

# Alaska Spring Update

Fairbanks General Aviation  
Association  
April 23, 2026

**Tom George**  
**AOPA Alaska Regional Manager**  
**Aircraft Owners & Pilots Association**



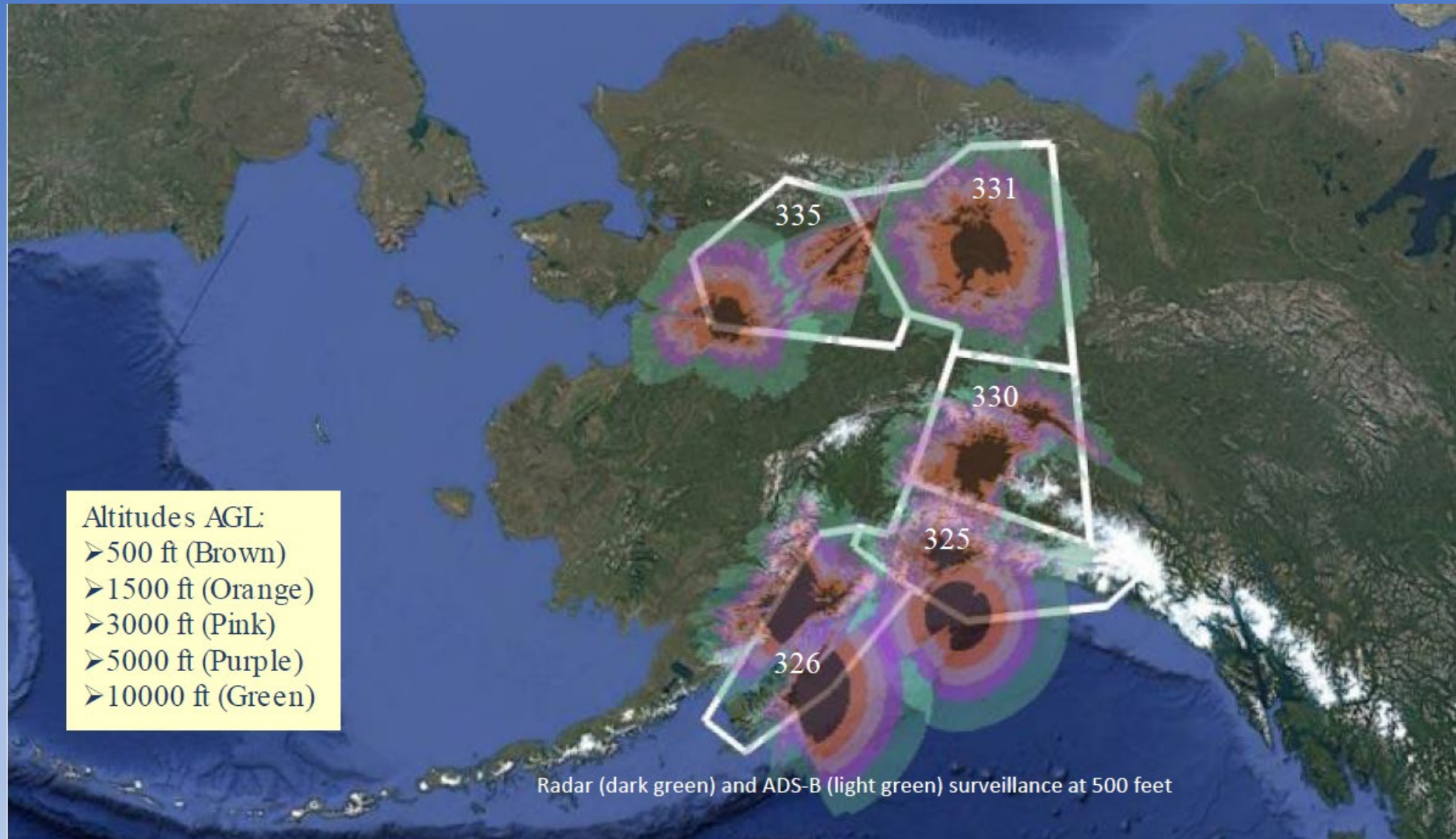
**Adam White**  
**Government Affairs**  
**Alaska Airmen Association**



