Montserrat Volcano Observatory

March 19, 2021
9:00 am

MVO Weekly Report for the Period 12 March to 19 March 2021

Activity at the Soufrière Hills Volcano remains low.

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

SO_2 flux measurements were taken by helicopter on 16th March and by boat on 17th March. The average flux values were 883 tonnes per day on the 16th March from eight traverses and 601 tonnes per day on the 17th from five traverses.

Due to the large size of the lava dome, 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 can be 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. Old weekly reports can be downloaded from http://www.mvo.ms/pub/Activity_Reports/. You can also follow @mvoms on both Facebook and Twitter.

Graham A. Ryan
Director

Monitoring Data Summary

Seismic Activity (number of events)

	This week	Last week	Last 4 weeks (weekly average)
Rockfalls	0	0	0
VT earthquakes	3	9	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	774	305	n/a
Maximum	1254	422	n/a
Minimum	315	177	n/a

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