

Taal Volcano's (14°00.1'N, 120°59.6'E) seismic network recorded six (6) volcanic earthquakes during the past 24 hours. One of these events, which occurred at 12:04 PM yesterday, was felt at intensity II by residents in Barangay Calauit located at the southeast side of the volcano island. Field observation conducted last 22 February 2011 at the eastern sector inside the Main Crater Lake (via Calauit) showed that steaming activity at the thermal area was weak. The crater lake level further receded from 0.68 meter to 0.60 meter. The lake water temperature slightly lowered from 30.7°C to 30.5 °C while the pH value became less acidic from 2.86 to 2.97. Results of the ground deformation survey (precise leveling) conducted around the Volcano Island this February showed a slight inflation as compared with the December 2010 survey.

Alert Level 1 is still enforced over Taal Volcano. This means that a hazardous eruption is not imminent. However, the public is reminded that the Main Crater should be strictly off-limits due to sudden occurrence of steam explosions and accumulation of toxic gases. The northern portion of the Main Crater rim, in the vicinity of Daang Kastila trail, may also be dangerous when increased steam emission is reactivated along existing fissures. Moreover, the public is also reminded that the entire Volcano Island is a Permanent Danger Zone (PDZ), and permanent settlement in the island is strictly not recommended.

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