




REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

NATIONAL DISASTER COORDINATING COUNCIL

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

NDCC UPDATE Sitrep No. 4 re Taal Volcano Update

Releasing Officer:


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DATE : 16 June 2010

Source: DOST-PHIVOLCS and OCD Region IV-A and IV-B

1. Situation Overview

1.1 Alert Level

- ❖ Taal Volcano's status remains at **Alert Level 2** which means that the volcano is undergoing magmatic intrusion which could eventually lead to an eruption
- ❖ Taal Volcano Island which is within the 3 kms danger zone has **3,523** population
- ❖ Barangays within 7 km Danger Zone: 2 in San Nicolas; 6 in Agoncillo, 3 in Balete, 1 in Laurel, 3 in Mataas na Kahoy and 1 in Talisay

1.2 Precautionary Measures

- ❖ PHIVOLCS reminds the general public that the Main Crater remains off-limits to the public because steam-driven explosions may suddenly occur or high concentrations of toxic gases may accumulate
- ❖ Areas with hot grounds and steam emission such as portion of the Daang Kastila Trail are considered hazardous. PHIVOLCS reiterates that Taal Volcano Island is a high risk area and permanent danger zone. Hence, habitation is strictly not recommended

1.3. Affected Population

- **A total of 137 families / 649 persons voluntarily evacuated, evacuees came from the Municipalities of San Nicolas and Balete. Evacuees from San Nicolas stayed at San Nicolas Public Market while evacuees from Balete opted to stay with their relatives in Brgy. Looc.**
- **MDCCs affected provided food assistance to the evacuees.**

2. Actions Taken:

2.1 Preparedness Activities of PDCC Batangas

- The Chairman, RDCC IV-A called an emergency meeting of the council on June 10, 2010. Highlights of the meeting were as follows:

- Inventory of emergency resources of all members of the council specially transportation, relief goods (food and non-food items), portable toilets and medicines
 - Conduct Table-Top Exercise for CONPLAN Taal. This will be coordinated with PDCC Batangas
 - Identification of evacuation centers by the affected LGUs, other than school buildings
 - Conduct of voluntary evacuation from the Taal Volcano Island especially women, children, elders and disabled persons.
 - Prohibition of tourists in going to the volcano Island. All Police Stations in affected municipalities were directed to establish checkpoint accomplish this task.
 - Intensification of IEC campaign through available media. PIA IV as OPR for this.
- On June 10, 2010, PDCC-Batangas formed (2) teams to conduct an ocular of Taal Volcano. One team headed by the provincial Administrator Victor Reyes was in the Talisay side going to the main Crater of the volcano. They were able to observed the steaming of the main crater and the fissuring in many parts of the island. The other team headed by the Provincial Social Welfare Officer (PSWDO), Ms. Joy Montalbo, was in the San Nicolas side. They observed that the lake was calm.
- Police Provincial Office (PPO) Batangas conducted head count of the inhabitants in the volcano island (Tab A). Police Provincial Director – Batangas confirmed the voluntary evacuation started since June 10, 2010, from the island composing 40 families/ 300 persons from Barangay Tabla and San Isidro of Talisay, Batangas. Evacuees are staying with their relatives in the mainland.
- PDCC – Batangas held another meeting of the council to discuss mainly preparation for Taal Volcano. Highlights of the meeting were as follows:
 - All the affected municipalities, namely: Talisay, Balete, San Nicolas, Mataas na Kahoy, Agoncillo and Laurel presented to the body the immediate actions of their respective MDCCs upon receipt of the Taal Volcano Bulletin on June 8, 2010 raising the alert level from Alert Level 1 to Alert 2.
 - MDCC Talisay: Civil Defense Deputized Coordinator (CDDC) confirmed the voluntary evacuation as reported by PPO Batangas. In case of massive evacuation, they will tap the private motorized bancas in the municipality for the transport of evacuees.
 - MDCC San Nicolas: 130 motorized bancas are on standby. Relief goods were prepositioned, Local Calamity Fund of P 1.4 M on standby, Council Members living nearby and on call.
 - MDCC Mataas na Kahoy: CDDC reported that their municipality will not be greatly affected in case of eruption since it is 15 KM from the volcano island.
 - MDCC Laurel: activated MDCC and reviewed Preparedness Plan, Transportation is ready in case of evacuation, LCF of P 2.3 M available.
- The following DCCs, although not affected, manifested their preparations by activating their councils, alerting their Emergency Response Groups, identification of evacuation centers and placing their emergency equipment on standby: MDCC Cuenca, CDCC Lipa City, MDCC Alitagtag and MDCC Lemery. In the case of Lemery, the CDDC requested the Provincial Government to pre-position Engineering Equipment at the mouth of Pansipit River. He said that when seiches or base surges will occur, the river will overflow and will cause flooding in the areas along the river.