# Alaska Spring Update

- Additional ADS-B coverage
- Additional weather stations
- Future change from VOR to Airports references points in forecasts
- New VFR arrival/departure procedure to Merrill Field
- Upcoming events

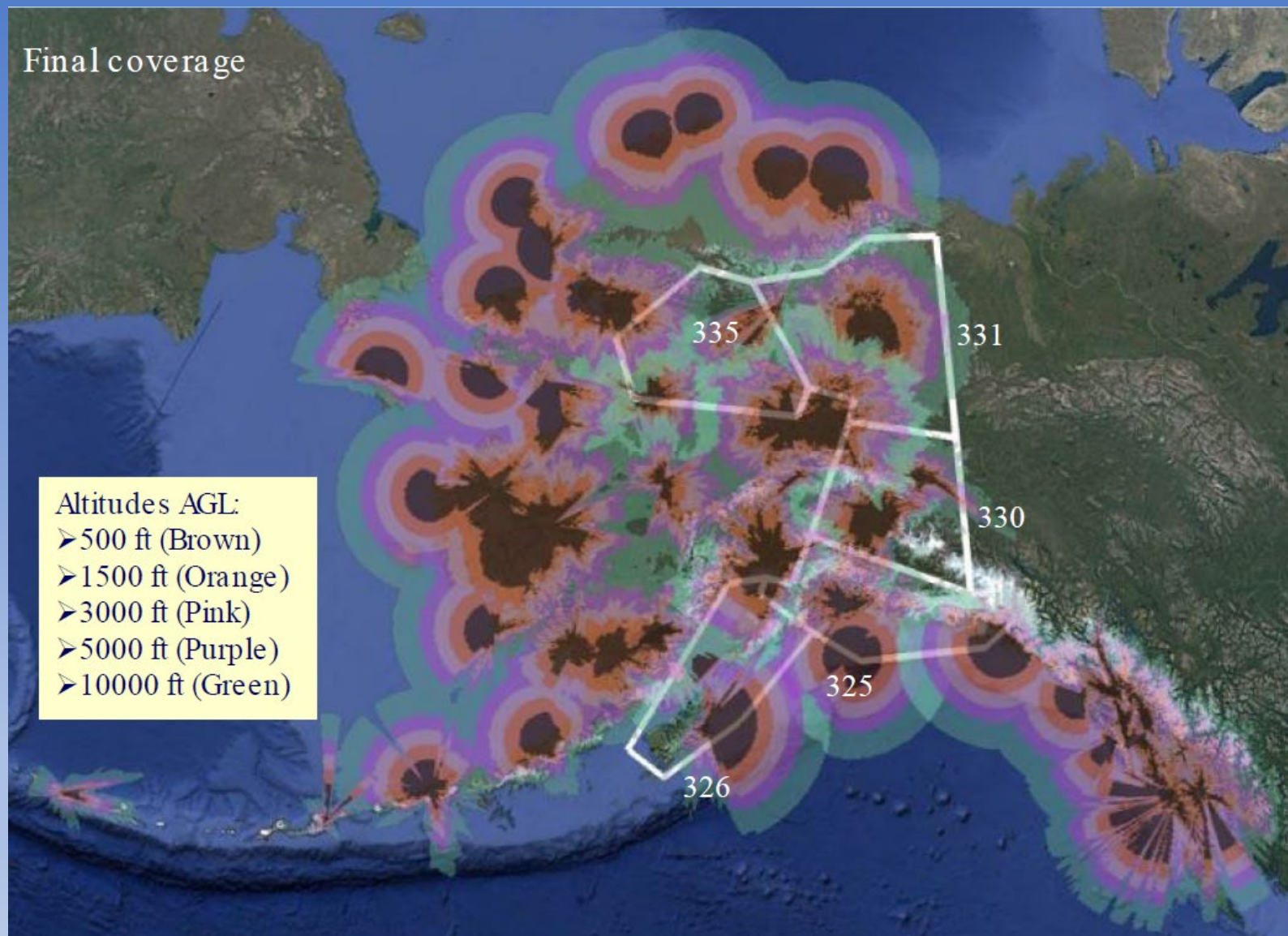
# Additional ADS-B Ground Stations



- **Galena/Allakaket construction this summer**

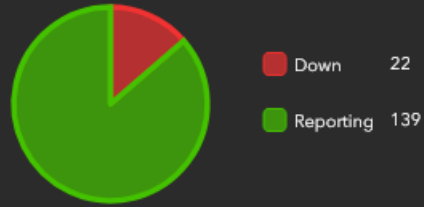
