



INTERNATIONAL VOLCANIC ASH TASK FORCE (IVATF)

FIRST MEETING

Montréal, 27 to 30 July 2010

Agenda Item 4: Review of operational response to volcanic ash aircraft encounter and notification and warning for VA (ATM sub-group)

NOAA/NWS SERVICE ASSESSMENT OF MT. REDOUBT EVENTS MARCH-APRIL 2009

(Presented by the United States)

SUMMARY

This paper discusses the NOAA/NWS Service Assessment *Mt. Redoubt Eruptions March-April 2009* that was initiated as a result of the eruptions and is provided for information purposes.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 As the activity at Redoubt Volcano began to diminish in early April 2009, the United States' National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) National Weather Service (NWS) Alaska Region senior leadership requested an assessment team be formed to initiate a service assessment. This is the first NOAA/NWS Service Assessment on a volcanic event in Alaska (AK).

2. DISCUSSION

2.1 A team of four individuals traveled to Anchorage, AK in May 2009 to perform a service assessment on the Mount (Mt.) Redoubt eruptions of March-April 2009. The team spent three full days in Anchorage meeting with local producers (e.g. volcanologists, meteorologists) and stakeholders. The team also spent several hours performing interviews by phone to those located outside of the Anchorage area.

2.2 The purpose of the service assessment was to perform a review of the products and services related to the event and present findings, recommendations, and best practices. The primary focus of the team was to review the usefulness, timeliness, quality, and accuracy of NWS products and

services in the context of enhanced decision making, as well as the role the NWS should play in future operations. Additionally, the team was tasked with documenting the flow of critical information to and from key decision makers in the emergency management and transportation sectors. Based on the Mt. Redoubt eruptions of March-April 2009, this report conveys findings and recommendations with national relevance. The team issued 15 recommendations based on its evaluation and findings, as well as six best practices.

2.3 A copy of the Mt. Redoubt Service Assessment can be found at:

<http://www.nws.noaa.gov/os/assessments/pdfs/redoubt.pdf>.

3. **ACTION BY THE IVATF**

3.1 The ICAO IVATF is invited to note the information in this paper.

— END —