implemented changes to the account structure for users, which will affect users of the GLOBE Observer app in these ways:

- A new [account creation system](#) that walks users through the steps to becoming a GLOBE Educator or a GLOBE Observer
- New account types that better support new categories for the GLOBE community (see a comparison of the [capabilities of the different account types](#))
- Improved support for new users with a [roadmap feature](#) and [Tutorial Center](#)
- A simpler email authentication which allows user to enter their own passwords

## 04 May 2023: Google Play app availability issue on latest Android OS 14

Due to a change by Google in the requirements for all apps that went into effect ahead of the schedule communicated by them for implementation later this year, the GLOBE Observer app cannot currently be downloaded for the most recent version of Android OS. Users attempting to download the app in Google Play will receive an error message that the app is unavailable. We are working to resolve the issue as quickly as possible. **UPDATE 12 May 2023:** A new version of the app has been released to resolve the issue, and download for all versions of Android OS is again available.

## 15 February 2023: Begin satellite matches to NOAA-20

Satellite overpass times for NOAA-20 were visible in the app for some time previous in preparation, but actual [matching of GLOBE Clouds data to NOAA-20 satellite data](#) (including sending of match emails) began in mid-February.

### **27 to 29 January 2023: Scheduled Satellite Overpass Outage**

Satellite matches and updated satellite overpass times will not be available 27 January through 29 January. Observers can preload up to two weeks of satellite overpass times in the app for their primary observing location by opening the overpass predictor in the Clouds tool before 27 January. Once satellite matching resumes, all data submitted during the downtime period will be processed and match emails will be sent out to observers.

### **20 December 2022: Update via the App**

Items in this update (34.2 MB):

- Improvements for app use by those with visual impairments (Section 508 compliance)
- Moved the "My Observations" to the home page rather than being under individual protocol pages
- Fixed an error message that occurred when creating a GLOBE Team
- Miscellaneous text updates

### **22 July 2022: Update via the App**

Items in this update (35.6 MB): [Read the news article about this app update.](#)

- The ability to set a screen name via the app, which will be visible on GLOBE Teams pages to showcase individual contributions while still preserving user privacy
- Capabilities needed for implementing artificial intelligence analysis tools for quicker approval of photos submitted through GLOBE Land Cover, GLOBE Trees, and GLOBE Mosquito Habitat Mapper (this capability was made available for GLOBE Clouds in March)
- Updates to the My Observations page, including the ability to view data from all protocols, as well as the ability to filter observations by date
- For trained users, data entry for Hydrology protocols , joining the Atmosphere Data Entry modules

In addition, there are companion updates on the GLOBE website improving how trained GLOBE Teachers can create student accounts and track individual student student contributions.

### **29 March 2022: Update via the App**

Items in this update (33.3 MB):

- Capabilities needed for implementing artificial intelligence analysis tools for quicker approval of photos submitted through GLOBE Clouds
- Improved error checking for latitude and longitude at unexpected coordinates (e.g. 0,0 and 90,90) as well as unlikely times (e.g. 00:00)
- Improved accessibility (508 compliance) for GLOBE Clouds
- A translation of the app into Hindi
- The ability to send out announcements to users of the app in a specific geographic region
- Improved processes for checking the associated organization for a user to reduce data submission errors
- Bug fixes and improvements for the Surface Temperature protocol (available to trained users in the Atmosphere Data Entry module)

### **17 November 2021: Update via the App**

This update (15.4 MB) adds capability in the app for the upcoming localized data request feature (geofencing) as well as improved error messages and logging to help resolve issues. For example, if a photo doesn't get fully submitted because of a connection interruption, the user will now get a more detailed response indicating the photos weren't submitted.

### **28 August 2021: Planned Network Upgrade**

NASA Langley Research Center will have a center-wide network update occurring on August 28 from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm EDT. During this time, satellite overpass schedules will be unavailable.

### **23 August 2021: Satellite Matching Issues**

NASA GLOBE Clouds is experiencing issues with geostationary (GEO) satellite matching, beginning on 20 August, and which is impacting the satellite match emails being sent. This page will be updated when the problem is resolved.

