



## Submitting VLF Observations

The Very Low Frequency (VLF) observations performed throughout the world provide a powerful unifying theme for people of all ages and walks of life to share their experiences, their personal discoveries, and the mysteries they encounter in this part of our natural environment. INSPIRE offers an opportunity for VLF observers to share their technical and non-technical observations.

The procedure and format for your observations should be as follows. Only electronic submissions are requested. Scan paper logs as needed to produce PDF electronic versions.

1. Use the Data Cover Sheet and Data Log forms below. (Make copies for new entries in order to retain the blank forms.)
2. Include a voice introduction at the start of each audio recording session indicating your name, your INSPIRE Team name if you have one, the location (by geographic or societal coordinate, such as country, state, and town), the date, local time and Universal Time (UT) time. Include the same introductory information in the written Data Cover Sheet.
3. The specific length of recordings and when they are made will depend on whether you are simply observing for fun, going after a specific observing objective of your own interest, or participating in a coordinated observing campaign. If you are observing for fun or even as an excuse to get into the wilderness and away from society for a while, we recommend you record for at least 30 minutes. If you seek to understand something you've observed or as part of a campaign, the length, frequency, timing, and locations of your observations will be tailored to your needs or by the design of the campaign.
4. Document the time of each recording using the form below and by including audio WWV or a voiced time stamp at the start. The same time stamp should be entered into the audio recording every 30 minutes.
5. File names should uniquely identify you, the date, and the observing campaign if relevant. Two types of files make up your observing session. One is a document file following the forms below. The second is the recording or recordings themselves in a common digital audio format.
6. Files can be delivered to The INSPIRE Project using:

Internet via DropBox, Google Drive, etc. to:

[CustomerService@TheINSPIREProject.org](mailto:CustomerService@TheINSPIREProject.org)

Tape Cassettes (if necessary)\*:

The INSPIRE Project  
107 S West Street PMB #425  
Alexandria, VA 22314-2824

*\*Your tapes will be returned with spectrograms of your data.*

7. Include a write up accounting your procedure, location, and observations and an article reporting on the results will be considered in the next *INSPIRE Journal*.



## Field Observations

Field Observations may be made at any time and submitted for inclusion in the next *INSPIRE Journal*. This is in addition to articles reporting the results of Coordinated Field Campaigns.

Use the same procedure as described for Submitting VLF Observations (previous page). Since field observations can be made any time of year, the following table is provided for conversion from local time to Coordinated Universal Time (UTC).

The conversion between your local time and UTC can be determined by knowing the current UTC time from a website like: [http://www.worldtimeserver.com/current\\_time\\_in.UTC.aspx](http://www.worldtimeserver.com/current_time_in.UTC.aspx)

### Provided Spectrograms:

File Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Frequency Range: \_\_\_\_\_

Time Period: \_\_\_\_\_

Intensity Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

File Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Frequency Range: \_\_\_\_\_

Time Period: \_\_\_\_\_

Intensity Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

File Name: \_\_\_\_\_

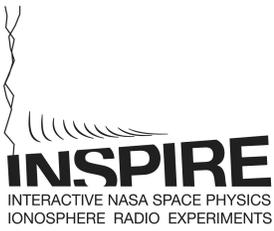
Frequency Range: \_\_\_\_\_

Time Period: \_\_\_\_\_

Intensity Scale: \_\_\_\_\_

Spectrograms should be limited in frequency to half the sample frequency for your recording. The period of the lowest frequency (other than the DC component) is determined by the length of time of the recording. Spectrograms can have a logarithmic or linear frequency scale. A linear scale would normally have 0 Hz as the lowest frequency. The highest frequency shown on a spectrogram need not be greater than the highest frequency your receiver can measure.

Describe your experience, including any comments that relate to carrying out your field observations. Field photographs and spectrograms are welcome components of your submission, along with a short bio and photo to accompany your *INSPIRE Journal* submission.



# Data Log Cover Sheet

INSPIRE Observer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Educational Institution: \_\_\_\_\_  
(or company, if applicable)

Equipment: Receiver: \_\_\_\_\_

Recorder: \_\_\_\_\_

Antenna: \_\_\_\_\_

WWV radio: \_\_\_\_\_

Site description: \_\_\_\_\_

Longitude: \_\_\_\_° \_\_\_\_' W Latitude: \_\_\_\_° \_\_\_\_' N

Participants: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

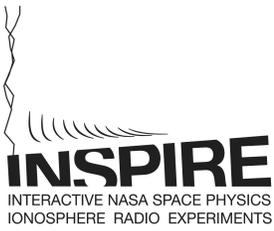
Team Leader (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip, Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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# Data Log

INSPIRE Observer Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Observation Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Receiver: \_\_\_\_\_

Observation Start Time (UTC): \_\_\_\_\_ Start Time (**Local** Time): \_\_\_\_\_

Local weather: \_\_\_\_\_

- Code: **M** – Mark (WWV or Voice)
- S** – Sferics
- T** – Tweek
- O** – Other (manmade or not)
- C** – Chorus

Sferic Density: D: \_\_\_\_ Scale of 1-5 (1 – Very Low, 3 – Medium, 5 – Very High)

**Time (UTC) Entry Observer:**

_____	M-WWV M-V S T W O C	_____	D: _____
_____	M-WWV M-V S T W O C	_____	D: _____
_____	M-WWV M-V S T W O C	_____	D: _____
_____	M-WWV M-V S T W O C	_____	D: _____
_____	M-WWV M-V S T W O C	_____	D: _____
_____	M-WWV M-V S T W O C	_____	D: _____
_____	M-WWV M-V S T W O C	_____	D: _____
_____	M-WWV M-V S T W O C	_____	D: _____
_____	M-WWV M-V S T W O C	_____	D: _____
_____	M-WWV M-V S T W O C	_____	D: _____
_____	M-WWV M-V S T W O C	_____	D: _____
_____	M-WWV M-V S T W O C	_____	D: _____
_____	M-WWV M-V S T W O C	_____	D: _____
_____	M-WWV M-V S T W O C	_____	D: _____
_____	M-WWV M-V S T W O C	_____	D: _____