

NOUS41 KWBC 101930
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Public Information Statement
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From: Neal Dipasquale, Acting Chief
 Test and Evaluation Branch
 Office of Operational Systems

Subject: Scheduled Radiosonde Replacement System (RRS) Radiosonde Hardware and Workstation Subsystem (RWS) Build 2.3 System Test Scheduled for January to April 2013 Using Test Headers

NWS will conduct hardware functionality and data communications testing from January through April 2013 using test headers. As part of the ongoing upgrades to RRS, NWS is testing a new radiosonde. This testing will require new software to track this new hardware.

This test will originate from the NWS Sterling, VA, Field Support Center (SFSC). The test will consist of daily upper air coded messages transmitted during the asynoptic and normal synoptic times for soundings in a window from approximately 1000 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) to 2200 UTC and, as necessary, includes but is not limited to, when weather conditions and test requirements warrant. These test messages will be in the same format as operational messages but will have different data reflecting upper air conditions and coding practices as explained below.

Two test headers have been set for the test:

KSTA test station id 69990
KSTB test station id 69991 for the SFSC.

The KSTA and KSTB test coded message format will be in the RRS format now in service at 84 upper air sites. RRS formatted products are a result of changes made to the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) level selection criteria and updated coding practices. For additional information regarding these messages, please reference the manual on codes WMO No. 306, Section A.

When the individual KSTA and KSTB RRS products are received by the NWS Telecommunications Gateway (NWSTG), they are packaged with operational upper air products into collective products converted into BUFR form. These products are then broadcast over NOAAPort. The individual collective and BUFR messages are also transmitted from the NWSTG to NWS users over a variety of communication services. The following products

will be issued during the test:

PIL	Individual WMO Header	Collective WMO Header
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STAMANSTA	USUS97 KSTA	USUS01 KWBC USUS50 KWBC USUS90 KWBC UPUS50 KWBC UPUS90 KWBC
STASGLSTA	UMUS97 KSTA	UKUS01 KWBC UKUS50 KWBC UKUS90 KWBC ULUS01 KWBC ULUS50 KWBC ULUS90 KWBC UGUS01 KWBC UGUS50 KWBC UGUS90 KWBC UHUS50 KWBC UHUS90 KWBC
STAABVSTA	UFUS97 KSTA	UEUS01 KWBC UEUS50 KWBC UEUS90 KWBC UQUS50 KWBC UQUS90 KWBC
STAFZLSTA	UXUS97 KSTA	

BUFR Collectives:

IUST41 KWBC
IUST42 KWBC
IUST43 KWBC
IUST44 KWBC
IUST46 KWBC
IUST48 KWBC

PIL	Individual WMO Header	Collective WMO Header
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STBMANSTB	USUS97 KSTB	USUS01 KWBC USUS50 KWBC USUS90 KWBC UPUS50 KWBC UPUS90 KWBC
STBSGLSTB	UMUS97 KSTB	UKUS01 KWBC UKUS50 KWBC UKUS90 KWBC ULUS01 KWBC ULUS50 KWBC ULUS90 KWBC UGUS01 KWBC UGUS50 KWBC UGUS90 KWBC UHUS50 KWBC UHUS90 KWBC
STBABVSTB	UFUS97 KSTB	UEUS01 KWBC UEUS50 KWBC UEUS90 KWBC UQUS50 KWBC UQUS90 KWBC
STBFZLSTB	UXUS97 KSTB	

BUFR Collectives:

IUST41 KWBC
IUST42 KWBC
IUST43 KWBC
IUST44 KWBC
IUST46 KWBC
IUST48 KWBC

The format of the test messages will be the same WMO format for coded upper air messages as used by the RRS system since 2005. The number of levels in the KSTA and KSTB coded messages will be similar to the coded messages routinely transmitted from the operational RRS sites.

If you have questions about these changes, contact:

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