

## AnaSonde Operation Tips

The following is a compilation of different suggestions that will help users to get the best performance from their AnaSondes.

### Receiver Setup:

1. Set your receiver to its smallest frequency step size. For example, on the Yaesu VR-120D receiver, the default smallest step size in the 70 cm band is 25 kHz, but you can adjust that down to 5 kHz. This will help you more accurately tune to the exact frequency used by the sonde.

### Before Flight:

1. Check the upper-level wind forecast for your area – you'll be using maps generated by forecast models. This data is available from a variety of sources such as <http://weather.uwyo.edu>. The point of this is to know which way your balloon is likely to go, so you have an idea of where to point the antenna after the balloon is out of sight.

### During Flight:

1. Visually tracking the balloon with binoculars can provide guidance for antenna pointing after the balloon is out of sight.
2. Be sure any attenuator on your receiver is off.
3. As the transmitter gets cold, you may see the frequency shift (usually it shifts to a lower frequency). Don't hesitate to try adjusting your frequency to get a better signal!
4. Be sure your squelch is turned all the way down (so you can hear the background hiss continuously).
5. Turning up the receiver volume can help the receiving programs find the signal.



