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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 19-99  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
325 PM EST Mon Dec 2 2019

To:           Subscribers:  
              -NOAA Weather Wire Service  
              -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network  
              -NOAAPort  
              Other NWS Partners, Users and Employees

From:       Darren Wright, Acting Chief  
              Marine, Tropical and Tsunami Services Branch

Subject: Alerting Partners that NDBC Weather Buoy #46015 Near Port Orford, Oregon, Was Damaged by a Passing Vessel on November 16, 2019, and is Inoperable

On Saturday, November 16, 2019, NOAA National Data Buoy Center (NDBC) weather buoy #46015, located 15 nautical miles (NM) west of Port Orford, Oregon, was hit and significantly damaged by a passing vessel. The damage occurred within 10 hours after the NDBC replaced this buoy. The damaged buoy has since been retrieved.

NDBC monitors, operates and maintains weather buoys located in coastal waters around the U.S.

Mariners are reminded to maintain a safe distance when navigating near these buoys to avoid entanglement and collisions. NOAA buoys are federal property, and Sections 641 and 1361 of Title 18, U.S. Code, make it illegal to tamper or interfere with them. If a vessel becomes entangled or collides with a buoy, the mariner is encouraged to report the event to the NDBC.

The buoy #46015 will remain inoperable until arrangements can be made to replace it. The NDBC is working to schedule a ship to deploy another buoy and mooring. An updated Service Change Notice will be sent to alert users that the buoy is back in service.

The NDBC webpage and buoy #46015 station page can be found at:

<https://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/>

[https://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/station\\_page.php?station=46015](https://www.ndbc.noaa.gov/station_page.php?station=46015)

To access the referenced U.S. Federal Codes:

<https://uscode.house.gov/browse/prelim@title18/part1/chapter65&edition=prelim>

For questions or comments regarding this event, please contact:

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NDBC Special Projects Officer  
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National Service Change Notices are online at:

<https://www.weather.gov/notification/archive>

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