

iPad Requirements for Aquatic AIM Data Collection

The preferred electronic data capture setup for aquatic AIM is an iPad Air generation 1 16 GB Wi-Fi and cellular enabled device with a Verizon 3 GB/month data plan. Devices are protected by a waterproof case (LifeProof Fre iPad Air generation 1 case) and heavy duty carrying straps (Otterbox Utility Series Latch II Case for 10 inch tablets) modified with paracord. If electronic data capture setups differ from this, iPads must meet the following specifications:

- iPad Air generation 1 or 2 or iPad generation 5 (2017 version), 6 (2018 version), or later
- DO NOT get iPad minis. The screen size is too small.
- iPads MUST be both Wi-Fi AND cellular (4G) enabled (network provider doesn't matter). This is required for the iPad GPS to work.
- iPads must have a cellular data plan with a minimum of 3 GB of data per month and an associated simcard
- iPads can be 16 GB, 32 GB, or more
- iPads must run iOS version 12 or later
- iPads must have Filemaker Go version 17 installed; This application can be installed from the apple app store. The version will be updated at the start of each field season so check with NAMC for current requirements.
- Updates to the iOS version or Filemaker versions are not recommended during the field season to prevent any compatibility issues.
- iPads must have Filemaker application SARAH installed; Beginning in April 2019, the most recent version of SARAH will be available on the AIM website at <https://aim.landscapetoolbox.org/data-collection/field-season-preparation-2/>
- iPads must have google drive and google sheets installed.

Additionally, a waterproof case and heavy duty straps are HIGHLY recommended. The Otterbox Utility Series Latch II Case for 10 inch tablets should work as straps with all the iPad versions listed above. However, NAMC recommends modifying these straps by replacing the rubber straps with paracord to prevent straps from stretching and breaking. Waterproof cases are specific to the different versions of iPads. Below are NAMC's recommendations on cases for specific iPads:

- iPad Air generation 1- LifeProof Fre iPad Air generation 1 case; this has a built in screen protector and has helped prevent cracked screen issues we have had with the LifeProof NUUD cases.
- LifeProof Fre cases were discontinued after iPad Air generation 1 so we recommend getting the LifeProof NUUD case that fits your specified iPad model and considering adding a screen protector (Make sure it doesn't interfere with the LifeProof case waterproofness though!).

Please use the Paper Maps, Google Drive and Google Sheets applications. These are free applications that can be downloaded from the apple store. Other suggested applications and more detailed information about iPad set up and using the SARAH application can be found in the [Aquatic Data Management Protocol](#). If contractors are unable to obtain the required electronic capture setups, project leads can contact NAMC, and NAMC may have a limited supply of iPads to loan BLM field offices.