

Eruption in Eyjafjallajökull

Status Report: 23:00 GMT, 11 June 2010

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Based on: IMO seismic monitoring; IES-IMO GPS monitoring; IMO hydrological data; web cameras, lightning detection system and overflights at 8 and 21 on 11 June.

Eruption plume:

Height (a.s.l.): Mostly within the crater, every now and then the steam clouds rise above the crater rim.

Heading:

Colour: White.

Tephra fallout: None.

Lightning: None were measured on the UK Met Office's system.

Noises: No reports

Meltwater: Low discharge from Gígjökull.

Mudflood: Heavy rainfall during the night before last and early yesterday morning caused considerable swelling in Svaðbælisá River. The water contained a great amount of mud, that flowed over fields despite the levee that was erected to protect the farming land at Thorvaldseyri. Considerable mud has accumulated in the river channel since the eruption began, decreasing the depth of the channel. This has caused water to flow up onto a road west of a bridge, as there it now not much difference between the height of the bridge and the river channel.

Conditions at eruption site: A lake, about 300 m in diameter, has formed at the bottom of the big crater. Steam is rising from the rims, especially from the north side. In the morning the steam cloud only rose about 100 m over the crater but reached 500-1000 m in the evening. On the western side of the crater, above the water surface, a brown-colored cloud can be seen rising from two small openings. Mounds of sulphur have formed by steam eyes in the lava rein, just north of the crater.

Seismic tremor: Low tremor level. No pulses have been observed for the last 24 hours.

Earthquakes: A few small, shallow earthquakes have been recorded beneath the summit in the last few days.

GPS deformation: Slow and continuous deformation towards the volcano in the last two weeks.

Overall assessment: No magma is being erupted at present with activity being confined to steaming. Water has started to accumulate in the main crater and poses a threat of drainage in a flood down Gígjökull in the coming weeks.