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ABSTRACT

Taranaki volcano has erupted many times in the past 130,000 years, with the most recent eruption in approx. 1854 A.D. Volcanic hazards from Taranaki include tephra falls, pyroclastic density currents, lava flows, lahars, flooding, debris avalanches, sector collapses, lightning and volcanic gases. During volcanic unrest and eruptions, significant earthquakes and ground deformation could also occur. Volcanic hazards can affect areas both near to the vent and in distant locations, and are potentially dangerous to people, property, the economy and infrastructure. In this report each type of hazard is described, along with its impacts and possible mitigation measures. GNS Science monitors Taranaki for volcanic activity through the GeoNet project and is responsible for setting the Volcanic Alert Level and Aviation Colour Code. Volcanic unrest is one of the most difficult situations that the volcanological and emergency management communities will have to deal with, in part because of the potential for adverse social and economic impacts to escalate unnecessarily, unless the event is managed appropriately. Non-eruptive periods provide the best opportunity to develop an understanding of the unrest phenomena and potential eruptive hazards, and the best time to establish educational programmes, funding systems for enhanced emergency response and volcano surveillance and to develop co-ordinated contingency plans. Relevant research is summarised in themed chapters, and a list of further references and recent Taranaki-related research is included.

KEYWORDS

Taranaki, Egmont, volcano, hazard, tephra, emergency management

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Taranaki is a potentially active volcano. The most recent activity is thought to have been in the mid nineteenth century. Although the probability of an eruption is relatively low in any one year, the probability of one occurring in the future is high. The timing of the next eruption cannot yet be determined but its probable effects can be reasonably assessed. Recent eruptions overseas have demonstrated the devastating impacts of volcanic activity on nearby landscapes, communities and the economy. Even the 1995-1996 Ruapehu eruptions, although small by world standards, highlighted the vulnerability of society to minor eruptions. A further consideration is that, more often than not, indications of subsurface volcanic activity, such as increased earthquakes or above-ground gas changes, may not result in an eruption. These "unrest" phenomena may be hazardous in themselves, and cause uncertainty in the population and decision makers (for instance, which areas should be evacuated prior to eruption and when, and what will the impacts be on various local industries). Volcanic crises must be planned for using a comprehensive emergency management approach that links reduction, readiness, response and recovery. A volcanic hazard management approach incorporating the 4 R's (reduction, readiness, response and recovery) is described in Figure 1. This report provides a review of key information for the effective management of volcanic hazards at Taranaki.

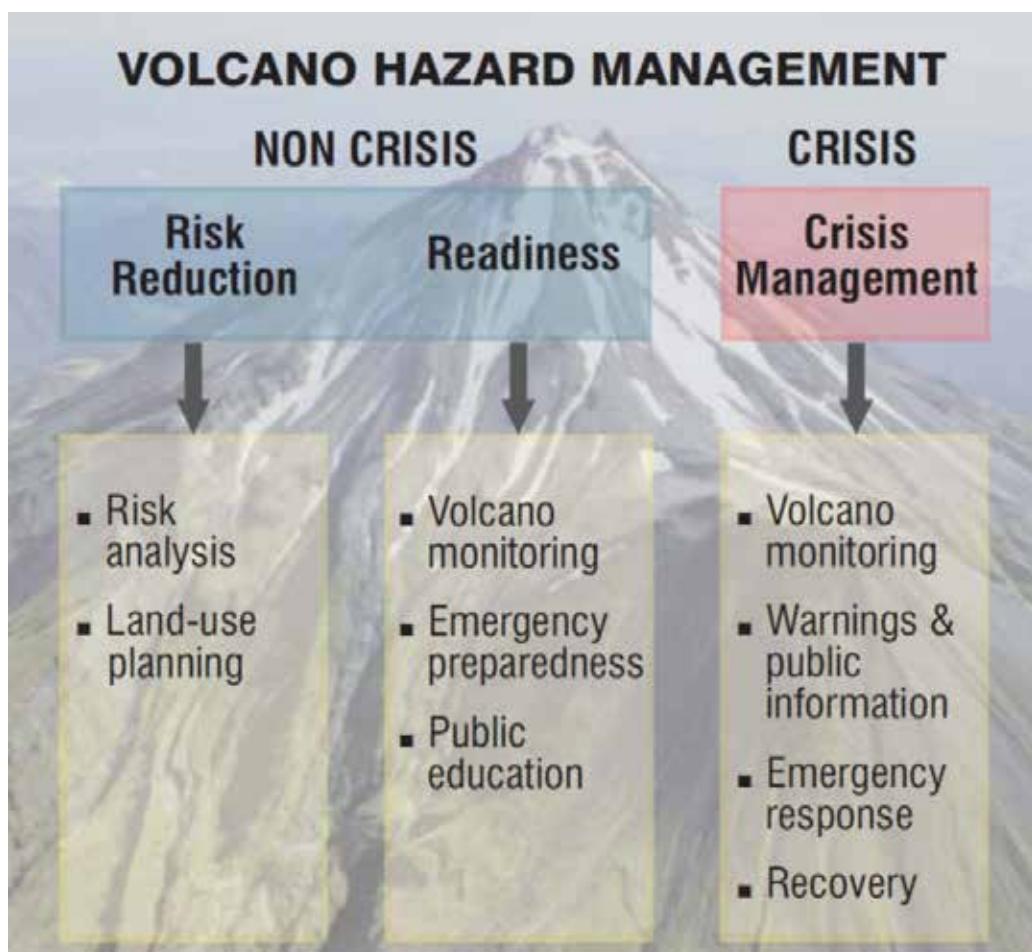


Figure 1 Volcano hazard management during crisis and non crisis periods.

2.0 GEOLOGICAL SETTING AND ERUPTIVE HISTORY

The volcanic history of Taranaki presented in this section is modified from Neall (2003), unless referenced otherwise. Further information and images on the geology of Taranaki can be found in Townsend, Vonk and Kamp's (2008) geological map and information book.

The nearly symmetrical, steep-sided cone of Mt Taranaki (also known as Egmont Volcano) is New Zealand's largest (by volume) andesitic stratovolcano. The area was previously a shallow sea, and was built up with deposited sediments until erupted volcanic material formed the cone and surrounding ringplain of debris avalanche and lahar deposits that extend to the coast. Taranaki Volcanic Centre is located in the west of the North Island at the southern end of a mostly extinct Miocene to Holocene volcanic arc extending to the north along the west coast of Waikato and into the Northland Peninsula. Over time the volcanic activity at Taranaki Volcanic Centre has progressed towards the southeast (Figure 2), beginning with the Sugar Loaf Islands and Paritutu 1.75 million years before present (B.P.) followed by the formation of Kaitake (575,000 years B.P.) and Pouakai (240,000 years B.P.). All of these cones are comprised of andesitic lava flows and are considered extinct (Neall, 1974).

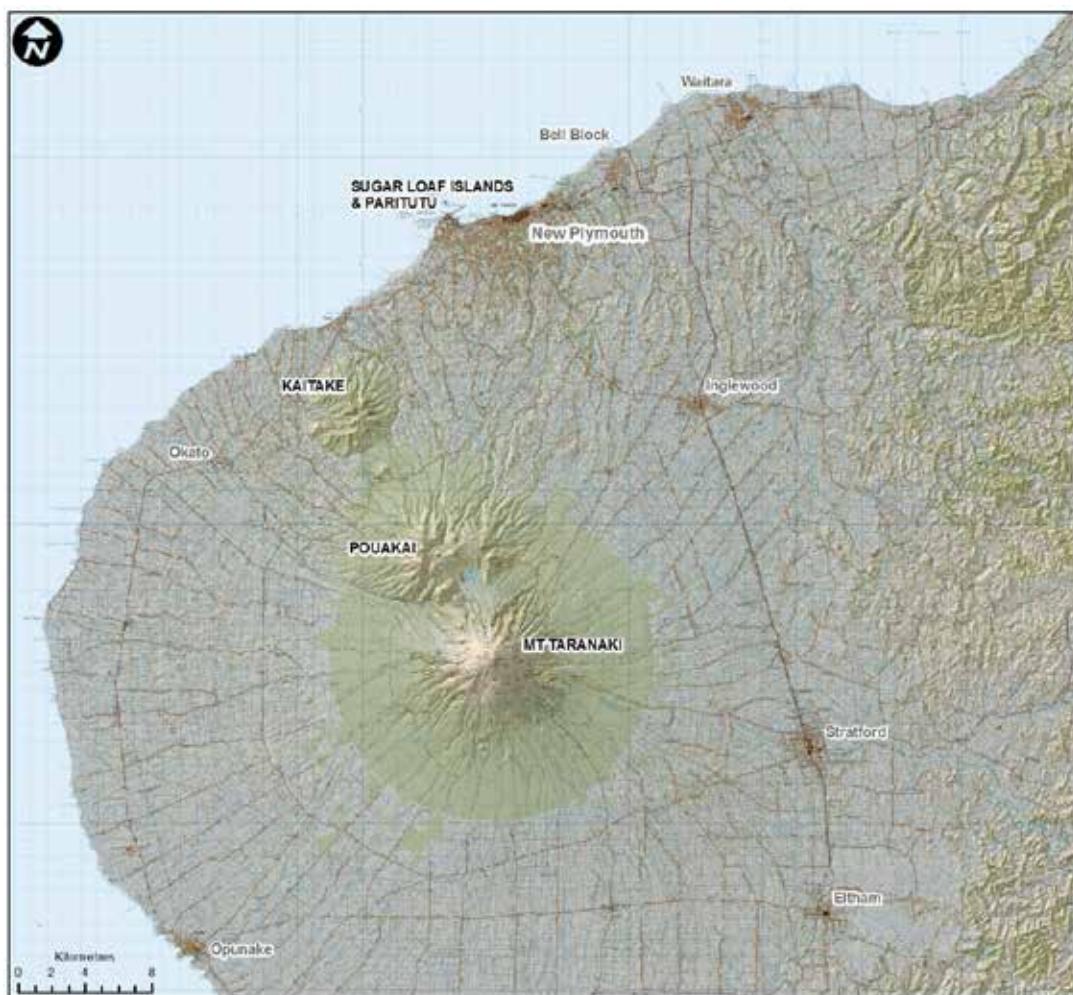


Figure 2 Map of Taranaki volcanic centre and surrounding towns.

Taranaki cone began forming more than 130,000 years B.P., with the building of a proto-cone from which large volcanic avalanche deposits mantle the surrounding ring plain. Deposits from around this time have largely been eroded away or destroyed by subsequent eruptions. Another cone ("meso-Egmont") had been built by 35,000 years B.P. Further eruptions triggered numerous lahars. A large sector collapse occurred between 30,000 and 27,000 years B.P., creating deposits that now form the hummocky topography between Stratford and Eltham. At 23,000 years B.P. another large debris avalanche was produced by probable sector collapse on the opposite (western) flank. Approximately 20,000 years B.P. the building of what is the current cone began from lava flows, as well as a second small cone being built (Pukeiti). A hot pyroclastic flow occurred 17,000 years B.P. after which the cone was continually built until what can be seen today.

From 10,000 years B.P. to 5,000 years B.P. further pyroclastic density currents (hot, fluid flows of gas and tephra) caused lahars. Approximately 3,300 years B.P. Fanthams Peak erupted scoria and lava, and vertical fractures emitted lava forming the Beehives, Skinner Hill and The Dome (Neall, 1971, cited in Neall, 2003; Neall & Alloway, 1993). Only 500 years ago, in 1500 A.D., pyroclastic flows swept down the Stony River catchment on Taranaki's flank, causing fires in the native bush which swept 3km northwards across the western slopes of the Pouakai Range (Druce, 1970, cited in Neall, 2003). 150 years later a pumice lapilli fall and pyroclastic flows covered Maori villages, inferred from the discovery of Maori ovens (*umu*) beneath the deposits. In 1755 A.D. small hot avalanches occurred from eruptions at Taranaki. Recent evidence from Platz (2007) suggests that the most recent eruption was between 1839 and 1866 A.D., and potentially in 1854 A.D. In 1998 and 2008, lahars swept down Taranaki's river valleys due to heavy rain entraining old volcanic deposits (see section 7.3 for more details).

A long history of repeated eruptions causing numerous pyroclastic density currents, debris avalanches and lahars shows this volcano is likely to have devastating effects even beyond the cone area in the future.

3.0 VOLCANO MONITORING

The past behaviour of a volcano is understood through geological research. By interpreting deposits and formations from previous eruptions, an understanding of past (and therefore most likely future) eruption characteristics can be gained. In order to understand the *current* behaviour of a volcano, geophysical (e.g. seismicity and ground deformation) and geochemical (e.g. spring chemistry) phenomena need to be monitored. Volcano monitoring is based on the assumption that movement of magma (molten rock) will occur beneath a volcano before an eruption can start, and that this is detectable using various methods (Sparks, 2003; Scott & Travers, 2009).

In New Zealand, volcano monitoring is primarily the responsibility of GNS Science through the GeoNet project, mostly funded by the Earthquake Commission. GeoNet builds and maintains the monitoring networks (Scott et al., 1995). GNS Science staff respond to increased activity by intensifying the campaign of seismic, geodetic (ground movement) and geochemical measurements.

GNS staff regularly visit the volcanoes to collect samples, make observations and maintain technical equipment. Observations can include noting features such as changes in areas of warm ground and the development of new fumaroles and hot springs, which may indicate changes in the state of the volcano. Remotely operated cameras are used to supplement those observations. Earthquakes, ground deformation, and the discharge and chemistry of fluids and gas are monitored (however fluids and gas are not currently monitored at Taranaki) as they are principal indicators of the movement of magma, and increased eruption potential. Data from all disciplines are collected, analysed and cross-referenced to help give an understanding of the behaviour of the volcanoes and an insight into future eruptions.

Earthquakes are monitored as they can occur when magma forces its way through the overlying rocks. There are nine permanent seismographs in Taranaki including one borehole seismometer at the North Egmont site. All seismographs have north-south, east-west, and vertical sensors and digital recording and data transmission. Seismic data from Taranaki are continuously transmitted to GeoNet data centres in Taupo and Wellington via three hub sites (Figure 3). At the data centres, earthquakes are detected automatically. Depending on their importance (as determined by their magnitude and likely location), they are analysed within a few minutes, within 24 hours, or within about two weeks. Felt earthquakes are analysed within a few minutes and their size and location information posted to the GeoNet website. Earthquake locations are automatically entered into a database that can be accessed via the GeoNet website (www.geonet.org.nz).

Ground deformation is the change in slope and elevation of the landscape that can occur prior to, during or after an eruption. Such ground movement can occur in response to the influx or withdrawal of magma and hydrothermal or magmatic fluids in a volcano. Changes in the amount or rate of ground deformation may signal the start of a new eruptive episode. There are numerous ways to measure such deformation, like precise levelling, tilt measurement and position triangulation. Continuous Global Positioning System (CGPS) measurements provide time-series, high precision data for deformation monitoring. Satellite-based Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar (InSAR) is a relatively new technique for measuring ground movements over a wide region. This type of data is now being captured in some areas of New Zealand. On Taranaki, there is currently one permanent GPS station and numerous surveying marks that are measured by GPS periodically (every few years) to establish a baseline for local and regional scale deformation.

Gases are usually discharged through gas vents (fumaroles) from which the temperature and composition of these gases can be measured by taking regular samples. As magma rises in the volcano, the temperature of fumaroles may increase, and their chemistry will change. Sometimes the gases emerge under a lake, or interact with groundwater in the volcanic edifice and analysis must take account of compositional changes this could invoke. There are several techniques to monitor gas, including sampling airborne gases from an aircraft and measuring flux through the ground surface. If seismic activity were to increase at Taranaki, the monitoring response would include baseline and repeat measurements of gas output from the summit of the volcano.

Changes in the water chemistry of crater lakes and thermal spring waters are used to detect changes in the behaviour of the volcanoes and their associated geothermal systems.

Monitoring specific water parameters such as temperature, pH, conductivity, and concentrations of dissolved gases can provide insight into the processes expected to accompany unrest or renewed volcanic activity. Changes in groundwater, lake levels and rates of stream flow can also give evidence of unrest within a volcano. At Taranaki, there are few hot springs that can be regularly monitored for changes.

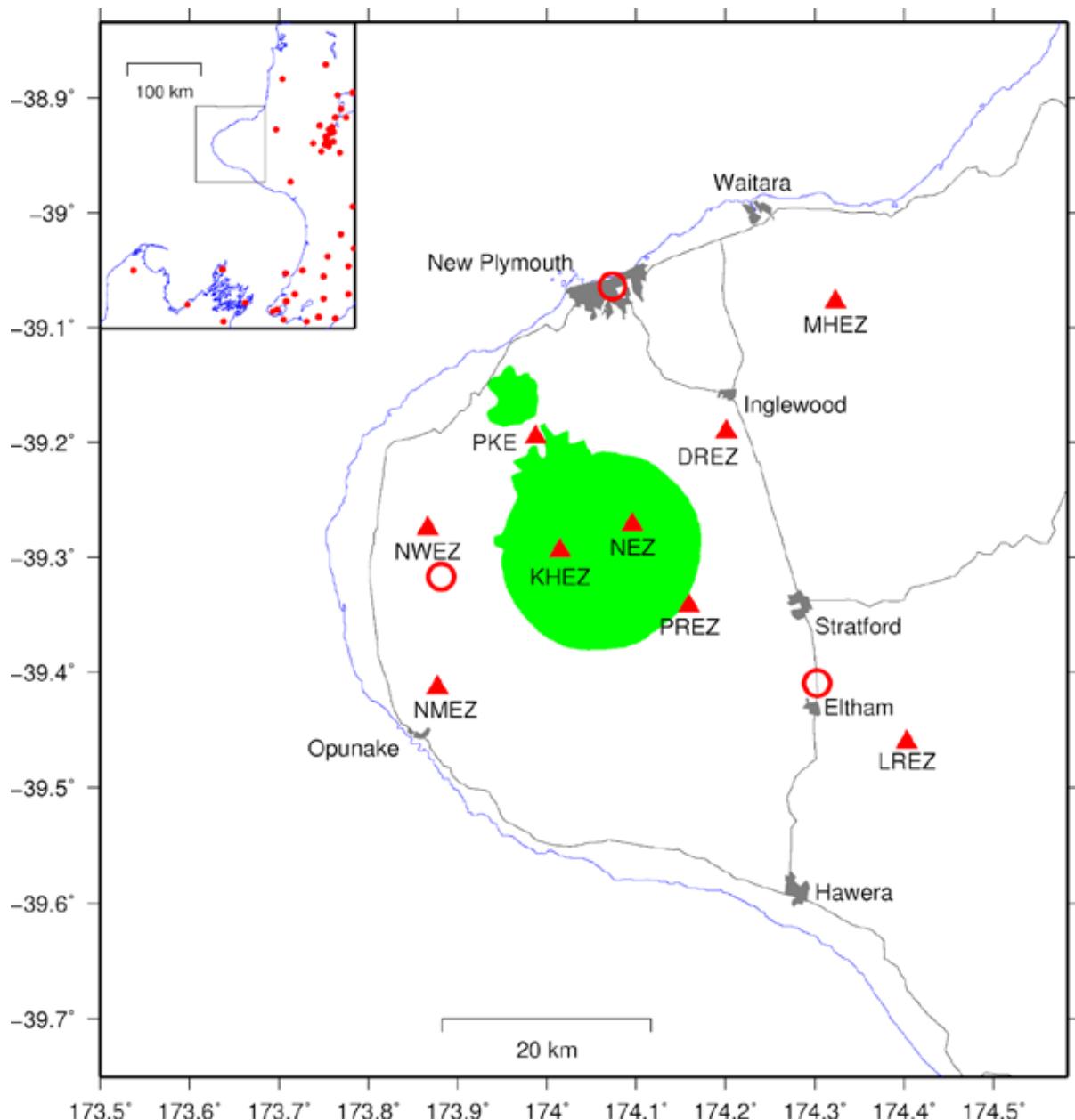


Figure 3 A map of the GeoNet Taranaki Seismic Network (from Sherburn, Scott & Miller, 2010).

Seismograph sites are indicated by triangles and labelled by their three or four-letter site codes. NEZ is North Egmont, NWEZ is Newall Road, PKE is Pukeiti, DREZ is Durham Road, MHEZ is Mangahewa, NMEZ is Namu Road, KHEZ is Kahui Hut, PREZ is Palmer Road, and LREZ is Lake Rotokare. Hub sites are shown by red circles. Egmont National Park is shown as a green shaded area. Major roads are shown as grey lines. The inset shows nearby GeoNet seismographs (red dots) that are also used in locating earthquakes in Taranaki.

4.0 VOLCANIC ALERT LEVELS AND AVIATION COLOUR CODES

In New Zealand, the state of activity at each volcano is described using the Volcanic Alert Level system, which ranges from 0 (normal background activity) to 5 (major eruption in progress). Taranaki is currently classified as a *reawakening volcano*, and uses the right-hand side of the Volcanic Alert Level (VAL) table (Table 1). The Volcanic Alert Level system is defined in the Guide to the National Civil Defence Emergency Management Plan (found on the civildefence.govt.nz publications webpage, in section 19.4.2). The background level of volcanic activity is determined through ongoing monitoring by GNS Science through the GeoNet project.

Table 1 Volcanic Alert Levels in New Zealand. Taranaki currently uses the ‘reawakening volcanoes’ side of the table. From the Guide to the National Civil Defence Emergency Management Plan (Ministry of Civil Defence and Emergency Management, 2006).

Frequently active cone volcanoes White Island, Tongariro-Ngauruhoe, Ruapehu, Kermadecs		VOLCANIC ALERT LEVEL	Reawakening volcanoes Northland, Auckland, Mayor Island, Rotorua, Okataina, Taupo, Egmont/Taranaki	
Volcano status	Indicative phenomena		Indicative phenomena	Volcano status
Usual dormant, or quiescent state	Typical background surface activity, seismicity, deformation and heat flow at low levels.		Typical background surface activity; deformation, seismicity, and heat flow at low levels.	Usual dormant, or quiescent state.
Signs of volcano unrest	Departure from typical background surface activity.		Apparent seismic, geodetic, thermal or other unrest indicators.	Initial signs of possible volcano unrest. No eruption threat.
Minor eruptive activity	Onset of eruptive activity, accompanied by changes to monitored indicators.		Increase in number or intensity of unrest indicators (seismicity, deformation, heat flow and so on).	Confirmation of volcano unrest. Eruption threat.
Significant local eruption in progress	Increased vigour of ongoing activity and monitored indicators. Significant effects on volcano, possible effects beyond.		Minor steam eruptions. High increasing trends of unrest indicators, significant effects on volcano, possible beyond.	Minor eruptions commenced. Real possibility of hazardous eruptions.
Hazardous local eruption in progress	Significant change to ongoing activity and monitoring indicators. Effects beyond volcano.		Eruption of new magma. Sustained high levels of unrest indicators, significant effects beyond volcano.	Hazardous local eruption in progress. Large-scale eruption now possible.
Large hazardous eruption in progress	Destruction with major damage beyond volcano. Significant risk over wider areas.		Destruction with major damage beyond active volcano. Significant risk over wider areas.	Large hazardous volcanic eruption in progress.

The Aviation Colour Code (Table 2) is defined in International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) documents, and is used by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) in New Zealand to manage the aviation industry's use of airspace during a volcanic eruption, according to the New Zealand Volcanic Ash Advisory System (VAAS) as outlined in Lechner (2009). The VAAS is the local enhancement of the International Airways Volcano Watch System (IAVW). GNS Science, MetService and the Airways Corporation of New Zealand provide input into the VAAS (Scott & Travers, 2009).

Table 2 The ICAO Aviation Colour Code

ICAO Colour code	Status of activity of volcano
GREEN	Volcano is in normal, non-eruptive state. <i>or, after a change from a higher alert level:</i> Volcanic activity considered to have ceased, and volcano reverted to its normal, non-eruptive state.
YELLOW	Volcano is experiencing signs of elevated unrest above known background levels. <i>or, after a change from higher alert level:</i> Volcanic activity has decreased significantly but continues to be closely monitored for possible renewed increase.
ORANGE	Volcano is exhibiting heightened unrest with increased likelihood of eruption. <i>or, Volcanic eruption is underway with no or minor ash emission [specify ash-plume height if possible].</i>
RED	Eruption is forecasted to be imminent with significant emission of ash into the atmosphere likely. <i>or, Eruption is underway with significant emission of ash into the atmosphere [specify ash-plume height if possible].</i>

Volcanologists at GNS Science have the responsibility of setting the VAL and Aviation Colour Codes for New Zealand's active volcanoes. Responding agencies in New Zealand are notified of changes in volcanic activity, including changes to the VAL and Aviation Colour Code, by the dissemination of Volcanic Alert Bulletins which are issued by GNS Science. This information can be used by the responding agencies to help determine decisions and responses. For up to date information on the current status and levels for Taranaki, visit the GeoNet website: <http://www.geonet.org.nz/volcano/activity/taranaki-egmont/>.

5.0 WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN VOLCANIC UNREST BEGINS

The first measurable changes at a volcano are usually detected by geophysical or geochemical monitoring conducted as part of a volcano surveillance programme, and may not be noticed by members of the public. Unrest indicators can include earthquake swarms, discrete earthquakes, ground surface deformation, changes in heat flow at hot springs, gas output or chemistry, and magnetic and gravity changes. As these develop in intensity the public can soon become aware of the developing unrest. It is not possible, in many cases, to classify the early stages of unrest as purely volcanic (eruption possible) or tectonic (no eruption). As unrest moves from the initial signs into a volcanic crisis (i.e. a potential eruption threat is recognised), then the situation becomes clearer and management options are better defined.

Predominantly tectonic processes acting on fault lines can result in ground and subsurface deformation (tectonic strain) and accompanying earthquakes are not necessarily associated with a volcano, except geographically, when they occur close to it.

Volcanic eruption precursors may be caused by the intrusion of new magma (molten rock) into the base of a volcano's magma reservoir and/or movement of magma outward from a volcano's magma reservoir into the conduit (plumbing) system below the volcano. This can lead to heating and partial melting of surrounding country rock. These are seismogenic processes which in turn may trigger changes to the fluid and gas chemistry/discharge of geothermal systems.

Volcanic unrest is one of the most difficult situations the volcanological and emergency management communities will have to deal with. There is potential for adverse social and economic impacts to escalate unnecessarily, unless the event is managed appropriately. Adverse response to unrest may take the form of the release of inappropriate advice, media speculation, unwarranted emergency declarations and premature cessation of economic activity and community services. A non-volcanic-crisis time provides the best opportunity to develop an understanding of the unrest phenomena, and the best time to establish educational programmes, funding systems for enhanced emergency response and volcano surveillance and to develop co-ordinated contingency plans.

