

Eruption in Eyjafjallajökull

Status Report: 15:00 GMT, 11 May 2010

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Based on: IMO seismic monitoring; IES-IMO GPS monitoring; IMO hydrological data; IMO weather radar measurements, ATDnet – UK Met. Offices lightning detection system, MERIS satellite images and observations from aircraft.

Eruption plume:

Height (a.s.l.): 5 - 6 km / 17,000 ft - 20,000 ft.
Heading: Southsoutheast.
Colour: Grey.
Tephra fallout: No reports, but clearly seen on video cameras.
Lightning: Nine lightning were recorded on the ATDnet.
Noises: No reports.

Meltwater: Low water discharge at Gígjökull.

Conditions at eruption site: Observations from air and web cameras show similar activity to yesterday. In the afternoon there was an increase in explosive activity, giving darker and slightly higher plume.

Seismic tremor: Slight increase in the lower frequency bands.

Earthquakes: Sixteen earthquakes were located since yesterday, mostly at depths of 18 – 20 km and magnitude less than M1.2.

GPS deformation: Small displacements towards the center of Eyjafjallajökull volcano but irregular oscillations in the vertical component of a station closest to the volcano.

Overall assessment: No major changes are seen in the activity, but small variation can still be expected. The ash plume increased slightly in the afternoon. Presently there are no indications that the eruption is about to end.