# Statewide coverage map

- **Revising to include AGL & MSL altitudes**
- **Available in May**



# Weather

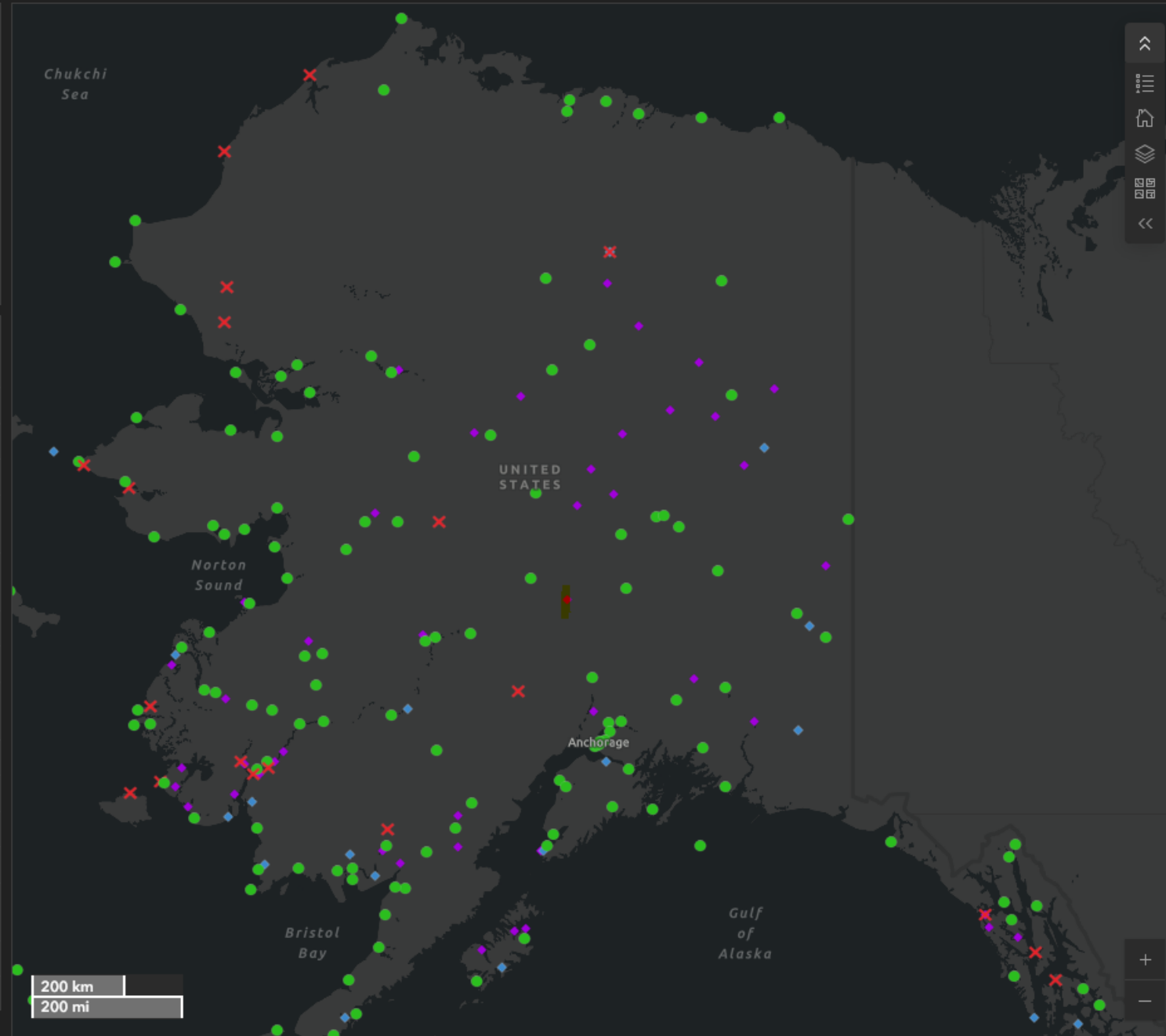
## Reporting Airfields



Search...

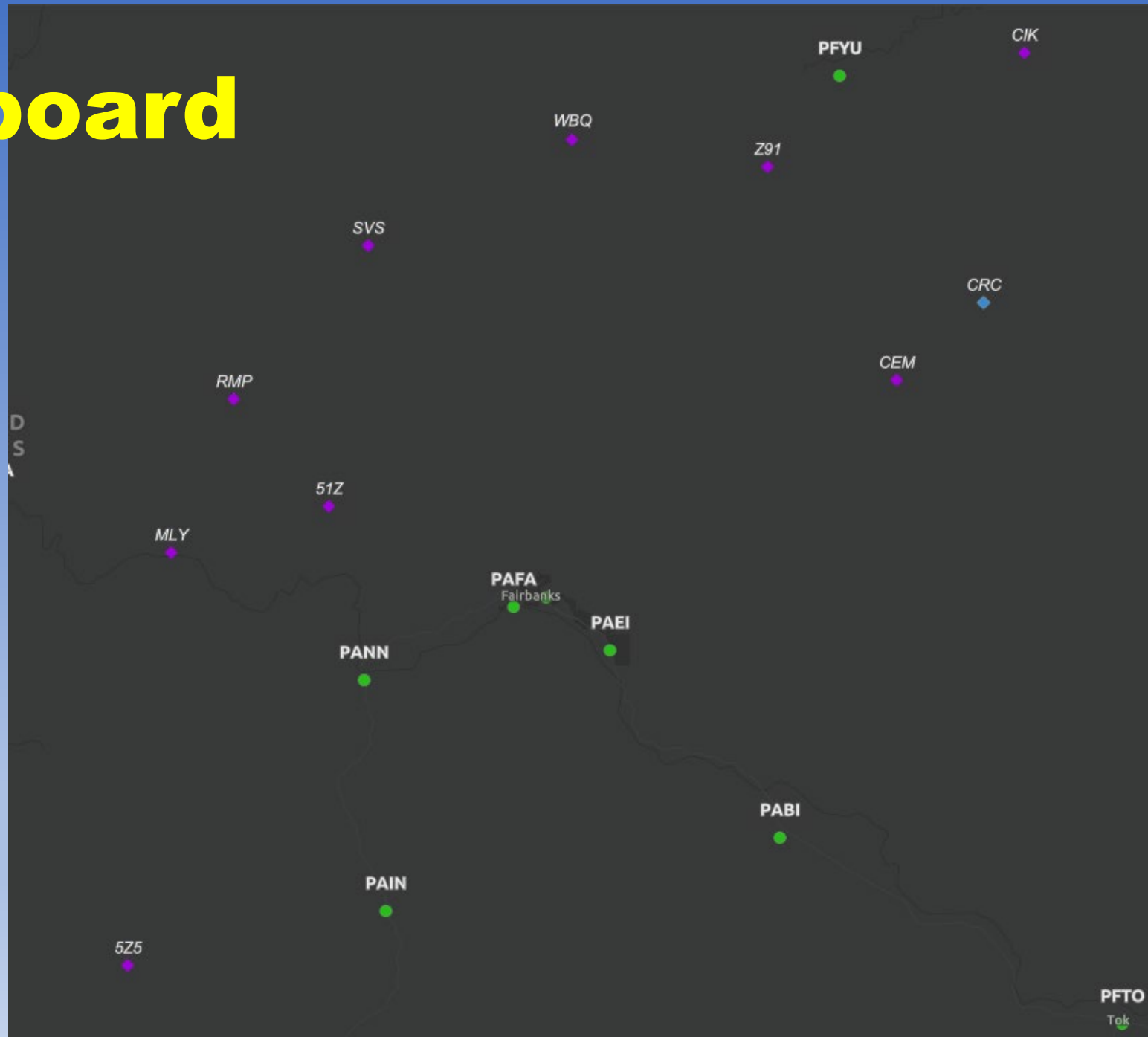
- Down Napakiak Arpt, AK, US (PANA)
- Down Teller Arpt, AK, US (PATE)
- Down Tununak, AK, US (POKA)
- Down Elfin Cove, AK, US (PAEL)  
*Manual Observations*
- Down Red Dog Arpt, AK, US (PADG)  
*Part-Time AWOS*
- Down Noatak Arpt, AK, US (PAWN)
- Down Point Lay Arpt, AK, US (PIIZ)
- Down Nunapitchuk Arpt, AK, US (PPIT)
- Down Kwethluk Arpt, AK, US (PFKW)
- Down Kake Arpt, AK, US (PAFE)
- Down Metlakatla, AK, US (PAMM)
- Down Ruby Arpt, AK, US (PARY)
- Down Rainy Pass, AK, US (6AK)  
*Manual Observations*
- Down Akutan, AK, US (PAUT)
- Down Angoon, AK, US (PAGN)

