



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
NATIONAL DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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

NDRRMC UPDATE

Update on Alert Status and Activity of Mayon and Kanlaon Volcanoes

Releasing Officer:


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Source: DOST-PHIVOLCS

I. SITUATION OVERVIEW

A. ALERT STATUS OF MAYON VOLCANO

Mayon Volcano's seismic monitoring network recorded three (3) volcanic earthquakes and four (4) rockfall events during the 24-hour observation period. Three of these earthquakes were related to phreatic eruption events that occurred at 3:10 PM, 3:18 PM, and 3:34 PM yesterday. These events generated light brown to grayish ash plume that rose 500 meters, 1000 meters, and 500 meters above the summit, respectively, before drifting southwest. Weak to moderate emission of white steam-laden plumes was observed creeping downslope around early morning to early afternoon, but was observed to rise up to 250 meters above the summit before drifting south-southwest, west-southwest and southwest in the afternoon. Fair crater glow from the summit could be observed at night. Sulfur dioxide (SO₂) emission was measured at an average of 988 tonnes/day on 7 March 2019.

Alert Level 2 currently prevails over Mayon Volcano. This means that Mayon is at a moderate level of unrest. DOST-PHIVOLCS reminds the public that sudden explosions, lava collapses, pyroclastic density currents or PDCs and ashfall can still occur and threaten areas in the upper to middle slopes of Mayon. DOST-PHIVOLCS recommends 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 must be strictly prohibited. People residing close to these danger areas are also advised to observe precautions associated with 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 aircrafts.

B. ALERT STATUS OF KANLAON VOLCANO

Kanlaon Volcano's seismic monitoring network recorded one (1) volcanic earthquake during the past 24 hours. Sulfur dioxide (SO₂) emission was measured at an average of 116 tonnes/day on 27 February 2019. Ground deformation data from latest continuous GPS measurements indicates slight deflation of the edifice.

Alert Level 1 (abnormal) status prevails over Kanlaon Volcano, which means that it is currently in a state of unrest probably driven by hydrothermal processes that could generate steam driven or phreatic eruptions. The local government units and the public are reminded to avoid entry into the 4-kilometer radius Permanent Danger Zone (PDZ) due to perennial hazards of rockfalls, avalanches, sudden outgassing and steam-driven or phreatic eruption at the summit area. Civil aviation authorities must also advise pilots to avoid flying close to the volcano's summit as ejecta from any sudden phreatic eruption can be hazardous to aircraft. DOST-PHIVOLCS is closely monitoring Kanlaon Volcano's activity and any new development will be relayed to all concerned.

II. ACTIONS TAKEN

1. NDRRM Operations Center prepared NDRRMC Advisory and Update, and disseminated the same to OCD Regional Centers V, VI and VII through NDRRMC website in order to closely monitor the situation and take appropriate actions for any new development.
 2. Concerned NDRRMC member-agencies were provided with a copy of the Memorandum for the SND.
 3. DOST-PHIVOLCS is closely monitoring the activities of Mayon and Kanlaon Volcanoes and any new development will be relayed to all concerned.
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