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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 19-44  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
230 PM EDT Fri May 17 2019

To:           Subscribers:  
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From:         Mark B. Miller  
              Director, Surface and Upper Air Division  
              Office of Observations

Subject: Transition of Manual Radiosonde Observations to Automated Radiosonde Observations at King Salmon, Alaska, on or after May 17, 2019

Effective on or after May 17, 2019, radiosonde observations (RAOB) from King Salmon, AK, World Meteorological Organization (WMO) # 70326, Station ID PAKN, will be transitioned from the manually launched Lockheed Martin 1680 MHz LMS6 radiosonde to the Vaisala 403 MHz RS41-SGPA radiosonde using the Vaisala Autosonde as the launch vehicle.

During the transition period of up to 30 days, dual radiosonde flights may be performed until the Vaisala Autosonde System is declared operational for the regularly scheduled observations of 0000 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) and 1200 UTC.

Messages from the Vaisala Autosonde currently do not contain the following components: Freezing Level Data (RADAT), High Resolution Binary Universal Form for the Representation of meteorological data (BUFR), National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI) archive format. A software update will be implemented in 2019 that will produce these data.

For additional information on the message requirements, see WMO 306 Manual on Codes (International Codes):

- Volume I.1 Part A - Alphanumeric Codes
- Volume I.2 Part B - Binary Codes
- Volume II Regional Codes and National Coding Practices (WMO Region IV)

NWS will send a follow up Service Change Notice when the software update is implemented and the Autosonde RAOB products contain these components.

If you have questions or feedback, please contact:

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