

NOUS41 KWBC 101906  
PNSWSH

Public Information Statement  
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To:     Subscribers:  
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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 10Z to 22Z 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   Collective  
      WMO Header   WMO Header

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   Collective  
      WMO Header   WMO Header

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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