6.0 VOLCANIC HAZARDS, IMPACTS AND MITIGATION

Typically a number of hazards will result from any volcanic eruption. Volcanic hazards include tephra falls, pyroclastic density currents, lava flows, lahars, flooding, debris avalanches, sector collapses, lightning and volcanic gases, as described below. During unrest and eruption, significant earthquakes and ground deformation can also occur. Volcanic hazards can affect areas both near to the vent and in distant locations. A hazard map for Taranaki is in the Taranaki Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Volcanic Strategy (Taranaki Regional Council, 2004), Neall and Alloway (1996) and Townsend, Vonk and Kamp (2008).

Volcanic Emergency Management published by the United Nations Disaster Relief Organization and United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNDRO & UNESCO, 1985) outlines the range of volcanic hazards, and the video/DVD "Understanding Volcanic Hazards" by Maurice Krafft, available to purchase from www.iavcei.org/IAVCEI.htm, is also useful for public education. These resources will increase awareness and knowledge of volcanic hazards and their mitigation. The successful evacuation of thousands of people in danger from the Pinatubo eruption in 1991 was partly attributed to the showing of the video to the public. *Volcanic hazards: a sourcebook on the effects of eruptions* (Blong, 1984) is a useful source for all aspects of volcanic hazards.

6.1 Tephra

Although pyroclastic density currents, sector collapses, lahars and ballistic blocks and bombs are the most destructive and dangerous volcanic hazards, volcanic ash is by far the most widely distributed eruption product. Ash falls rarely endanger human life directly however threats to public health and disruption to critical infrastructure services, aviation and primary production can lead to significant societal impacts. Even relatively small eruptions can cause widespread disruption, damage and economic loss due to ash fall.

Description of tephra

Tephra is a general term for any airborne material erupted from a volcano, except gas (Blong, 1984). *Ballistics* are larger particles (technically with diameters of over 64 mm), *lapilli* are 2 to 64 mm in size. In geology, the term *ash* refers to tephra particles smaller than 2 mm, and should not be confused with combustion products such as wood ash.

Ballistics

Ballistics are rocks ejected from the volcano vent during explosive activity. Large ballistic projectiles rarely land more than 3 km from a vent, but have been recorded as far away as 11 km (Blong, 1984). They may be either angular and brittle (termed 'blocks') or rounded and formed from magma ('bombs'), and are not affected by the wind speed or direction due to their size. Ballistics can be over 10m in size near the vent.

Ash and lapilli

Volcanic ash and lapilli are formed by explosive volcanic eruptions. Ash is carried high above an erupting volcano in the ash column and usually widely distributed, however lapilli are not dispersed as far as ash due to their larger size and density. Ash particles are formed when rising magma is violently shattered by expanding magmatic gases, or by explosive magma-water interaction. Particles ejected from a vent are incorporated into an eruption column that can rise tens of kilometres into the atmosphere. Transport and distribution of ash and lapilli is dependent on a number of factors including prevailing wind speed and direction, particle size and density, and eruption column height. Volcanic ash fall deposits can initially be hot close to the volcano but atmospheric cooling is rapid and most ash lands in a near ambient state.

Fresh volcanic ash is highly abrasive due to the glass shards, crystals and lithics (rock fragments) volcanic ash is made of (Figure 4). The composition of ash can influence the severity of its impact. The density of individual particles might vary between 700-3200 kg/m³ depending on their glass/mineral composition. This variability along with moisture content determines the thickness of deposited ash required before roof collapse occurs (Spence et al., 2005). Particle morphology and vesicularity (for coarse ash and lapilli) and mineral/glass composition are important factors to consider in evaluating the potential for acidic leachate production and abrasiveness of ash. Freshly deposited volcanic ash is potentially corrosive and electrically conductive (especially when wet) (Witham et al., 2005; Wilson et al., 2011).

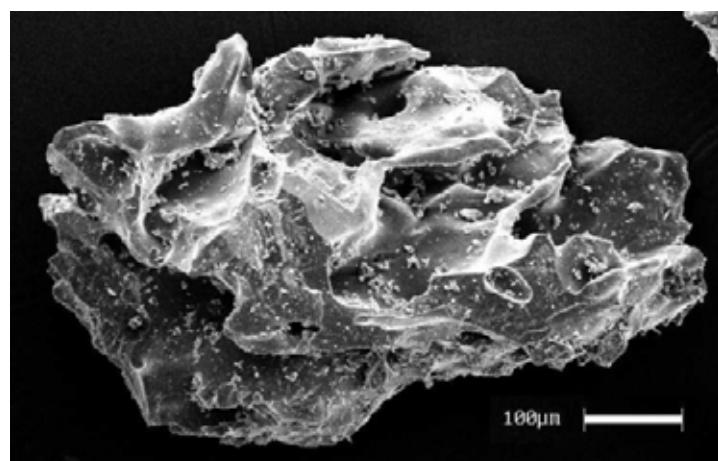


Figure 4 Volcanic ash particle (scale bar is 100 µm).

Ash typically has a thin surface coating of readily-soluble salts that can be released into water (Figure 5) making the ash electrically conductive and chemically corrosive. Ash fall may be accompanied by acid rain.

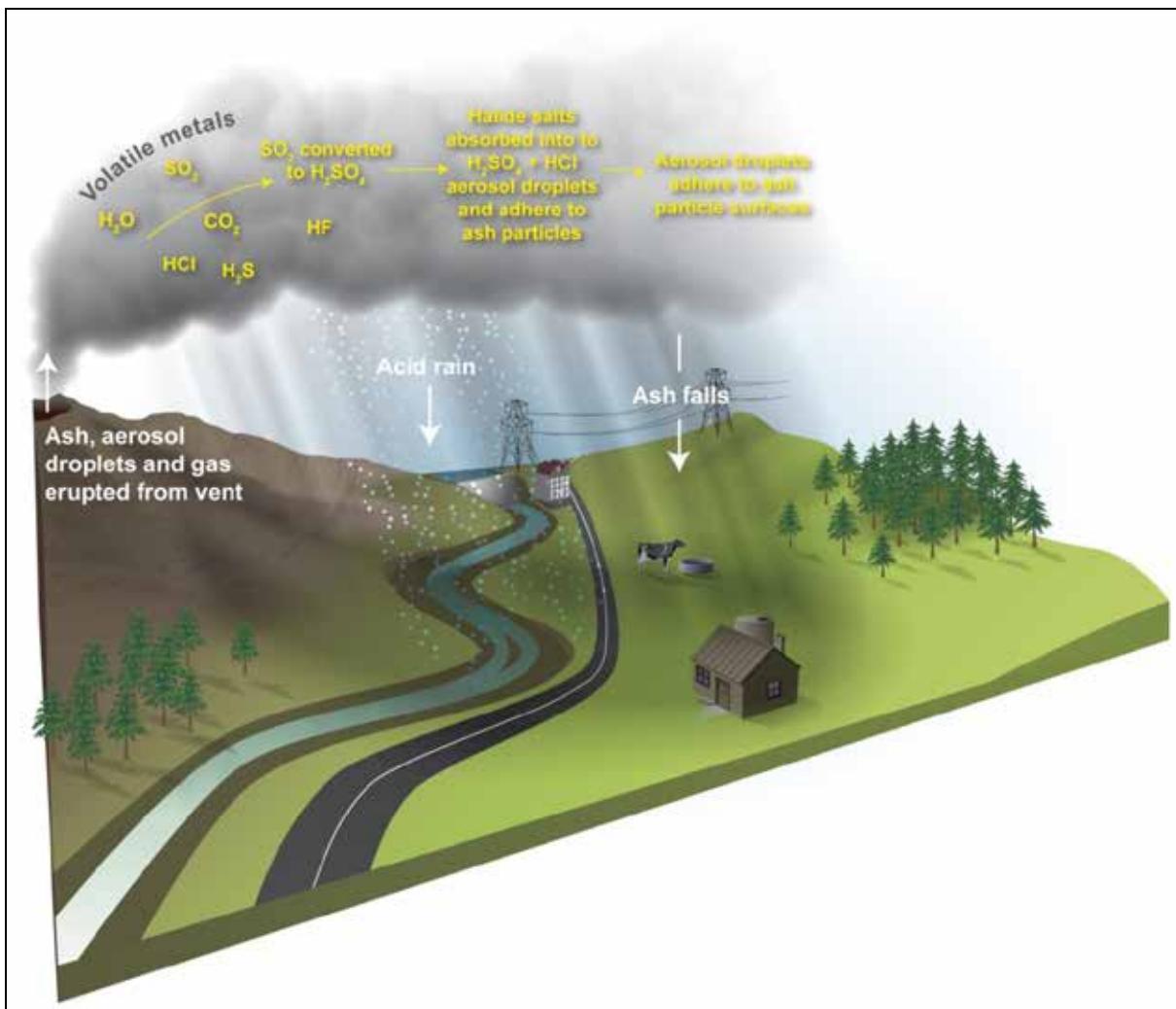


Figure 5 Chemical processes occurring within volcanic plumes. Freshly fallen ash can release soluble components into surface waters, and is both corrosive and conductive. Figure used with permission of GNS Science.

Hazards, impacts and mitigation

Tephra is a significant hazard which needs to be managed in the long term, both close to the vent and distally, and often over a wide area. Taranaki region may have to deal with tephra from distal volcanoes, such as the Auckland Volcanic Field or Taupo Volcanic Centre, or tephra sourced from the local Mt Taranaki.

Ballistics are extremely destructive and can destroy buildings and infrastructure, and present a high risk of death or injury to people near (usually within 3 km) the vent. Ballistics can start fires because of their heat if they land in a forested area or flammable building etc. Evacuation of areas at risk of ballistics is the best protection. Once ballistics have landed and cooled down they will rarely cause any further problems.

Ash and lapilli, on the other hand, are rarely a directly life threatening hazard to humans, but have a large effect on infrastructure and agriculture over a wide area, often over a long

period of time, and cause difficulties in maintaining everyday life. The most dangerous hazard resulting from ash fall is the collapse of building roofs due to the weight of the accumulated ash, particularly if it is wet. Airborne ash is an irritant to respiratory systems and eyes, it abrades and clogs machinery (including vehicles, pumps, air conditioning and aircraft) and can block out sunlight, reducing visibility to less than one meter.

Once deposited tephra can cause water pipes to be clogged, electricity transmitters to flashover, rivers to flood due to aggradation, poison animals, crops and waterways and is very hard to get rid of, as described below. Remobilised tephra from wind, vehicle movement and entrainment in water (see sections 6.3 (lahars) and 7.0 (secondary hazards)) can cause repeated issues over months to decades.

Past eruptions illustrate the vulnerability of urban areas receiving only a few mm of ash, usually distant to the eruption vent. This thickness is still sufficient to cause disruption of transportation, electricity, water, sewage and stormwater systems. However most of these systems, if affected only by thin ash fall (<50 mm), can be restored within a few days to weeks after an eruption has ended. Mitigation actions have two basic purposes: 1) preventing or limiting ash entering systems or enclosures; and 2) effective and efficient removal of ash to prevent or reduce damage.

The most effective method to prevent ash-induced damage is to shut down, close off and/or seal off equipment until the ash is removed from the immediate environment. In many cases this is not practical or acceptable. Constant monitoring of ash effects and mitigation procedures is required to achieve the most effective balance between operational requirements and damage limitation. Blong (2000) suggests risk reduction strategies, mainly for tephra.

Public health

The International Volcanic Health Hazard Network (www.ivhhn.org) has produced two booklets for the public and emergency managers titled 'the health hazards of volcanic ash: a guide for the public' and 'guidelines on preparedness before, during and after an ashfall (2008)' which are available from the IVHHN website (the latter is also on the Taranaki Regional Council Civil Defence publications web page).

Falling ash will act as an irritant affecting eyes, skin, throats and lungs. Eye problems include foreign material in eyes, corneal abrasion and conjunctivitis. Contact lens wearers are advised to leave out their lenses to avoid corneal abrasion. Goggles or eyeglasses can be worn to protect the eyes from fine ash.

Minor skin irritations may affect people exposed to ash over a period of time ("ash rash"), although this is uncommon. Respiratory problems result from the inhalation of fine ash and are more acute in patients with existing respiratory disorders, such as asthma, bronchitis and emphysema (Horwell & Baxter, 2006; Hansell et al., 2006), although even previously healthy individuals can experience chest and throat discomfort. For this reason, residents with existing serious respiratory illnesses should remain indoors, or could be encouraged to self-evacuate if possible before the onset of significant ash fall. Inhalng fine volcanic ash over extended periods of time carries with it the small risk of contracting chronic bronchitis or silicosis. Wearing dust masks (particularly those people involved in clearing up the ash) (see www.ivhhn.org for recommended masks), keeping ash out of buildings (see below) and stopping children from playing in the ash can reduce respiratory impacts.

Secondary hazards on public health should be considered, such as poor visibility and slippery roads when driving; power cuts affecting heating, cooking and life saving medical equipment; electric shock due to wet ash being conductive; contamination of water supplies and water shortages; sewerage facilities not functioning creating sanitation problems; people falling from building roofs when cleaning ash (which has proved fatal for a significant number of people following eruptions); and roof collapse from the weight of ash (see below).

Buildings and building services

There has been considerable research into the impact of ashfall on buildings. Generally, a threshold of 150mm is required before roof collapse occurs (Spence et al., 2005), although this is highly dependent on construction type, density of ash and other factors. Other impacts of ashfall can include soiling building interiors, interrupting services (electrical and mechanical) and damage to exterior materials. Ash that penetrates ceiling spaces can be difficult to clean and can cause continued exposure that may last over a period of years.

The soluble components in volcanic ash can lead to premature ageing and weakening of exterior materials. The 1995-1996 Ruapehu eruptions deposited a few millimetres of ash on several North Island towns causing minor damage to a small number of roofs. This resulted from a reaction between the ash's acidic coating and galvanised steel and/or paint. Acrylic paint applied within the past 3-6 months was found to be particularly susceptible to corrosion by this ash.

Ash ingress into buildings can occur through open doors and windows, small gaps between roofing iron or tiles, and gaps around closed doors and windows. Fine ash will become embedded into carpets, and is difficult to remove.

The highly abrasive and mildly corrosive nature of ash is a threat to mechanical and electrical appliances. Air-conditioning units are vulnerable to ash damage and filter blockage, especially if intakes are horizontal surfaces. However, severe damage may be minimised by shutting down systems, installing extra (or higher grade) filtration, and more frequent servicing. Penetration of ash into electrical systems can lead to short-circuiting and fires. Computers and computing systems are also vulnerable to ash damage. In many cases damage can be avoided by shutdown, sealing or filtration given sufficient lead time before ash falls occur.

During the Pinatubo (Philippines) eruption in 1991, 189 of approximately 250 deaths resulted from the collapse of buildings due to ash build-up (Newhall & Punongbayan, 1996). However this number was influenced by the concurrent heavy rain hitting the Philippines and causing the ash to rapidly become very wet and heavy, collapsing buildings before the ash could be cleaned off.

Lifelines

A community's infrastructure provides the services and linkages which allow society to function. These services, also known as 'lifelines', include electricity generation, transmission and distribution; telecommunication networks; drinking water supplies and reticulation; wastewater disposal; drainage networks and transport networks. Impacts of volcanic ashfalls on these sectors will be briefly described in the following sections. For a more comprehensive coverage, see Wilson et al. (2011). Neall et al.'s (2004) interactive CD-ROM

map browser titled *volcanic risk to Taranaki infrastructure*, commissioned in part by Taranaki Regional Council may also be of use.

Electricity

Modern society has a critical dependence on a reliable supply of electricity. Outages can have significant cascading impacts for other critical infrastructure sectors. Volcanic ashfalls can cause a range of impacts on electrical generation, transmission and distribution networks (Figure 6). The recommended actions for electricity network managers to take in the event of ashfall are described in the Auckland Engineering lifelines group poster, Appendix 1.

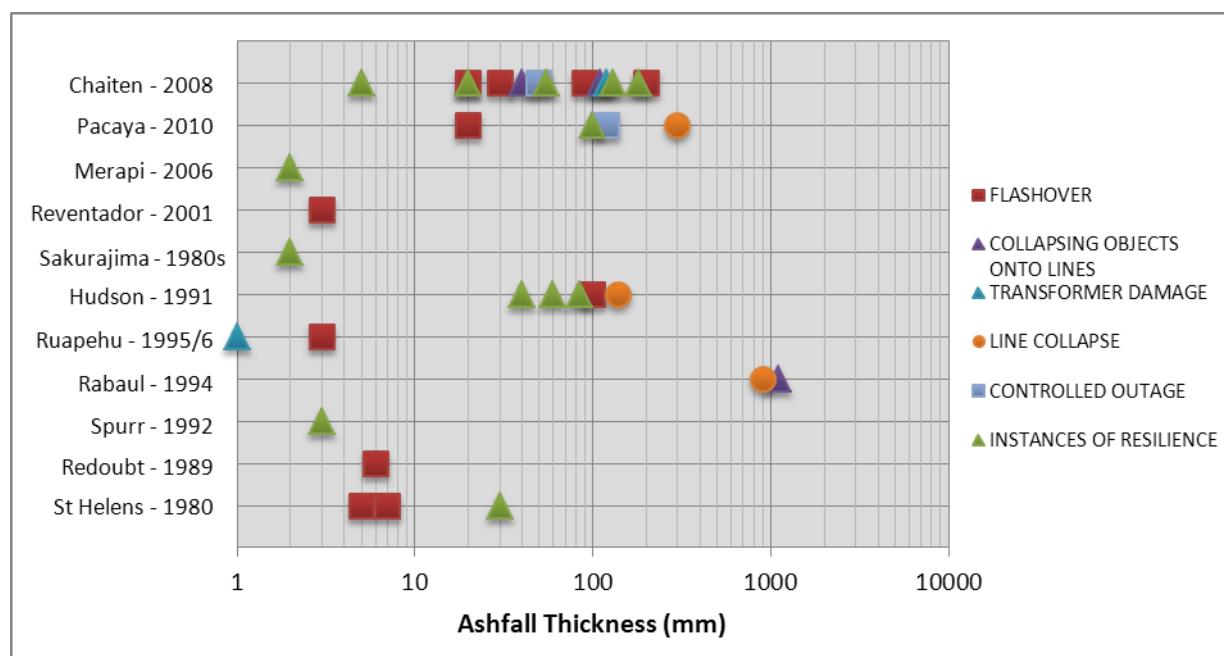


Figure 6 Summary of case studies of volcanic ash impacts on electricity networks (from Wilson et al. 2011).

The main impacts are: (1) supply outages from insulator flashover caused by ash contamination; (2) controlled outages during ash cleaning; (3) line breakage due to ash loading; (4) abrasion and corrosion of exposed equipment; and (5) disruption of generation facilities. Of these, insulator flashover is the most common impact on electrical networks caused by volcanic ashfall. The term 'flashover' refers to the unintended electrical discharge around or across insulators. Flashovers can occur when insulator surfaces are covered with a conductive coating. When dry, ash typically has a low conductivity (high resistivity to electrical current), but when wetted, the soluble salts on the surface of the ash particles are mobilised and lower the resistivity. Widespread power outages may occur if the load on the circuit is sufficient to trip the circuit breaker. Many factors influence flashover potential (Figure 7).

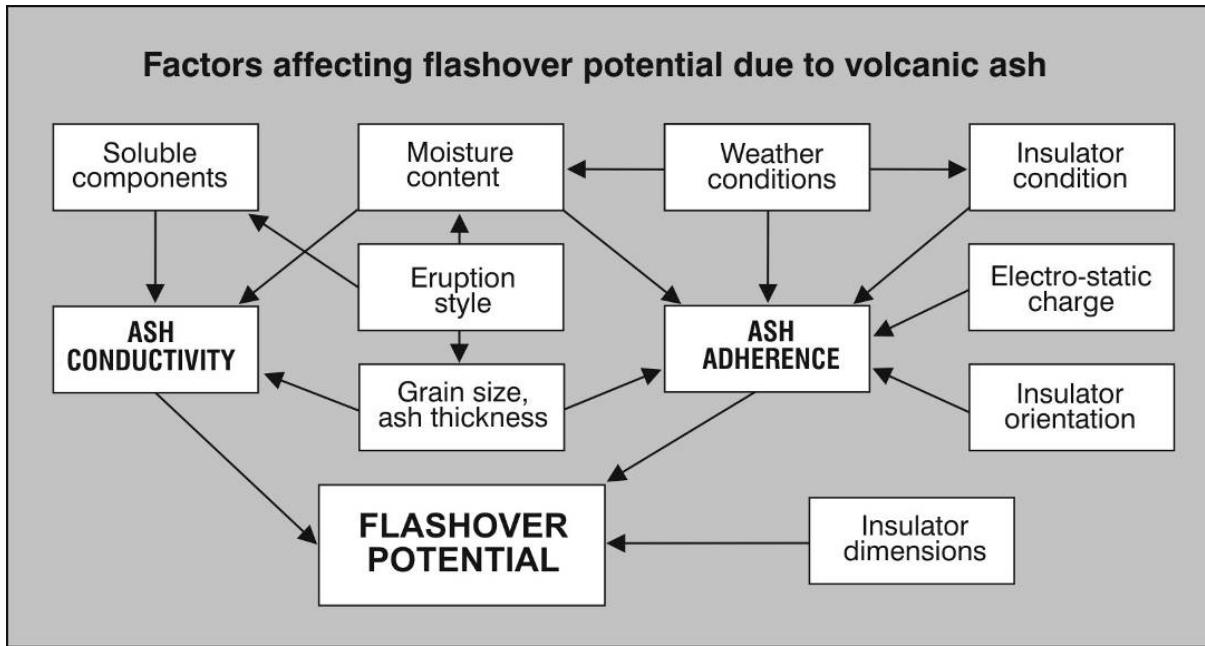


Figure 7 Factors influencing flashover potential due to volcanic ash (from Wilson et al. 2009a).

Weather conditions and ash particle size are major determinants of flashover risk. Fine ash has a greater tendency to adhere to line and substation insulators than coarser ash, where it can cause flashover. Dry ash is not conductive, and heavy rains will wash ash from insulators; but light rain or fog conditions are likely to promote ash cohesion and electrical conductivity and cause flashover. Wet ash is also heavier than dry ash, increasing the risk of line breakage or tower/pole collapse. For an overview of the effect of ash on electricity supply systems, including examples from eruptions, refer to Wilson et al. (2009a). Recent relating specifically to Taranaki (Bebbington et al., 2008) forecasts likely critical ash thicknesses for serious impact on substations. Chapman et al. (2007) calculated the average annual probability of 1mm of ash falling on critical points of infrastructure as 0.42%, and up to 0.6% in eastern Taranaki.

Water supplies

There are three main ways in which volcanic ash falls can affect water supplies (Stewart et al., 2009b). Firstly, volcanic ash can physically disrupt or damage water sources and components of water supply, treatment and distribution systems. Secondly, the deposition of ash into surface waters can change its physical and chemical characteristics. And thirdly, following an ash fall, there can be heavy demands placed on water resources for cleanup purposes, and shortages can result if this situation is not managed.

While proximal volcanic hazards such as pyroclastic density currents and lahars can be particularly destructive to components of water supply systems, volcanic ash can also cause damage and disruption on a more widespread scale. Ash suspended in water can block intake structures; airborne ash can damage components such as electrically-powered pumps, switchboards, air filters and motors. Groundwater-source systems are generally less vulnerable to ashfall, but airborne ash can damage above ground equipment such as well-head pumps, which are also electrically powered and therefore vulnerable to supply loss.

Water supplies can be contaminated by deposition of ash onto uncovered tanks or impounds. The principal toxic element adsorbed onto ash is fluoride (from hydrogen fluoride,

or HF). Drinking water concentrations of fluoride above guideline levels (1.5 mg/L in New Zealand) carry an increased risk of dental fluorosis, and concentrations exceeding 10 mg/L lead to skeletal fluorosis. Other than fluoride toxicity, issues arising from ash deposition into uncovered water supplies are increases in turbidity and pH. Volcanic ash particles suspended in water increase turbidity, which is a critically-important parameter in drinking water treatment. Suspended particles can protect micro-organisms from the effects of disinfection of water supplies and can stimulate bacterial growth. Effective water treatment depends on the control of turbidity. Volcanic ash leachates can be highly acidic, and therefore ash deposition can acidify surface waters. In practice this is unusual because most natural waters (and concrete water tanks) contain sufficient alkalinity to buffer added acidity. However, roof-fed rainwater systems are vulnerable to changes in acidity. This can in turn lead to further problems with plumbosolvency – the dissolution of metals from roofing materials and plumbing fittings.

Following an ashfall, there can be heavy demands placed on water resources for cleanup purposes and shortages can result if this situation is not managed. This can compromise key services such as firefighting capacity and can lead to a lack of water for hygiene, sanitation and drinking. The recommended actions for water supply managers to take in the event of ashfall are described in the Auckland Engineering lifelines group poster, appendix 1.

In summary, in the event of a volcanic ashfall, particular issues for water supply managers are likely to be monitoring turbidity levels in raw water intakes and if necessary increasing chlorination to compensate for accelerated bacterial growth in higher turbidity conditions; managing water demand; and communicating monitoring results with the public to allay fears of contamination.

Impacts on wastewater and stormwater networks

Volcanic ash fall can cause damage and disruption to wastewater systems (both sewage and stormwater). Ash can enter and block pipes and sumps, can cause accelerated wear on motors and pumps, and can cause serious damage to wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs).

When volcanic ash falls on impervious surfaces such as roads, car parks or roofs, it can easily be washed into stormwater drains by rainfall, and when water is used for cleanup operations. While stormwater sometimes has its own separate reticulation network, channelling runoff into natural drainages, there is commonly a degree of overlap with sewerage reticulation systems, particularly for older infrastructure. Even if systems are separate, ash can still enter sewer lines by the processes of inflow and infiltration (e.g. through illegal connections such as where roof downpipes are connected directly to sewer lines, cross connections, through household gully traps, around manhole covers or through holes or cracks in pipework).

Once ash has entered underground drainage networks, it can form unpumpable masses and be extremely difficult to remove. Consequences can include the failure of equipment such as pumps, and surface flooding.

Ash can enter WWTPs both via sewer lines and by falling directly on treatment facilities. Ash-laden sewage that enters a treatment plant may overload equipment and filters designed to trap solid debris at both the pre-treatment and primary treatment stages. In particular,

mechanical pre-screening equipment (such as step, rotating or bar screens) is particularly vulnerable to damage. Ash can abrade moving parts and block screens which can cause motors to fail. Ash that enters primary treatment (sedimentation) tanks is likely to settle and thus increase the volume of raw sludge. Finer grain sizes may not settle and any pumice fragments will float. Any residual fine ash persisting further through the treatment system may reduce the transmissivity of the effluent, which could compromise the effectiveness of disinfection. Ash fall can also be directly deposited on WWTPs. Uncovered equipment, such as open air biological reactors, ponds and clarifiers, is particularly vulnerable. More generally, airborne ash can clog air filtration systems, cause abrasional damage to moving parts of motors and cause arcing and flashover damage to electrical equipment. Heavier ash falls (>150 mm) may collapse long span roofs.

