



## **NDRRMC ADVISORY**

**TO :** CHAIRPERSONS, RDRRMCs/OCD CALABARZON, OCD RV  
**FROM :** Executive Director, NDRRMC and Administrator, OCD  
**SUBJECT :** Taal and Mayon Volcano Bulletin  
**DATE :** **12 February 2020, 8:00 AM**

Source: DOST-PHIVOLCS

### **I. SITUATION OVERVIEW**

#### **A. ALERT STATUS OF TAAL VOLCANO**

Activity in the Main Crater in the past 24 hours has been characterized by weak emission of steam-laden plumes rising 50 to 100 meters high before drifting southwest. Sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) emission was measured at an average of **67 tonnes/day** on **12 February 2020**. The Taal Volcano Network recorded **one hundred-one (101) volcanic earthquakes** including **four (4)** low-frequency events. These earthquakes signify magmatic activity beneath the Taal edifice that could lead to eruptive activity at the Main Crater.

**Alert Level 3** is maintained over Taal Volcano. DOST-PHIVOLCS reminds the public that sudden steam-driven and even weak phreatomagmatic explosions, volcanic earthquakes, ashfall, and lethal volcanic gas expulsions can still occur and threaten areas within Taal Volcano Island and nearby lakeshores. DOST-PHIVOLCS recommends that entry into the Taal Volcano Island as well as into areas over Taal Lake and communities west of the island within a seven (7) km radius from the Main Crater must be strictly prohibited. Local government units are advised to assess areas outside the seven-kilometer radius for damages and road accessibilities and to strengthen preparedness, contingency and communication measures in case of renewed unrest. People are also advised to observe precautions due to ground displacement across fissures, frequent ashfall and minor earthquakes. Communities beside active river channels particularly where ash from the main eruption phase has been thickly deposited should increase vigilance when there is heavy and prolonged rainfall since the ash can be washed away and form lahars along the channels. Civil aviation authorities must advise pilots to avoid flying close to the volcano as airborne ash and ballistic fragments from sudden explosions and wind-remobilized ash may pose hazards to aircraft. DOST-PHIVOLCS is closely monitoring Taal Volcano's activity and any new significant development will be immediately communicated to all stakeholders.

#### **B. ALERT STATUS OF MAYON VOLCANO**

Mayon Volcano's seismic monitoring network recorded **one (1) volcanic earthquake** during the 24-hour observation period. Recent electronic tilt data

showed inflation of the northern sector of the volcanic edifice that began in the last quarter of 2019. This follows an inflationary trend that began in February 2019 as recorded by continuous GPS monitoring.

**DOST-PHIVOLCS reiterates that Alert Level 2 currently prevails over Mayon because the volcano is at a moderate level of unrest.** It is therefore strongly recommended that entry into the six kilometer-radius Permanent Danger Zone or PDZ and a precautionary seven kilometer-radius Extended Danger Zone or EDZ in the south-southwest to east-northeast sector, stretching from Anoling, Camalig to Sta. Misericordia, Sto. Domingo, should be strictly prohibited. The public is reminded that sudden explosions, lava collapse, pyroclastic density currents or PDCs and ashfall can occur without warning and threaten areas in the upper to middle slopes of Mayon. People residing close to these danger areas are also advised to observe precautions against rockfalls, PDCs and ashfall. Active stream/river channels and those identified as perennially lahar-prone areas on all sectors of the volcano should also be avoided especially during extreme weather conditions when there is heavy and prolonged rainfall. Civil aviation authorities must advise pilots to avoid flying close to the volcano's summit as airborne ash and ballistic fragments from sudden explosions and PDCs may pose hazards to aircraft.

DOST-PHIVOLCS is closely monitoring Mayon Volcano's condition and any new development will be relayed to all concerned.

In order to better inform/warn communities, you are reminded to disseminate these through local/community leaders and through your local media, including community radio stations. Conduct press briefings as often as needed. This local effort will complement and reinforce efforts at the national level. Emphasis should be on proactive actions – evacuation rather than rescue.

Let's untiringly aim for zero casualty.

Submit report on actions taken.

**BY AUTHORITY OF THE CHAIRPERSON, NDRRMC:**

  
**UNDERSECRETARY RICARDO B JALAD**  
Executive Director, NDRRMC and  
Administrator, OCD