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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 22-85
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
1220 PM EDT Thu Sep 8 2022

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

From: Bruce Entwistle
 Chief, Aviation and Space Weather Services Branch

Subject: Transfer of National Weather Service (NWS) Pago Pago (PPG)
 Surface Observational Responsibilities to the American Samoan
 Government (ASG) on or about September 30, 2022

Note: The following change has no impact on subscribers of:
 -NOAA Weather Wire Service
 -Emergency Managers Weather Information Network
 -NOAAPort

Effective on or about September 30, 2022, the ASG assumes the responsibility for surface weather observations at the Pago Pago International Airport of American Samoa, located on the island of Tutuila. The International Air Transport Association identifier is PPG; the International Civil Aviation Organization identifier is NSTU.

To accomplish this, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) is working with the ASG to implement the FAA's Non-Federal Observation (NF-OBS) program at PPG International Airport. This allows the NWS Weather Service Office in PPG to end manual aviation observations for PPG on or around September 30, 2022, and align with NWS and FAA surface observing policies.

FAA Joint Order (JO) JO 7210.77 provides the procedures and processes for NF-OBS program operation and administration. The procedures outlined in this order apply to all NF-OBS sponsors and personnel who provide aviation weather observation services. Non-Federal entities, such as fixed-base operators, airports, state and local governments, and private businesses (NF-OBS sponsors), provide the resources necessary to ensure the performance of this surface aviation service.

JO 7210.77 can be viewed here:
https://www.faa.gov/documentLibrary/media/Order/JO_7210.77.pdf.

The current surface observational service is provided 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from the NSTU METAR. This will change to an as-needed basis.

Part time surface observations provided through the NF-OBS program will be limited and provided as needed to support commercial Part 121 flights (generally large airlines, regional air carriers, and cargo operators) and

military requirements. For example, routine commercial flights each Monday and Thursday evening/night can expect observations to be transmitted from 0200 - 1700 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) and for the weekly cargo flight, Saturdays 2100-0800 UTC.

For flight planning purposes, including filing NTSU as an alternate airport in a flight plan, contact Pago Pago airport operations to determine the need for weather observations at NTSU. Contact information is available in appropriate Flight Information Publications (FLIP).

If you have any additional questions, please contact:

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