



NATIONAL COMMISSIONER OF THE ICELANDIC POLICE
DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Status report from the National Crisis Coordination Centre

Date: 29. August 2014 at 70:00

Regarding: Volcanic eruption at Holuhraun

Main Points:

- A fissure eruption has started at Holuhraun lava North of Dyngjufjökull glacier in Vatnajökull glacier
- No volcanic ash has been detected with the radar system
- Civil protection phase has been raised to Emergency phase
- Aviation color-code set by the Icelandic Met Office raised to red and restrictions on airspace have taken effect over the eruption site
- Highland closures remain in effect

Civil Protection phase:

The National Commissioner of the Icelandic Police, together with the District Commissioners in Húsavík and Seyðisfjörður, has decided to raise the Civil Protection phase to **emergency phase**, due to the eruption.

National Crisis Coordination Centre:

The National Crisis Coordination Centre in Skógarhlíð is active. The centre coordinates operations and information due to the eruption in Holuhraun and seismic unrest in the Bárðarbunga area, in Northern Vatnajökull glacier.

Volcanic activity:

A lava eruption has started at Holuhraun lava, north of Dyngjufjökull glacier in Vatnajökull glacier

A fissure eruption has started north of Dyngjufjökull (Holuhran). Based on webcams and seismic data the eruption started at 00:02 (29/8/14). Scientists estimate the fissure to be ca 1 kilometer long.

No volcanic ash has been detected with the radar system at the moment. The wind field conditions in the area are wind blowing toward NW at 12 m/s at 5 km altitude. Seismic eruption tremor is low indicating effusive eruption without significant explosive activity.

Satellite infrared images confirmed thermal anomaly at 00:38.

There are no signs of floodings.

Flight

The Icelandic Met office has raised the aviation color-code to red over the eruption site.

Latest information on the small volcanic eruption in central Iceland indicates that airborne ash material produced is minimal. The Reykjavik Air Traffic Control Center has declared an aviation danger area reaching 5.000 ft altitude covering part of the highlands North of Vatnajökull glacier. All Icelandic airports in Iceland are open. The Icelandic Transport Authority has issued a restricted area 10 nm around the volcano and up to 5000 ft. over the ground.



NATIONAL COMMISSIONER OF THE ICELANDIC POLICE
DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL PROTECTION AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



Meetings and collaboration:

The coordination of the operation continues at the National Crisis Coordination Center. The Coast Guard aircraft, TF-SIF is scheduled to take off at 09:30 today.

The closed area:

Restrictions on roads and areas in the highlands north of Vatnajökull glacier is still in effect as well as closures in Jökulsárgljúfur Canyon up to the West side of Dettifoss waterfall.

A map of the closed roads can be found on the website of the Icelandic Road and Coastal Administration <http://www.vegagerdin.is/media/umferd-og-faerd/Halendi.pdf>

Information

A media unit is placed at the National Crisis Coordination Center, providing information and dealing with media requests. The email address is info@sst.is Tel: +354-5702644/43. The website on safe travel in Iceland is updated regularly: www.safetravel.is

Next status report:

Status reports will be sent from the National Crisis Coordination Center if needed.

The National Commissioner of the Icelandic Police, Department of Civil Protection and Emergency Management
www.almannavarnir.is