The recommended actions for wastewater managers to take in the event of ashfall are described in the Auckland Engineering lifelines group poster, appendix 1.

Case study: Yakima, Washington

On 18 May 1980, Mt St Helens volcano erupted. The city of Yakima (population 50,000), located 140 km to the east, received about 10mm of sand-sized ash. By the next day, about 15 times the normal amount of solid matter was being removed from the pre-treatment processes at Yakima's WWTP. This was despite Yakima having just five percent combined stormwater and sewage lines. Ash was also observed in the raw sludge in the primary clarifiers. Throughout the day, it was evident that the facility was suffering damage as vibrations were occurring in the grit classifier and the gear box of the mechanically-cleaned bar screen. Pumping difficulties were experienced and sludge lines became blocked. By the third day, the passage of ash through the plant had stripped filter beds bare and the comminutor failed. On 21 May, the City Manager announced a decision to bypass the treatment plant and discharge sewage (after chlorination) directly to the Yakima River. The total damage to the treatment plant was estimated to be \$US4 million (1980 value).

Transport networks

Transport networks (road, rail and air) are extremely vulnerable to volcanic ashfall. On roads, airborne ash reduces visibility and even once it has settled, is readily remobilised by vehicle traffic. Ash when wetted may turn to mud, causing traction problems. Fallen ash can obscure road markings. Fine airborne ash causes a range of problems to vehicles such as abrading windscreens, blocking air filters which may cause overheating, and general wear and tear on moving parts in engines. Removing ash from roads can be time-consuming and expensive, although in some cases (e.g. Guatemala City) road clearing has been efficient.

Rail networks are generally less vulnerable to volcanic ash than road networks, with disruptions mainly caused by poor visibility and breathing problems for train crews. Electric rail systems, however, would be vulnerable due to power loss. Trains will also stir up fallen ash which can affect residents close to railway tracks. Ash will affect rail engines in a similar fashion to car engines. Light rain on fallen ash may also lead to short-circuiting of signal equipment, which was identified as a problem during the Mount St Helens ashfall (Warrick et al., 1981).

Air transportation is extremely vulnerable to volcanic ash. Severe impacts can result from aircraft-ash encounters, as temperatures are reached high enough to melt ash in jet engines. Drifting volcanic ash can affect large volumes of airspace, commonly resulting in widespread interruption to services since ash cannot be detected by aircraft radar (such as in Europe due to the Eyjafjallajökull (Iceland) eruption in 2010 and across the southern hemisphere due to the erupting Chilean volcano in early 2011). This was the main cause of flight disruptions during the 1995-1996 Ruapehu eruptions. Extensive night shutdown is often required as a precaution in times of possible ash presence. With worldwide air traffic planned to double over the next decade, and with future aircraft being bigger and with fewer engines, the vulnerability will continue to increase.

In May 2010, Pacaya volcano erupted in Guatemala. Guatemala City's international airport (La Aurora) received its first warning of impending ash fall at 6:30 pm on 27 May 2010. The airport was officially closed at 7:23 pm the same evening, and re-opened at 1:18 pm on 1 June (Airport Manager, Dirección General de Aeronáutica Civil (DGAC)). Approximately 2-3 cm of coarse (sand-sized) basaltic ash fell on La Aurora airport (Figure 8). The main reason for the airport closure was to allow for cleanup of the airport, rather than because of airborne ash hazards to aircraft. The personnel requirements for the cleanup were 30 staff from DGAC plus an additional 500 staff loaned by the army and air force. A staged cleanup of the runway and apron involved firstly using bulldozers to scrape ash into piles, where it was then shovelled into trucks both manually and using Bobcat loaders, followed by cleaning with street sweepers and finally cleaning with compressed air. The new bituminous runway surface (which cost \$US1.7 million in December 2009) was destroyed by abrasion damage. Markings on the runway and apron were also severely damaged and had to be completely repainted before the airport could re-open. An estimated 56,000 m³ of ash was removed from the runway and apron. Loss of income to businesses based at the airport was estimated to be \$US250,000. The airport buildings were also damaged by the ash fall. Gutters and downpipes were clogged with ash and caused leaks in the ceiling which were continuing four months later, and the paint coating on the roof suffered abrasion damage.

The recommended actions for airport and roading managers to take in the event of ashfall are described in the Auckland Engineering lifelines group poster, appendix 1.



Figure 8 La Aurora international airport, Guatemala City, following ashfall on 27 May 2010 (photo: Gustavo Chigna, INSIVUMEH).

Communications

Communication networks can be severely disrupted around an erupting volcano. Such disruptions may result from interference to radio transmission due to atmospheric conditions, overloading of telephone systems due to increased demand, direct damage to communications facilities, and indirect impacts resulting from disruption to electricity supplies, transportation or maintenance workers.

Large quantities of electrically-charged ash can be generated in an eruption column. This phenomenon is known to cause interference to radio waves. However radio and telephone communications may continue to function around an erupting volcano and in areas receiving ash falls (e.g. Mount St Helens 1980, Pinatubo 1991 and Ruapehu 1995-1996).

Most modern telephone exchanges require air-conditioning units to keep electronic switching gear below critical temperatures. Exchanges with external air-conditioning units are thus vulnerable to over-heating if these units fail or are switched off (due to ash falls), even if the exchange itself is sealed. Any ash entering telephone exchanges can cause abrasion, corrosion and/or conductivity damage to electrical and mechanical systems. Some exchanges are specially sealed to keep out corrosive geothermal gases (eg. in Taupo and Rotorua). For more information on the effect of ash on communication systems, refer to Wilson et al. (2009a).

Impacts on animals

Ash fall is unlikely to immediately kill animals except when deposition rates are exceptionally high, however ash cover on pastures may result in lack of feed for animals, and they can be poisoned from eating ash. Following ash falls from Ruapehu in 1995 and 1996 farmers

noted that animals were readily put off their feed by ash deposits of around 2-5 mm thickness. Fluoride toxicity has been a problem associated with ashfalls in Iceland, Chile and New Zealand.

In New Zealand, as a result of the deposition of less than 5 mm of ashfall on the Rangitaiki Plain (Taupo) during the 1995 Ruapehu eruption, approximately 2000 ewes and lambs (2.5% of the area's sheep population) were killed as a result of eating ash-affected pastures. Autopsies of the dead animals suggested fluorine poisoning or pregnancy toxæmia was the cause of death. The Department of Conservation also reported the death of a number of wild deer in the Kaimanawa ranges, downwind from Ruapehu, following the two largest October 1995 eruptions (possibly up to 5% of the sika deer population). Information for the rural and primary industry sector following ashfall is available in the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry publication *Volcanic eruption: impacts and hazard mitigation for New Zealand's primary production industries* (2009), available on the Taranaki Regional Council Civil Defence publications web page (<http://www.trc.govt.nz/civil-defence-emergency-management-2/>).

For moderately large eruptions, the physical impacts of ash have more implications than the chemical impacts in terms of animal well-being, including the functioning of water supplies on farms. Open irrigation channels and drinking water ponds, as well as electrical equipment (such as for groundwater pumps) can become clogged with ash or shorted out, inhibiting the ability to supply farm animals with water. For further details, see Wilson et al. (2009b).

Impacts on plants

Damage to vegetation depends on ash thickness and composition. Crop damage will result from burial which can kill or damage plants depending on the thickness of the ash and time of year. Ash adhered to healthy crops, especially fruit, may make processing uneconomical due to a need to clean individual pieces (e.g. the manufacture of juice from ash-covered oranges near Etna in 2002). Acid rain caused by the volcanic eruption can kill crops, grass and other vegetation as seen in Vanuatu and Costa Rica.

Degradation of the organic fraction of soils may result from ash fall reducing the productive potential of the area. However, small amounts of ash may improve soils. A positive impact of the 1995 - 1996 Ruapehu ash falls was to temporarily reduce the sulphur fertilizer requirement for all sheep, beef and dairy farmers within the ash fall area.

Fruit and vegetables which have been covered in ash are usually safe to eat once washed with clean water.

Impacts on surface waters

The impact of ashfall on surface waters depends on a number of factors including: thickness of the deposits; grain-size distribution; nature of the substrate (i.e. slope angle); degree of vegetation cover; and climate, in particular the intensity of precipitation. There are two main classes of impact: (1) hydrologic effects such as run-off, flash-like stream discharges and higher flood peaks, due to enhanced surface run-off and reduced infiltration rates in catchments, and (2) erosion, remobilisation and re-sedimentation processes, which are directly linked to the hydrologic effects.

The infilling and blockage of river valleys by pyroclastic flow deposits will trigger a more complex response than outlined above. Run-off can pond to form small temporary lakes in depressions on the flow deposit's surface or where drainage was blocked by natural barriers of pyroclastic material. Sudden releases of water from these lakes following the collapse of their dams will create floods downstream. Upstream erosion of pyroclastic valley fills by headward migrating channels may liberate large volumes of low-density material which causes downstream sedimentation over large areas for periods of decades. This is a well-documented, long-term effect of the 1991 Pinatubo eruption (Newhall & Punongbayan, 1996). In New Zealand, much of the Heretaunga Plains are covered by 4 - 8 m of pumice sands and gravels underlying Hastings and Havelock North derived from the Taupo eruption 1800 years ago.

Aquatic life is very susceptible to changes in water conditions such as increased acidity, turbidity, temperature and concentrations of soluble elements. Minor fish kills were also reported in ash-affected rivers after the 1995 Ruapehu eruption but were insignificant in terms of the total population. Minor disturbance to the 1995 trout spawning migration was observed but the Tongariro River fishery generally remained in good condition. Fresh-water fish are not as capable of recolonising highly perturbed areas as some other biota, as evident from the lasting negative effects of the 1800 year B.P. eruption of Taupo on the native fish distribution in the North Island.

Cleaning up ash

Ash should be lightly watered to minimise remobilisation and excessive exposure, and then removed by shovelling. Care should be taken to not overwater, which causes excessive loading and the danger of roof collapse. Drains should be protected from ash so pipes, pumps, filters and wastewater treatment plants are not clogged, and residents instructed on protecting these facilities. Water shortages in populated areas can cause issues due to ash clean up – hazard mitigation plans already in place for droughts could be utilised - see Appendix 1 for more details. Moen and McLucas (1981) describe ash properties and its possible uses, and Warrick et al. (1981) detail the experiences of communities affected by ash from Mount St Helen's 1980 eruption, including problems and solutions.

Tephra summary

Tephra can cause widespread disruption during a volcanic eruption, however it is rarely life threatening. Larger blocks and tephra bombs fall close to the vent and are not influenced by the weather, whilst finer ash and lapilli are dispersed according to the wind speed and direction. Tephra can poison plants, aquatic life and animals, and can cause buildings and roofs to collapse if the deposit thickness or weight is sufficient. Weather conditions can influence the effect of tephra on electrical systems, and tephra disrupts communication, transportation and other infrastructure and lifelines. The cleanup process is often long and expensive, however lessons from past experiences both in New Zealand and overseas can be utilised for tephra mitigation.

6.2 Pyroclastic density currents

Description

Pyroclastic density currents (PDCs, including flows, blasts, and surges) are rapidly expanding hot gas clouds which flow downhill (Figure 9), transporting boulders, rocks and

particles until the flow loses mobility, and are extremely dangerous. PDCs can travel at speeds of up to 900 km/h, and cause total destruction in the areas they cover. They are one of the most destructive and deadly manifestations of volcanic activity. PDCs are usually very hot (at least several hundred degrees Centigrade, and up to 1000°), can start fires, melt plastic and glass and burn and suffocate victims (Blong, 1984). In large eruptions they can travel tens of kilometres. Lethal pressure waves can precede PDCs.

Pyroclastic *flows* are formed when there is not enough eruptive force to keep the particles buoyant, so gravitational column collapse occurs and the hot cloud flows downhill, mostly following topographical lows (unless the flow is very large and fast). Pyroclastic *surges* have a lower concentration of particles and are not as constrained by topography. They move laterally from the vent and can be hot or cold. *Blasts* result from the collapse of part of a volcano, such as at Mt St Helens in 1980. These are extremely dangerous due to their very high speed, heat and energy and they do not tend to follow topographic lows.

No pyroclastic *blast* deposits have been identified at Taranaki, but they may have occurred, or may occur in the future (Neall & Alloway, 1993). Pyroclastic *flows* and *surges* have been produced by many past eruptions from Taranaki (Proctor et al., 2010), where they have travelled up to 15 km from the summit area.



Figure 9 A pyroclastic density current flows down the side of Ngauruhoe, 1975. The flow deposits were still 90°C 1½ hours after emplacement (Nairn et al., 1976, cited in Blong, 1984, photo GNS Science).

Hazard and impacts

People caught in the direct path of a PDC are most unlikely to survive and any survivors have a high probability of receiving severe injuries (Baxter, 1990; Hansell et al., 2006). The intense heat and lack of oxygen in a PDC burns and suffocates victims (Figure 10) for a few minutes. Entrained rocks and boulders can also cause lethal injuries as well as collapse of buildings. Fires started by the flows are an additional hazard. The only part of a PDC which

may be survivable is at the very outer edge of a cooler and less dense flow (Blong, 1984). PDCs are also highly destructive to infrastructure, property, agricultural land, animals etc.



Figure 10 A cast of the cavity left by a Pompeii victim killed by a pyroclastic flow from the Vesuvius eruption in 79AD. The victim's hands cover their nose and mouth, demonstrating the suffocating nature of this hazard. Photo by S.Potter.

Buildings are often destroyed or buried by deposits, which can become very thick if repeated flows occur. As vegetation and infrastructure can be severely impacted by PDCs, areas that have been impacted are not likely to recover for at least several years.

Hot PDCs can melt snow and ice, creating lahars which may travel much further than the PDC, such as occurred during the 1985 Nevado del Ruiz eruption, Columbia (see section 6.3 for more details). Heavy rainfall can also entrain PDC deposits to cause lahars well after eruptions.

Mitigation

Evacuation is the only mitigation option when faced with the potential for pyroclastic density currents. A pyroclastic flow from Mount Pelee in 1902 killed 30,000 people in the town of St. Pierre in the Caribbean in a matter of minutes. Land use management can help keep the population out of likely future pyroclastic flow and lahar paths (see section 6.3), however most PDCs do not stay within valleys and can surmount high obstacles.

Buildings and reinforced, airtight concrete bunkers below ground level offer some protection to human lives near the slower-moving edge of the flow but will not guarantee survival as the building may be destroyed or severely damaged. Gas supply should be shut off in areas where PDCs are expected.

6.3 Lahars

Description

Lahars are a rapidly flowing mixture of water and predominantly volcanic debris. They behave differently to normal streamflow due to their density and high sediment load, resembling wet concrete. Lahars can range from extremely mobile, low concentration, hot flows to highly concentrated flows which can transport large boulders, to turbid cold streams. Lahars can be caused by the following events (Blong, 1984):

- melting of snow and ice by hot eruption products, such as pyroclastic and lava flows, or hydrothermal (steam) explosions
- hot, low density and fluid pyroclastic flows merging with stream water
- eruption through a crater lake
- heavy rain on eruptive products (this can occur for a long time after eruptive activity has ceased)
- collapse of crater lake impoundment (such as at Crater Lake, Mt Ruapehu in 1953 and 2007)
- initiated by earthquakes.

Due to their fluidity, lahars travel down valleys and flood plains, but if they have sufficient momentum they can overtop river banks and obstacles. They can have extremely high volumes, depending on the source of incorporated water (i.e. rainfall intensity, amount of snow on the volcano, size of existing crater lakes etc.) and channel-sediment bulking, and can travel long distances. Lahars have travelled over 320 km from source (such as at Cotopaxi volcano, Ecuador in 1877; Neall & Alloway, 1993), at speeds of up to 180 km/h on steep slopes (such as upper Taranaki), and 20 – 40 km/h on lower gradients. They are usually slower moving than pyroclastic flows, but can have a longer run-out distance. Lahars can be hot, but are most commonly warm or cold. They can be highly erosive (usually near the source) as well as depositing large quantities of material, filling stream channels and causing flooding issues. Lahars can be a deadly recurring hazard long after eruptions have stopped, such as at Pinatubo in the Philippines (Newhall & Punongbayan, 1996), from the entrainment of eruptive deposits during heavy rainfall.

Lahars at Taranaki have been very common events in the past, as demonstrated by their numerous deposits (e.g. Zernack et al., 2009b). The majority of pre-historic lahars have travelled towards the west, and this is the most likely future direction due to the western crater wall having been breached. However lahars in any radial direction from Taranaki are possible. The river gorges and channels within Egmont National Park are the highest risk zones from lahars, as well as the towns of New Plymouth at Waiwhakaiho River, Okato, Kaponga, and Waitara (refer to Neall and Alloway, 1995 for further lahar hazard zone information for Taranaki). Krivan (2005) has quantified the risk of bridge infrastructure damage for the South Taranaki region from potential lahars.

Hazard and impacts

People caught in the path of a lahar have a high risk of death from severe crush injuries, drowning and/or asphyxiation. Lahars can cause destruction of buildings, infrastructure, vehicles and vegetation caught in their path, due to the immense force and concentration of particles, including boulders over 4m in diameter. Depending on their bulk densities and flow

velocities, lahars may either destroy structures, or simply bury them in place. The build-up of lahar deposits, particularly in lower gradient waterways can cause flooding in nearby areas, and alteration of the channel routes. Thick layers of silt and rocks are deposited during the lahar, potentially covering farmland, crops, infrastructure and/or urban areas. Erosion by lahars can undermine bridge supports, buildings and other structures that are situated close to river edges, causing them to collapse, for example, as occurred at Tangiwai (Whangaehu River), eastern Ruapehu in 1953.

A major danger with lahars is the great distance they can travel away from the volcano source. They travel far enough away that no natural warnings of the eruption which caused the lahar have reached the inhabitants, i.e. seeing the cloud, hearing the explosions or feeling the earthquakes. The town of Armero, Colombia was hit by a large lahar in 1985 following an eruption of the nearby Nevado del Ruiz volcano. Whilst officials would have had sufficient time to evacuate had the scientific warnings of the impending lahar been heeded, the population and officials' uncertainty about the existence of the hazard, as well as lack of prior planning, decision making and communication problems, resulted in 22,000 deaths (Voight, 1996).

Mitigation

Land use planning and zonation is the most effective way to mitigate the risk of lahars as their fluid nature can allow likely paths to be predetermined. Refer to section 9.1 (land use planning) for more details. Evacuation of areas within lahar hazard zones during an eruption and instructing the public to remain out of dangerous channel areas is strongly recommended. During a lahar, the safest areas are on hills and ridges, away from bends in the channel in case the flows have enough momentum to overtop the bank. People have survived lahars by climbing onto the roofs of houses which have remained intact despite inundation by the lahar.

A number of hazard reduction methods have been utilised for lahars. Drainage systems for crater lakes and other topographically high lakes in the path of lahars (such as Spirit Lake, near Mount St. Helens) can keep lahar source volumes and discharge under control. Engineered channels, levees or dikes and retention basins can reduce vulnerability to lahar hazards. The difficulties with using levees include potential channel migration (especially on lower gradients) causing the flow to be retained on the wrong side of the levee, as seen at Pinatubo after the 1991 eruption. Due to the typically very high bulk density of lahars, the materials used to build the levee (i.e. sandbags, boulders, mesh wire filled with rocks) can end up being entrained and causing more damage, so concrete levees appear to be most effective. There is a bund at the Whangaehu River near Mt Ruapehu to stop lahars originating from the Crater Lake from spreading into neighbouring catchments, however the full effectiveness has not been tested. Revegetation of tephra slopes can reduce the frequency and magnitude of lahar development. This can be difficult as tephra can form an impermeable crust, increasing runoff and inhibiting seedling growth, although aerial seed drops have been tried overseas in the past (Blong, 2000). Deposits less than approximately 200mm thick can be ploughed and mixed with top soil.

Warning systems for lahars can be put in place. Various technologies, such as tripwire sensors, acoustic flow monitoring systems, sirens, water level gauges and cameras can give adequate warning time to evacuate high risk areas as a lahar approaches, however these systems must be accompanied by educational programmes to achieve the desired response.

The Eastern Ruapehu Lahar Warning System (ERLAWS) in Tongariro National Park is an example of a lahar warning system. This system was set up in 2001-2 in response to the threat of a collapse of a natural tephra dam built during the 1995-6 eruption of Ruapehu (Keys, 2009). ERLAWS consists of a series of acoustic flow monitors (AFMs), trip wires and cameras linked to a central server computer. Thresholds were set on the AFM data to alert a number of key stakeholders (e.g., Department of Conservation, Police, Genesis Energy). Traffic signals were in place at vulnerable parts of the Desert Road, as were automatic gates at Tangiwai bridge on the Whangaehu River. In March 2007, the tephra dam was breached, at-risk rail and road crossings were closed and the event passed without casualties. Most of ERLAWS is still in place and may provide an alert of future eruption related lahars.

6.4 Lava flows

Description

When magma emerges from the volcano as a non-explosive flow, it is termed a lava flow. There are three types of lava flow morphologies which occur: pahoehoe, a'a and block lava. Pahoehoe areropy, smooth flows from basaltic volcanoes, and can travel long distances and create lava tubes, such as at Rangitoto and Hawaii. If Pahoehoe emerges underwater it can be in the form of submarine pillow lava. The a'a are thicker flows from more viscous (mostly basaltic) lava, with coarse surfaces, sometimes identified at distant parts of pahoehoe flows. Block lavas are more commonly associated with andesitic volcanoes, such as Taranaki, and are similar to a'a flows, but have larger, polygonal blocks on the surface. Block lavas can be quite thick but do not tend to travel very fast or far – Taranaki's lava flows have rarely travelled more than 4 km from the source. The temperature of lava at andesitic volcanoes has been measured as high as 1000°C.

The distance lava travels depends on the viscosity of the lava (influenced primarily by the silica content – less siliceous lavas (i.e. basalt) flow much further than highly siliceous lavas (i.e. rhyolitic)) output rates, duration of eruption, volume erupted, steepness of the slope, topography and obstructions in the flow path. Future lava flows at Taranaki would be expected to move at a speed of ca. 5 km/hr on steeper slopes, or 1km/hr over longer distances (Neall & Alloway, 1993). Neall (2003) shows the distribution of lava flows from past eruptions at Taranaki.

Hazard and impacts

Lava flows seldom threaten human life because of their predominantly slow rate of movement, their travel down topographic lows on usually predictable paths, and the relatively short distances they travel. They are, however, destructive to property. Lava flows will ignite and bury obstacles, causing total destruction of buildings, roads, vegetation and other infrastructure in their path. Fires are a significant secondary hazard from lava flows (see section 7.1). Lava flows cool very slowly, as the surface "skin" retains the heat – flows can be hot for years after deposition.

Of the few people that have died from lava flows worldwide in the past, the causes are varied, and usually occurred as a result of onlookers getting too close. Unusually fast moving lava flows have claimed lives at basaltic volcanoes, and others have died when their escape route was blocked by tongues of lava, trapping them (e.g. at Vesuvius, 1872; Blong, 1984). Interactions between lava and water or ice (i.e. on contact with lakes, the sea, water tanks

and cisterns etc.) can cause explosions, killing and injuring people. The steep fronts of thicker flows may become unstable and collapse, causing small pyroclastic flows and hot avalanches. Lava flows, however, result in a very small number of deaths and injuries compared to other volcanic hazards, considering their frequency of occurrence.

Lava flow emplacement onto or beneath snow and ice can create lahars – see section 6.3 for lahar hazard information. Post eruption land use possibilities will be significantly altered on a new lava flow.

Mitigation

A number of mitigation methods have been applied to lava flows overseas in the past. Water sprayed on the surface of a lava flow can cool it sufficiently to stop or slow its forward movement. In Heimaey, Iceland, a lava flow threatened the towns harbour in 1973. 32,400 tonnes of seawater per hour was pumped onto the lava surface, cooling the flow front and saving the harbour. Walls have been built to divert lava flows overseas in the past, with varying degrees of success. A description of necessary wall characteristics is given by Blong (1984, p. 198). Explosives and dropping concrete blocks have been used to attempt to divert lava flows in Hawaii and Etna (Italy).

Significantly cheaper than these attempts to stop a lava flow from causing property damage is utilising land use zoning. As lava follows topographical lows, and rarely would exceed the national park boundary at Taranaki, areas at risk could be predetermined and development in these areas restricted.

6.5 Sector collapses and debris avalanches

Description

Large-scale sector collapses and debris avalanches are rare but very hazardous volcanic events. They occur when a significant proportion of a volcanic cone becomes unstable. These large-scale landslides can be triggered by a variety of mechanisms including high intensity earthquakes or intrusions of magma (e.g. prior to the 1980 eruption of Mount St Helens). Initially, the landslide will move as a large block or series of blocks, but as momentum increases or fluids are incorporated into the flow (e.g. rivers or groundwater), the flow can become laharic.

Debris avalanches will destroy everything in their path by lateral impact and burial. If the trigger is intruding magma, sector collapses can suddenly decrease the confining pressure on the magma causing a pyroclastic blast (e.g. Mount St Helens in 1980) (see section 6.2, pyroclastic density currents).

Sector collapses have occurred frequently at Taranaki in the past, some of which have been magmatically triggered (Alloway et al., 2005). Former Taranaki cones have collapsed to the northeast, southeast and west, travelling over 40 km in distance, reaching beyond the current Taranaki coastline. More than 3.5 km³ of material has been involved in each event (Neall & Alloway, 1995). The hummocky topography near Stratford is the result of a sector collapse.

The steep-sided nature of Taranaki, high annual rainfall, and the geological record suggest that large scale flank instabilities will continue to threaten the areas around Taranaki (Neall & Alloway, 1995).

Hazard and impacts

The hazard from sector collapse is similar to lahar, but is likely to be more extensive. Everything will be destroyed in the path of a sector collapse or debris avalanche due to the lateral impact and burial of buildings and infrastructure, and it is lethal to people and animals.

Mitigation

As they can occur with little or no warning and can travel at high speeds, prior evacuation is the only safe option for areas that might be affected if a debris avalanche is anticipated. Land use zonation restricting development in high risk areas would also be beneficial.

6.6 Volcanic gases

Description

Emissions of volcanic gases occur during eruptions, but are also common events between eruption episodes at many volcanoes and geothermal areas where they may be vented from the main crater, from fumarole fields or diffusely through soil (Hansell et al., 2006). Volcanic gases include carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, sulphur dioxide, hydrochloric acid, hydrofluoric acid, hydrogen sulphide and radon (Parfitt and Wilson, 2008). Volcanic fog (or VOG) is a haze of acidic aerosols, which occurs frequently at Hawaii, mainly originating from Kilauea and affecting downwind areas. Volcanic gases are a potentially fatal hazard.