- MDCC Calaca and Balayan volunteered to accommodate evacuees from the affected municipalities and offered the services of their resources such as transportation
- The other members of the council also manifested their respective preparations as follows:
 - **DEPED Batangas:** Declared no classes at the volcano island. All classes are transferred to Balete mainland, also declared all public schools to be used as evacuation center.
 - **Coast Guard, Batangas:** 3 Rubber boats were deployed at Taal Lake plus motorized bancas, PCG Helicopters were on standby, 2 teams of PCG SOG were deployed in Talisay.
 - **AETC, Philippine Air force (PAF):** Air Assets subject to approval by COMSOLCOM, Transportation assets available at Fernando Air Base, Medical Facilities Available.
 - **PNRC Batangas Chapter:** First Aid and Basic Life Support Equipment are on standby, rescue teams are ready for deployment. In case shortage of relief goods occurred, the National Headquarters is ready to augment.
 - **PSWDO Batangas:** Submitted relief goods (food and non-food items) consumption for one (1) week in the amount of P 4.5 M, Conduct of Training on Camp Management in evacuation centers to affected municipalities.
 - **Provincial Tourism Office:** Issued directive not to allow tourist to go to the island.
 - **Provincial Health Office:** Prepared medicines, medical facilities, and medical teams for any emergency.
 - **Search and Rescue Committee:** Mobilized rescue equipment and rescue teams for possible deployment.
- The Acting Governor emphasized to all MDCCs the need to identify safe evacuation center other than school buildings/classrooms. He said this is very necessary in order not to compromise the education of the children.
- PDCC Batangas conducted an emergency meeting on June 8, 2010 to review the CONPLAN Taal and gave instructions to the following office/units
 - Batangas Public Information Office to conduct information dissemination through local media and inform the inhabitants of Taal Volcano Island to stay outside the 7-km Danger Zone and to prepare an advisory informing the public that once Alert level 3 is raised, force evacuation shall be enforced
 - Batangas Police Provincial Office - to prepare a deployment plan of the affected population, security of the evacuation centers, security of evacuated areas and for search and rescue operations
 - Municipal Police Stations of San Nicolas, Agoncillo, Balete, Laurel, Mataas na Kahoy and Talisay to simultaneously conduct checkpoint operations to prevent tourists from going to the volcano Island and provide information on the prevailing situation
 - Relief and Evacuation Service Committee to update the number of populace in the Volcano Island including vulnerable groups.
- The PDCC DOC has been activated since June 8, 2010 and will continue operating on 24/7 days until Alert level 2 is lowered
- PDCC Batangas advised all its service committees to update inventory of their resources and to prepare an update of the situation
- A joint meeting of Service Committees on Search and Rescue, Evacuation and Relief was conducted on June 9, 2010 at the Governor's Office.

- MDCC Chairmen of San Nicolas, Agoncillo, Mataas na Kahoy, Talisay, Balete, and Laurel have conducted their council meetings to review respective Contingency Plans and discuss the preparation in the event Taal Volcano worsens.
- Buco Station of PHIVOLCS conducted seismic analysis in the volcano island and observed other parameters
- Chairman, CDCC Tagaytay was tasked to issue advisory to the tourists to refrain from going to Taal volcano island until such time that the alert level be lowered and to alert all residents along the Tagaytay Ridge facing Volcano Island and to prepare for evacuation in case the situation worsens
- MDCC Chairman Mataas na Kahoy has ordered to cancel all travel Orders outside the municipality and make sure that all vehicles of the local government are ready for deployment