Status



# Weather Dashboard

- **Green circle = existing stations, operating**
- **Purple diamond = future AWOS**
- **Blue diamond = future VWOS**
- **This summer FAA expects to install:**
  - **18 AWOS**
  - **10 VWOS**
  - **19 Wx Cameras**
- **More to come in 2027-28**



# Forecasts to swap airports for VORs

## CWA Before/After Example

### Current VOR based locations

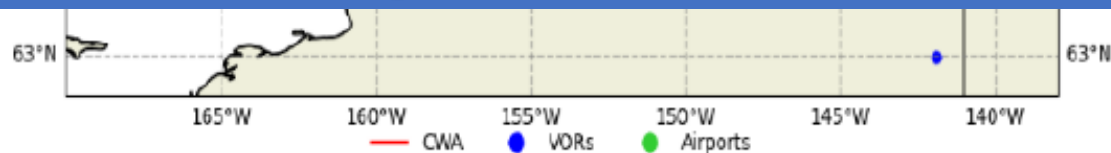
075  
FAAK21 KZAN 210330  
ZAN1 CWA 210500  
ZAN CWA 104 VALID UNTIL 210500  
**FROM 35SW BRW-55NE BTI-100SE FYU-GAL-35SW BRW**  
AREA OF ISOL TSRA. TOPS EST TO FL350.  
MOV N 10KT. CONDS CONTG BYD 210500Z. AK.  
GSW JUL 2023 CWSU

### New Airport based locations

075  
FAAK21 KZAN 210330  
ZAN1 CWA 210500  
ZAN CWA 104 VALID UNTIL 210500  
**FROM 25NW ATK-55NE BTI-50NW EAA-GAL-25SW ATK**  
AREA OF ISOL TSRA. TOPS EST TO FL350.  
MOV N 10KT. CONDS CONTG BYD 210500Z. AK.  
GSW JUL 2023 CWSU

