

## WFOs - What to do When a Volcano Erupts Quick Tip Sheet

*Per NWS Instruction Directive 10-1502 , dated January 20, 2012*

*Volcanic Ash, NWSPD 10-15*

*Volcanic Ash Products From WFO, CWSU, AAWU, and NCEP Centers – section 5\**

*(<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/sym/pd01015002curr.pdf>)*

\*with additional information and specifics gathered from the NWS Operations Manual

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- **ALL NWS WFO** actions take place AFTER the regional Volcanic Ash Advisory Center (VAAC) and/or United States Geologic Survey (USGS) Volcano Observatory (VO) send a Volcanic Ash Advisory (VAA) or a Volcanic Ash Graphic (VAG).
- **Issuance** of warning products takes precedence over ALL routine duties or other products.

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After receipt of VAA and/or VAG from the VAAC or the USGS VO, issue the following products or contact the appropriate people for reports:

1. Public Volcano Warning (**VOW**).
2. **Volcanic SIGMET**.
3. Terminal Aerodrome Forecast (**TAF**).
4. Marine Weather Statement (**MWS**) if necessary.
5. Special Marine Warning (**SMW**) if necessary.
6. Update the Hazardous Weather Outlook (**HWO**) as necessary.
7. As reports are received, issue Supplementary Surface Observation (**SDO**) for volcanic ash.
8. Contact co-operative observers within the CWA to have them report by phone directly any significant observations. Remind them to also record their observations in the “Remarks” section of WS Form B-91.
9. Contact other weather spotters within your network as necessary.

➤ **The following** products may (or may not) need to be issued depending on proximity to volcano and the strength of the eruption (and/or contact from local or regional Emergency Services):

- a. Civil Emergency Message (**CEM**)
- b. Civil Danger Warning (**CDW**)
- c. Evacuation Immediate (**EVI**)
- d. Earthquake Warning (**EQW**)
- e. Local Area Emergency (**LAE**)
- f. Significant Weather (**SIG WX**) Forecast