



Montserrat Volcano Observatory

23 October 2015
9:00 am

MVO Weekly Report for the Period to 16 to 23 October 2015

Activity at the Soufrière Hills Volcano remains low.

The seismic network recorded three volcano-tectonic earthquakes this week.

Sulphur-dioxide measurements were only possible on two days during the reporting period, with values of 593 and 412 tonnes/day, giving an average of 502 tonnes/day. The plume was blown towards the north at times during the week and the smell of volcanic gases was sometimes noticeable in inhabited areas.

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	1	1
VT earthquakes	3	2	6
Hybrid earthquakes	0	0	0
LP earthquakes	0	0	0

Sulphur Dioxide Flux (tonnes per day)

	This week	Last week	Last 4 weeks
Average	502	277	293
Maximum	593	-	386
Minimum	412	-	230

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