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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 19-50
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
705 AM EDT Tue Jun 25 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 McGrath, AK, on or after June 25, 2019

Effective on or after June 25, 2019, radiosonde observations (RAOB) from McGrath, AK, World Meteorological Organization (WMO) # 70231, Station ID PAMC, 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 00Z and 12Z.

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. NWS will implement a software update later in 2019 to 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)

A follow up Service Change Notice will be issued when the above stated software update is implemented and the Autosonde RAOB products contain these components.

If you have questions or feedback, please contact:

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