



Montserrat Volcano Observatory

18 September 2015
9:00 am

MVO Weekly Report for the Period 11 to 18 September 2015

Activity at the Soufrière Hills Volcano remains low.

The seismic network recorded seven volcano-tectonic earthquakes this week. Six of these occurred in a very brief swarm at 21:30 (local time) on 14 September.

Sulphur-dioxide measurements on five days during the reporting period gave an average flux of 394 tonnes/day with a maximum of 581 and a minimum of 231 tonnes/day. Sulphur-dioxide measurements last week gave an average flux of 437 tonnes/day with a maximum of 730 and a minimum of 225 tonnes/day.

Pyroclastic flows can occur at any time without warning on any side of the volcano, including Gages from where they can travel rapidly into Plymouth. Tracks across the Belham valley are frequently destroyed or heavily modified by flash flooding or lahars, and caution should be exercised crossing the valley during and after rainfall.

The Hazard Level is 1. There is no public access to Zone V, including Plymouth. Maritime Zones E and W are daytime transit only between sunrise and sunset (boats may sail through the zone but must not stop). Anyone who ignores these restrictions is liable to be prosecuted.

This report along with additional information on the Soufrière Hills Volcano and the Hazard Level System can be found at the MVO website: www.mvo.ms.

Roderick Stewart
Director

Seismic Activity (number of events)

	This week	Last week	Last 4 weeks (weekly average)
Rockfalls	0	0	2
VT earthquakes	7	10	4
Hybrid earthquakes	0	0	0
LP earthquakes	0	0	0

Sulphur Dioxide Flux (tonnes per day)

	This week	Last week	Last 4 weeks
Average	394	437	n/a
Maximum	581	730	n/a
Minimum	231	225	n/a

Note : The numbers provided in the tables above are provisional and may be subject to change after further analysis of the data.