

Volcano erupts in southwest Alaska; sends ash 20000 feet high

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Following the eruption around 4:18 PM, tremors were reported and the US Geological Survey <u>raised</u> the volcano alert level to "warning", and the aviation warning to its highest level of "red". The 8,261-foot peak began erupting on Sunday afternoon, sending ash to heights in excess of 20,000 feet.

The National Weather Service has <u>issued</u> a weather bulletin warning Alaska residents who live in the region of the Pavlof Volcano that ash may fall on their communities if the wind direction shifts as expected. Photo taken from Cold Bay, about 60 km from the **volcano**, and shared by the Alaska Volcano Observatory.

The **volcano** has had 40 known eruptions.

Mount **Pavlof**, an active **volcano** located 600 miles southwest from Anchorage, **Alaska**, has been actively erupting since Sunday evening.

Pavlof, which is located 592 miles southeast of Anchorage, is described by the center as "one of the most consistently active volcanoes in the Aleutian Arc".

Pavlof Volcano, one of **Alaska's** most active, is 625 miles southwest of Anchorage on the Alaska Peninsula. Due to its angular and sharp nature, volcanic ash can also damage vehicle engines and cause injuries to eyes and skin.

Airline passengers were transfixed by the awe-inspiring sight when the pilot flew closer to the erupting Alaskan **volcano**so they could get a better look.

There are still no reports of falling ashes to nearby communities.

"Lighting was detected over the **volcano**, and pressure-sensor data indicated sustained ash emissions".

The airline also canceled flights to and from Barrow, Bethel, Kotzebue, Nome and Prudhoe Bay as the plume from the eruption moved northward, according to a news release on the company's website.

"Large, explosive **volcano** eruptions, especially those in the tropics, can inject large amounts of particulate matter into the stratosphere, where it remains for several years giving it time to spread out through the global stratosphere", <u>said</u> Chip Knappenberger, a climate scientist at the Cato Institute.

During a previous eruption in 2013, ash plumes from the **volcano** had reached 27,000 feet.

USGS geologist Michelle Coombs said the **Pavlof** tends to go through dramatic ups and downs during an eruptive phase.

It caught the eye of a **volcano** expert in Pennsylvania, not because of the size of the eruption itself, but because of its current proximity to the jetstream, the vast, narrow band of winds flowing above 30,000-35,000 feet.