

NOUS41 KWBC 161830 AAA
PNSWSH

Service Change Notice 19-21: Updated
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring MD
230 PM EDT Thu May 16 2019

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

From: Kevin Stone
 Acting Chief, Aviation and Space Weather
 Services Branch

Subject: Updated: Termination of some legacy METAR and TAF bulletins
distributed by the Washington OPMET Databank will be on or around July
17, 2019.

Updated to change the termination date from May 21, 2019 to July 17,
2019.

The Washington Regional Operational Meteorological Information (OPMET)
Databank (RODB) will be ending the transmission of hundreds of older
legacy Meteorological Terminal Aviation Routine Weather Report (METAR)
and Terminal Aerodrome Forecast (TAF) collectives/bulletins on or around
July 17, 2019. These older collectives/bulletins are not compliant with
standards established by the International Civil Aviation Organization
(ICAO) for dissemination on the Aeronautical Fixed Telecommunications
Network (AFTN). In addition, some U.S. TAFs in domestic format will cease
are being routed internationally.

Below are a few examples to highlight the changes. The first example
illustrates where the Washington RODB has replaced the originating
country CCCC with KWBC:

SAMX31 KWBC 020045
METAR MNMG 020000Z 11010KT 9999 ...

This METAR was originally from Nicaragua (MNMG) and then reformatted by
the U.S. RODB as evidenced by the KWBC in the CCCC portion of the World
Meteorological Organization identifier (WMO ID).

Users should ensure they are not using these KWBC collectives/ bulletins.
Alternative sources include World Aviation Forecast System (WAFS)
Internet File Service (WIFS) or any other States collectives/bulletins
distributed by the Washington RODB with the original States CCCC in the
WMO ID. The second example is a TAF collective/bulletin for U.S. domestic
purposes incorrectly routed for international distribution:

FTPA31 PHFO 010520
TAF HMK

TAF PHMK 010520Z 0106/0206 03007KT

This TAF is in a domestic format (note the second line) that the U.S. uses to transfer TAFs from the Honolulu Weather Forecast Office to the Washington RODB. The Washington RODB then compiles Pacific U.S. Operational aeronautical meteorological data (OPMET) data under one of the three International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) / Aeronautical Fixed Telecommunication Network (AFTN) compliant U.S. collectives/bulletins--FTUS25 KWBC, SAUS25 KWBC, and SPUS25 KWBC. The data is then routed internationally and to WIFS. International users of U.S. METAR/TAF in the Pacific should be using these collectives/bulletins.

For more information or questions, please contact:

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<https://www.weather.gov/notification/>

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