**IMOS ATF Acoustic Receiver Loan**

*Terms and Conditions*

The [Animal Tracking Facility (ATF)](http://imos.org.au/animaltracking.html) of Australia’s [Integrated Marine Observing System (IMOS)](http://imos.org.au/) has been operating for over a decade. Formerly known as the Australian Animal Tracking and Monitoring System (AATAMS), it focuses on collecting long-term data on movements of marine animals within Australian coastal and oceanic waters to help the management of Australia’s marine resources.

One of the main objectives of IMOS ATF is to oversee the development and maintenance of a national marine acoustic telemetry network and a centralized database for the Australian research community, thereby facilitating regional-scale collaborative animal tracking research.

Researchers involved in the field of marine animal tracking are therefore welcomed as members of the IMOS Animal Tracking community, contributing their independent local datasets to help grow the national information network, and ultimately benefitting from access to their tags’ detections from a nation-wide array of over 400 receivers.

Every year, IMOS ATF provides support to the Australian marine animal tracking community via its annual IMOS ATF Receiver Loan program.

The selected researcher or project is lent a number of acoustic receivers ([Vemco VR2W](https://vemco.com/products/vr2w-69khz/)) for a period of up to 12 months, to help the commencement or development of a project of relevance to the objectives of IMOS ATF (described above).

The main condition of the IMOS ATF Receiver Loan program is that all data downloaded from the lent receivers must be uploaded to the national [IMOS Animal Tracking Database](https://animaltracking.aodn.org.au/) after each field data download or at the latest within two weeks of completion of the loan.

Release details for tags deployed as part of the selected project must also be entered into the IMOS ATF database at the onset of the project, and are subject to the security policy of the IMOS ATF database. Upon upload to the database, tag IDs can be embargoed for a period of three years, to allow time to publish results prior to being made publicly available.

IMOS ATF acoustic receivers will be made available to the successful applicant under the following conditions:

1. Receivers ([Vemco VR2W](https://vemco.com/products/vr2w-69khz/)) remain the property of the [Sydney Institute of Marine Science (SIMS)](http://sims.org.au/) hosting the [IMOS Animal Tracking Facility](http://imos.org.au/animaltracking.html);
2. A complete set of the data collected by all receivers must be uploaded to the [IMOS Animal Tracking Database](https://animaltracking.aodn.org.au/gettingStarted?null) after each field data download or at the latest within two weeks of completion of the loan;
3. All data will be stored and accessible through the IMOS [Australian Ocean Data Network](https://portal.aodn.org.au/);
4. At the end of the proposed project, IMOS ATF receivers will be returned to ATF at SIMS within one month of project completion, at the applicant’s expense;
5. Successful applicants are required to provide a mid-term report on the progress of the project, and produce a final report within three months of project completion, following the appropriate template provided by IMOS ATF upon acceptance. Report due dates and important deadlines will be outlined via email by the IMOS ATF prior to commencement of the loan;
6. IMOS ATF and SIMS must be acknowledged in all lectures, presentations, displays, and published material concerning the project. Logos will be provided and must be included in all talks and posters;
7. IMOS ATF must be notified of all lectures, presentations, displays, and copies of all published material resulting from the project (electronic copies acceptable);
8. Successful applicants must agree to supply slides and information on request for IMOS ATF review presentations;
9. Successful applicants are liable for damage to or loss of receivers. All damaged or lost receiver will have to be repaired and/or replaced at the applicant’s expense. Successful applicants must guarantee that funds are available if required (receiver costs being ~AUD $2000 each);
10. The applicant will exercise the use of loaned equipment at their own risk and releases and waives any right to make any claim against SIMS and/or IMOS ATF for loss, theft, cost, expense or damage arising directly or indirectly from the use of loaned equipment by the applicant.
11. The applicant will be liable for and indemnify SIMS from any liability, loss, cost, expense or damage of any kind (including consequential or indirect losses, damages or cost) arising directly or indirectly from any claims in relation to the use of the loaned equipment.
12. An *Acknowledgment Form of Receipt of Receivers* in working condition will be supplied at the start of the project, and both parties will sign before deployment of the loaned equipment;
13. Failure to comply with these terms and conditions will result in the termination of the loan.

**Declaration by the Applicant:**

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, accept the terms and conditions associated with the use of the IMOS ATF receivers as part of the IMOS ATF Acoustic Receiver Loan program.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

**Declaration by Head of Institution:**

I certify that the project can be accommodated within the general facilities in my institution, that sufficient working and office space is available for any proposed additional staff, and that I am prepared to have the project carried out in my institution under the circumstances set out by the applicant(s).

I have noted the amount of time that the investigators will be devoting to the project and certify that it is appropriate to existing workloads.

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_