### **10 August 2021: Update via the App**

This update (11.4 MB) will set a notification for how to opt-in to GLOBE Observer News, remove the legacy screen for air temperature, barometric pressure and relative humidity from the Clouds tool (now [available to trained and verified GLOBE Members via Atmosphere Data Entry](#) in the app), and improve troubleshooting capabilities when data submission errors occur.

### **05 August 2021: Planned Server Outage - Satellite Matching**

Scheduled server downtime to add disk drives to the system and expand storage space. The outage is expected to last from 9:00 – 3:00 EDT on 05 August. During this time, satellite overpass times will not be available and satellite match emails will not be sent. The backlog of satellite matches and emails is expected to be cleared on 06 August.

### **30 July 2021: Update via the App**

This update (15.1 MB) fixes a few bugs related to the app update from earlier in July and makes some primarily text changes in the Mosquito Habitat Mapper tool.

### **12 July 2021: Update via the App**

Items in this update (32.9 MB):

- A more visual key for the Mosquito Habitat Mapper tool
- Ability to connect the GLOBE Observer app to a SciStarter account and have GLOBE data submissions appear in your SciStarter dashboard
- For full GLOBE Members (and eTrained members in the U.S.), an Atmosphere Data Entry button will appear allowing data entry for aerosols, air temperature, barometric pressure, precipitation, relative humidity, surface temperature, water vapor, and wind in addition to the four GLOBE Observer tools.

Read more details in the [news article about the update](#).

### **25 March 2021: Website Downtime - System Maintenance**

The GLOBE and GLOBE Observer websites and data entry submission will be unavailable on March 25 due to system maintenance. Please record your data as usual, but you will not be able to send data on March 25. All functionality should be returned by March 26th.

### **15 January 2021: Update via the App**

Items in this update (31 MB):

- Improvements in handling longer/translated text, especially in the Clouds Wizard
- Updates to Croatian translation
- Improved ability to take pictures in the Trees app when foreign language characters and text are present in the overlay
- Adding location accuracy to the data sent with Mosquito Habitat Mapper

#### **07 December 2020: App Update for Eclipse Tool**

An update to add the Eclipse tool to the app was released in preparation for the total solar eclipse that will pass across South America on 14 December 2020. The visibility of the tool will be geofenced to the general region of the eclipse, and will only be visible to users in the box bounded by latitude -70 to 3 and longitude -100 to -25. More information about eclipse observations can be found on the [webpage for the Eclipse tool](#).

#### **04 December 2020: Matching to Aqua and Terra Satellites Unavailable**

Matching of clouds observations to Aqua and Terra satellite data stopped on 04 December, and the issue is being worked on by our team. Matching to geostationary (GEO) satellites is still available.

#### **12 November - 16 November, 2020: GLOBE Website Upgrade/Data Submission Unavailable**

The GLOBE website is getting an upgrade, and during the transition period, sign in to the site will be turned off and YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ADD DATA.

For the GLOBE Observer app, users will not be able to submit data within the app; however, users will still be able to make and store observations on the app to be uploaded to the site at a later time (after the upgrade is complete).

#### **14 August 2020: Satellite Overpass Outage**

From 5:00 pm EDT (21:00 UTC) to 10:00 EDT (02:00 UTC on August 15), the satellite overpass tool will not be available due to a planned network upgrade in the building where the system is located.

#### **15 May 2020: Update via the app**

A minor update with changes that include information in satellite overpass notifications about when the location was last set, and updates to the satellite match parameters for a ground observation.

### **16 April 2020: Update via the app**

This update (36.7 MB) includes the [new Clouds Wizard](#), as well as a handful of minor features and bug fixes including:

- A loading bar during app updates to track progress
- Information on the loading screen which reminds users they can make measurements offline
- Modifications to contrails reporting to support the difference between "zero contrails" and "no contrails measured"
- User ID added to the settings page
- Observation counts for Mosquito Habitat Mapper are modified to count only on submission of data

### **30 March, 2020: Satellite Matching Unavailable**

Due to a systems issue on March 28th, satellite matching is not available and the subsequent match emails are not being sent. The outage is expected to last for several days while systems are restored. Once the systems come back online, the backlog of clouds observations taken during the downtime will be matched and emails sent out. Satellite overpass predictions were also affected, but that service has already been restored. UPDATE: System was restored on April 1st, and all pending match emails are expected to be sent by April 3rd.