Hazard and impacts

Documented health effects include asphyxiation due to the accumulation of carbon dioxide (which is denser than air) in topographic lows; deaths from hydrogen sulphide poisoning, primarily in geothermal areas; and respiratory effects (and occasionally deaths) from exposure to acidic sulphate aerosols formed from sulphur dioxide. Volcanic gases can be an irritant up to 5km from the vent (Blong, 1984), causing discomfort and difficulties in breathing. Some gases mix with atmospheric water, producing acid rain, which can fall hundreds of kilometers from the gas source. Acid rain affects vegetation, building roofs (which can contaminate drinking water), aquatic life and can burn people. Wind tends to disperse gases to a point where they are at low concentrations and therefore are no longer hazardous. For a comprehensive review of health hazards from volcanic gases, refer to Hansell and Oppenheimer (2004) and www.ivhhn.org (guidelines/gas pdf).

In Rotorua, about 14 people have been killed by gas poisoning. This is due to the geothermal nature of this region, and having buildings and hot pools sited over hot water bores etc. These deaths have mostly been attributed to asphyxiation by gases in low-lying, confined spaces such as geothermal spa pools, telecommunication trenches and workshop pits. Gas has also killed a number of people (and trees) at Mammoth Mountain, near Long Valley volcano in California (Appendix 2). Approximately 1700 people were killed by volcanic gas in Cameroon in 1986, when a build-up of carbon dioxide was released suddenly from Lake Nyos and flowed down the slopes to a nearby town (Baxter et al., 1989).

Mitigation

Mitigation of the volcanic gas hazard is similar to that for tephra, however face masks need to provide protection for toxic gases as well as tephra, and ideally cover eyes as well. During a volcanic gas hazard event, basements and other low lying, sealed areas may have to have

restricted access or be entered with caution. Gas emission concentrations can be monitored at the vent to provide early warning, and equipment can be installed in at-risk areas to monitor local gas concentrations if necessary.

6.7 Earthquakes

Description

Earthquakes precede and accompany most, if not all volcanic eruptions. Johnston (1997) describes volcanic earthquakes as “generated by the movement of magma, the formation of cracks in rocks through which the magma moves, gas explosions in the conduit and readjustment of the volcanic edifice to magmatic pressures. Volcanic earthquakes rarely exceed magnitude 5 (Richter scale) and are usually limited to a relatively small area around the volcano, but buildings within this zone may be subject to shaking damage”.

Earthquakes can also occur during unrest episodes which don't result in an eruption. They can occur in swarms, or can be isolated events, affecting usually only localised areas. Fault lines and cracks can be formed on the ground surface, potentially causing damage or destruction of buildings and underground services.

Regional tectonic earthquakes are hazardous due to surface rupture and ground-shaking. A list of historically significant earthquakes in the Taranaki region is given in Townsend et al. (2008).

Hazard and impacts

Volcanogenic earthquakes largely have the same impacts as tectonic earthquakes. Ground shaking can cause building, structure and infrastructure damage or collapse, endangering lives and disrupting networks. Earthquakes during eruptions have caused deaths at other volcanoes due to building collapse (or partial collapse). Brick chimneys collapsing can fall through building roofs, the rupturing of gas lines and electrical circuits may lead to a fire, and broken water pipes can cause flooding. Liqufaction (the upwelling of water and silt from ground shaking, as occurred in Christchurch during the 2010/11 earthquakes) can occur in areas with sand and gravel substrates, especially near low gradient waterways, if the earthquakes are of sufficient magnitude.

Hull and Dellow (1993) provide an overview of the seismic risk in Taranaki, and the GeoNet website details historical earthquakes and the seismic monitoring system.

Mitigation

Seismic building codes are in place in New Zealand to protect structures against earthquake damage. Reinforcing chimneys, securing furniture, bracing structures and other seismic protection methods are recommended for areas surrounding volcanoes. Incorporating known fault lines into land use planning is also recommended.

6.8 Ground deformation

Description

Deformation (ground movement) at volcanic centres can occur as a result of magma moving beneath the ground surface, before, during and after eruptions. Deformation can cause

damage to structures and infrastructure but is not directly life threatening. The ground near volcanoes can be deformed during unrest episodes which don't result in an eruption. The deformation can range from metres of rapid uplift, to slow subsidence over a wide area, and includes fissures (large cracks). At Taranaki volcano, deformation is likely to be confined to the cone.

Hazard and impacts

The most adverse effect of ground deformation is the potential disruption to underground infrastructure in affected areas, such as gas, water, electricity and communication networks due to pipe breakages. Buildings and bridges can be structurally damaged and roads cracked. Uplift and subsidence can cause flooding through altered water courses or subsidence below the water table or sea level. While deformation in populated areas around Taranaki is unlikely due to the distance from the vent, it cannot be ruled out as a potential hazard.

Mitigation

There is very little which can be done to mitigate the effects of ground deformation. Depending on the form of ground deformation existing plans for landslides and flooding could be consulted, and areas deemed as dangerous evacuated and cordoned off. Gas, water and electricity pipelines in affected areas could be disconnected to eliminate leakages and fires. Structures and infrastructure on areas of ground deformation should be regularly checked for safety.

6.9 Lightning and sound pressure waves

Description

Erupting volcanoes can produce many atmospheric effects, ranging from spectacular sunsets to sound pressure waves and electrical discharges. Sound pressure waves have been heard over 4000 km from source (such as during the 1883 eruption of Krakatau) (Blong, 1984), and were heard in the Hawke's Bay during the 1995/6 Ruapehu eruption. The noise of a pressure wave can be influenced by the wind direction. Atmospheric shock waves are caused by the sudden and localised increase in pressure by the outburst of large quantities of steam and other gases. They can cause physical damage to buildings, and occurred during the 1974 eruption of Ngauruhoe (Blong, 1984; Nairn, 1976).

Spectacular lightning displays can be seen in the eruption column, cloud and eruptive source, in a range of styles and directions, often with high frequency. Discharges to earth around the volcano cause a hazard to life and property.

Hazard and impacts

Lightning has contributed to a small number of deaths and injuries during eruptions, on occasion striking people cleaning ash off roofs.

There have been no recorded deaths as a result of atmospheric pressure waves, however a degree of discomfort has been noted from the noise, including severe earaches over 10 km from the source and temporary deafness. Injuries due to air shock waves breaking windows have been recorded.

Mitigation

The hazard of lightning can be mitigated the same way as during an electrical storm – shelter in a depression away from isolated trees or metallic objects such as wire fences which can conduct current from a ground strike some distance away. Stay out of water for similar reasons and avoid projecting above the surrounding landscape. Indoors, seek shelter in a metal-framed building or one with a lightning rod, stay away from windows, the plumbing system, the wiring system and the telephone (Blong, 1984).

During air shock waves, it is recommended to stay away from windows. Ear plugs/muffs could be used to dampen sound pressure waves.

7.0 LONGER TERM AND SECONDARY HAZARDS AND IMPACTS

7.1 Fires

Fires can be caused by hot ballistics falling into forests, buildings or other flammable objects; lava flows, pyroclastic density currents, lightning or seismicity disrupting gas and electricity lines; and ash shorting electrical structures. In addition the likely breakdown of infrastructure during an eruption or unrest may cause problems for fire fighters, such as broken water pipes, bridges and damaged roads, and ash in the air causing difficulties in running machinery such as pumps, helicopters and vehicles.

7.2 Tsunami

Sector collapse and seismicity can cause tsunami along the Taranaki coastline. These tsunami are expected to behave in a similar way as tsunami from other sources, and thus should be dealt with using plans already in place. The risk of tsunami is judged to be at the lower end of the probability scale during a volcanic event at Taranaki.

7.3 Remobilised tephra, lahars and flooding

Tephra needs to be collected and removed from urban areas and roads. Further eruptions depositing more ash and requiring repeated cleanups can be extremely expensive. When the ash is dry, wind and vehicle movement creates clouds of fine ash which penetrates buildings and vehicles, causing great difficulties in containment. Accumulating tephra needs to be frequently removed from roofs to avoid collapse, cleaned off electrical infrastructure, and kept out of sewers and wastewater systems. Tephra can have long term effects on agriculture, depending on the thickness of the deposit. See section 6.1 for more details on tephra impacts and mitigation.

Detailed studies of tephra and volcaniclastic sediment around Taranaki demonstrate that tephra from future eruptions will be eroded and transported from Taranaki's flanks by rivers, aggrading river channels and causing re-routing of waterways, and consequential flooding. It is considered likely that periods of heavy rain will cause accelerated runoff, and mixed with deposited ash can cause devastating lahars, months or even years after the eruption.

Secondary lahars have occurred at Taranaki at least three times in the past 15 years. A lahar in 1998 was formed in the Waiaua River from the collapse of an old lava flow front (debris avalanche) during heavy rain (Neall, 2003). The maximum entrained clast sizes were up to

6m, the event resulted in a permanently changed drainage pattern and the inundation of sediment in a catchment used for the community of Opunake's potable water supply (Neall, 2011). The April 2008 events occurred after heavy rainfall (60mm in a 2 hour period and up to 309mm in a 24 hour period) triggered flooding in two catchments on the flanks of Taranaki (Little Maketawa Stream and Maero Stream) (Neall, 2011; Neall et al., 2008). The flood waters became hyperconcentrated and eroded previously deposited tephra, incorporating it and transporting boulders up to 3.3m in size. One of the two flows overtopped a 6m high bank, destroying a 2.7 ha area of forest, and in the other flow vegetation was eroded up to 7m above the river bed (Neall et al., 2008). Calculated velocities for these two flows are from $10 - 16 \pm 2 \text{ ms}^{-1}$, with maximum discharges from $600 - 1500 \pm 300 \text{ m}^3 \text{s}^{-1}$ (Neall, 2011).

Lahars have occurred around Pinatubo volcano in the Philippines for many years since the 1991 eruption from heavy rain mixing with old tephra deposits (Newhall and Punongbayan, 1996), providing an example of an ongoing hazard to be managed. See section 6.3 for more details on lahars. Broken water pipes may also lead to flooding – existing hazard mitigation plans could be used for this.

7.4 Effects of long term unrest and eruptions on the economy

There is an extensive literature illustrating the widespread economic consequences of natural disasters (Cochrane, 2004). Normally, these effects result from a one-off destruction of capital stock and the subsequent disruption to business activity. In marked contrast, volcanic unrest and eruptions have different impacts that are, in many respects, potentially more difficult to mitigate. Specifically, the economic effects of volcanic unrest tend to be manifest mainly through increased business uncertainty and may persist for considerable periods of time (years to decades). This is of concern because it is known that one of the determinants of economic growth or sustainability is confidence in the outlook for future economic activity. This is illustrated by the very close correlation between measures of business confidence and future rates of economic growth and investment activity. By increasing business uncertainty, periods of unrest may result in losses of confidence and shifts in risk perception by consumers, business operators and investors.

At a local level these adverse effects are likely to show up in a number of indicators. The most obvious is a downturn in demand for goods and services. A slight economic impact was noted in Taupo in late 1964 during caldera unrest at Taupo volcano, when a decline in visitor numbers to the district was reported and some business owners noted a flow-on effect to lower business activity (Johnston et al., 2002). Another example of these effects was the mass cancellation of tourist bookings at Mammoth Lakes that followed initial newspaper and radio reports of the possibility of an eruption at Long Valley caldera (USA) in the summer of 1982 (Bernknopf et al., 1990) as a result of caldera unrest. Aldridge (2006) has modelled the economic losses likely in the Taranaki region due to the impact of a volcanic eruption.

Increased risk perceptions may see falls in asset values, which may also result in capital investment decisions being postponed or cancelled. In theory, markets should accurately incorporate known risks into prices. However, low probability-high loss events like earthquakes and volcanic eruptions may be different in their effects on markets. Specifically, events that increase awareness of risks might alter behaviour and prices. The magnitude of effects on local business is highly variable (Johnston et al., 2002). Their size depends on:

- The size of the threat and scales of uncertainty (i.e. extent of knowledge about the degree of risk and the likely duration of the unrest). These in turn depend on the amount and quality of the information available to local businesses, investors and consumers.
- The type of businesses affected. The nature of unrest means that recreational/tourism businesses tend to be most sensitive since in these sectors it is generally easy for demand to switch elsewhere.
- The underlying strength of the businesses and communities affected. Here the concerns are factors such as pre-existing debt levels and trends in business activity. One lesson from the literature on natural disasters is that they tend to exacerbate pre-existing economic trends (e.g. Mader and Blair, 1987).
- Scale of economic activity at threat. Obviously regions with relatively large local economies face a larger threat than do others. Also, the overall scale of the economic effects depends on the degree of backward and forward linkages the region has into the wider economy (Cochrane, 2004).
- The “flexibility” of the local business sector, i.e. the extent to which they are able to work around problems, their degree of diversification and their ability to reassure investors and consumers.

A key determinant of the economic effects of such events is their impact on insurance markets. One risk with on-going unrest is that it may lead to changes in premiums or the cancellation of policies. Certainly this was the case in Rabaul (PNG) where Lowenstein (1988) notes that there were “massive” increases in insurance premiums and loss of cover against volcanic and seismic risk. These insurance effects persisted through the crisis and flowed into a lack of finance from lending institutions for sustaining business activity and new developments. Also, during the 1995-1996 Ruapehu eruption some insurers cancelled coverage in the region (either by activating their “7 days notice” clause or simply not renewing cover).

If periods of unrest are significant and long lasting they may have effects even beyond the local economy. One concern is the potential flow on into higher fiscal costs, e.g. emergency expenditures, increased welfare payments, etc. In Rabaul, for instance, one of the most significant economic effects was the large amount of unbudgeted expenditure on emergency preparedness (Lowenstein, 1988).

There is also the potential for misreporting by the international media. This occurred during the Auckland electricity crisis, the 1995/6 Ruapehu eruptions and historical volcanic unrest at Taupo caldera. These media effects may exacerbate offshore investor unease with the danger being that investor reactions are out of proportion to the size of the risks. De Bondt and Thaler (1985; 1987) provide evidence of these sorts of overreactions.

Impacts of earthquakes and eruptions on oil and gas production and distribution infrastructure

As described in Hull (1996), the exploration and exploitation of hydrocarbons in the Taranaki region has involved large investments in infrastructure such as production plants, pipelines and storage facilities. These facilities are vulnerable in the event of volcanic unrest or eruptions and earthquakes. Large earthquakes at Taranaki, including the November 1974 M6.0 Opunake earthquake close to the site of the Maui A Platform, have produced shaking

intensities of MM8 locally over the last 150 years (Hull, 1996; Townsend et al., 2008). Combined with the hazard of volcanic eruptions, the oil and gas production industry at Taranaki faces significant impacts from future natural hazard events.

Surface faulting, ground shaking, inundation by ashfall and lahar debris are hazards worthy of consideration in assessing risk to existing facilities and the siting of future plant and equipment. Production facility structures are vulnerable to the effects of volcanic and earthquake hazards, particularly underground pipelines due to ground shaking and deformation, buildings and structures from ash roof loading or if they are in the path of pyroclastic density currents, debris avalanches or lahars, and ash fall effecting electrical circuits and clogging pipelines. Further information, including the earthquake and eruption history of Taranaki, active fault locations and specific volcanic hazard impacts on production facilities are detailed in Hull (1996) and the Taranaki geological map by Townsend et al. (2008). Up-to-date geological information is also available from the GeoNet and GNS Science (active fault database) websites (www.geonet.org.nz; www.gns.cri.nz). The formation of robust mitigation plans for volcanic hazards is recommended to be developed with production companies.

Ian Chapman has recently recommenced Masterate research at Massey University on *volcanic risk assessment for the energy distribution sector of Taranaki*.

8.0 PSYCHOSOCIAL IMPACTS OF VOLCANIC UNREST AND ERUPTIONS

Types of psychosocial impacts on residents hit by a natural disaster include (Blong, 1984):

- psychosomatic problems (e.g. vomiting, headaches, rashes),
- bereavement and separation
- social stress (e.g. divorce, alcoholism)
- long term effects from physical trauma (e.g. effects of paralysis, blindness)
- psychological problems (e.g. depression, nightmares, hysteria).

Increased levels of anxiety and stress can stem from factors such as relocation, uncertainty about the future, living with other families in close quarters and disrupted routines. This stress can lead to marital problems, child and spouse abuse, and drug and alcohol abuse. These effects may not arise for some time (i.e. months) after the event is over (Blong, 1984). Programmes to lower the levels of stress from a natural hazard event, provide support and advice can be run. For example, Federated Farmers and The Rural Support Trusts have helped the rural community during natural hazard events such as the 2004 Manawatu floods, droughts in the Waikato region and the 2010/11 Canterbury earthquakes. Residents helping eachother after an event can help build their sense of control, and help them feel they are useful and able to help, as well as provide support or a listening ear for others effected. For example, the Student Army and Farmy Army volunteers helped urban residents clean up from the Canterbury earthquakes of 2010/11.

9.0 MITIGATION OF VOLCANIC HAZARDS DURING NON-ERUPTIVE PERIODS

Most volcanoes have long intervals between damaging eruptions, ranging from years to many centuries. The management of volcanic hazards can therefore be divided into four distinct time frames. Non-eruptive rest times represent the normal situation and afford the best opportunity to develop mitigation strategies and prepare society for an eruption. The time around an eruption crisis can be divided into three periods: pre-eruption, eruption and post-eruption (or recovery).

The requirement to mitigate natural hazards in New Zealand is covered by the Resource Management Act (1991) which seeks to provide a structure for natural hazard management that focuses responsibilities and requires effective means of control to be adopted. Implementation of this mitigation is carried out by regional and territorial authorities through regional policy statements, regional plans, district plans and resource consents. The Regional Policy Statements and regional/district plans of volcanic areas should recognize explicitly that parts of these regions are susceptible to hazards associated with future volcanic eruptions. Such zones, e.g. those close to potential vents and/or on vulnerable flood plains, need to be identified. The Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) Act 2002 and the associated National Strategy establishes a vision for a “Resilient New Zealand – strong communities understanding and managing their hazards” and calls for increased community awareness, understanding and participation in CDEM; reduced risk from hazards; an enhanced national capability to manage emergencies and recover from disasters. For New Zealand to achieve these goals the CDEM sector requires a sound research base that addresses the spectrum from understanding the physical phenomena of natural hazards to an understanding of the impacts of these hazards from a social, economic and cultural perspective.

Once the vulnerability has been assessed mitigation strategies can be developed. Three types of approaches can be used:

- Policy and management measures that reduce the likelihood of damage and/or failure.
- Engineering design measures that reduce vulnerability.
- Preparedness and response planning to deal with consequences of the event.

The development of interagency communication in periods of volcanic quiescence is an important part of hazard response and recovery mitigation. This can improve knowledge of roles and responsibilities amongst agencies and foster relationships that can be utilised when required.

Transmitting consistent messages to the public is essential to dispel confusion and avoid mistrust of the authorities. Appendix 4 contains the *working from the same page* consistent messaging information for the CDEM sector to use in preparation, response and recovery to a volcanic event. Information needs to be managed carefully during a crisis, and involves actions such as dampening rumours, working with the media, publishing information resources and issuing warnings. Appendix 5 provides a communication framework to aid these actions, and describes factors influencing the community’s response to the warnings and situation.

9.1 Land use planning to reduce volcanic risks

While some volcanic hazards cannot easily be planned for in a land-use sense (e.g. pyroclastic flows), others can. For example lahars are strongly controlled by topography and most likely flow paths can be incorporated in hazard or planning maps. As a consequence of recognising lahar hazard zones around Taranaki, these could be designated as areas of low density development, as has taken place in Pierce County in the USA (Becker et al., 2010). While a hazard like ash fall cannot be mapped definitively on to land-use planning maps as it is controlled by wind direction, other options such as volcanic risk oriented urban design (e.g. pitched rooflines) could be employed instead, and applied as standards within a district plan. Land use planning can also contribute to ensuring effective evacuation during a volcanic event. New road layouts could be designed to ensure that evacuation is quick and effective.

Policies and methods within the New Plymouth District Plan (2010) already reflect some aspects of land use planning for volcanic hazards. In particular the plan identifies “Volcanic Hazard Areas” on land use planning maps (primarily in lahar zones) and suggests that activities in this zone should avoid or mitigate the adverse effects of natural hazards, and has a rule that “hazardous facilities in a volcanic hazard area will be subject to greater scrutiny” (Becker et al., 2010). Few other plans across New Zealand specifically address volcanic hazards in such a way. See Robertson (2007) for a Taranaki case study for volcanic land-use planning.

The range of options that could be applied by land use planners within plans and policy statements include (Becker et al., 2010):

- Avoiding new development in high volcanic risk areas, especially in localities that are not already developed.
- Restricting development or permitting only low density development in already developed hazardous areas to minimise the number of people residing in volcanic hazard areas.
- Using volcanic hazard-specific criteria for assessing consents in volcanic hazard areas. For example a local authority may require that for a consent to be granted in a rural area subject to volcanic hazards, the water supply must be able to be covered in the event of ash fall.
- Siting and where necessary relocating key facilities and critical infrastructure out of hazardous areas;
- Incorporating specific urban design measures to mitigate volcanic impacts;
- Taking proactive steps to ascertain how to dispose of volcanic debris after an eruption (e.g. Johnston et al., 2009); and
- Planning for other land use recovery aspects. In a general sense this requires considering what the effects of an eruption might be, how the use of land could be improved after an event, and what steps might be taken before an event to ensure such improvements can be made (Becker et al., 2008).

Finally to ensure effective risk reduction, land use planning should be integrated with other emergency readiness and response activities (Saunders et al., 2007). Land use planners need to work closely with emergency managers (and other relevant professions) to ensure

that agreement is reached over roles and responsibilities, and that both civil defence and emergency management plans incorporate a full range of risk reduction measures. Integration should also occur between districts and regions so that there is geographic consistency over the treatment of volcanic risk.

9.2 Response planning

Pre-planning of response measures can reduce the severity of volcanic hazard impacts. Mitigation, planning and preparation measures should include:

- Conduct a vulnerability analysis of equipment and facilities to determine which would be the most affected and which are adequately protected.
- Identify appropriate methods of protecting vulnerable equipment and facilities.
- Develop a priority list of facilities that must be kept operative versus those that can be shut-down during and after ash falls.
- Identify effective and efficient ash-removal methods for equipment and facilities.
- Establish plans to implement ash mitigation measures containing procedures for: warning and notifying of potential ash falls, reducing or shutting down operations, accelerated maintenance and ash clean-up operations.
- Preparing the community to deal with hazards by utilising resources – for example the IVHHN *Guidelines on preparedness before, during and after an ashfall* (2008) pamphlet, available on the Taranaki Regional Council Civil Defence web page.
- Develop and test robust, connected response, communication and mitigation plans, including early warning systems (part of which is the Taranaki seismic monitoring network) in an integrated warning system model.

To guide the development of effective response plans amongst agencies and organisations a self-assessment survey or ‘tool’ has been developed (appendix 3). The aim of this tool is to assess levels of preparedness to respond to a volcanic event and help define the nature of specific volcanic contingency plans over and above general emergency response provisions.

9.3 Resilience and public education

Building resilience in a community can be considered in a range of contexts. Firstly, providing a safe physical environment through good building design (e.g. resilience to the impacts of hazards such as earthquake shaking) is of fundamental importance. Secondly, providing information about hazards, their impacts and self-protective actions that can be taken to reduce risk, is vital in encouraging public preparedness and in reducing social and physical impacts. Thirdly, resilience should also be considered in a wider context, where other factors such as community development, engagement and participation play an important role in building adaptive capacity to disasters.

In many countries, including New Zealand, substantial funds are expended annually on risk communication programmes to promote hazard preparedness. However, research frequently shows that despite such programmes the majority of the public do not carry out self-protective measures recommended by emergency management authorities during non-crisis times. This questions the value of many public education initiatives. Many initiatives

tend to focus only on increasing awareness and knowledge about hazards, but do not address other factors which influence adaptive capacity and resilience. Knowledge and understanding of hazards is still an important part of the equation, but is only one aspect of many factors that influence preparation, appropriate response during a crisis (e.g., evacuation and warning compliance) and resilience overall.

We should ensure that factors beyond knowledge and understanding are incorporated into educational programmes. A significant issue for public education with respect to preparedness is motivation and intention to prepare. Individuals first need to become motivated to confront the hazardous aspects of their environment, and then form intentions to actually make preparations. It is important to understand the beliefs and attitudes that underpin people's responses to risk so that intervention strategies can be targeted to enhance motivation and intentions, and address any biases that may be present.

To facilitate motivation and intention to prepare, strategies are needed that emphasise the salience of hazard issues for community members. Contemporary research has highlighted that improved preparedness is likely to accrue from enhancing community members' beliefs in the feasibility of mitigating hazard effects through personal actions (i.e. to counter beliefs that hazards have totally catastrophic effects, also known as 'action coping') and enhancing beliefs in personal competency to implement these activities (i.e. self-efficacy). Changing these factors requires a mix of public education, social policy, training, and empowerment strategies. Trust is also another important facet in converting preparedness intentions to actions. If people have trust in an information source, they are more likely to adopt protective measures.

Finally, the design of hazard education programmes should be integrated with community development initiatives and will be more effective than stand alone, one off programmes (Finnis et al. 2010). School education programmes need to be one of the centrepieces of a sustained, community-based effort (Ronan & Johnston 2005). Common attributes that lead to successful public education programmes are shown in Table 3.

Table 3 Attributes that lead to successful community-based programs – from Finnis et al. (2010)

Attributes
Understand the community – Initiatives should be designed at a community level. Research into the community (e.g. demographics, local issues, needs) should be undertaken and the community should be consulted on the plan of action before a program is implemented.
Work with established groups – In many cases there is no need to repeat previous efforts. Tying in projects or working with groups that are already active in the community is an efficient way to implement a program because there is local knowledge, established partnerships and existing community participation.
Targeting vulnerable populations – Assisting vulnerable populations to prepare is a cost-effective exercise as these groups tend to be the largest drain on resources in a disaster.
Program facilitator – Nearly every programme attributes some of its success to having a designated program facilitator or co-ordinator. There needs to be at least one person whose sole task is to oversee the project and/or facilitate activities and communication amongst the community, stakeholders, funders, and others involved.
Dependable funding – Successful long-term programs require a dependable source of funding. Several programs described started with short-term funding from one source and with proven success, obtained larger grants and/or longer-term funding. Programs may benefit from having numerous small grants lined up to share costs and to maintain input from smaller stakeholders.
Simple, achievable projects – The first project undertaken in a community should be something simple and achievable to attract interest and support. Even though a larger project may be more beneficial or appear more impressive, community and stakeholder trust and support will be lost if it does not come to fruition.
Project diversification – The community may sometimes choose to undertake a project that seems irrelevant to the issue or cause. However, if addressing this concern is important to the community, then undertaking the project will foster partnerships and community interest in further projects.
Exposure – Initiatives should have continuous exposure in communities to attract and maintain interest and participation of the public, volunteers and stakeholders.
Evaluation – Not all programs are evaluated, with many (rightly) claiming success through a project's completion, a change being noticed or satisfaction from staff and the community. An empirical evaluation, however, not only can provide documented evidence to prospective stakeholders and participants but also can help identify ways of making the program more efficient or successful or give a measure for comparison to other similar projects.