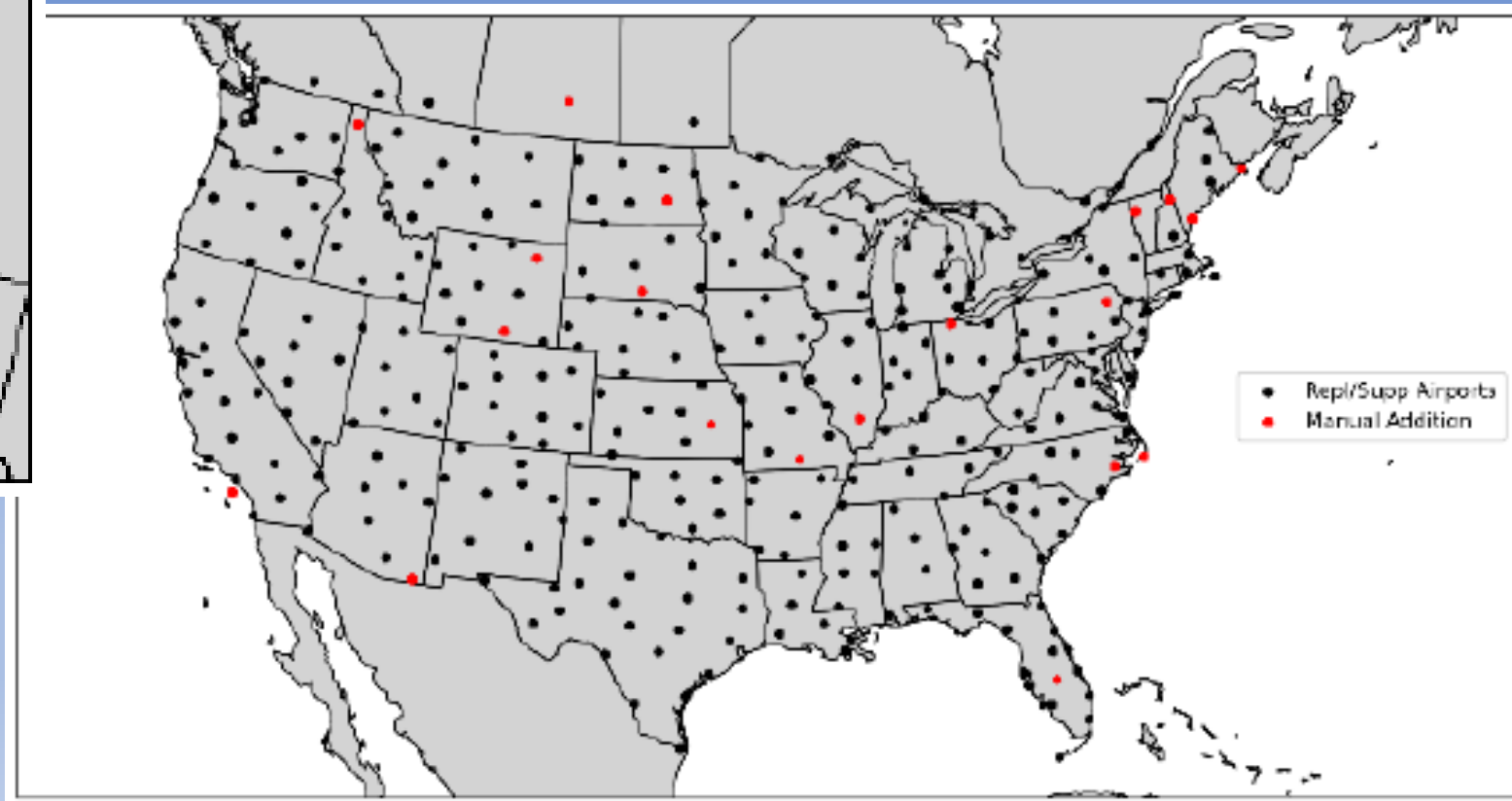
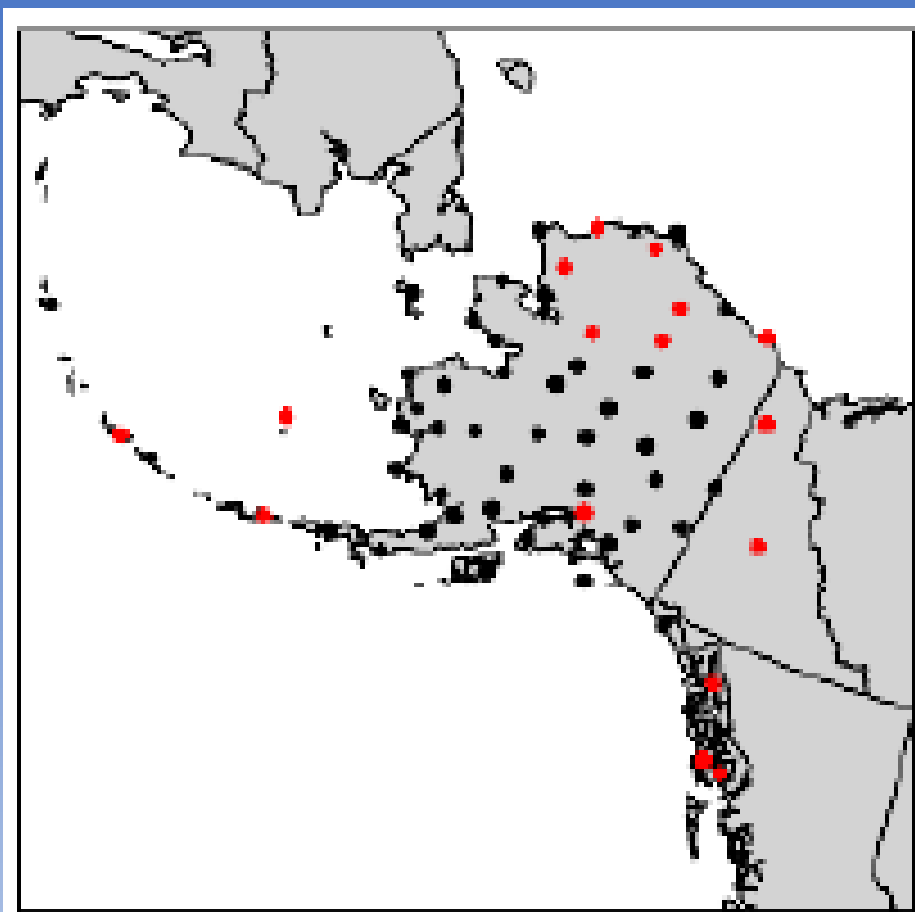
CWA Comparison: July 21, 2023 at 0500 UTC

