



# NATIONAL DISASTER COORDINATING COUNCIL

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

## NDCC UPDATE

### Sitrep No. 6 re Taal Volcano Update

Releasing Officer:



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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
- ❖ **Three (3) volcanic earthquakes** were detected by the seismic network for the past 24 hours
- ❖ Taal Volcano Island which is within the 3 kms danger zone has **3,523** population
- ❖ There are 16 barangays located 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

- ❖ **To date, 150 families/697 persons are currently staying in the designated evacuation centers to wit:**

Municipality	No. of Families	No. of Persons	Evacuation Center
Balete	115	567	Staying with relatives
San Nicolas	12	50	San Nicolas Public Market
Talisay	6	15	Talisay Covered Court
Mataas na Kahoy	17	85	Staying with relatives
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>697</b>	

## 2. Actions Taken:

### 2.1 Preparedness Activities of PDCC Batangas

- ❖ 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
- ❖ **On June 8, 2010**, PDCC Batangas conducted an emergency meeting 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
- ❖ **On June 9, 2010** a joint meeting of Service Committees on Search and Rescue, Evacuation and Relief was conducted at the Governor's Office attended by MDCC Chairmen of San Nicolas, Agoncillo, Mataas na Kahoy, Talisay, Balete, and Laurel to review respective Contingency Plans and discuss the preparation in the event Taal Volcano worsens
- ❖ Chairman, CDCC Tagaytay issued advisory to the tourists to refrain from going to Taal volcano island until such time that the alert level be lowered to zero and alerted all residents along the Tagaytay Ridge facing Volcano Island to prepare for evacuation in case the situation worsens
- ❖ MDCC Chairman Mataas na Kahoy has ordered the cancellation of all Travel Orders outside the municipality and make sure that all vehicles of the local government are ready for deployment
- ❖ **June 10, 2010** the Chairman, RDCC IV-A called another emergency meeting with the following highlights:
  - Inventory of resources such as: transportation, relief goods (food and non-food items), portable toilets and medicines;
  - Conduct of Table-Top Exercise for CONPLAN Taal in coordination with PDCC Batangas;
  - Identification of evacuation centers other than school buildings by the affected LGUs;
  - 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 wherein all Police Stations in the affected municipalities were directed to establish checkpoint; and
  - Intensification of IEC campaign with PIA IV as the OPR
- ❖ PDCC-Batangas formed six (6) ocular inspection teams on June 10, 2010 to closely monitor preparations and developments in the six affected municipalities located around Taal Volcano
- ❖ Police Provincial Office (PPO) Batangas conducted head count of the inhabitants in the volcano island
- ❖ Police Provincial Director–Batangas confirmed the voluntary evacuation from the island composed of 40 families/ 300 persons from Barangays Tabla and San Isidro in Talisay, Batangas which started since June 10, 2010 and the evacuees are still staying with their relatives at the mainland

- ❖ **June 11, 2010-** PDCC–Batangas held another meeting to discuss mainly the preparation in case Taal Volcano erupts. Highlights were as follows:
  - MDCCs Talisay, Balete, San Nicolas, Mataas na Kahoy, Agoncillo and Laurel presented to the body their respective actions upon receipt of the Taal Volcano Bulletin on June 8, 2010 re status of Taal volcano (from Alert Level 1- Alert Level 2)
  - Civil Defense Deputized Coordinator of MDCC Talisay 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 has 130 motorized bancas and Local Calamity Fund worth PhP1.4M on standby, prepositioned relief goods and all MDCC members living nearby are on call
  - MDCC Mataas na Kahoy will not be greatly affected in case of eruption since it is located 15 Km from the volcano island
  - MDCC Laurel activated its council and reviewed its Preparedness Plan, its transportation is ready in case of evacuation and its LCF of PhP2.3 M is available
  - MDCC Cuenca, CDCC Lipa City, MDCC Alitagtag and MDCC Lemery, although not affected, manifested their preparations by activating their councils, alerting their Emergency Response Groups, identifying evacuation centers and placing their emergency equipment on standby. In the case of Lemery, the CDDC requested the Provincial Government to pre-position Engineering Equipment at the mouth of Pansipit River. Further, he said that when seiches or base surges will occur, the river will overflow and will cause flooding in the areas along the river
  - MDCCs Calaca and Balayan volunteered to accommodate evacuees from the affected municipalities and offered the services of their resources such as transportation
  - Other PDCC members also manifested their respective preparations as follows:
    - **DEPED Batangas** - declared no classes at the volcano island and that all public schools should be used as evacuation center. All classes are transferred to Balete mainland. The Acting Governor emphasized to all MDCCs the need to identify safe evacuation center other than school buildings/classrooms in order not to compromise the education of the children
    - **PCG Batangas** - 3 rubber boats and motorized bancas and PCG Helicopters on standby in Taal Lake. PCG SOG deployed two (2) teams to Talisay
    - **AETC, Philippine Air Force (PAF)** - Air Assets are subject to the approval of COMSOLCOM, transportation assets and medical facilities are available at Fernando Air Base
    - **PNRC Batangas Chapter** -First Aid and Basic Life Support Equipment and rescue teams are on standby ready for deployment. In case of relief goods shortage, 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 PhP4.5 M, and will conduct 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** prepositioned medicines, medical facilities, and medical teams for any emergency
    - **Search and Rescue Committee** has available rescue equipment and rescue teams for possible deployment
- ❖ **June 16, 2010** PDCC Batangas conducted meeting with United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN-OCHA)
- ❖ **June 18, 2010** RDCC Chairman issued Memo Order to RDCC-IVA member agencies operating in Taal Lake reiterating order not to allow anyone to go to Taal Volcano Island without clearance from the Incident Commander of Chairman, RDCC IV-A and for PDCC Batangas to establish Incident Command System and Designate an Incident Commander

- ❖ **June 21, 2010** Chairman and Executive Officer, RDCC-IV-A conducted an ocular inspection in Taal Volcano
- ❖ **June 24, 2010** RDCC IV-A team conducted an aerial survey to observe the present status of Taal Volcano. The survey team is composed of Sen Ralph Recto; C/RDCC IV-A PCSupt Rolando R Añonuevo; Dir PHIVOLCS Renato Solidum; RD OCD-IV-A Dir Vicente Tomazar; Deputy Commander, SOLCOM/Comdr, DRTF Commo Arnel Gonzales; Comdr, 202nd, 2ID, PA Col Aurelio Baladad; and PEO Batangas Engr Nerlio Ronquillo. The team, on board one (1) PAF UH-IH Helicopter, left around 9:30 AM at Fernando Air Base, Lipa City to conduct survey at the main crater of Taal Volcano and the lakeshore areas that will be affected in case of eruption. The group returned at 10:50 AM
  
- ❖ **Findings of Aerial Survey /Assessment**
  - The group noticed a visible bubbling in the main crater which was not seen in previous observation and steaming activity of sulfuric gases was felt;
  - PHIVOLCS discussed the different scenarios posed by the volcano
  - Review/rechecking of evacuation plan and available resources based on present observation
  - Assessment of PDCC/LDCC capacity in handling evacuees at the evacuation centers
  - Assistance to be provided
  
- ❖ **Plan of Action/Recommendations**
  - PDCC Batangas to call another meeting to review evacuation priorities of affected areas and assess preparations at the designated evacuation centers and PHIVOLCS to conduct another aerial survey
  - To assign one (1) PAF UH-IH Helicopter at RDCC IV-A intended solely for assessment of Taal Volcano situation in coordination with PHIVOLCS when the situation warrants
  - To provide mobilization/standby fund in preparation of any eventuality