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Service Change Notice 19-31 Updated
National Weather Service Headquarters Silver Spring, MD
1115 AM EDT Mon Aug 31, 2020

TO: Subscribers:
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FROM: Captain James Crocker
 Acting Director, Surface and Upper Air Division
 Office of Observations

SUBJECT: Updated: Transition of Manual Radiosonde Observations
 to Automated Radiosonde Observations at Anchorage,
 Alaska on or about May 3, 2019

Updated to report the missing Vaisala Autosonde products; RADAT,
High Res BUFR, and NCEI archive, were implemented June 1, 2020.

Effective on or about May 3, 2019, radiosonde observations
(RAOB) from Anchorage, AK, WMO# 70273, Station ID PAFC, will be
transitioned from the manually launched Lockheed Martin 1680 MHz
LMS6 radiosonde to the Vaisala 403 MHz RS41-SGPA radiosonde
using the Vaisala Autosonde as the launch vehicle.

During the transition period of up to 30 days, dual radiosonde
flights may be performed until the Vaisala Autosonde System is
declared operational for the regularly scheduled observations of
00Z and 12Z.

Messages from the Vaisala Autosonde currently do not contain the
following components: RADAT, High Res BUFR, NCEI archive
format. A software update was to be implemented in 2019 that
will produce these 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 (SCN) will be issued when the above stated software update is implemented and the Autosonde RAOB products contain these components.

If you have questions or feedback, please contact:

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