Comments on this plan accepted through  
May 15, 2026. Public Notice link on  
[www.weather.gov/aawu](http://www.weather.gov/aawu)



Federal Aviation  
Administration

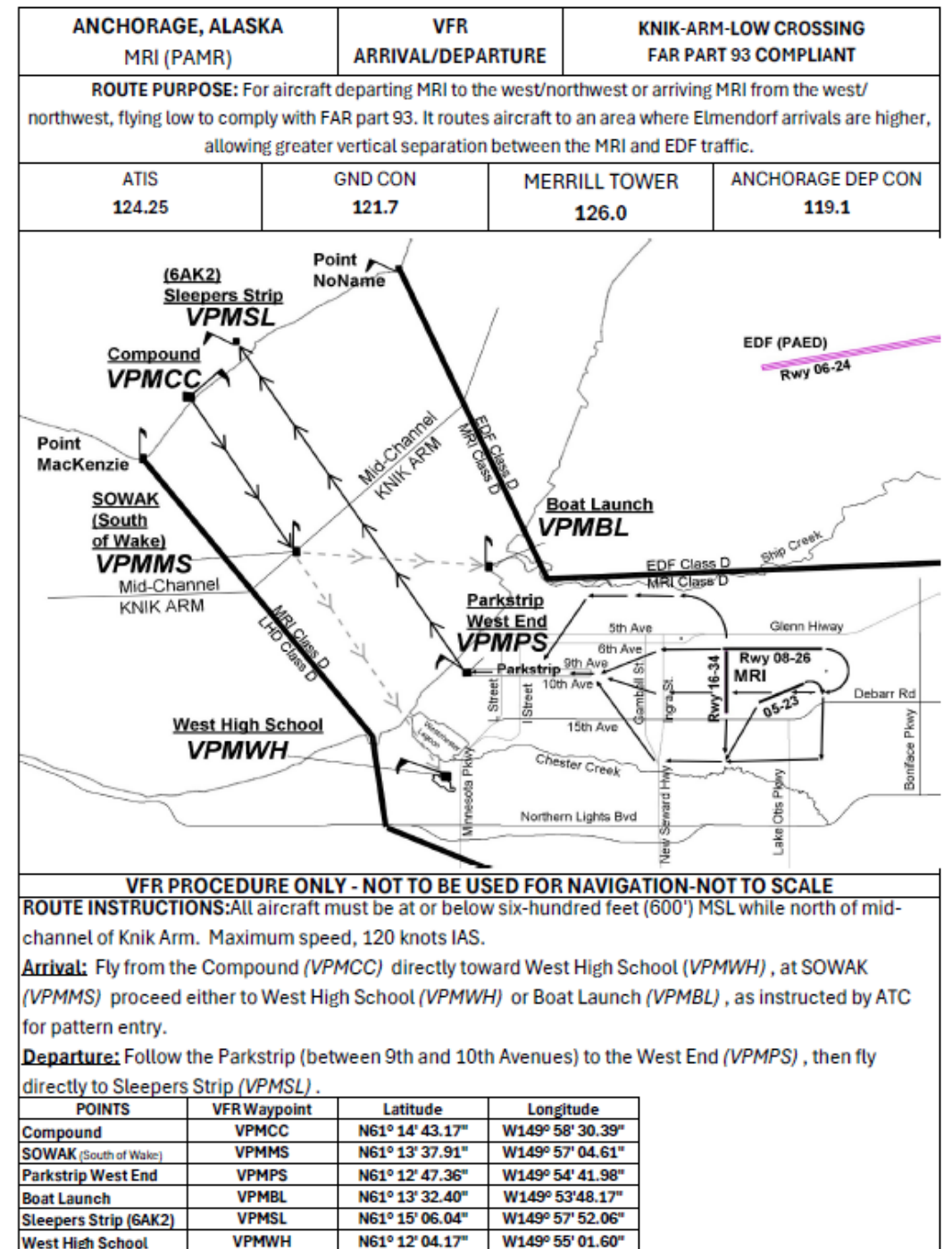
# Network of points



- Blue = existing site
- Red = new location

# New Merrill Field VFR Arrival/Departure Route

- Goes active July 9, 2026
- Part 93 Route
- One of several routes expected leading up to the Class C Airspace Change



# Upcoming events

- **Great Alaska Aviation Gathering – May 1-2**



- **Valdez Fly-In – May 9-10**



- **Fairbanks Aviation Day, May 16**



# Other issues we are tracking:

- **ADS-B Privacy Update**
- **Electronic Conspicuity**
- **Part 108 / BVLOS**
- **Future of Aeronautical Charts**
- **Starlink**
- **Fuel Transition Plan**
- **ATC Tech Refresh (\$30B)**
- **Palmer Master Plan**
- **Kenai Approaches / Runway Reconstruction**
- **SKE Routes**
- **Customs and Border Protection**
- **Part 141 Rewrite**
- **Merrill Tower Hours**



Thank you!

