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IMPORTANT Information for VEMCO VR2 Users

NOTE: New VEMCO tags are not compatible with VR2 receivers

Due to the increase in demand for acoustic telemetry, VEMCO introduced several new tag types (code spaces) to provide vastly more sensor and pinger IDs. We began selling these tags in 2009 and they are now primarily used in most VEMCO-based studies. These tags are not compatible with VR2 receivers.

The VR2 was first introduced in 1999. The technology available at that time does not allow for changes in the receiver operating system (firmware). This means that the VR2 receivers cannot be changed to detect the new tag types. In 2007, VEMCO replaced the VR2 with the VR2W which has field programmable memory and can be updated to detect new tags. As of 2008, VEMCO was no longer able to repair VR2s due to obsolescent parts. VR2s returned for repair can, however, be upgraded to VR2Ws.

Converting to VR2Ws:

VR2 receivers can be converted to a VR2W at a significant discount from the price of a new VR2W. When the VR2W was designed in 2006, we purposely maintained a similar case style so that a VR2 black delrin case could be reused for an upgrade. This has reduced our cost for the upgrade and we are passing that on to our customers. Further savings can be had if the VR2 receivers are upgraded in large batches.

The VR2W provides several enhancements over the VR2:

- Field programmable for future upgrades
- Ability to detect new VEMCO transmitters
- Capacity to store over 1 million detections (4 times that of a VR2)
- Bluetooth wireless interface for 20 times faster data upload
- Millisecond time data for fine scale positioning ([VPS](#))

Upgrade incentives are also available for PVC (grey) VR2s and older VR1 receivers.

Please contact your VEMCO Sales Representative for more details and pricing on the VR2 to VR2W upgrade program.

Continuing to use VR2s:

VEMCO will continue to provide tags using code spaces A69-1303 (pingers) and A69-1105 (sensors) for those who have VR2s. These tags can also be detected by newer VEMCO receivers with the latest Vemco receiver code map. However, these IDs have been completely used up and are being recycled as tags expire in the field. The number of available IDs is very limited and they are being reserved for those who continue to use VR2s. At some point in the future, these code spaces will be removed from the standard Vemco code map and will no longer be detectable by Vemco receivers.

For those who wish to maintain compatibility with other researchers either locally or on a global scale, we strongly urge that you upgrade your VR2 receivers to VR2Ws at your earliest convenience.