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Public Information Statement 19-04
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
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From: Kevin Cooley
 Acting Director, NWS Office of Observations

Subject: Change of GOES-W Mesoscale Domain Sector 2 Default Center
Position on March 5, 2019

At 1500 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) March 5, 2019, the center point of the default location of the GOES-17 (GOES-West (W)) Advanced Baseline Imager (ABI) Mesoscale Domain Sector 2 (referred to MESO-2 or MDS-2) was moved from 35.5 degrees N, 101.5 degrees W to 56 degrees N, 150 degrees W. This sector moved from the south-central area of Continental U.S. (CONUS) to an area covering Alaska. The MESO-1 default center position for GOES-W will remain unchanged over the western CONUS: 39 degrees N, 120 degrees W.

This change pertains only to the default position of MESO-2, which is valid only when the sector has not been repositioned to another location, typically due to important hydrometeorological phenomena. Users can expect continued frequent relocations of MESO-2, generally to where impactful hydrometeorological phenomena are anticipated or observed. MDS sectors typically return to their default locations when impactful hydrometeorological phenomena are not in progress.

This change pertains to GOES-17 (GOES-West) MESO-2 sectors, including the MESO-2 sectors on the Satellite Broadcast Network (SBN), also known as NOAAPort.

Mesoscale Domain Sectors are created only while GOES-W ABI operates in its default flex mode (i.e., Mode 3 for only the near future or, starting later in 2019, Mode 6). A separate Public Information Statement (PNS) will be issued in the near future about the transition from ABI Mode 3 to Mode 6.

For questions pertaining to this change, please contact:

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