



WMO/IOC/UNEP/ICSU
GLOBAL CLIMATE OBSERVING
SYSTEM (GCOS)

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**14th GRUAN Implementation-
Coordination Meeting (ICM-14)**

Session 5

La Réunion

28 November - 02 December 2022

GRUAN Site Report for Alice Springs

(Submitted by Andrew Winchester)

Summary and Purpose of this Document

Report from the GRUAN site Alice Springs for the period January to December 2021.

Overview

Upper Air BUFR data not currently sent to GRUAN.

Change and change management

No changes

Resourcing

Frostpoint hygrometer soundings not currently funded.

Operations

Alice Springs is not using the RsLaunchClient to submit data, as with all other Bureau sites. No frostpoint hygrometer soundings as they are not currently funded. The site currently launches 4 x 350 balloons per week at 23Z. Burst heights do not reach 10 hPa (350 g balloons), with a mean around 19 hPa. Currently a semi automated launching system (RBL Bureau design) which is planned to be replaced with a Vaisala AS41 by December 2022. A new site is currently being selected.

Covid-19

No noticeable effects

Site assessment and certification

Unsure primarily due to problems with data transfer and use of RsLaunchClient. Bureau security will not permit the use of RsLaunchClient on our systems. We could provide the .mwx files for each sounding however unclear whether there is benefit in this, given there would be no attached meta data from the RsLaunchClient software.

GRUAN-related research

None

WG-GRUAN interface

None

Other archiving centres

GUAN

Participation in campaigns

None

Future plans

Full automation of the station is planned to occur in December 2022, with an auto launcher (Vaisala AMBLS AS41) being installed at a soon to be selected site. Once this occurs there will be no possibility of frostpoint hygrometer soundings using the auto launcher.



GRUAN Site Report for AliceSprings (ALC), 2021

Reported time range is Jan 2021 to Dec 2021

Created by the Lead Centre

Version from 2022-11-15

1 General GRUAN site information

Object	Value
Station name	AliceSprings
Unique GRUAN ID	ALC
Geographical position	-23.7951 °S, 133.8890 °E, 546.0 m
Operated by	BOM Australian Bureau of Meteorology
Main contact	Tully, Matthew
WMO no./name	94326 ALICE SPRINGS
Operators	currently 0, changes +0 / -0
Sounding Site	1

1.1 General information about GRUAN measurement systems

System	Name	Type	Setups	Measurements
ALC-RS-01	Alice Springs radiosonde launch site	Sounding Site	1	0

1.2 General comments from Lead Centre

1.2.1 General

No dataflow to GRUAN LC has been established yet.

1.2.2 Request

Due to the prolonged absence of data submission to the Lead Centre, this site is considered a silent site. Following the silent-site policy discussed at ICM-13, the site is requested to take the necessary steps to establish an operational data flow. In this regard, the establishment of an operational data stream for the radiosoundings has the highest priority, followed by data submission of GNSS water vapor measurements.

2 System: Alice Springs radiosonde launch site (ALC-RS-01)

Object	Value
System name	Alice Springs radiosonde launch site
Unique GRUAN ID	ALC-RS-01
System type	Sounding Site (RS - Radiosonde)
Geographical position	-23.7951 °S, 133.8890 °E, 546.0 m
Operated by	BOM Australian Bureau of Meteorology
Instrument contact	Tully, Matthew
Started at	-
Defined setups	1 (ROUTINE)
Possible streams	RS92

2.1 Lead Centre comments

2.1.1 Dataflow

No dataflow of radiosonde measurements to LC has been established yet.