Grímsvötn volcano

Status Report: 16:00 GMT, 26 May 2011

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Based on: IMO seismic monitoring; IES-IMO GPS monitoring; IMO

hydrological data; weather radar; ash-fall reports; scientific overflights;

UK Met Office ATDnet; MODIS and NOAA satellite images.

Eruption plume:

Height (a.s.l.): Plume not detected on radar at 70 km distance from the eruption site..

Minor steam explosion observed in the crater.

Heading: --

Colour: --

Tephra fallout: Only in the vicinity of the eruption site.

Lightning: No lightning strikes detected.

Noise: No noise.

Meltwater: Visual observations of Grímsvötn show that little ice has melted during

the eruption, meaning that an outburst flood (jökulhlaup) is not to be expected. Long-term conductivity measurements of Gígjukvísl suggest that meltwater is draining freely from Grímsvötn following a

jökulhlaup from the lake last autumn.

Conditions at eruption site:

Ongoing gas-explosions in a crater towards the south in the volcano,

according to an overflight yesterday at 19 hrs.

Seismic tremor: Seismic tremor at similar levels since yesterday but fluctuates

frequently. Tremor bursts recorded at seismic stations up to 200 km

distance from the volcano.

Earthquakes: No earthquakes were recorded in the volcano.

GPS deformation: No significant displacement observed at the GPS-station at Mt.

Grimsfjall yesterday.

Overall assessment: Very little changes since yesterday. Explosions continue, only affecting the area around the crater.