

NATIONAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Center, Camp Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City, Philippines

NDRRMC UPDATE

ALERT STATUS and ACTIVITY BULUSAN and MAYON VOLCANOES

Releasing Officer



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DATE : 23 April 2011, 08:00 AM

Source: DOST-PHIVOLCS

1. SITUATION OVERVIEW

ALERT STATUS

BULUSAN VOLCANO STATUS REMAINS AT ALERT LEVEL 1 AS OF 8:00 AM TODAY, 23 APRIL 2011. THIS MEANS THAT THE SOURCE OF ACTIVITY IS HYDROTHERMAL AND SHALLOW. ENTRY TO THE 4-KILOMETER RADIUS PERMANENT DANGER ZONE (PDZ) IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED, SINCE THE AREA IS AT RISK TO SUDDEN STEAM AND ASH EXPLOSIONS.

MAYON VOLCANO IS STILL AT ALERT LEVEL 1 AS OF 8:00 AM TODAY, 23 APRIL 2011. ALTHOUGH THIS MEANS THAT NO ERUPTION IS IMMINENT, IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE PUBLIC SHOULD NOT ENTER THE 6-KILOMETER RADIUS PERMANENT DANGER ZONE (PDZ) DUE TO THE CONTINUING THREAT FROM SUDDEN SMALL EXPLOSIONS AND ROCKFALLS FROM THE UPPER AND MIDDLE SLOPES OF THE VOLCANO.

ACTIVITY

A) BULUSAN VOLCANO

The seismic network around Bulusan Volcano (12.7667°N, 124.0500°E) recorded four (4) volcanic earthquakes during the past 24 hours. Steaming activity at the southeast vents was wispy. Results of ground deformation survey (precise levelling) conducted last 01-05 March 2011 showed no significant change as compared with 25-29 January 2011 survey. No other significant volcanic activity was observed since the 21 February 2011 ash explosion. No lahar event was reported or observed.

- Entry to the 4-kilometer radius Permanent Danger Zone (PDZ) is strictly prohibited, since the area is at risk to sudden steam and ash explosions
- Due to the prevailing wind direction, residents in the northwest and southwest sectors of the volcano are reminded to take precautions against ashfalls
- Civil Aviation authorities must also warn pilots to avoid flying close to the volcano's summit as ejected ash and volcanic fragments from sudden explosions may pose

hazards to aircrafts. If possible, aircraft should avoid flying on the western side of the volcano as volcanic debris are likely to be carried in this direction by the prevailing winds

- Furthermore, people living near valleys and river/stream channels should be vigilant against sediment-laden stream flows and lahars in the event of heavy and prolonged rainfall

B) MAYON VOLCANO

Mayon Volcano's (13.2500°N, 123.6833°E) seismic net work recorded one (1) volcanic earthquake during the past 24 hours. Weak steaming was observed drifting west-northwest and north-northwest. Intensity II crater glow was noted last night. Results of precise levelling survey conducted last 06-10 March 2011 showed slight deflation of volcano edifice as compared with 05-10 January 2010 baseline survey.

- It is recommended that the public should not enter the 6-kilometer radius Permanent Danger Zone (PDZ) due to the continuing threat from sudden small explosions and rockfalls from the upper and middle slopes of the volcano. Active stream/river channels and those perennially identified as lahar prone areas in the southern sector should also be avoided especially during bad weather conditions or when there is heavy and prolonged rainfall.

2. ACTIONS TAKEN:

- NDRRMC–OPCEN disseminated said information to RDRRMC-OCD Region V through SMS, facsimile, website and NDRRMC Twitter account for further dissemination to their respective local DRRMCs from the provincial down to the municipal levels; and
 - DOST-PHIVOLCS, through the RDRRMCs PHIVOLCS in Region V and PDRRMCs Sorsogon and Albay are closely monitoring the alert status and the activities of Bulusan and Mayon Volcanoes. Any significant development of same will be immediately relayed to all concerned.
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