

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 Activities of Bulusan, Mayon and Kanlaon Volcanoes

Releasing Officer:

Executive Director, NDRRMC and Administrator, OCD

DATE

: 31 December 2017, 8:00 AM

Source: DOST-PHIVOLCS

I. SITUATION OVERVIEW

A. ALERT STATUS OF BULUSAN VOLCANO

Bulusan Volcano's seismic monitoring network *recorded one* (1) volcanic earthquakesduring the past 24 hours. Degassing at the active vents could not be observed due to thick clouds covering the summit. Precise leveling data obtained on November 20 – 29, 2017 indicated a slight deflation of the edifice, consistent with short-term deflationary trends in both tilt and continuous GPS data in the last quarter of 2017. However, the edifice remains slightly inflated since July 2016 based on continuous GPS data.

Alert Level 1 (abnormal) status remains in effect over Bulusan 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. Local government units and the public are reminded that entry into the 4-kilometer radius Permanent Danger Zone (PDZ) is strictly prohibited and that vigilance in the Extended Danger Zone (EDZ) must be exercised due to the increased possibilities of sudden and hazardous phreatic eruptions. Civil aviation authorities must also advise pilots to avoid flying close to the volcano's summit as ash from any sudden phreatic eruption can be hazardous to aircraft. Furthermore, people living within valleys and along river/stream channels especially on the southeast, southwest and northwest sector of the edifice should be vigilant against sediment-laden stream flows and lahars in the event of heavy and prolonged rainfall. DOST-PHIVOLCS is closely monitoring Bulusan Volcano's condition and any new development will be communicated to all concerned stakeholders.

B. ALERT STATUS OF MAYON VOLCANO

Mayon Volcano's seismic monitoring *did not detect any* volcanic earthquake during the past 24 hours. Degassing at the active vents could not be observed due to thick clouds covering the summit. Precise leveling data obtained on November 7 to 11, 2017

indicated slight inflation of the edifice relative to September 2017. This is also exhibited in increased rates in the inflationary trends recorded by continuous GPS and tilt since October and November 2017, respectively. Sulfur dioxide (SO2) emission was measured at an average of 856 tonnes/day on 03 December 2017.

Alert Level 1 remains in effect over Mayon Volcano, which means that it is at abnormal condition. Although this means that presently no magmatic eruption is imminent, it is strongly advised that the public refrain from entering the 6-kilometer radius Permanent Danger Zone (PDZ) due to the perennial life-threatening dangers of rockfalls, landslides/avalanches at the middle to upper slope, sudden ash puffs and steam-driven or phreatic eruptions from the summit. 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. DOST-PHIVOLCS maintains its close monitoring of Mayon Volcano and any new development will be communicated to all concerned stakeholders.

C. ALERT STATUS OF KANLAON VOLCANO

Kanlaon Volcano's seismic monitoring network *recorded one (1)* volcanic earthquake during the past 24 hours. Degassing at the active vents could not be observed due to thick clouds covering the summit. Ground deformation data from continuous GPS measurements indicate slight inflation of the edifice since December 2015. Sulfur dioxide (SO₂) emission was measured at an average of **1,909** tonnes/day on **28 December 2017**.

Alert Level 2 status prevails over Kanlaon Volcano, which means that the volcano is undergoing a moderate level of unrest. There is probable intrusion of magma at depth which may or may not lead to a magmatic eruption. The local government units and the public are strictly reminded that entry into the 4-kilometer radius Permanent Danger Zone (PDZ) is strictly prohibited due to the further possibilities of sudden and hazardous steam-driven or phreatic eruptions. 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

- NDRRMC Operations Center prepared NDRRMC Advisory and Update, and disseminated the same to OCD Regional Centers V, VI and VII through facsimile and 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 Bulusan, Mayon, and Kanlaon Volcanoes, and any new development will be relayed to all concerned.