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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 25-43  
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD  
1210 PM EDT Wed May 21 2025

To:           Subscribers:  
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From:         Kevin Stone, Team Lead  
              Aviation and Space Weather Services Branch

Subject: Changes to U.S. Volcanic Ash Advisory Center Advisories  
no later than November, 27, 2025

No later than November 27, 2025, the Volcanic Ash Advisories (VAA) issued by U.S. Volcanic Ash Advisory Centers (VAAC) in Anchorage, Alaska, and College Park, Maryland, will change. The updated VAA will contain the following changes per the upcoming Amendment 82 to the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Annex 3.

- Summit Elevation will change to Source Elevation and include AMSL or BLW MSL.
- Information will be provided only in imperial measurements (e.g., feet).
- The aviation color code is removed from the VAA.
- The restriction on the number of coordinates in the VAA is removed from the VAA issued in ICAO Meteorological Information Exchange Model (IWXXM) format (i.e., the IWXXM version of the VAA can have more coordinates than the VAA in traditional alphanumeric code.)

If you have any questions concerning these changes, please contact:

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