

NATIONAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION & MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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

NDRRMC UPDATE Babuyan Claro Volcano Status Report

Releasing Officer:



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Source/s: OIC PAGASA Calayan Station, PHIVOLCS, MDCC Calayan, PDCC Cagayan & OCDRC II

I. Situation Overview

- On 7 October 2010 at around 12:00 noon a tectonic earthquake reportedly occurred in Babuyan Island, Calayan Island, Cagayan Province. However, this seismic event was not detected by PHIVOLCS seismic network
- According to PAGASA, Calayan residents in the area have experienced/felt earthquakes that occurred last 04 October 2010. PHIVOLCS seismic networks recorded a series of tectonic earthquakes that occurred last 04 October 2010. The nearest earthquake event was located at about 20 kms southwest of Babuyan Island but located far enough to affect the activity of Babuyan Volcano
- Similar allegations were also reported to PHIVOLCS by residents of Babuyan Island in June 1993 and February 2004 and the island residents feared that the volcano was reactivating.
- These phenomena were investigated by PHIVOLCS QUICK RESPONSE TEAM and found no sign of unusual volcanic activity, as there were no anomalous manifestations at the crateral area. The team did observe any drying of vegetation, sulfuric smell, rockfalls and ground fissuring or other indications of volcanic unrest. The earthquakes that jolted the island were tectonic in origin and not related to activity of Babuyan Claro Volcano
- The same occurrence holds true to the incident reported yesterday, however the island residents are still apprehensive upon seeing the steam emission
- Verbal report from local officials of Calayan said that the smoke and volcanic activity has decreased
- Calayan has a population of 228 families / 1240 persons

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II. Action Taken:

- PDCC Cagayan is now formulating strategy to extend assistance to the people of the island

III. Issues/Concerns

- Babuyan Claro Island has no power source of its own and very few people have cell phones
 - Power source is only turned on during night time when people can charge their communication system
 - Babuyan Claro Island is quite far from Calayan mainland and evacuation of people will pose a problem.
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