10.0 POST ERUPTION / RECOVERY

The social and economic impacts of a volcanic eruption are determined not only by direct physical consequences but also by the interaction of psychological, social, cultural and institutional processes that can both amplify and attenuate the public response. Community recovery therefore should be viewed as a social process. The cost of recovery goes beyond the cost of physical repairs and includes the provision of long-term community support services. The time required for a community to recover from a volcanic eruption depends on the extent of the impacts and the amount of assistance available. The effects of eruptions can continue for long periods of time. For example, lahars may continue to affect areas for years following an eruption as material is washed off the volcano. In the recovery process, solutions that were scientifically and technically sound in principle were not necessarily politically and socially acceptable in practice.

Recovery planning must consider the following:

- Who is responsible for planning and implementation of the recovery?
- The importance of inter-organisational co-operation at all stages of a recovery.
- A broad approach to recovery so that opportunities for land-use change or rebuilding of safer structures are considered.
- The need for community involvement.
- The availability of internal and external resources and the ability to gain access to them.

11.0 RECENT RESEARCH

Cronin and Neall (2004) describe the ongoing and planned research at Massey University around 2004. Appendix 6 describes the current research by Massey University, as outlined in the Taranaki Volcanic Science Advisory Group (TVSAG) meeting, 2010. Appendix 7 lists recent research by Massey University, including publications, presentations and ongoing research. The *Geology of the Taranaki Area* book and map was published by GNS Science and contains up-to-date information on hazards, active fault locations and geology (Townsend et al., 2008).

12.0 GLOSSARY

A'a	Hawaiian word used to describe a lava flow with a rough, angular surface.
Andesite	Volcanic rock (or lava) containing 54 to 62% silica and moderate amounts of iron and magnesium.
Ash	Fine particles of pulverized rock (tephra) erupted from the vent of a volcano. Particles smaller than 2 mm in diameter are termed as ash, and may be solid or molten when first erupted.
Ashfall	Volcanic ash that has fallen through the air from an eruption cloud.
Avalanche	A large mass of material or mixtures of material falling or sliding rapidly under the force of gravity. Avalanches often are classified by their content, such as snow, ice, soil, or rock avalanches. A mixture of these materials is a debris avalanche.
Ballistic	Large tephra particles with diameters of over 64mm. Includes blocks and bombs.
Ballistic projectile	A block or bomb explosively ejected from the vent that is not carried upwards by the eruption column.
Basalt	Volcanic rock (or lava) containing less silica than andesite, commonly producing more effusive, runny lava.
Base surge	Volcanic density current pulse that moves laterally outwards formed of a dilute, turbulent mixture of hot gas (steam), water and solid ejecta.
Block	Angular chunk of solid rock ejected during an eruption, with diameters of over 64 mm.
Bomb	Fragment of molten or semi-molten rock, with a diameter of over 64 mm. Because of their plastic condition, bombs are often modified in shape during their flight or upon impact.
CO	Carbon monoxide
CO₂	Carbon dioxide
Conduit	A passage followed by magma within a volcano.
Country Rocks	The existing rock intruded by and surrounding an igneous intrusion (magma).
Crater	A commonly circular depression formed by either explosion or collapse at a volcanic vent, from which volcanic material is ejected.
Dacite	Fine-grained rock intermediate in composition between andesite and basalt.
Debris Avalanche	A rapid and unusually sudden sliding or flow of unsorted rock and other material (such as fragmented cold and hot volcanic rock, water, snow/ice and trees).
Debris Flow	A mixture of water-saturated rock and debris that flows downwards under the force of gravity.

Dome	A steep-sided mass of viscous lava extruded from a volcanic vent. Its surface is often rough and blocky as a result of fragmentation of the cooler, outer crust during growth of the dome.
Ejecta	Material that is thrown out by a volcano, including tephra.
Eruption Column	The cloud of gases, steam and tephra rising from a crater or other vent, driven by thermal convection and gas pressure. If it is of sufficient volume and velocity, this column may reach many kilometers into the stratosphere, where winds may carry it long distances. Eruption columns can collapse and form pyroclastic density currents.
Eruptive Vent	The opening through which volcanic material is emitted.
Extinct Volcano	A volcano that is not presently erupting and is not likely to do so for a very long time in the future.
Extrusion	The emission of magmatic material at the earth's surface. Also, the structure or form produced by the process (e.g. lava flow, volcanic dome).
Fault	Fracture or zone of fractures along which displacement takes place or has taken place in the past.
Fissures	Elongated fractures or cracks on the slopes of a volcano. Fissures can host eruptions, which typically consist of runny lava flows and fountains, but pyroclastics (tephra) may also be ejected.
Flank Eruption	An eruption from the side of a volcano (in contrast to a summit eruption.)
Fumarole	A vent or hole through which steam and other gases emit.
Harmonic Tremor	A continuous release of seismic energy typically associated with the underground movement of magma. It contrasts distinctly with the sudden release and rapid decrease of seismic energy associated with the more common type of earthquake caused by slippage along a fault.
Hydrothermal eruption	Explosion driven by the transformation of hot groundwater to steam.
Igneous	The type of rocks formed during volcanic activity, both above and below the ground surface.
Ignimbrite	The rock formed by the widespread deposition and consolidation of hot pyroclastic flows. The term was originally applied only to densely welded deposits but now includes non-welded deposits.
Intensity	A measure of the effects of an earthquake at a particular place. Intensity depends not only on the magnitude of the earthquake, but also on the distance from the epicenter and the local geology.
Intrusion	The process of emplacement of magma in pre-existing rock. Also, the term refers to the igneous rock mass so formed within the surrounding rock.

Lahar	A flow of water-saturated, typically dense volcanic material, resembling a flow of wet concrete. Lahars usually follow topographical lows, however may overtop banks. They may be unaccompanied by an eruption by remobilisation of volcanic material.
Lapilli	Literally, "little stones." Round to angular erupted rock fragments (tephra) measuring 2 to 64 mm in size in diameter, which may be ejected in either a solid or molten state.
Lava	Magma which has reached the surface through a volcanic eruption. The term is most commonly applied to the flowing rock that emits from a crater or fissure, however it also refers to cooled and solidified rock formed this way. Lava varies in viscosity (runniness and therefore speed of movement), chemistry and temperature.
Lava Dome	Mass of sticky lava, that has built a dome-shaped pile at a vent.
Lithic	Particle of previously formed rock.
Magma	Molten rock beneath the surface of the earth.
Magma Chamber	The subterranean area containing the molten magma beneath a volcano.
Mantle	The zone of the earth below the earth's crust and above the core.
Nuees Ardentes	A French term applied to a highly heated mass of gas-charged ash which is expelled with explosive force and moves at high speed down the volcano.
Pahoehoe	A Hawaiian term for lava with a smooth, billowy, or ropy surface.
Phreatic Eruption	An explosion caused when water and heated volcanic rocks interact to produce a violent expulsion of steam and pulverized rocks. Magma is not involved.
Phreatomagmatic	An explosive volcanic eruption that results from the interaction of surface or subsurface water and magma.
Pillow lava	Interconnected, sack-like bodies (resembling pillows) of lava formed underwater.
Ppm	parts per million
Pumice	Light-coloured, frothy volcanic rock, formed by the expansion of gas in erupting, sticky lava during an eruption. Pumice commonly floats on water and can travel further than other rocks of a similar size during an eruption due to their low density.
Pyroclastic	Erupted material which starts out hot (pyro) and consists of fragmented rock (clastic) material formed by a volcanic explosion.
Pyroclastic Flow	A turbulent mixture of hot gases and unsorted pyroclastic material that can move at high speed (up to 900 km an hour.) down the sides of the volcano. A type of pyroclastic density current, which usually follow topographical lows. Generated by the collapse or partial collapse of an eruption column.
Quaternary	The period of Earth's history from about 2 million years ago to the present; also, the rocks and deposits of that age.

Rhyolite	Volcanic rock, light coloured, with a high silica content.
Scoria	A pyroclast that is irregular in form and generally very vesicular. It is usually heavier, darker, and more crystalline than pumice.
Seismograph	An instrument that records seismic waves (earthquakes).
Seismologist	Scientists who study seismicity (earthquakes).
Silica	A chemical combination of silicon and oxygen.
SO₂	Sulphur dioxide (gas)
Stratigraphic	The study of rock strata, especially of their distribution, deposition, and age.
Stratovolcano	A volcano composed of both lava flows and pyroclastic material.
Subduction Zone	The zone of convergence of two tectonic plates, one of which usually overrides the other.
Surge	A cloud of gas and suspended pyroclastic material that moves radially outward at high velocity from the base of a vertical eruption column accompanying a volcanic eruption.
Tephra	Solid materials of all types and sizes that are erupted from a crater or volcanic vent and travelling through the air.
Tilt	The angle between the slope of a part of a volcano and some reference. The reference may be the slope of the volcano at some previous time.
Tremor	Low amplitude, continuous earthquake activity often associated with magma movement.
Tsunami	A great sea wave produced by a submarine earthquake, volcanic eruption, or large landslide.
Vent	The opening at the earth's surface through which volcanic materials emit, or emitted in the past.
Vesicle	A small air pocket or cavity formed in volcanic rock during solidification.
Viscosity	A measure of resistance to flow in a liquid (water has low viscosity while honey has a higher viscosity.)
Volcano	A vent in the surface of the Earth through which magma and associated gases erupt, and the form or structure that is produced by the ejected material.

Information sourced from the Oregon State University website

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 AUCKLAND ENGINEERING LIFELINES GROUP POSTERS

Also available from: <http://www.aelg.org.nz/reports/volcanic-ash-impacts.cfm>

VOLCANIC ERUPTION

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS FOR AIRPORTS

AIR NEW ZEALAND **CAA** **Auckland Airport** **GNS SCIENCE**



REDUCTION

Develop a Volcanic Hazard Management Plan
Ensure this includes designated ash disposal sites.

Maintain Volcanic Hazard Management Plan
Regularly review plan to ensure it is up to date.

Conduct regular exercises and training



READINESS

If warning is given that an eruption may occur, ensure stocks of the following equipment are available:

Tarpaulins / Plastic sheeting
Sufficient quantities to cover vulnerable parts of aircraft grounded during the eruption, i.e. windshields, nose cones, engine intakes, wheel assemblies. Further quantities to cover any machinery left outside.

Adhesive duct tape
Sufficient quantities to secure plastic sheeting to aircraft/machinery, sealing all edges.

Spare parts for essential vehicles and machinery
Air filters, oil filters, fuel filters, hydraulic fluids, seals, lubricants.

Cleaning supplies
Additional brooms, vacuum cleaner bags, cleaning fluids.

Filtration / dust masks and goggles
Sufficient masks for all involved staff for at least one week. Sufficient goggles for workers cleaning up ash. Adequate harnesses to secure workers to slippery roofs. Prior to ashfall establish a tip site where ash may be dumped.

Should an ash plume be generated that is likely to impact the airport, the following steps should be taken:

Activate: Emergency teams, Business Continuity Plan and ensure health and safety issues are identified for all personnel.

Decide: Fly aircraft out, cover aircraft. Immediately confirm which aircraft are to remain grounded.

Grounded Aircraft
Need to have vulnerable parts covered. Immediately confirm which aircraft are to remain grounded. Vulnerable parts include: windscreens, pitot tubes, nose cones, engine intakes, wheel assemblies. Use plastic sheeting/tarpaulins and adhesive (duct) tape. All flaps, spoilers etc should be fully closed. If a significant ashfall is expected (> 5cm), anchor any aircraft to the ground at the nose that have:

- engines at the tail,
- large surface areas (i.e. horizontal stabilizers) at rear of aircraft.

Infrastructure
Take extreme care due to slipperiness of ash. Use as few entries/exits as possible for buildings (reduces ash entrainment from outside). Cover electronic equipment inside buildings as fine ash may penetrate even closed buildings. Close buildings not essential for running the airport. Cover (where possible) intake fans or heat pump units on building exteriors. Do not use air-conditioning systems that pump in outside air. Damp volcanic ash may induce flashover on electrical components (causing failure and fire risk). Some use of systems that re-circulate interior air may be possible during ashfall (expect abrasion to fan blades, bearings etc).

Clean roofs frequently during a long-term eruption to prevent ash accumulating (especially wide-span hangar-type roofs).

RESPONSE

RECOVERY

Volcanic ash is highly abrasive and can be extremely corrosive

- take this into account when cleaning (especially aircraft).
- clean aircraft as quickly as possible to mitigate corrosion.

Consult volcanic ash response plan (where present) before beginning aircraft and airport clean-up.

- ensure correct procedures are followed.

Ensure ash is disposed in appropriate/safe manner.

Check navigation systems and friction test of the runway.

Further information on dealing with volcanic ash may be found in the following locations:
<http://www.gns.cri.nz/ci/haz/wall/barthact/volcanics/whatodo.html>
<http://volcanoes.usgs.gov/ash/index.html>
<http://www.iopsa.info/nbl/W/WOPSG/Doc9991.pdf>
<http://www.caia.govt.nz/>

VOLCANIC ERUPTION

ADVICE FOR ELECTRICITY NETWORK MANAGERS



ASH IMPACTS ON ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION

Volcanic ash is: hard, highly abrasive, mildly corrosive and conductive.

Volcanic ashfalls can cause disruption to electricity supplies in the following ways:

- Ashfall buildup on insulators can lead to flashover (the unintended disruptive electric discharge over or around the insulator), causing disruption to distribution networks.
- Line breakages and damage to towers and poles due to ash loading, both directly onto the structures and by causing treefall onto lines, particularly in heavy, fine ashfall events. Snow and ice accumulation on lines and vegetation will exacerbate the risk.
- Breakdown of substation and control equipment such as air conditioning/cooling systems due to ash penetration which can block air intakes and cause corrosion.
- Controlled outages during cleaning.

Of these, the main hazard is insulator flashover. Volcanic ashfall may also increase electrocution risks (by increasing touch potentials) to workers in substations.



INSULATOR FLASHOVER

Factors contributing to risk of flashover include:

- Light wet weather conditions (dew, fog, drizzle or light rain) wets the ash and leads to a conductive layer forming on the surface which initiates leakage current and leads to arcing and flashover. Heavier rain will wash off contaminants.
- Ash grain size (fine ash adheres to insulators more strongly).
- Presence of other contaminants e.g. sea salt, dust, agricultural sprays, smoke.
- Elapsed time since last maintenance.
- Insulator design and construction (ability to shed ash and resist acidic corrosion).

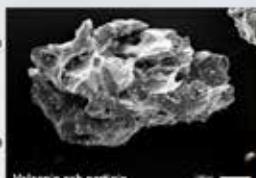


Aerial covers a 33kV insulator following the May 2008 Chilean eruption, Chile

ELECTROCUTION RISK



Resistivity of ground gravel cover may reduce following ashfall, reducing step potential and possibly increasing touch potentials.



Volcanic ash particle

RISK OF LINE AND SUBSTATION INSULATOR FLASHOVER

Line voltage	Ash moisture content	Risk factors		Probability of failure	
		Ash thickness <5 mm	Ash thickness >5 mm	Ash thickness <5 mm	Ash thickness >5 mm
<33 kV (domestic)	Wet	High	Low	High	Medium
	Dry	Low	Low	Low	Low
>33 kV (regional-national)	Wet	Medium	Low	High	Medium
	Dry	Low	Low	Low	Low

RISK OF DAMAGE TO TOWERS, POLES AND LINES

Towers and poles	Weather conditions	Ash thickness <100 mm		Ash thickness >100 mm	
		Fine ash	Coarse ash	Fine ash	Coarse ash
Wet	Low-medium	Low	Medium-high	Low	Low
	Dry	Low	Low	Medium	Low
Lines	Wet	Low-medium	Low	High	Low-medium
	Dry	Low	Low	Medium	Low

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Substations

- Prior to an ashfall, maintain insulators in a clean condition, especially in coastal areas.
- During an ashfall, monitor buildup of ash on insulators. If conditions are wet, consider controlled outages to allow cleaning.
- Immediately after an ashfall, dispatch personnel to substations to clean, sweep and blow ash from electrical equipment, and clean roofs and gutters.
- Be aware of increased electrocution hazard if ashfall covers the ground. Isolate substations or electrical equipment before entering site.

Line insulators

- Maintain line insulators in a clean condition, especially in coastal areas.
- During an eruption, monitor buildup of ash on insulators.
- Make controlled cuts if necessary to clean insulators, or replace damaged insulators. Ensure all surfaces are cleaned, including underneath. Cost-benefit analysis will dictate whether cleaning or total replacement is appropriate.

Towers, poles and lines

- Maintain in a good state of repair; in particular ensure that lines are kept free of overhanging branches.
- During an eruption, continually monitor the network for ash accumulation on towers, lines, poles and overhanging branches.
- Replace or repair damaged components as appropriate.

General notes on cleanup of ash

- Remove dry ash from the most sensitive systems by blowing it off using air pressure of 30 psi or less, to avoid a sandblasting effect.
- Avoid rubbing or brushing equipment. Remove ash by vacuuming if possible.
- Regularly clean and/or replace vehicle and air-conditioning filters (stock spares).
- To avoid eye and respiratory irritation wear face masks and goggles.
- Consider acquiring cleanup equipment (water blasters, air compressors).



The underside of a 33kV insulator coated in ash, which led to a flashover following ashfalls during the 2008 Chilean eruption, Chile



Ash is cleaned from a 110 kV horizontal insulator string using a pressure washer following the 1995 Pugetohu eruption, New Zealand (Transpower New Zealand)

The following resources provide further information on volcanic hazards:

- <http://www.gisnet.org.nz>
<http://volcanoes.usgs.gov/ash/index.html>
<http://www.ihsn.org>
<http://www.aeilg.org>

Drafted by Tom Wilson, Carol Stewart & David Johnston, 26 August 2009



VOLCANIC ERUPTION

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS FOR ROADING MANAGERS

VOLCANIC ASH

Ash dispersal is dependant on prevailing wind direction

Silt to sand size, highly Abrasive, mildly Corrosive, potentially Conductive

May be ingested into engines, blocking filters and abrading the engine and other mechanical parts

Ash may contaminate areas for extended periods of time (doesn't melt like snow), and its fine grain size can make it difficult to handle compared to sand.

Thick ashfalls may create extra loadings on bridges (wet ash is very heavy)

Driving Hazards

Easily re-mobilised by wind, water, and fast moving vehicles

Driving Hazards: very slippery surfaces, covers road markings, poor visibility during ashfall

Respiratory hazard (easily ingested by humans and animals)



Volcanic centres in New Zealand



Volcanic ash particle

REDUCTION

Volcanic eruptions may have a rapid onset, so emergency planning needs to be done well in advance

Develop a Volcanic Hazard Management Plan

Identify a hierarchy of roads for priority of clean-up. Ensure this includes designated ash disposal sites and considers road closures.

Ensure road maintenance equipment is undercover.

Maintain Volcanic Hazard Management Plan

Regularly review plan to ensure it is up to date.



Clearing roads following ashfall in Catania, Italy during the 2002 Etna eruption (G. Barnard)

READINESS

Prior to an eruption (i.e. periods of volcanic unrest), ensure that there are stocks of the following equipment:

Spare parts for essential road maintenance vehicles (air filters, oil filters, fuel filters, lubricants hydraulic fluids, seals, wheel bearings, etc.)

Safety plan & equipment for personnel (masks, goggles - sufficient for all staff)

Adequate water supply for damping down ash to reduce re-mobilisation (ideally not domestic water supply)

Facilities for cleaning maintenance vehicles

Establish ash disposal site (in consultation with Territorial Local Authority)



Collecting ash from roads in Yakima, Washington, United States following the 1980 Mt St Helens eruption

RESPONSE

ACTIVATE:

emergency plan

health and safety plan

identify priority roads for clearance

monitor eruption information (www.geonet.org.nz)

monitor weather conditions (determines where ash will be deposited)

Ensure staff are well briefed on ash removal and safety aspects

Be prepared to distribute information to other road users on best practices

Closely monitor performance of maintenance vehicles and health of staff

RECOVERY

Equipment should be cleaned as often as possible to mitigate damage

Ensure ash is disposed of in an appropriate manner

An on-going eruption & re-mobilised ash may continue to re-contaminate roads long after the eruption

plan for long term management of ash clearance and disposal from sediment capture devices

long term supply arrangements of protective and spare parts may be required



Further information on dealing with volcanic ash may be found in the following locations:

<http://www.geonet.org.nz>

<http://www.gns.cri.nzoe.here/what/earthact/volcanoes>

<http://volcanoes.usgs.gov/ash/index.html>

<http://www.ivhhn.org>

Drafted by Tom Wilson

VOLCANIC ERUPTION

ADVICE FOR WASTEWATER MANAGERS



IMPACTS ON WASTE WATER NETWORKS

Volcanic ash is: highly abrasive, mildly corrosive, conductive

Volcanic ashfall can cause damage and disruption to wastewater reticulation networks and treatment plants.

Systems with combined stormwater/sewer lines are most at risk. Ash will enter sewer lines where there is inflow or infiltration of stormwater (through illegal connections, cross connections, via gully traps, around manhole covers or through holes or cracks in sewer pipes).



System component	Impacts of volcanic ashfall
Sewerage reticulation networks	Volcanic ash may form unpumpable masses in catchpits and sewer lines, which may block lines, cause overflows and damage pumping equipment by overloading motors or causing abrasional damage and accelerated wear
Pre-treatment (comminutors, millscreens)	Coarse ash is likely to block screens, cause abrasive damage to moving parts and overload mechanical equipment
Primary treatment (settling tanks)	Coarse ash will increase volume of raw sludge; fine ash may not settle. Low density pumice fragments will float.
Secondary treatment (biological reactors or oxidation ponds)	Ash deposited directly into open biological reactors, ponds and clarifiers may reduce or halt the oxidation process. Ash can also have a highly acidic surface coating that may affect bacterial processes (for example, nitrification). Trickling filter rock media can be stripped by coarse ash if directly deposited
Tertiary treatment (disinfection)	Any residual fine ash still present in effluent will reduce transmissivity which will reduce effectiveness of disinfection.
Sludge treatment	Acidic ash could negatively affect digester biological process and sludge dewatering equipment

It is time-consuming and expensive to remove ash from sewer lines and storm drains. In the event of an ashfall, the top priority should be preventing ash from entering stormwater drains and sewers.

In addition to entering treatment plants via sewer lines, ashfall may cause direct impacts on treatment plants:

Heavy ashfall (>150 mm) may collapse long span roofs.

Airborne ash can clog air filtration systems, cause abrasional damage to moving parts of motors and cause arcing and flashover damage to electrical equipment.

For uncovered waste stabilisation ponds, direct ashfall may interfere with biological treatment processes.

Ashfall can also affect other critical infrastructure (electricity supply, water supply, telecommunications) which may in turn compromise the functioning of treatment plants.



CITY OF YAKIMA, USA

On 18 May 1980, Mount St Helens volcano erupted. The city of Yakima (popn 50,000), 140 km to the east, received about 1 cm of volcanic ashfall.

By the next day, about 15 times the usual amount of solid matter was being removed from the pre-treatment processes at Yakima's wastewater treatment plant. This was despite Yakima having just five percent combined sewage and stormwater lines.

Ash was also observed in the raw sludge in the primary clarifiers.

Two days later, it was evident that the facility was suffering as vibrations were occurring in the grit classifier and the gear box of the mechanically-cleaned bar screen. Raw sewage lines became blocked.

On 21 May the City Manager announced a decision to bypass the treatment plant and discharge sewage directly to the Yakima River.

The total damage to the Yakima plant was estimated to be US\$4 million.



RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

FOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANTS

Prior to an ashfall

Review stocks of essential items such as treatment chemicals and spare parts

Ensure access to backup power generation

In event of ashfall

Cover all external equipment with plastic

Shut down ventilation equipment where possible

Maintain a clean site to reduce contamination

Shut down all equipment not strictly required

Put all available pre-treatment equipment into operation at maximum removal rates

Put all primary clarifiers in operation and increase pumping rates

Shut down biofilters and cover (if open-air)

Monitor all processes for presence of ash, step up preventative maintenance

Monitor torque on all motor-driven equipment

Consider bypassing pumping stations and treatment plant as a protective measure to avoid plant damage/destruction

TO LIMIT ENTRY OF ASH INTO SEWERAGE NETWORKS

Prior to an ashfall

Minimise stormwater entry to network, such as by enforcing regulations on illegal connections, remediating cross-connections and maintaining pipes in good repair.

Ensure backup power generation for critical pump stations

In event of ashfall

Instruct public where to deposit ash cleared from property

Warn citizens against dumping ash into gully traps, stormwater drains, manholes and cesspits

If hoseing ash from streets, place sandbags around or over drains, cesspits and manhole covers to reduce inflow of ash to sewers

The following resources provide further information on volcanic hazards:

<http://www.geonet.org.nz>

<http://www.gns.cri.nz>

<http://volcanoes.usgs.gov/ash/index.html>

<http://www.vhhn.org>

24 August 2010

Drafted by Carol Stewart, Tom Wilson, Scott Barnard and David Johnstone

VOLCANIC ERUPTION

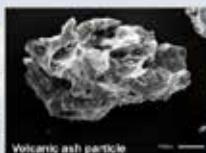
ADVICE FOR WATER SUPPLY MANAGERS



IMPACTS ON WATER SUPPLIES

Volcanic ash is: highly abrasive, mildly corrosive, conductive

Freshly-fallen volcanic ash may result in: short-term physical and chemical changes in water quality; increased wear on water delivery and treatment systems; disruption of electrical power supplies; and high demand for water during clean-up.

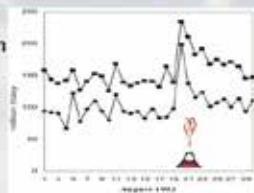


Impact	Comment
Physical impacts of ash	Ash can clog intake structures Abrasive nature of ash can cause increased wear on equipment Corrosive nature of ash can damage electrical equipment and corrode metallic structures such as pipes
Water shortages	Heavy demand on water for clean-up of ashfall, potentially leading to water shortages
Increased turbidity	Suspension of ash in water increases turbidity; this can make water undrinkable and compromise terminal disinfection
Acidification	Surface coatings on fresh ash are highly acidic; due to adsorbed volcanic aerosols H ₂ SO ₄ , HCl, HF
Fluoride contamination	Fluoride from HF readily leached from fresh ash; can exceed safe limits for people and animals
Other contamination	Freshly-fallen ash releases soluble components (e.g. sulphate, chloride, iron, aluminium, calcium) into receiving waters. This can taint and discolour water.



WATER DEMAND

High demand for water typically occurs after an ashfall and can lead to temporary water shortages.



This may compromise key services, such as fire-fighting capacity.

EFFECTS ON EQUIPMENT

Suspended ash in water can:

- block intake structures
- cause abrasional damage and increased wear of equipment
- block filters and clarifiers and generate increased waste
- decrease pH which can in turn increase plumbosolvency.

