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PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 18-89 Updated  
National Weather Service Headquarters Washington, DC  
1025 AM EDT Fri Mar 22 2019

TO:           Subscribers:  
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              Other NWS Partners and Employees

FROM:         Mark B. Miller  
              Director, Surface and Upper Air Division  
              Office of Observations

SUBJECT:      Updated: Transition of Manual Radiosonde Observations  
to Automated Radiosonde Observations at Barrow, AK, on  
February 12, 2019

Updated to provide date of transition and to provide location  
coordinates of the new release point of sufficiently small  
distance (e.g., 4.6 miles) to not require additional notice.

Effective February 12, 2019, NWS transitioned from manually  
launched radiosonde observations (RAOB) at Barrow, AK,  
WMO# 70026, Station ID PABR, to automatically launched  
observations from a new location 4.6 miles northeast of the  
legacy release point.

The new release point for the NWS soundings at Barrow:

WMO #	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	ELEVATION
70026	71.32267N	156.61784W	8.4 Meters

The radiosonde type changed from the Vaisala 1680 MHz RS92  
radiosonde to the Vaisala 403 MHz RS41-SGP radiosonde.

Messages from the Vaisala Autosonde currently do not contain the  
following: RADAT, High Res BUFR, NCEI archive format. A  
software update will be implemented in 2019 that will produce  
the above data.

For additional information on the message requirements, see WMO  
306 Manual on Codes (International Codes):

- Volume I.1 Part A - Alphanumeric Codes
- Volume I.2 Part B - Binary Codes
- Volume II Regional Codes and National Coding Practices (WMO  
Region IV)

A follow up Service Change Notice will be issued when the above  
stated software update is implemented and the Autosonde RAOB  
products contain the RADAT, High Res BUFR, and NCEI archive

format components.

If you have questions or feedback, please contact:

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