Montserrat Volcano Observatory

21 August 2026
9:00 am

MVO Weekly Report for the Period 14 to 21 August 2026

Activity at the Soufrière Hills Volcano remains **low**.

The seismic network recorded 20 volcano-tectonic earthquakes this week. Four (4) of these events occurred in a brief swarm on 17 August and eight (8) of these occurred in a swarm on 18 August.

Measurements of the SO_2 flux were taken from the helicopter on 19 August. There were 12 traverses with an average flux of 203 tonnes per day.

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.

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Monitoring Data Summary

Seismic Activity (number of events)

	This week	Last week	Last 4 weeks (weekly average)
Rockfalls	0	0	1
VT earthquakes	20	7	8
Hybrid earthquakes	0	0	0
LP earthquakes	0	0	0

Sulphur Dioxide Flux (tonnes per day)

	This week	Last week	Last 4 weeks
Average	203	222	235
Maximum	279	288	349
Minimum	113	176	150

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