Airborne ash particles can:

- clog air filtration systems, causing overheating and engine/motor failure
- abrade and scratch moving parts of equipment and motors
- cause arcing and flash-over damage to electrical equipment.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Anticipate increased water demand for clean-up operations

- conserve water for human consumption
- where possible use alternative, non-potable sources of water for clean-up and fire-fighting, and encourage clean-up with brooms and shovels rather than hoses

Monitor potentially hazardous components of water (pH, turbidity, fluoride)

Review stocks of essential items such as spare filters and treatment chemicals

Ensure access to back-up power generation

Take precautions to keep ash out of water supply equipment/plant:

- close water supply intakes before turbidity levels become excessive
- consider adding coagulation/flocculation agent to reduce turbidity
- cover filter-beds and clarifiers
- protect other exposed equipment such as electrical control panels
- maintain clean site to reduce contamination.

PUBLIC HEALTH IMPACTS

Public anxiety about contamination of water supplies is common after a volcanic ashfall. Timely and transparent communication of risks to the public is advised.

The main public health issues are:

- 1) Hygiene and sanitation problems can arise if water supplies are disrupted following volcanic activity.
- 2) High levels of suspended ash (turbidity) can inhibit disinfection of drinking water, which may lead to outbreaks of infectious disease if treatment (e.g. chlorination) is not adjusted accordingly.
- 3) Elevated fluoride concentrations may be a problem following some types of volcanic eruptions.

Drinking-water Standards for New Zealand 2005 (Revised 2008), Ministry of Health

Component	Type of standard	Effects if exceeded
Fluoride	Maximum Acceptable Health Standard	1.5 mg/L. Dental and skeletal fluorosis may result from long-term exposure to elevated levels.
pH	Guideline value	7.0-8.5. Flumbeachivity is associated with low pH; this can lead to dissolution of toxic metals from metal fittings, and water may be discoloured, bitter and metallic-tasting.
Turbidity	Guideline value	2.5 NTU. To protect appearance of drinking water.

Authorities will analyse volcanic ash composition and advise on the presence of any toxic elements that may pose a health hazard.

In general ashfall is likely to make water undrinkable (metallic-tasting and discoloured) before it presents health risks.



The following resources provide further information on volcanic hazards:

- <http://www.geonet.org.nz>
- <http://www.gns.cri.nz>
- <http://volcanoes.usgs.gov/ash/index.html>
- <http://www.vibnn.org>



Drafted by Carol Stewart, Tom Wilson, & David Johnston, 27 February 2009

APPENDIX 2 USGS CO₂ GAS HAZARD POSTER

From Sorey et al. (2000): <http://wrgis.wr.usgs.gov/fact-sheet/fs172-96/fs172-96.pdf>

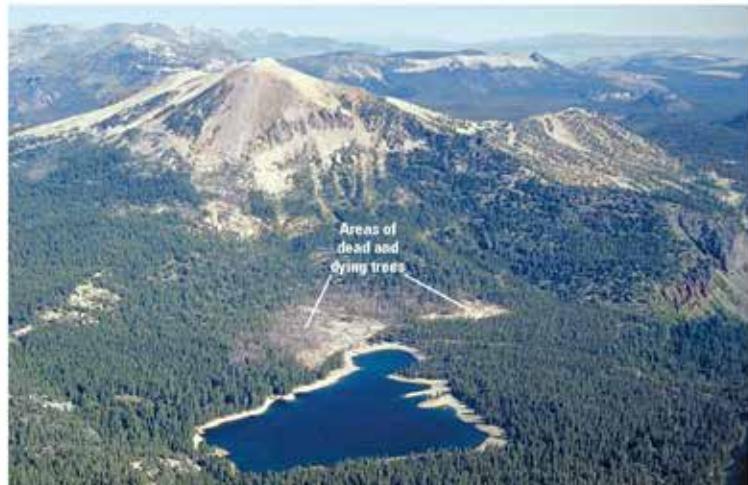


U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY—REDUCING THE RISK FROM VOLCANO HAZARDS

Invisible CO₂ Gas Killing Trees at Mammoth Mountain, California

Since 1980, scientists have monitored geologic unrest in Long Valley Caldera and at adjacent Mammoth Mountain, California. After a persistent swarm of earthquakes beneath Mammoth Mountain in 1989, geologists discovered that large volumes of carbon dioxide (CO₂) gas were seeping from beneath this volcano. This gas is killing trees on the mountain and also can be a danger to people. The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) continues to study the CO₂ emissions to help protect the public from this invisible potential hazard.

Mammoth Mountain is a young volcano on the southwest rim of Long Valley Caldera, a large volcanic depression in eastern California. The Long Valley area, well known for its superb skiing, hiking, and camping, has been volcanically active for about 4 million years. The most recent volcanic eruptions in the region occurred about 200 years ago, and earthquakes frequently shake the area. Because of this, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) operates an extensive network of instruments to monitor



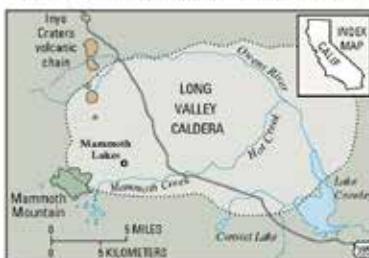
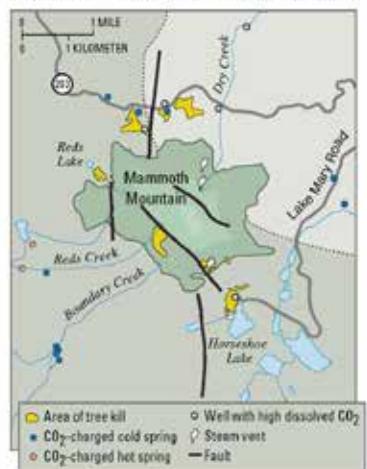
Mammoth Mountain, a young volcano in eastern California, sits on the southwest rim of Long Valley Caldera. In 1994, scientists detected high concentrations of CO₂ gas in the soil on Mammoth Mountain. This invisible gas, seeping from beneath the volcano, is killing trees on the sides of the mountain and can pose a threat to humans. Recent measurements indicate that the total rate of CO₂ gas emission at Mammoth Mountain is close to 300 tons per day. In this photo, large areas of dead and dying trees are visible near Horseshoe Lake, on the southeast flank of Mammoth Mountain. (Copyrighted photo courtesy of John D. Rogie.)

the continuing unrest in the Long Valley area.

Numerous small earthquakes occurred beneath Mammoth Mountain from May to November 1989. Data collected from monitor-

ing instruments during those months indicated that a small body of magma (molten rock) was rising through a fissure beneath the mountain. During the next year, U.S. Forest Service rangers noticed areas of dead and dying trees on the mountain. After drought and insect infestations were eliminated as causes, a geologic explanation was suspected. USGS scientists then made measurements and discovered that the roots of the trees were being killed by exceptionally high concentrations of carbon dioxide (CO₂) gas in the soil. Today, areas of dead and dying trees at Mammoth Mountain total more than 100 acres. The town of Mammoth Lakes, just east of this volcano, has not been affected.

Although leaves of plants produce oxygen (O₂) from CO₂ during photosynthesis, their roots need to absorb O₂ directly. The high CO₂ concentrations in the soil on Mammoth Mountain are killing trees by denying their roots O₂ and by interfering with nutrient uptake. In the areas of tree kill, CO₂ makes up about 20



Areas of dead and dying trees at Mammoth Mountain volcano total more than 100 acres. In 1990, the year after a persistent swarm of small earthquakes occurred beneath the volcano, U.S. Forest Service rangers first noticed areas of tree kill. When U.S. Geological Survey scientists investigated, they discovered that the trees are being killed by high concentrations of CO₂ gas in the soil. The seepage of CO₂ gas from below Mammoth Mountain and the continued occurrence of local earthquakes are signs of the ongoing geologic unrest in the area. The upper part of the 11,083-foot-high volcano (above 9,500 feet) is shown in darker shades of green.

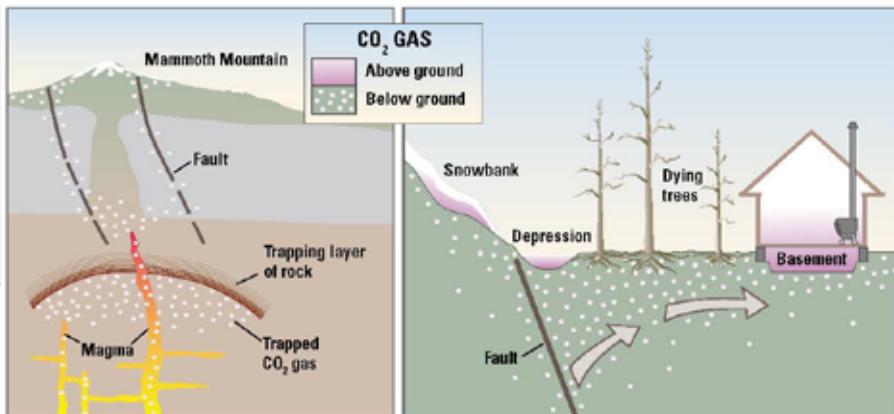
CO₂ gas seeping from the ground at Mammoth Mountain is likely derived from magma (molten rock) beneath the volcano. In 1989, rising magma may have opened cracks, allowing large amounts of trapped CO₂ gas to leak upward along faults. High concentrations of CO₂ in soil can kill the roots of trees. CO₂ gas is heavier than air, and when it leaks from the soil, it can collect in snowbanks, depressions, and poorly ventilated enclosures, such as cabins and tents, posing a potential danger to people.

to 95% of the gas content of the soil; soil gas normally contains 1% or less CO₂.

When CO₂ from soil leaves the ground, it normally mixes with the air and dissipates rapidly. CO₂ is heavier than air, however, and it can collect at high concentrations in the lower parts of depressions and enclosures, posing a potential danger to people. Breathing air with more than 30% CO₂ can very quickly cause unconsciousness and death. Therefore, poorly ventilated areas above and below ground can be dangerous in areas of CO₂ seepage. Where thick snowpacks accumulate in winter, the CO₂ can be trapped within and beneath the snow. Dangerous levels of CO₂ have been measured in pits dug in the snowpack in tree-kill areas on Mammoth Mountain, and snow-cave camping in such areas is not advised.

Geologists have detected CO₂ emissions, like those at Mammoth Mountain, on the flanks of other volcanoes, including Kilauea in Hawaii and Mount Etna in Sicily. Measuring the total rate of CO₂ gas emissions on the flanks of volcanoes or within calderas is difficult and labor intensive and is commonly done using portable infrared CO₂ detectors.

Recent measurements at Mammoth Mountain indicate that the total rate of CO₂ gas emission is close to 300 tons per day. This value varies on both short (days to



weeks) and long (months to years) time scales because of changes in atmospheric conditions and in the rate at which gas is being released from beneath the volcano.

Past eruptions at Mammoth Mountain, such as the phreatic (steam blast) eruptions that occurred about 700 years ago on the volcano's north flank, may have been accompanied by CO₂ emissions. Scientists think that the current episode of high CO₂ emissions is the first such activity on the mountain for at least 250 years because the oldest trees in the active tree-kill areas are about that age. Carbon-isotopic analyses of the annual growth rings in trees near the margins of the tree-kill areas imply that the gas-emission rate reached a peak in 1991, subsequently declined, and then has been relatively stable since about 1996.

CO₂ and other volcanic gases, like helium, seeping from Mammoth Mountain appear to be leaking from a large reservoir of gas supplied by repeated intrusions of magma. Tree-ring evidence from near springs on the mountain's flanks shows that some CO₂ gas was leaking before 1989 and dissolving in the ground-water system. It is likely that the latest intrusion of magma (in

1989) opened deep fractures, increasing the rate of gas seepage.

The continuing occurrence of small earthquakes and CO₂ seepage beneath Mammoth Mountain are only two of the many signs of volcanic unrest in the area. Earthquakes and ground uplift are also occurring within the central part of Long Valley Caldera, only a few miles east of Mammoth Mountain, and the Mono-Inyo Craters volcanic chain to the north has had small volcanic eruptions every few hundred years for the past 4,000 years.

Scientists with the USGS Volcano Hazards Program are closely monitoring CO₂ emissions and other geologic hazards at Mammoth Mountain. The work of these scientists is only part of the USGS Volcano Hazards Program's ongoing efforts to protect people's lives and property in all of the volcanic regions of the United States, including the Pacific Northwest, Alaska, Hawaii, and Arizona.

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COOPERATING ORGANIZATIONS
Mammoth Mountain Ski Area
Town of Mammoth Lakes
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service
Pennsylvania State University

For more information contact:
Earthquake Information Hotline (650) 329-4066
U.S. Geological Survey, Mail Stop 777
345 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park, CA 94025
<http://quake.wr.usgs.gov/VOLCANOES/LongValley/>
<http://volcanoes.usgs.gov/>
See also *Living With a Restless Caldera—Long Valley, California* (USGS Fact Sheet 108-96) and *Future Eruptions in California's Long Valley Area—What's Likely?* (USGS Fact Sheet 073-97)



In 1889–90, trees in this area on the south side of Mammoth Mountain volcano began dying from high concentrations of CO₂ gas in the soil. Although leaves of plants produce oxygen (O₂) from CO₂ during photosynthesis, their roots need to absorb O₂ directly. High CO₂ concentrations in the soil kill plants by denying their roots O₂ and by interfering with nutrient uptake. In the areas of tree kill at Mammoth Mountain, CO₂ makes up about 20 to 95% of the gas content of the soil. Inset shows scientists measuring soil gas in this area.

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APPENDIX 3 VOLCANIC IMPACT STUDY GROUP ANNUAL SEMINAR

CONTINGENCY PLANNING FOR A VOLCANIC ERUPTION

A self-assessment tool

Introduction

This self-assessment survey or ‘tool’ was first trialed at the 7 November 2007 VISG Annual Seminar. In addition to assisting businesses assess their level of preparedness to respond to a volcanic eruption, one of the objectives of the facilitated session was to explore the nature of specific volcanic contingency plans over and above general emergency response provisions.

Awareness of exposure to volcanic risk

Please rate your organisation’s level of awareness in relation to volcanic risk by rating the following questions from one to three, one being the lowest and three being the highest.

Risk Exposure Awareness				
	Examples	1. Not performed	2. Partially performed	3. Performed fully
Vulnerability assessment for volcanic threat undertaken	<p>Identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · the volcanic hazard zone · parts of your business that could be affected by the impact and/or ashfall · evacuation issues for HR 			
Characteristic vulnerabilities to volcanic eruption identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · operating in an ash environment · having PPE · risk of power failure · risk of restricted water supplies · risk of loss of communications · loss of transport links · disruption to supply chain · product contamination · reduction in staff due to self evacuation 			
Specific vulnerabilities to volcanic eruption identified	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · ability to corrode plant and machinery network parts · sufficient essential supplies held outside of affected area · data centre air-conditioning systems 			
Insurance requirements identified based on risk assessments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · loss of profit and built environment policies 			

Scope of current response and contingency plans

On the following pages the self-assessment sheets identify the various elements required for use in emergency response planning. They are organised under the category headings of:

- Management Systems and Organisational Roles
- Information Management
- Resource Management
- Development Training and Simulation
- Key Response Actions

Tick one box alongside each element to indicate whether your organisation's current provisions:

- (a) are not in place for general emergencies or are currently under development;
- (b) are in place for general emergencies only;
- (c) need to be adapted to cover a volcanic emergency; or
- (d) are in place to address volcanic emergencies.

Please identify and comment on the issues that your organisation and sector faces under each category heading, and possible solutions to any problems identified.

Note that the emphasis in this initial assessment is on whether or not the provisions are *in place*, rather than the *adequacy* of those provisions. It is intended that future iterations of this assessment would pick up on this latter aspect, and in the process of doing so would provide an ongoing benchmarking facility.

Other information of relevance which should be included in a plan

There are other items that should be included in response and contingency plans that are not specifically addressed in these assessment sheets. These include:

- Network maps
- Vulnerability assessments
- Mechanisms for evaluation and review of response/ contingency plans following events and exercises

	(a) Provisions not in place or under development	(b) Current provisions in place for a general emergency only	(c) Provisions need to be adapted to cover a volcanic emergency	(d) Specific volcanic provisions in place	(e) Not applicable
1. Management Systems and Organisational Roles					
The command and control structure is defined	q	q	q	q	q
	<p><i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incident Manager role filled • Media spokesperson 				
The roles and responsibilities of the various organisational units and between organisations is outlined	q	q	q	q	q
	<p><i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roles/responsibilities are often unclear which leads to duplication or gaps • Mature organizations should look for these grey spots and clarify. This can often occur in organizations that have multiple contact points with customers, how do you ensure consistent and timely messaging? • Ash removal and disposal – your role or contractors role? – would contractor do it for you? 				
Internal communication processes are defined	q	q	q	q	q
	<p><i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have alternative communication methods when systems aren't operational or staff are at home • Can be difficult when there are multiple offices 				
Decision making processes at organisation and inter-organisation levels are outlined	q	q	q	q	q
	<p><i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have people with delegated authority outside of Taranaki • Have people with 'emergency' delegated authority to ensure that operations can continue 				
The location of the emergency co-ordination centre(s) is defined and appropriate	q	q	q	q	q
	<p><i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a site which has the appropriate resources e.g. systems, emergency kits (food etc) • Have a site that is not in a Taranaki risk zone 				
The operational interface with CDEM is defined and understood	q	q	q	q	q
	<p><i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact details are up to date • Identify reliable sources of information that can inform decision making. • Processes and capacity to deal with surge in information and activity – where can you bring them in from? • Have an alternative coordination point that is not in a Taranaki risk zone? 				
IT system locations are appropriate, and able to be managed remotely	q	q	q	q	q
	<p><i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building could be unharmed as most designed to high standards, however you may not be able to access it either due to evacuation or ash issues • Is the equipment protected against damage (shaking, ash etc) 				

	<i>(a) Provisions not in place or under development</i>	<i>(b) Current provisions in place for a general emergency only</i>	<i>(c) Provisions need to be adapted to cover a volcanic emergency</i>	<i>(d) Specific volcanic provisions in place</i>	<i>(e) Not applicable</i>
Network management locations are appropriate and able to be managed remotely	q	q	q	q	q
	<p><i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building could be unharmed as most designed to high standards, however you may not be able to access it either due to evacuation or ash issues 				
Security arrangements cover emergency situations	q	q	q	q	q
	<p><i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most provided by contractors, would they be able to continue service? 				
Contractor's know and have the ability to carry out their operational responsibilities during an emergency	q	q	q	q	q
	<p><i>For example:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They are embedded in the organizations Business Continuity Management (BCM) programme • Have a robust BCM programme of their own 				
<p><i>What are the issues that need to be addressed with respect to management systems and organisational roles?</i></p>					

	(a) Provisions not in place or under development	(b) Current provisions in place for a general emergency only	(c) Provisions need to be adapted to cover a volcanic emergency	(d) Specific volcanic provisions in place	(e) Not applicable
2. Information Management					
Warnings and relevant agencies & community implications are outlined	q	q	q	q	q
	<p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Belong to, and understand the local warning systems. • Subscribe to and understand the GNS Scientific Alert Levels and what they mean to you, your staff and your organization 				
Situational assessment procedures are defined	q	q	q	q	q
Information receiving, collation and distributing information is outlined	q	q	q	q	q
	<p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volume of information is hard to manage in events • Level of trained staff required to manage information for large scale events, in primary command centre and outside Taranaki? 				
Procedures for providing public information is defined	q	q	q	q	q
	<p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Media training for senior management • Identify spokesperson • Do staff know what they are and aren't allowed to say? 				
Internal and external reporting procedures are outlined	q	q	q	q	q
	<p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Everyone wants information (Media, CDEM, Board, staff, customers), how do you get it to them effectively and in a timely manner? • Do you have capacity for this large demand 				
<p><i>What are the issues that need to be addressed with respect to information management?</i></p>					

	(a) Provisions not in place or under development	(b) Current provisions in place for a general emergency only	(c) Provisions need to be adapted to cover a volcanic emergency	(d) Specific volcanic provisions in place	(e) Not applicable
3. Resource Management					
Human resource analysis & co-ordination is defined	q	q	q	q	q
	<p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Organisation is not fully dependent on Taranaki based staff to provide service · Key person dependencies identified and mitigated 				
Administration procedures are outlined	q	q	q	q	q
Financial procedures are outlined	q	q	q	q	q
	<p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Financial delegations are also held outside of Taranaki 				
Sources of external assistance is considered	q	q	q	q	q
	<p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Key contractor/supplier offices outside of the affected areas · CDEM 				
Evacuation and shelter procedures for staff	q	q	q	q	q
	<p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Do you have shelter procedures for staff and customers 				
Interdependencies with suppliers/contractors understood and managed	q	q	q	q	q
	<p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Are suppliers or there critical stocks in impact zone? · Will they still be able to deliver? I.e. will they have had to evacuate? · Do you have contractual obligations to ensure supply and what are the out clauses? · Do they have a contingency plan and does it include getting key assets out of the area? E.g. Generator's · Can they meet your needs from other locations? 				
Resources for emergency repair are held in appropriate locations and amounts	q	q	q	q	q
	<p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Have you thought through the repair process and the effect of ashfall on all equipment/people required to do it i.e. car air and oil filters (engineers recommend changing 4 hourly to protect against engine failure) · Do you have spares in required capacities or an action to increase stocks when a threat is imminent? 				
Resources for emergency response are held in appropriate locations and amounts	q	q	q	q	q
	<p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Do you have or know where to get specific ash removal and disposal equipment? 				
Health and medical (incl. Hazmat considerations)	q	q	q	q	q
	<p>For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Masks, goggles and gloves – N95 mask required, same as bird flu. As eruptions can last for months to years need to think through carefully stock levels required as some require changing every 3 – 38 hours depending on model. Supply issues are likely to occur with heavy demand therefore need to be prepared. · H&S act still applies - do you know how to evaluate whether a site is safe for staff to enter? · Do you have a volcanic Health & Safety risk assessment? · Do your managers know how to recognize signs of volcanic related health effects? 				
<p>What are the issues that need to be addressed with respect to resource management?</p>					

	(a) Provisions not in place or under development	(b) Current provisions in place for a general emergency only	(c) Provisions need to be adapted to cover a volcanic emergency	(d) Specific volcanic provisions in place	(e) Not applicable
--	--	--	---	---	--------------------

4. Development Training and Simulation

Provisions for training (operational, tactical and strategic response)	q	q	q	q	q
<i>For example:</i>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alternate management centre staff fully trained • Do staff know how to evaluate Health & Safety of site? • Do staff know how to remove and dispose of ash 					
Provisions for undertaking simulations/ exercises	q	q	q	q	q
<i>For example:</i>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Includes natural hazard type events 					
Provisions for undertaking a training needs analysis	q	q	q	q	q
<i>For example:</i>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does this include volcanic specific skills 					

*What are the issues that need to be addressed with respect to **training and simulation**?*

Activation and mobilisation procedures are specified, communicated and redundant	q	q	q	q	q
<i>For example:</i>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activation procedures can be performed outside of Taranaki Hazard area? 					
Key response actions are outlined	q	q	q	q	q
<i>For example:</i>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During warning stages as well as when it is imminent e.g have outlined what the organization would do if told there was going to be a volcanic eruption in say one to three months time. Have thought through process of whether company would invest in moving/protecting any critical at risk infrastructure? • Procedures for protecting your equipment are known and documented where possible 					
Response priorities are defined and in line with CDEM	q	q	q	q	q

*What are the issues that need to be addressed with respect to **key response actions**?*

APPENDIX 4 WORKING FROM THE SAME PAGE: CONSISTENT MESSAGES FOR CDEM



Working from the same page consistent messages for CDEM

PART B: Hazard-specific information



Ruapehu erupting in 1995. Photo: GNS

Volcanoes

- ▶ Learn about your community's risk from hazards created by volcanic eruptions.
- ▶ While you may be located far from a volcano, the ash from an explosive eruption could affect your area.
- ▶ Contact your local council or visit GNS Science's website www.gns.cri.nz to find out about the type of volcanic hazards that could affect your area and what you can do to prepare.

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CORE ACTION MESSAGES IN THIS CHAPTER (pp6–12)

- Determine your risk.
- Get your household ready.
- Keep goggles and dust masks handy.
- Evacuate or take shelter.
- Stay inside.
- Protect your lungs and eyes.

For general readiness, every household should create and practice a Household Emergency Plan and assemble and maintain Emergency Survival Items and a Getaway Kit. In addition, every household should take precautions and plan for and practice what to do if a volcanic eruption occurs.

Please note: Core Action Messages should be read in conjunction with the rest of the text in this chapter.

Awareness messages

What are volcanoes and what causes them?

A volcano is a landform that results from magma (molten rock within the earth) erupting at the surface. The size and shape of a volcano reflect how often it erupts, the size and type of eruptions, and the composition of the magma it produces. When pressure from gases within the molten rock becomes too great, gases drive the molten rock to the surface and an eruption occurs.

Why talk about volcanoes?

Volcanoes produce a wide variety of hazards that can kill people and destroy property. Volcanic eruptions fall into two broad types: explosive and quiet. Hazards from large explosive eruptions include widespread ashfall (sand and dust-sized pieces of fractured rock and glass), pyroclastic flows (very fast flowing mixtures of hot gases and volcanic rock) and massive lahars (volcanic mud flows - fast flowing mixtures of muddy water and volcanic rock) that can endanger people and property nearby as well as tens to hundreds of kilometres away. Eruptions can even affect the global climate. Hazards from quiet lava flows include fires, building and other structural collapse, and acidic gas clouds.

New Zealand has a high density of active volcanoes and a high frequency of eruptions. There are three major types of volcanoes in New Zealand:

Volcanic fields such as the Auckland Volcanic Field, which form when small eruptions occur over a wide area and are spaced over long time intervals. Each eruption builds a single small volcano, which usually does not erupt again. Thus, each succeeding eruption in the field occurs in a different place. This site cannot be predicted until the eruption is imminent.

Cone volcanoes such as Mt Ruapehu and Mt Taranaki, which are characterised by a series of small to large eruptions from roughly the same point on the earth's surface. The products of successive eruptions accumulate close to the vents to form a large cone, which is the volcano itself. Over a long period of time, several cones may form which overlap and build up. The cone shape can be modified by partial collapse due to oversteepening (Mt Taranaki is a good example) or by collapse of the summit area to form a caldera. Because the magma tends to follow the same route to the surface each time, sites of future eruptions can largely be predicted.

Caldera volcanoes such as Mayor Island, Okataina and Taupo, which have a history of infrequent moderate to very large eruptions. Eruptions at these volcanoes are occasionally so large that the ground surface collapses into the hole left behind by the emptying of the underground magma chamber. Lake Taupo occupies a caldera basin. The eruption of Taupo volcano around 1800 years ago was the biggest on Earth in the past 5000 years.

Awareness messages

What damage can volcanoes cause?

