

Taal Volcano's (14.0000°N, 120.9833°E) seismic network recorded eight (8) volcanic earthquakes during the past 24-hour observation period. Field measurements last January 22 at the western sector of the Main Crater Lake yielded a decrease in water temperature of 30.0°C from 30.8°C, decrease in water level of 0.80 meter from 0.94 meter and slight decrease in acidity of pH 2.96 from pH 2.90. Ground deformation survey in the Volcano Island on 03-15 December 2012 denoted slight inflation at Calauit, Daang Kastila and New Eruption Site precise leveling lines. Furthermore, GPS data for the period of October 2012 to December 2012 show inflationary changes in ground deformation while the edifice is still slightly inflated in general compared to February 2011 baseline data. Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emission at the Main Crater Lake increased to 720 tonnes per day on 27 November 2012 compared to 627 tonnes per day last 07 July 2012.

**Alert Level 1** remains in effect over Taal Volcano. This means that hazardous eruption is not imminent. The public, however, is reminded that the Main Crater should be strictly off-limits because sudden steam explosions may occur and high concentrations of toxic gases may accumulate. The northern portion of the Main Crater rim, in the vicinity of Daang Kastila Trail, may also become hazardous when steam emission along existing fissures suddenly increases. Furthermore, the public is also reminded that the entire Volcano Island is a Permanent Danger Zone (PDZ), and permanent settlement in the island is strongly not recommended.

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