

WARNING! Volcanic Activity at Mt. Tokachidake

Mt. Tokachidake's **Volcanic Alert Level** has been increased from Level 1 (normal) to **Level 2 (Do not approach)**

- Mt. Tokachidake has seen increased volcanic and seismic activity in recent days, and the Japan Meteorological Agency has issued a Volcanic Alert Level 2, which imposes an *Off-Limits Zone* within a 1km radius of the area known as the Mt. Tokachidake 62-2 crater.
- This Off-Limits Zone includes the hiking trail between the Mt. Tokachidake Evacuation Shelter (located on the hiking path originating at Bogakudai, Biei) towards the mountain summit, so please do not approach the mountains from this area.
- The Mt. Tokachidake summit is not within the 1km radius Off-Limits Zone, and can still be approached from the hiking trails that originate from Tokachidake-Onsen hot springs. The hiking trail from Fukiage-Onsen hot springs to Mt. Sandanyama is also open.

Map of Mt. Tokachidake Region and Off Limits Zone



Note: There is no restriction to the Tokachidake-Onsen and Fukiage-Onsen areas.

What is a Volcanic Warning?

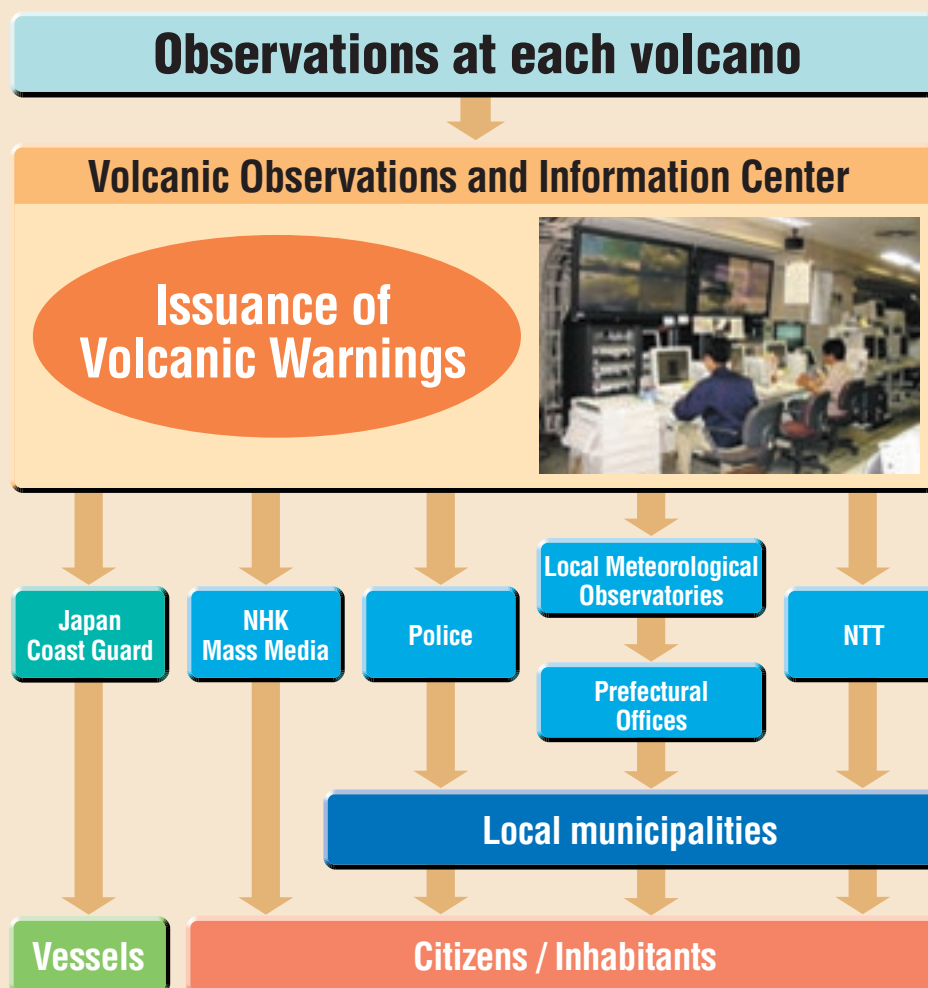
- Volcanic Warnings are issued in relation to expected volcanic disasters, and detail the names of the affected areas.
 - To residential areas*
Volcanic Warning (to residential areas) (abbreviated to *Warning*)
 - To non-residential areas near the crater*
 - Around the crater
Volcanic Warning (near the crater) (abbreviated to *Near-crater Warning*)

*Designated areas are described in literature such as regional disaster prevention plans.

- Volcanic forecasts are issued when a volcano is/becomes calm.
- Volcanic warnings make it possible to keep residents informed.
Present volcanic activity, such as the number of volcanic tremors, is described in the Explanation of Volcanic Activity.
Previous volcano information (Volcanic Alerts, Volcanic Advisories, Volcanic Observation Reports) has been abolished.

Dissemination of Volcanic Warnings

Volcanic Warnings are issued to residents through the media, prefectural offices and local municipalities.



Volcanic Alert Levels in Volcanic Forecasts/Warnings

- Volcanic Alert Levels are classified into five levels in terms of the target area and action to be taken, and these are described as action summary keywords.
- Clear action summary descriptions enable residents to take quick and appropriate action against disasters.
- Warnings are issued to residential areas when levels are 4 or 5.
- Near-crater Warnings are issued to areas around the crater when levels are 2, and to non-residential areas near the crater when levels are 3.

*Designated areas are described in literature such as regional disaster prevention plans.

Abbreviated Term	Target area	Levels & Keyword	Explanation		
			Expected volcanic activity	Action to be taken by inhabitants *1	Action to be taken by climbers *1
Warning	Residential areas	Level 5 Evacuate	Eruption that may cause serious damage in residential areas, or imminent eruption.	Evacuate from the danger zone ² . (Target areas and evacuation measures are determined in line with current volcanic activity.)	
		Level 4 Prepare to evacuate	Possibility or increasing possibility of eruption that may cause serious damage in residential areas.	Prepare to evacuate from alert areas ² . Let disabled persons evacuate. (Target areas and evacuation measures are determined in line with current volcanic activity.)	
Near-crater Warning	Non-residential areas near the crater	Level 3 Do not approach the volcano	Eruption or possibility of eruption that may severely affect places near residential areas (threat to life is possible in these areas).	Stand by, paying attention to changes in volcanic activity. Let disabled persons prepare to evacuate in line with current volcanic activity.	Refrain from entering the danger zone. (Target areas are determined in line with current volcanic activity.)
	Around the crater	Level 2 Do not approach the crater	Eruption or possibility of eruption that may affect areas near the crater (threat to life is possible in these areas).		Refrain from approaching the crater. (Target areas around the crater are determined in line with current volcanic activity.)
Forecast	Inside the crater	Level 1 Normal	Calm: Volcanic ash emissions or other related phenomena may occur in the crater (threat to life is possible in these areas).	Stay as usual.	No restrictions. (In some cases, it may be necessary to refrain from approaching the crater.)