Typically, a number of different types of hazards will result from a single volcanic eruption. These hazards can be divided into two categories:

Near-vent destructive hazards:

- pyroclastic falls (ashfall),
- pyroclastic flows
- lava flows
- lahars (volcanic mudflows) and flooding
- debris avalanches (volcanic landslides)
- volcanic gases.

And distant hazards (which may be damaging and/or disruptive):

- pyroclastic falls (ashfall),
- lahars

Volcanic eruptions can also cause other natural hazards, including earthquakes, wildfires, and (given certain conditions) tsunamis.

How can I protect myself from volcanic hazards?

You need to know the hazards associated with active and potentially active volcanoes where you live and visit. You must determine the varying degrees of your own risk and take actions to stay safe and protect your property.

Learning your community's warning system, developing and practicing a household evacuation plan and being prepared to shelter-in-place should be important parts of your plan.

What is the best source of information in case of a volcanic alert?

In New Zealand a system of volcanic alert levels is used to define the current status of each volcano. The alert levels range from 0 to 5. There are two tables, one for the frequently active volcanoes like Ruapehu and White Island, and one that deals with the reawakening of dormant volcanoes like Mayor Island, Tarawera or Taupo. The alert levels are used by the public and responding agencies to set their response. GNS Science is responsible for setting volcanic alert levels.

When there is a change in volcanic activity, such as observation of geophysical signals which indicate a volcano may erupt, GNS Science will issue a 'Scientific Alert Bulletin' and may change the volcanic alert level. The bulletins are released to the media, civil defence emergency management organisations, and posted on the GeoNet website available for public viewing (www.geonet.org.nz). If an eruption has occurred, the GeoNet website will also contain information on the likely dispersal of ashfall. In a volcanic emergency information will be broadcasted on radio and other media.

Awareness messages

Frequently active cone volcanoes White Island, Tongariro-Ngauruhoe, Ruapehu, Kermadecs		VOLCANIC ALERT LEVEL	Reawakening volcanoes Northland, Auckland, Mayor Island, Rotorua, Okataina, Taupo, Egmont/Taranaki	
Volcano status	Indicative phenomena		Indicative phenomena	Volcano status
Usual dormant, or quiescent state	Typical background surface activity, seismicity, deformation and heat flow at low levels.		Typical background surface activity; deformation, seismicity, and heat flow at low levels.	Usual dormant, or quiescent state.
Signs of volcano unrest	Departure from typical background surface activity.		Apparent seismic, geodetic, thermal or other unrest indicators.	Initial signs of possible volcano unrest. No eruption threat.
Minor eruptive activity	Onset of eruptive activity, accompanied by changes to monitored indicators.		Increase in number or intensity of unrest indicators (seismicity, deformation, heat flow and so on).	Confirmation of volcano unrest. Eruption threat.
Significant local eruption in progress	Increased vigour of ongoing activity and monitored indicators. Significant effects on volcano, possible effects beyond.		Minor steam eruptions. High increasing trends of unrest indicators, significant effects on volcano, possible beyond.	Minor eruptions commenced. Real possibility of hazardous eruptions.
Hazardous local eruption in progress	Significant change to ongoing activity and monitoring indicators. Effects beyond volcano.		Eruption of new magma. Sustained high levels of unrest indicators, significant effects beyond volcano.	Hazardous local eruption in progress. Large-scale eruption now possible.
Large hazardous eruption in progress	Destruction with major damage beyond active volcano. Significant risk over wider areas.		Destruction with major damage beyond active volcano. Significant risk over wider areas.	Large hazardous volcanic eruption in progress.

Fig. 1 Different levels of volcanic activity (GNS Science)

Action messages

**Be prepared for a
volcanic eruption:
protect yourself**

CORE ACTION MESSAGES

- ▶ Determine your risk.
- ▶ Get your household ready.
- ▶ Keep goggles and dust masks handy.

For general readiness, every household should create and practice a Household Emergency Plan and assemble and maintain Emergency Survival Items and a Getaway Kit. In addition, every household should take precautions and plan for and practice what to do if a volcanic eruption occurs.

If you are at risk from volcanic activity, you should:

1. Learn about your community's warning systems and emergency plans. Different communities have different ways of providing warnings and different response plans.
2. Discuss volcanoes with members of your household ahead of time to reduce fear and to build a common understanding of how to respond.
3. Develop an evacuation plan for volcanic eruptions and make sure all members of your household know and practice it. Making plans at the last minute can be upsetting and wastes precious time.
4. Be sure to include your animals in your evacuation plan.
5. Have Emergency Survival Items on hand (see Emergency Survival Items and Getaway Kit section). In addition to these, essential items to stock before an ashfall include:
 - Dust masks and eye protection (see IVHHN Recommended Masks document at www.ivhhn.org).
 - Plastic wrap (to keep ash out of electronics).
 - Cleaning supplies such as a broom, vacuum cleaner with spare bags and filters, and a shovel.
 - Consider that you could be stuck in your vehicle, so store emergency supplies in your vehicle too.

Actions to be taken in readiness:

6. Close doors and windows.
7. Place damp towels at door thresholds and other sources of draughts. Tape draughty windows.
8. Protect sensitive electronics and do not uncover until the environment is totally ash-free.
9. Disconnect drainpipes/downspouts from gutters to stop drains clogging, and to allow ash and water to empty from gutters onto the ground.

Action messages

10. If you use a rainwater collection system for your water supply, disconnect the tank prior to ash falling.
11. Put all machinery inside a garage or barn to protect it from volcanic ash. If buildings are not available, cover machinery with large tarps.
12. Bring animals and livestock into closed shelters to protect them from breathing volcanic ash, particularly sheep as their fleece can become contaminated with ash and weigh them down, increasing their stress. Cover stock feed to avoid consumption of ash. This can cause blockages in their gut.
13. Evacuate livestock early to paddocks that are elevated and up wind from the volcano. Ensure they have clean food and water.
14. If you have children, know your school's emergency plan and have indoor games and activities ready.

What to do during a volcanic eruption

CORE ACTION MESSAGES

- Evacuate or take shelter.

During an eruption:

15. Don't panic – stay calm.
16. Stay indoors.
17. If you are caught in an ashfall:
 - Wear a dust mask designed to protect against lung irritation from small particles. If masks are unavailable use a handkerchief or cloth over your nose and mouth
 - Protect your eyes by wearing goggles. Wear eyeglasses, not contact lenses as these will result in corneal abrasion.
 - Keep as much of your skin covered as possible.
 - If you have chronic bronchitis, emphysema or asthma, stay inside and avoid unnecessary exposure to the ash.
 - If outside, seek shelter (e.g. in a car or building).
18. Listen to a local radio station on a portable, battery-operated radio for updated emergency information and instructions. If the electricity is out, this may be your main source of information. Local officials will provide the most appropriate advice for your particular situation using local media outlets.
19. Follow any evacuation orders issued by authorities, and put your Household Emergency Plan into action. Although it may seem safe to stay at home and wait out an eruption, if you are in a hazard zone, doing so could be very dangerous. The best way to stay safe is to take the advice of local authorities.
20. If warning is given before ashfall starts, go home from work.

Action messages

What to do during a volcanic eruption (continued)

21. If at work when ashfall starts, stay indoors until the ash has settled.
22. Do not tie up phone lines with non-emergency calls.
23. If there is ash in your water, let it settle and then use the clear water. If there is a lot of ash in the water supply, do not use your dishwasher or washing machine.
24. Water contaminated by ash will usually make drinking water unpalatable before it presents a health risk.
25. If indoors, close all window, doors, and dampers to limit the entry of volcanic ash.
26. Stay out of designated restricted zones. Effects of a volcanic eruption can be experienced many miles from a volcano.
27. Avoid low-lying areas, areas downwind of the volcano, and river valleys downstream of the volcano. Debris and ash will be carried by wind and gravity. Stay in areas where you will not be further exposed to volcanic eruption hazards. Trying to watch an erupting volcano up close is a deadly idea.

What to do after a volcanic eruption

CORE ACTION MESSAGES

- Stay inside.
- Protect your lungs and eyes.

You should:

28. Stay indoors and away from volcanic ashfall areas if possible. The fine, glassy pieces of volcanic ash can increase the health risks for children and people with respiratory conditions, such as asthma, chronic bronchitis, or emphysema.
29. Follow the same precautions as given for "What to Do During a Volcanic Eruption" (previous section).
30. When it is safe to go outside:
 - Clear roofs of ashfall. Ash is very heavy and can cause buildings to collapse, especially if made wet by rain. Exercise great caution when working on a roof.
 - Avoid driving in heavy ashfall. Driving will stir up volcanic ash that can clog engines and stall vehicles. Abrasion can damage moving parts, including bearings, brakes, and transmissions.
31. Keep animals indoors where possible. Wash animals' paws and fur or skin to prevent their ingesting or inhaling ash while grooming themselves, and provide clean drinking water.
32. You may eat vegetables from the garden, but wash them first.

Action messages

Why should we clean up the ash?

Volcanic ash is a great nuisance and gets everywhere in the house and office, including inside televisions, computers, cameras and other valuable equipment where it can cause irreparable damage. Ash is different from ordinary house dust. It's sharp, and angular structure causes it to scratch and abrade surfaces when it is removed by wiping or brushing. In wet weather the ash deposits are dampened down and the air can be clear, but in drier weather ash can easily be stirred up and remobilised by wind and traffic. As a result, suspended dust levels become much higher and can reach levels potentially harmful to health. Rainfall and wind are effective in removing the ash and grass and other plants will eventually bind it to the soil. However, with large ashfalls this process is very slow and the ash must be cleaned up and taken away from populated areas. In addition, wind may also bring ash into areas which were previously clean so ash may be present in the environment for months or even years following an eruption.

What precautions should be taken before cleaning up ash?

Those undertaking clean up operations should always wear effective dust masks (see IVHHN Recommended Masks document at www.ivhhn.org). In fine-ash environments, wear goggles or corrective eyeglasses instead of contact lenses to protect eyes from irritation. Lightly water down the ash deposits before they are removed by shovelling, being careful not to excessively wet the deposits on roofs, causing excess loading and danger of collapse. Dry brushing can produce very high exposure levels and should be avoided. Use extra precaution on ladders and roofs, and use a harness if possible. The ash makes surfaces much more slippery, consequently many people have died from falls while cleaning ash from their roofs. Be aware of the extra load caused by standing on an already overloaded roof - tread carefully. It is preferable to clean roofs before more than a few centimetres of ash have accumulated.

Cleaning up: Outside

Keep ash out of buildings, machinery, vehicles, downspouts, water supplies, and wastewater systems (for example, storm drains) as much as possible. The most effective method to prevent ash-induced damage to machinery is to shut down, close off or seal equipment until ash is removed from the immediate environment, though this may not be practical in all cases. Coordinate clean-up activities with your neighbours and community-wide operations. After an ashfall, remove ash from roofs prior to street cleaning if possible, in order to avoid having to clear streets numerous times.

DO:

33. Put on a recommended mask before starting to clean. If you don't have one, use a wet cloth. In dry conditions, wear eye protection (such as goggles) during clean-up.
34. Moisten the ash with a sprinkler first. This will help to stop the wind remobilizing it.
35. Use shovels for removing the bulk of thick deposits of ash (over 1 cm or so). Stiff brooms will be required to remove lesser amounts.

Action messages

- Cleaning up:
Outside (continued)**
36. Place the ash into heavy duty plastic bags, or onto trucks if available.
 37. Since most roofs cannot support more than four inches (10 cm) of wet ash, keep roofs free of thick accumulation.
 38. Volcanic ash is slippery. Use caution when climbing on ladders and roofs.
 39. Guttering systems clog very easily so sweep away from the gutters, especially those fitted under roofs. Cut grass and hedges only after rain or light sprinkling, and bag clippings.
 40. Seek advice from public officials regarding disposal of volcanic ash in your community. In most cases, ash should be separated from normal rubbish for collection for disposal at a designated location – mixing ash with normal rubbish can result in damage to collection vehicles and take up space in landfills.
 41. Dampen ash in yards and streets to reduce suspension of ash, however try to use water sparingly – do not soak the ash. Widespread use of water for clean-up may deplete public water supplies. Follow requests from public officials regarding water use during clean-up operations.
 42. Remove outdoor clothing before entering a building.

DON'T:

43. Do not soak the ash as it will cake into a hard mass, making clean-up more difficult. On roofs the added weight of the water will increase the risk of roof collapse.
44. Do not dump the ash in gardens or on the roadside.
45. Do not wash the ash into the guttering, sewers, effluent ponds or storm drains. It can damage waste water treatment systems and clog pipes.
46. Do not drive unless absolutely necessary – driving stirs up the ash. Furthermore, ash is harmful to vehicles.

Cleaning up: Inside

In general, surfaces should be vacuumed to remove as much ash as possible from carpets, furniture, office equipment, appliances, and other items. Portable vacuum systems equipped with high-efficiency particulate filtering systems are recommended whenever possible. The severity of ash intrusion depends on the integrity of windows and entrances, the air intake features, and the care exercised to control the transport of ash into a building or home via shoes and clothing. Care should also be taken to avoid further contamination during the emptying, cleaning, and maintenance of vacuum equipment. In hot climates, where there may be permanent openings in buildings, houses may need to be cleaned several times per day. Inside cleaning should only be undertaken after the outside areas have been well cleared.

DO:

47. Clean your house when public-works crews are cleaning the areas outside your house as a co-ordinated approach.

Action messages

Cleaning up: Inside (continued)

48. Put on your mask before starting to clean. If you don't have one, use a wet cloth.
49. Ensure good ventilation by opening all doors and windows before you start to clean.
50. Only use one entrance to the building while cleaning to ensure occupants do not bring ash into clean areas.
51. Use a dustless method of cleaning such as washing with water and an effective detergent/wetting agent. Damp rag techniques or vacuuming should be used whenever possible. After vacuuming, carpets and upholstery may be cleaned with a detergent shampoo. Avoid excess rubbing action because the sharp ash particles may cut textile fibres.
52. Glass, porcelain enamel and acrylic surfaces may be scratched if wiped too vigorously. Use a detergent-soaked cloth or sponge, and dab rather than wipe.
53. High-shine wood finishes will be dulled by the fine grit. Vacuum surfaces and then blot with a wet cloth. A tack cloth used by furniture refinishers should also work well.
54. Ash-coated fabrics should either be rinsed under running water and then washed carefully, or they can be taken outside and beaten to remove the ash.
55. Moisten thick ash deposits on hard floors and place in bags (avoid sweeping dry ash).
56. Use a damp mop or wet cloth to clean hard floors.
57. Clean your computer, TV and radio equipment using a vacuum cleaner. Switch off the main power supply to the machine before carrying out this operation.
58. For several months after an ashfall, filters may need replacing often. Air conditioner and furnace filters need careful attention. Clean refrigerator air intakes. Clean any surface that may blow air and recirculate the ash. Stove fans and vents should be cleaned thoroughly.
59. Keep children indoors and discourage play in dusty settings.
60. Keep pets indoors. If pets go out, brush them before letting them indoors.

DON'T:

61. Do not use floor sweepers with side brushes to clear aisles and floors because they may reintroduce dust particles into the air.
62. Do not clean by blowing with compressed air or dry sweeping as ash will be remobilised into the air.
63. Do not use fans or electric clothes dryers which might remobilise ash.

Action messages

**Clean up and maintenance:
Vehicles**

64. If possible, avoid driving until streets are totally cleaned. Ash is harmful to vehicles, the roads may be slippery and driving suspends ash into the air which causes low visibility and may be harmful or irritating to others.
65. If driving is crucial, drive slowly, use headlights and ample windscreen fluid. Using wipers on dry ash may scratch the windscreen. In heavier ashfall, driving should only be undertaken in an emergency. Use water bottles and a cloth to clean the windscreen as required. This may be every few tens of metres.
66. Change oil, oil filters and air filters frequently (every 80-160 kilometres in heavy dust; every 800-1600 kilometres in light dust.)
67. Cleaning your car - clean ash from inside your engine, boot/trunk and spare tyre storage area as well as the seating area. Brushing ash off the car can cause scratching.
68. Have a service garage clean wheel brake assemblies every 80-160 kms for very severe road conditions, or every 320-800 kms for heavy dust conditions. The brake assemblies should be cleaned with compressed air (800-1600 kms) after ashfall.
69. Have a service garage clean alternators with compressed air after heavy accumulation, every 750 to 1500 kms, or after severe dust exposure.
70. Clean the vehicle, including the engine, radiator, and other essential parts daily, if necessary, using water to flush the ash.
71. Wash the engine compartment with a garden hose or steam cleaner. Be sure to seal off air intakes and electrical components before cleaning.

Further information

For further information on the health effects of volcanic emissions, visit the International Volcanic Health Hazard Network (IVHHN) website (www.ivhhn.org). Many resources, such as a guide to recommended dust masks, are available on the website.

Insurance

If your property sustains any damage:

72. Residential property damage caused by volcanic activity is covered by Earthquake Commission (EQC) insurance **providing** you already have house and/or contents insurance. If your property has been damaged, lodge a claim by calling 0800 326 243 or visit www.eqc.govt.nz.
73. If the value of damage to your property exceeds the limit of EQC cover, ring your insurer as soon as possible. In almost all cases the insurance company will send an insurance assessor to look at your property. They will confirm what repairs and replacements are needed and covered by your policy.
74. Photograph or video record your damaged property.
75. List the damage to your property and belongings.

Action messages

Insurance (continued)

76. If your insurance policy covers you for loss of perishable goods, make a list of all the foods you throw away. Include anything in your fridge or freezer ruined by loss of power.

Ask the insurance company:

77. How long it will be before the assessor visits.
78. If they will provide you with temporary accommodation. This could be a nearby motel, bed and breakfast, a static caravan or a rented house.

Things to help with your insurance claim:

79. Confirm the insurance company will pay for any service or equipment you need.
80. Make a note of all telephone calls. Record the date, name and what was agreed.
81. Keep copies of all letters, emails and faxes you send and receive.
82. Keep receipts.
83. Don't throw anything away until told (except ruined food).
84. Depending on your policy, the insurance company may only offer to clean and repair something, not replace it.
85. If you rent your property, contact your landlord and your contents insurance company as soon as possible.
86. If you do not have insurance, your local council should be able to provide information on hardship grants or charities that may be able to help you.

Volcano general information

Media and community education ideas	<p>Ask your local newspaper or radio or television station to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 87. Do a series on volcanic hazards. 88. Highlight the importance of staying informed about local conditions. 89. Run public information advertisements about how to protect lives in the event of a volcanic eruption. 90. Feature an interview with a local volcanologist, talking about how volcanoes are studied and monitored. 91. Work with local civil defence emergency management officials to prepare and disseminate guidelines for people with mobility impairments about what to do if they have to evacuate.
Fiction and fact	<p>Fiction: Volcanoes erupt with regularity. Facts: Volcanoes generally experience a period of closely spaced eruptions followed by long periods of quiet. Most volcanoes show no regularity and thus on the basis of past history alone cannot be considered 'overdue' for an eruption.</p> <p>Fiction: Volcanoes are unpredictable, erupting at any time without warning. Facts: Volcanoes usually give warning signs that they are going to erupt weeks to months or more in advance. Although we cannot predict when a volcano will start to be restless, once activity begins, scientists can make general forecasts about how soon an eruption will occur. More difficult challenges for volcanologists are forecasting the size of an impending eruption, and determining when activity will stop.</p> <p>Fiction: Earthquakes cause volcanic eruptions. Fact: Earthquakes indicate a geologically active landscape, but they are not the cause of volcanic eruptions. In rare cases, large tectonic earthquakes have triggered eruptions of nearby volcanoes that have been poised to erupt anyway.</p>
Useful links	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • www.gns.cri.nz • www.teara.govt.nz/EarthSeaAndSky/NaturalHazardsAndDisasters/Volcanoes/en • www.rural-support.org.nz/ • www.maf.govt.nz/mafnet/rural-nz/adverse-events/volcanoes/index.htm • www.maf.govt.nz/mafnet/rural-nz/adverse-events/

Volcano general information

Useful numbers

Your important emergency household plan telephone numbers. Fill this out and keep this leaflet with your emergency items.

Contact	Details
Local authority emergency helpline	
Insurance company 24-hour	
Insurance number and policy number	
Local radio station (Frequency)	
School	
Family and neighbours	
Bank phone number and details	
Work phone numbers	
Medical Center/GP	
Local police station	
Vet/kennel/cattery/livestock transporter	
Local hotel or B&B	
Gas supplier and meter number	
Electricity supplier and meter number	
Water supplier and meter number	
Electrician	
Plumber	
Builder	

APPENDIX 5 EXERT FROM COMMUNITY BEHAVIOUR-BASED COMMUNICATION FRAMEWORK: REAWAKENING VOLCANOES (2008) P: 4-7

Information Management in a Crisis

Introduction	During a volcanic crisis demand for information is intense and this demand will place a strain on all responding agencies.
Preparation of Information resources	Experience during the 1995-1996 Ruapehu eruption and overseas eruptions and unrest periods, has shown that a crisis period is not the best time to prepare the content of public information material. However, public information prepared in advance can be published during the crisis (if required) and disseminated rapidly.
Correcting incorrect Information	During a crisis systems often break down, data are misinterpreted and conditions rapidly change rendering previously released information 'out-of-date'. Incorrect or misleading information should be corrected by follow-up information, accompanied by explanations as to the origins of apparently 'unreliable' information.
Care with forecasting and predictions	When the current information is full of uncertainty (a common situation prior to and during an eruption) it is important to avoid making or disseminating unrealistic forecasts. This will lessen concerns about the "cry wolf syndrome" which is common among many public officials.
Rumour control	Rumour control is a critical function for agencies responsible for giving out public information and these agencies should be proactive in identifying and correcting incorrect or misleading information. However, some caution is needed because immediate and harsh official denouncement of popular views may be counterproductive and treated with suspicion as the public often prefer to hear a range of opinions before drawing their own conclusions on a subject.
Coordinated and consistent messaging	The failure to have coordinated and consistent messaging, and to provide a prompt response to public and media concerns in a understandable and prompt manner can contribute to the public undertaking unwarranted actions and can escalate economic and psychological impacts. 'Official' sources such as government departments and emergency services should make a particular effort to ensure messages are consistent.
Working with the media	There is intense media interest at the onset of a volcanic crisis. It is important that responding agencies put information into the news instead of waiting for the media to discover their own "news" (i.e. the need for a media response plan or plan component). Since news media are not a passive channel to the public, attempts should be made to meet the needs of the media. This can often be helped by establishing long-standing links during non-crisis times.

Warning Messages

Introduction	Research into the effectiveness of warning messages has been undertaken for several decades. Through this sustained social science research effort much is known about what makes warnings effective.
Public response to warnings	<p>Public response to volcano warnings is most dependent upon the information provided by authorities during the event. The response to warnings by individuals has been found to relate to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • individual risk perception (understanding, belief and personalisation); • the nature of the warning information (specificity, consistency, certainty, accuracy, clarity, media, frequency etc); and • the personal characteristics of the recipient (demographics, knowledge, experience of the hazard, social network and so on).
Uncertainty	Unfortunately one or more of the important attributes required of warning messages (specificity, consistency, certainty, accuracy, clarity) is usually deficient or missing during a volcanic crisis. Responding authorities must recognise this.

Constructing a warning message

Five topics are important when constructing a warning message:

Topic	Function
hazard or risk	the warning message must contain information about the impending hazard with sufficient simple detail that the public can understand the characteristics of the hazard that they need to protect themselves from
guidance	the message should include guidance about what they should do to maximize their safety
location	the warning message must describe the exact location that is at risk
time	the message should address the timeframes required for response
source	who is issuing the warning, by what authority

Credible sources	Warnings are more likely to be believed if they come from 'credible' sources. The public's perception of credibility of information sources is a subjective judgment and has been shown to be related to notions of expertise and trustworthiness. Credibility can be judged on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the "credentials" of the person or agency issuing the warning; • the relationship of the organisations to other "credible" organisations; and • the past history of job performance.
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Enhancing credibility	Trust and credibility are valuable assets - difficult to obtain and once lost, almost impossible to regain. Prior to a volcanic crisis, agencies which may have to issue warnings or at least have a role in their dissemination can take a pro-active step towards enhancing their credibility. Agencies working in a coordinated and collaborative way with other agencies can improve their own credibility. Having a senior or publicly recognised person issuing or associated with the issuing of a warning notice and issuing warnings in association with other 'lead' agencies will enhance credibility.
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Community Response

Introduction The recipients of warnings may be from a number of user groups and have a range of needs, roles and responsibilities and thus respond in different ways.

Factors affecting response Human response to warnings has been found to relate to factors such as:

- age
- ethnicity
- gender
- social status
- previous experience of hazards and/or past warnings
- proximity to the hazard
- physical cues in the environment, and
- responses of others receiving the same warning.

Types of reaction / response A range of responses to warnings and public information should be anticipated and accommodated in planning for a volcanic crisis. During any crisis with uncertain outcomes, people will be anxious and need reassurance. Information searching is a common response as people seek to find out what is or will be happening.

Anxiety Anxiety is a common response to hazard information and can either enhance or inhibit motivation to prepare or respond (positive or negative anxiety). Positive anxiety can motivate people to take steps to prepare. Negative anxiety (fatalistic and/or extreme fear) leads to inaction and reduces the likelihood that people will even listen to risk messages. The presentation of general information is unlikely to be effective under this condition. Negative anxiety can be turned to positive with specific actions and focused engagement.

Belief in positive outcomes Even if people are motivated they will not prepare or respond if they perceive certain consequences as insurmountable (low outcome expectancy). This sense of fatalism can be sustained by media coverage that emphasises devastation. The use of distressing images in communication messages can reinforce people's belief that disasters are too catastrophic for personal action to be effective. Positive messages are needed to counter these images and encourage perception about the possibility of a positive outcome.

Community Response (Contd.)

Trust Trust is an important part of risk communication and will significantly influence the way the public responds to information and warnings they receive. People are more likely to believe what they hear from trustworthy sources. Trust is often hard to build and very easy to lose. Building trust is an important activity during non-crisis times between the public and response agencies and also between agencies. Clear, consistent, accurate information can build trust.

Personal belief in one's actions	Some people are more predisposed to confront problems (action coping) and have strong personal beliefs regarding personal capacity to act (self-efficacy). Encouraging people to believe they have the power to act, and providing suggested actions they can take for themselves and others, can lead to a positive response during a crisis. The suggestion of ways to help others may, in particular, spur action: individuals are often more inclined to act in support of others – friends, family, neighbours or the community – than they are for themselves. Taking action is important as it engenders a sense of power and control of the situation.
Community participation	People bring key resources to the community. Strong community interest in developing response capacity is important, and should be proactively encouraged and supported by emergency managers. Communities expressing an interest in participation must be given ways to formulate ideas, transmit them to response agencies, and be able to implement them within the community. Mechanisms of this nature will make an important contribution to sustaining capacity during quite periods and during a crisis.
Pre-event education	Although research has consistently shown information provided during an event is the key to an effective response, pre-event education is also important. There has been limited research into the role pre-event public education has in improving warning response but the evidence supports that well designed public education initiatives will increase response.