### **21 February 2020: Update via the app**

This update (17.8 MB) fixes an issue where the observation count for Clouds and Mosquito Habitat Mapper was no longer appearing on the landing screen for those tools, fixes an issue with the photo plugin that was causing issues on Android devices, and updates the social media links to point to the GLOBE Program accounts.

### **05 February 2020: Update via the app**

This update (19 MB) revises the way data is submitted to GLOBE which will improve performance for users sending multiple observations. A second change will report the number of user mosquito observations from the GLOBE server rather than reading it from the user's device. This will more accurately reflect the total number of measurements made for users who have measurements across multiple devices. There

are also minor bug fixes and text changes primarily focused on improving error messages and information for users.

### **28 January 2020: Brief interruption of satellite overpass information**

Starting at about 2:30 pm EST, there will be a brief period during which satellite overpass information will not be available in the app. This should last no more than 30 minutes.

### **13 December 2019: Update via the app with minor fixes**

This release includes 12 minor fixes and changes. Key items:

- Change the data submission process. Currently the system sends all measurements (text) data followed by all photos. This is changing to send photos immediately after each measurement. This will improve the ability to send data to GLOBE - if a connection drops in the middle of sending data, the system will continue from the last sent data point instead of restarting and sending all data again.
- Adding a "Try anyway" button for users who would like to try the automated direction photo taking (as used in clouds and land cover) even if our software does not think there is a magnetometer on the phone. This will help a subset of people whose phones provide alternative ways to get directional information.
- Additional minor changes include removing Google Plus from the list of share options, changing text on some buttons to provide clearer directions and better offline support for counting submissions.

### **12 December - 20 December, 2019: Satellite match emails and overpass times unavailable**

Because of building and server maintenance, satellite overpass times and satellite match emails will not be available December 12-20, 2019. The app will store two weeks of satellite overpasses. You can prepare for the outage by doing the following:

1. Open the app between December 6 and 11
2. Open Clouds
3. Select "Check Satellite Flyovers"

Satellite matches made during the outage period will be sent once the servers are back online.

### **11 October 2019: Version 3.0 in the App Store and Google Play**

This version includes updates for key elements of the app including the camera controller, and improved error handling for devices which do not have a magnetometer.

### 11 October 2019: Latitude and longitude data

Effective September 15, 2019, the site location as defined by the Military Grid Reference System (MGRS) and the true latitude and longitude of an observation made with the NASA GLOBE Observer mobile app are both returned by the [GLOBE Advanced Data Access Tool \(ADAT\)](#), [GLOBE Visualization System \(Vis\)](#), and [GLOBE Application Programming Interface \(API\)](#) in the downloaded dataset. GLOBE Observer data are impacted (i.e., observations made with the Observer app). Full details are available [globe.gov/globe-data/globe-data-user-guide](http://globe.gov/globe-data/globe-data-user-guide) under *User Guide Updates*.

### 20 September 2019: Update via the app

A fairly substantial app update was released (19.5 MB). Many of the changes were behind the scenes and not apparent to users, such as a major rewrite of large sections of the code to bring it up to date. More noticeable changes to users include:

- Improved compass accuracy for users who previously experienced compass offsets (the compass in the app not indicating the correct direction).
- Simplified surface conditions input – users will be able to use previously entered surface condition values (standing water, leaves on trees, etc.) if a second measurement is near (15 minutes and 100m) a previous measurement.
- Improved error handling for users who do not have a compass/magnetometer in their phone.
- Improved error handling for users who are offline.
- Improved consistency in how each tool in the app handles the data submission and review process
- Additional translations for Dutch and Thai.
- Removed the button for the temporary Eclipse tool.

### 11 April 2018: Update via the app

- The Mosquito Habitat Mapper tool now requires a numeric value for the LarvaeCount field, rather than a range stored as text.