Further Reading

Auckland Volcanic Contingency Plan

Auckland CDEM Group Plan (*including Group Functional Plan P2: Public Information Management, and Group Functional Plan P4: Mass Evacuation*)

National CDEM Plan, and Guide to the National CDEM Plan

Public Information Management: Information for the CDEM Sector [IS9/07]

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APPENDIX 6 MASSEY UNIVERSITY REPORT TO TVSAG 2010 ON RECENT RESEARCH

Report to TVSAG of research activities completed and underway in the 2010-11 reporting year by Massey University.

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1. Funding under the “Living with Volcanic Risk” FRST programme to Massey University has now been transferred into the New Zealand Natural Hazards Research Platform, a consortium of GNS, NIWA, OPUS along with Massey, Canterbury, and Auckland Universities. This should ensure stability of ongoing related geohazard research of applicability to the Taranaki region and integrate volcanic research with other natural hazard research programmes.
2. A new Natural Hazard Platform project will work over the next 18 mths to develop a probabilistic hazard model to rate the relative chances for catchments around Mt Taranaki to be affected by future mass flows from eruption events. This will help to plan more effectively for future eruption scenarios.
3. An additional new Natural Hazard Platform project will focus on missing data in volcanic records and develop a more robust means of forecasting eruption hazard at Mt. Taranaki.
4. The five original PhD theses on Mt Taranaki and environs have now been completed on aspects of volcanology and hazard, resulting in graduations of Drs. Thomas Platz, Michael Turner, Anke Zernack, Tom Wilson (coupled with U. Canterbury) and Jonathan Procter. Along with ongoing publications of the outcomes of these studies, the next PhD studies have begun with Ms Natalia Pardo examining the characteristics of the largest possible eruptions expected from Mt Taranaki and Dr Armando Rodado studying new statistical methods to improve eruption forecasts from the volcano.
5. A visiting scientist from Italy (Mateo Roteo) will carry out a comparative study with us on Debris avalanches in Taranaki with those at the very similar Colima volcano in Mexico. Colima is currently in a long-term dome-growth eruption phase and is an excellent modern analogue to Mt Taranaki.
6. We are participating with Landcare Research Ltd. to carry out a study of the long-term erosion rates and processes in the upper Stony River catchment. This will be completed during the reporting year ahead.
7. New field sites will be sought this year for further coring in swamps and lakes for Mt Taranaki volcanic ash layers. Areas to be concentrated on include, Tariki, and other areas NE of the volcano.
8. From last-year’s core sites in Eltham and Ohakune a longer record of Mt Taranaki volcanism has been developed, including 60 volcanic ash layers found in the distal

- site of Ohakune that will help us develop wide-spread hazard estimates for future eruptions.
- 9. An study of the potential regional and extra-regional economic impacts of volcanism at Mt Taranaki (based of four low-impact scenarios) is will be completed in the coming year.
 - 10. Further concentration on sediment monitoring and debris flow monitoring in the Stony River catchment will be carried out this year in conjuction with the TRC hydrology team, involving seismographs and acoustic flow monitors.
 - 11. Modelling of volcanic ash fall dynamics will be carried out for past Mt. Taranaki explosive eruptions, particularly using the AD1655 Burrell eruption as an example.
 - 12. Agricultural impacts of volcanic eruptions are being studied as part of an ongoing research programme in collaboration with Dr Tom Wilson, including papers on pasture regeneration after ashfall and strategies for re-sowing pastures after ash/lahar impacts to be published in the next 6 months.
 - 13. Further student projects include a study on past Taranaki climates by Rob Tinkler, on the integration of volcanic hazard information into Sth Taranaki District planning by Laura Clemens and on the impacts of volcanism on the energy distribution infrastructure of Taranaki by Ian Chapman (a resumption of studies).

APPENDIX 7 TARANAKI-FOCUSED RESEARCH BY VOLCANIC RISK SOLUTIONS

Information from FRST Evidence Portfolio: a review of the *Living with Volcanic Risk* programme

Starting in 2004, the *Living with Volcanic Risk* programme has focused on building new knowledge to quantify and effectively mitigate the volcanic hazards faced by communities and industries vulnerable to the major andesitic volcanoes of the North Island of New Zealand. The research in this programme was based around several areas of unique research strength, including the following that are relevant to Taranaki:

1. *Probabilistic hazard forecasting and time-varying volcanic hazards.* Beginning with development of high-precision dated records of volcanism at Mt Taranaki, a new probabilistic forecast for explosive volcanism at the centre was developed and improved in two iterations with recognition of differing styles of activity and with integration of records of volcanism from multiple sites. This has led to application in developing probabilistic forecasts for ash fall impact on key energy-distribution infrastructure sites in the Taranaki region. In addition, this work has led to the realisation that a steady-state variation in the hazard rate or eruption frequency occurs at Mt Taranaki, which can be related to regular variations in magma chemistry and may indicate periodic replenishment of mid-crustal level magma feeding systems for the volcano. This has important implications for developing time-variable hazard forecasts for the volcano, since the position in the cycle of magma-replenishment and related eruption frequency must be taken into account. Notably, the timing of the largest eruptions of the volcano appears to be predictable on the basis of this new knowledge.
2. *Modelling, sedimentology and geophysical measurement of volcanic mass flows.* In three related research threads, (1) numerical mass-flow models have been developed in conjunction with partners at SUNY Buffalo USA for application to a range of flow types at NZ volcanoes, along with the development of (2) new tools and techniques to measure the physical properties of moving mass flows and provide warnings of them and (3) sedimentological models for the full range of mass flows from NZ volcanoes. Although much of this work has been centred around Mt Ruapehu in the anticipation, and subsequent analysis, of the 18 March 2007 lahar, we also examined volcanic mass flows at Mt Taranaki (see Output list). Sedimentological studies have focused on the properties of pyroclastic flows lahars and debris avalanche dynamics at Mt Taranaki. These sedimentological studies, and the geophysical measurements on moving lahars at other centres, have been incorporated into redevelopment of the Titan2D numerical flow model, along with our research of the model's application to a new generation of forward-looking hazard evaluation tools and probabilistic hazard forecasts for pyroclastic flows, lahars and debris avalanches at Mt Taranaki and other NZ volcanoes.
3. *Development of integrated petrological/physical understanding of volcanic eruptions.* The team has investigated the processes driving sudden explosive/effusive eruption transitions at Mt Taranaki; the magmatic plumbing, rise rates, evolution processes and eruption-driving mechanisms at Mt Taranaki; and eruption magnitude/style

constraints. These data have been the basis for developing realistic eruption scenarios for volcanic emergency management planning exercises.

4. *Development of economic impact forecasts and mitigation planning for volcanism.* Using new eruption magnitude, style and probabilistic impact results, input-output modelling of economic impacts of volcanism on the Taranaki region has been completed for a range of probable scenarios. In addition, an initial energy-sector analysis was completed and is now being followed up by a specific risk analysis for the energy-distribution infrastructure in partnership with Powerco (Masterate project of I. Chapman). Complementing this, a roading and services analysis was completed for South Taranaki and research has been carried out into the processes of prioritising hazards for CDEM groups, with further work into the hindrances of adopting volcanic hazards information into District and Regional-level land use planning. In collaboration with University of Canterbury and GNS Science/Joint Centre for Disaster Research, further research has gone into volcanic impacts on agriculture.

Research highlight 1

Research in area 1 is highlighted in the following publication:

Turner, M.B., Cronin, S.J., Bebbington, M., Platz, T., 2008: Developing a probabilistic eruption forecast for dormant volcanoes; a case study from Mt Taranaki, New Zealand. *Bulletin of Volcanology* 70: 507-515.

Why is this output important?

This is the first attempt at developing a comprehensive and robust probabilistic forecast for eruptions at a New Zealand volcano. The work demonstrates one of our key unique team strengths in volcano statistics and the step-change needed to: (1) obtain sufficiently detailed records of volcanism for Mt. Taranaki; and (2) pioneer a new statistical tool for volcanic eruption forecasting. From this we have developed probabilistic hazard forecasts, infrastructure impact assessments and a new understanding of how andesitic magmatic systems function and vary over time.

Description

The paper provides the first probabilistic hazard forecast for explosive eruptions from Mt Taranaki, based on the compilation of a record of 103 volcanic events of the volcano over the last c. 10 000 years. The eruption data were gathered from cores within a lake near New Plymouth as well on the volcano's flank. Collection of many new radiocarbon dates and statistical age-depth calculations for non-dated ash-layers allowed the most comprehensive ever chronology to be established for Holocene eruptions at the volcano. Monte-Carlo analysis of the age (+error) dataset allowed the selection of a mixture of Weibull distributions to best describe the complex distribution of interval times between eruptions. From these distributions a probabilistic forecast was made that, for example, shows an up to 49% chance of explosive eruption from Mt Taranaki over the next 50 years.

Significance

This output represents the foundational scientific advance we needed for comprehensive hazard forecasting at NZ andesitic volcanoes. In particular, it was the step required for completion of a suite of further outputs that: (1) quantify probabilistic forecasts for differing types of eruptions at a volcanic centre and view overall time-varying behaviour at andesitic volcanic systems (Turner et al., 2008, *Geology*); (2) produce expanded comprehensive forecasts of volcanic eruption at Mt Taranaki using multi-site information (Turner et al., 2009,

Bull. Volcanol.); and (3) allow spatio-temporal probabilistic assessment of volcanic ash fall impacts to important lifelines infrastructure elements and major industries in the Taranaki region (Bebbington et al., 2008, JVGR) and provide ash fall forecasts for Auckland (Bebbington et al., 2006, AELG Volcanic Impact Studies Group; Cronin et al., 2007, IUGG, Italy). In addition, this work served as the foundation for building the first time-varying mechanistic models of volcanic-eruption frequency that are based on variations in magma supply, magma geochemistry and petrology (Turner, 2008, PhD Thesis; Platz et al., 2007, JVGR). The new models from Mt Taranaki will be the standard for comparison to a wide number of andesitic volcanoes worldwide, but more particularly to our ongoing research on Mts. Ruapehu and Tongariro/Ngauruhoe. The significance of this work is highlighted by Cronin being invited as a Keynote speaker in Mexico (2009), a country which is plagued by several Taranaki-like volcanoes.

Research highlight 2

Research that exemplifies area 2 is highlighted in the following:

Procter, J.N., Cronin, S.J., Platz, T., Patra, A., Dalbey, K., Sheridan, M., Neall, V.E., 2010: Mapping Block-and-ash flow (BAF) hazards based on Titan2D simulations: a case study from Mt Taranaki, NZ. Natural Hazards 53: 483-501.

Why is this output important?

This output represents one of our signature capabilities in mass flow hazard simulation and mapping, and is one result of our long-term international collaboration with SUNY Buffalo, USA. It represents the first New Zealand attempt at developing probabilistic hazard maps for volcanic mass flows using digital representations of modern terrain and adapting one of the best computational flow models used globally, Titan2D. The importance of this output is twofold: (1) lessons learned have allowed further development and refinement of the evolving Titan2D code by our colleagues in Buffalo, and (2) it demonstrates a technique for defining hazards that supersedes stochastic approaches based on mapping past mass flows on old (and now irrelevant) terrains.

Description

The paper describes a method to solve one of the greatest uncertainties around hazard assessment at andesitic volcanoes, namely forecasting the distribution, inundation, run-out length and emplacement times for a range of mass flows. It is one of a series of our works that describe how dynamic numerical modelling tools can be applied to current and future hazard assessment issues, with the ability to update the models depending on changes in terrain and eruption/source conditions. Collapses of hot or cold debris down NW Mt. Taranaki is anticipated as one of the most acute initial hazards from this volcano, with a range of possible source conditions and volumes. We demonstrate how a range in these, along with model parameters concerning flow rheology, can be integrated into a probabilistic hazard “layer” for emergency management, infrastructure hazards assessment and land use planning within a Geographic Information System (GIS).

Significance

With this work we extend from our initial development of CD-ROMs with GIS-Viewers that displayed visualisations of traditional hazard map data and analysis of infrastructure/lifeline vulnerabilities and “hot spot” points requiring priority attention (Neall et al., 2004: Commissioned by TRC). The nominated output applies forward-viewing simulation tools within a GIS environment and represents a significant philosophical paradigm shift in mass flow hazard assessment. Traditional approaches arbitrarily derived hazard zones from the mapped inundation areas of past mass-flows. These data are prone to significant error

through imperfect deposit preservation and exposure, a lack of long-term records for repeated events, and the mapped distributions reflect only past terrains. The stretch we demonstrate is that by using digital representations of modern terrain along with constraints of flow magnitudes and rheology from geological data, numerical models show a more robust and probabilistic forecast of mass flow inundation from one or several overlapping scenarios. This work has fed into ongoing approaches for forecasting many types of volcanic mass flow hazard including: before the 2007 lahar at Ruapehu (Cronin et al., 2005, DOC; conference papers by Procter et al. and Cronin et al.); of lahars and debris avalanches at Taranaki (Procter et al., 2009); and of pyroclastic flows at Ngauruhoe (Martelli, 2007, MSc (Hons) thesis).

Research highlight 3

The team have links with regional and district councils, advisory groups and other users of the research. This is well illustrated in the Taranaki region:

Members of the team (S. Cronin, V. Neall, B. Stewart and UoA co-worker I. Smith) contribute annually to the Taranaki Volcano Science Advisory Group meetings. The VRS team have also developed eruption scenarios for Mt Taranaki that have been used to run exercises and lead development of new emergency management plans in the Taranaki CDEM group area. Fears of a landslide and collapse were raised by Taranaki Daily News and other media outlets in March/April 06 which led to requests for us to develop computational simulations and a hazard map for the Department of Conservation and the Taranaki Regional Council to plan for eventual hazard from such collapses (Cronin, S.J., 2006: Report on Mt. Taranaki summit stability. Commissioned by Taranaki Conservation Board and Taranaki Regional Council). Research results from the programme have also been adopted for emergency planning of groups such as the Taranaki District Health Board. In addition, the team produced an interactive CD-ROM map browser that displays the risk to infrastructure in the Taranaki region of a volcanic event from Mt Taranaki. The CD-ROM used a GIS interface and included full briefing notes. This CD-ROM was commissioned by the Natural Gas Corporation of NZ, Shell-Todd Oil Services, Taranaki Regional Council, New Plymouth District Council, South Taranaki District Council and Stratford District Council. Several updates of these CD materials have been issued to these users during the course of the *Living with Volcanic Risk* programme.

Current/Recent Activities

The *Living with Volcanic Risk* programme funding is now a part of the New Zealand Natural Hazards Research Platform. Massey's research in the platform is ongoing in the 4 areas of expertise outlined above, and involves research around Mt Taranaki in each of the areas. In particular, work continues on the potential regional and extra-regional economic impacts of volcanism at Mt Taranaki (in association with Market Economics Ltd).

Two short-term research projects were awarded to members of the Volcanic Risk Solutions team in 2010. The first of these is examining how the degree of completeness of a volcano's observed eruption record can be evaluated, and aims to develop a method that will allow us to fit hazard models in such a way that they are robust in spite of the possible missing observations. This will allow more robust means of forecasting volcanic eruption hazards at Mt Taranaki, as well as other volcanic centres. The second project is focussed on developing a probabilistic hazard model to rate the relative chances for catchments around Mt Taranaki to be affected by future mass flows from eruption events.

We have collaborated with Landcare Research in an analysis of erosion monitoring in the Upper Stony river catchment. The report was completed in September 2010.

A PhD student from Mexico (Matteo Rotovato) visited us in Mar-Apr 2011 to carry out a comparative study on debris avalanches in Taranaki with those at the very similar Colima volcano in Mexico. Colima is currently in a long-term dome-growth eruption phase and is an excellent modern analogue to Mt Taranaki.

Three further manuscripts are in progress: on Taranaki collapse forecasting; geomorphology and sedimentology patterns in relation to volcanism and climate change; and a study on the older volcanism of Mt Taranaki. It is expected that all of these will be submitted by the end of the year.

Student projects related to Taranaki

Completed Honours, Diploma and Masterate Students

Robertson, C.M., 2007: Integrating science into land use planning for volcanic hazards: a case study on Mount Taranaki. Bachelor Resource and Environmental Planning (Hons) thesis. Institute of Natural Resources and School of People, Environment and Planning, Massey University.

Aldridge, C., 2006: Economic loss modelling for volcanic eruption impacts in the Taranaki Region, New Zealand, MA thesis, School of Applied Economics, Massey University.

Gruender, K., 2006: Petrography and mineral chemistry of a xenolith suite from Mt Taranaki, New Zealand: insights into the sub-volcanic lithosphere of an arc. Diplomarbeit (MSc thesis), Department of Geology and Mineralogy, University of Mainz, Germany and Institute of Natural Resources, Massey University.

Krivan, K.J., 2005: Quantifying the risk of bridge infrastructure to damage from future lahars in South Taranaki District. BSc (Hons) thesis, Institute of Natural Resources, Massey University.

Rosenthal, A., 2005: Mapping and characterisation of the eastern Fanthams Peak lavas, Egmont Volcano, Taranaki, New Zealand. Dipl. Kartierung (Major mapping thesis), Department of Geology and Mineralogy, University of Mainz, Germany and Institute of Natural Resources, Massey University.

Birks, D.L. 2004. Advances in understanding the volcanic history of the south-western flank of Egmont Volcano, Taranaki, New Zealand. MSc, Institute of Natural Resources, Massey University.

Turner, M., 2004. The Curtis ridge eruption sequence, Mt. Taranaki, New Zealand. BSc(hons), Institute of Natural Resources, Massey University.

Current Honours, Diploma and Masterate Students

I. Chapman: A volcanic risk assessment for the energy distribution sector of Taranaki. MPhil Emergency Management. Recently resumed studies.

Completed Doctoral Students

Procter, J.N., 2009: Towards Improving Volcanic Mass Flow Hazard Assessment at New Zealand Stratovolcanoes. PhD Thesis, Institute of Natural Resources, Massey University.

Zernack, A., 2009: Long-term evolution of stratovolcano systems, a case study from Mt Taranaki. PhD Thesis, Institute of Natural Resources, Massey University.

Turner, M.B., 2008: Eruption cycles and magmatic processes at a reawakening volcano, Mt. Taranaki, New Zealand. PhD Thesis, Institute of Natural Resources, Massey University.

Platz, T., 2007: Aspects of Dome-forming Eruptions from Andesitic Volcanoes through the Maero Eruptive Period (1000 yrs B.P. to Present) Activity at Mt. Taranaki, New Zealand. PhD Thesis, Institute of Natural Resources, Massey University.

Current Doctoral Students

N. Pardo: Defining the Maximum Likely Eruption event for Andesitic Volcanoes in New Zealand.

R Tinkler: A High Resolution, Multiproxy Record of Late Quaternary Climatic and Environmental Change in Eastern Taranaki, New Zealand.

R. Green: Estimation of Time-Varying Volcanic Hazard.

Publications / Outputs related to Taranaki

Journal Articles

In Review

Platz, T., Cronin, S.J., Procter, J.N., Neall, V.E., Foley, S. in review: Non-explosive, dome-forming eruptions at Mt. Taranaki, New Zealand. Submitted to Geomorphology.

Turner, M.B., Cronin, S.J., Bebbington, M.S., Smith, I.E.M., Stewart, R.B., in review: Andesitic Tephrochronology: Construction of a Pyroclastic Eruption Record for Mt. Taranaki, New Zealand. Submitted to Quaternary International.

2011

Turner, M.B., Cronin, S.J., Bebbington, M., Smith, I.E.M., Stewart, R.B., in press: Relating magma composition with eruption variability at andesitic volcanoes. A case study from Mt. Taranaki, New Zealand. Geological Society of America Bulletin, doi: 10.1130/B30367.1

Zernack, A.V., Cronin, S.J., Neall, V.E., Procter, J.N., in press: A medial to distal volcaniclastic record of an andesitic stratovolcano: detailed stratigraphy of the ringplain succession of south-west Taranaki, New Zealand. International Journal of Earth Sciences (Geologische Rundschau), doi: 10.1007/s00531-010-0610-6.

2010

Bebbington, M.S., 2010: Trends and clustering in the onsets of volcanic eruptions. Journal of Geophysical Research 115, B01203. doi: 10.1029/2009JB006581.

Gruender, K., Stewart R.B, Foley, S., 2010: Xenoliths from the sub-volcanic lithosphere of Mt Taranaki, New Zealand. Journal of Volcanology and Geothermal Research 190: 192-202.

Procter, J.N., Cronin, S.J., Platz, T., Patra, A., Dalbey, K., Sheridan, M., Neall, V.E., 2010: Mapping Block-and-ash flow (BAF) hazards based on Titan2D simulations: a case study from Mt Taranaki, NZ. Natural Hazards 53: 483-501.

2009

Procter, J.N., Cronin, S.J., Zernack, A., Neall, V.E., 2009: Landscape and sedimentary response to catastrophic debris avalanches, Western Taranaki, New Zealand. Sedimentary Geology 220: 271-287.

Turner, M., Bebbington, M., Cronin, S.J., Stewart, R.B., 2009: Merging Eruption Datasets: Towards an Integrated Holocene Eruptive Record of Mt Taranaki, New Zealand. Bulletin of Volcanology 71: 903-918.

Zernack, A., Procter, J.N., Cronin, S.J., 2009: Sedimentary signatures of cyclic growth and destruction of stratovolcanoes: a case study from Mt. Taranaki, New Zealand. In: Németh, K., Manville, V., Kano, K. (Editors) Source to sink: from volcanic eruptions to volcaniclastic deposits on the Pacific Rim. Sedimentary Geology 220: 288-305.

2008

Bebbington, M., 2008: Incorporating the eruptive history in a stochastic model for volcanic eruptions. *Journal of Volcanology and Geothermal Research* 175: 325-333.

Bebbington, M., Cronin, S.J., Chapman, I., Turner, M.B., 2008: Quantifying volcanic ashfall hazard to electricity infrastructure. *Journal of Volcanology and Geothermal Research* 177: 1055-1062.

Turner, M.B., Cronin, S.J., Bebbington, M., Platz, T., 2008: Developing a probabilistic eruption forecast for dormant volcanoes; a case study from Mt Taranaki, New Zealand. *Bulletin of Volcanology* 70: 507-515.

Turner, M.B., Cronin, S.J., Smith, I.E.M., Bebbington, M., Stewart, R.B., 2008: Using titanomagnetite textures to elucidate volcanic eruption histories. *Geology* 36: 31-34.

Turner, M.B., Cronin, S.J., Smith, I.E.M., Stewart, R.B., Neall, V.E., 2008: Eruption episodes and magma recharge events in andesitic systems; Mt Taranaki, New Zealand. *Journal of Volcanology and Geothermal Research* 177: 1063-1076.

2007

Bebbington, M., 2007: Identifying volcanic regimes using hidden Markov models. *Geophysical Journal International* 171: 921-942.

Platz, T., Cronin, S.J., Cashman, K.V., Stewart, R.B., Smith, I.E.M., 2007: Transitions from effusive to explosive phases in andesite eruptions – a case-study from the AD1655 eruption of Mt. Taranaki, New Zealand. *Journal of Volcanology and Geothermal Research* 161: 15-34.

Platz, T., Cronin, S.J., Smith, I.E., Turner, M.B. Stewart, R.B., 2007: Improving the reliability of microprobe-based analyses of andesitic glass for tephra correlation, *Holocene* 17: 573-583.

2005

Alloway, B., McComb, P., Neall, V.E., Vucetich, C., Gibb, J., Sherburn, S., Stirling, M., 2005: Stratigraphy, age and correlation of voluminous debris-avalanche events from an ancestral Egmont Volcano: implications for coastal plain construction and regional hazard assessment. *Journal of the Royal Society of New Zealand* 35: 229-267.

Conference presentations2010

Procter, J.N., Cronin, S.J., Zernack, A.V., 2010: Emplacement of the Opua Debris Avalanche Deposit from Mt Taranaki, New Zealand: Titan2D simulation compared to sedimentology and GIS analysis. *Geophysical Research Abstracts*, Vol. 12, EGU2010-7588 [EGU General Assembly 2010, Vienna, Austria].

Stewart, R.B., Gruender, K., 2010: Andesites at Mt. Taranaki, New Zealand: assembly of melts and crystals in an arc volcano. Abstract in: Zaharia, L., Kis, A., Topa, B., Papp, G., Weiszburg, T.G., (eds), *ACTA Mineralogica-Petrographica Abstract Series*, Volume 6: 20th General Meeting of the International Mineralogical Association, August, 2010 Budapest, Hungary, p 540.

Turner, M.B., Bebbington, M.S., Cronin, S.J., 2010: Merging Eruption Datasets: Building Integrated Eruptive Records and Realistic Eruption Forecasts. In: In: *International Field Conference and Workshop on Tephrochronology, Volcanism and Human Activity: Active Tephra*, Kyushu, Japan, May 2010.

2009

Cronin, S.J., Turner, M.B., Bebbington, M., 2009: Building a geochemically-constrained time-varying eruption hazard forecasting model for an andesitic volcano: Mt Taranaki, New Zealand. In: *11th International Meeting - Volcán de Colima, February 2009, Colima, Mexico*

2008

Bebbington, M., Turner, M., Cronin, S.J., 2008: Merging Pre-Historical Eruption Datasets: Methods and Lessons for Stochastic Models. In: Conference Proceedings, International Association of Volcanology and Chemistry of the Earth's Interior 2008 General Assembly, Reykjavík, Iceland. pp 44.

Neall, V.E., Doyle, E.E., Procter, J.N., Stewart, R.B., 2008: The 2008 rain-triggered lahars on Mt. Taranaki/Mt Egmont. Abstract in: Wysoczanski R., (ed), Geological Society of New Zealand Miscellaneous Publication 124A. pp 233.

Neall, V.E., Procter, J.N., 2008: The Taranaki Volcanic Hazards Map & its application to Emergency Management. In: 7th Annual Integrated Emergency Management Conference, Wellington. 26-27 February 2008.

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Stewart, R.B., Turner, M., Smith, I.E.M., Cronin, S.J., 2008: Variable magmatic and eruptive cycles at arc volcanoes; Taranaki (New Zealand) and Lopevi (Vanuatu). *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta*, 72: A901-A901 Suppl. 1

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2007

Chapman, I.R., Bebbington, M., Cronin, S.J., Turner, M.B., 2007: Vulnerability analysis of the power-distribution infrastructure in western North Island of New Zealand to ashfall from Mt Taranaki/Egmont. In: Abstracts Volume, Cities on Volcanoes 5, Shimabara, Japan. Volcanological Society of Japan. pp 137-138.

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Zernack, A., Procter, J.N., Cronin, S.J., 2007: Revised stratigraphy of the ring-plain succession surrounding Mt. Taranaki. Abstract in: Mortimer, N., Wallace, L., (eds), Geological Society of New Zealand Miscellaneous Publication 123A. pp. 186.

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