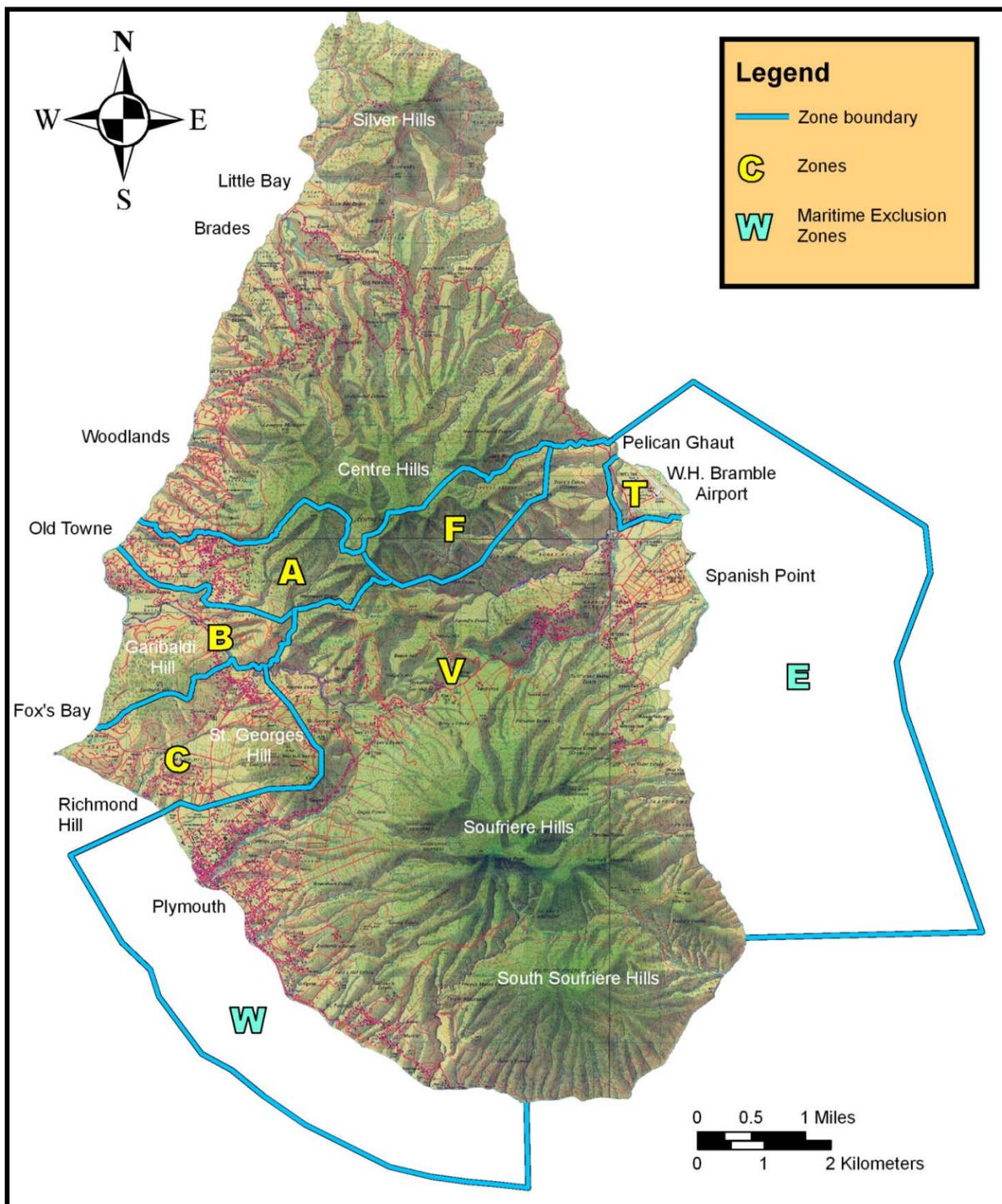


Hazard Level System

Soufriere Hills Volcano, Montserrat: Hazard Levels and Access Restrictions

1 August 2008



Zones

- A** South of Nantes River, including, Salem, Hope, Frith, Flemmings, parts of Olveston and Old Towne, and upper part of Happy Hill.
- B** Iles Bay, Belham, Waterworks, parts of Old Towne and lower part of Happy Hill.
- C** Cork Hill, Weekes, St Georges Hill, Foxes Bay, Richmond Hill and Delvins.
- F** Corbett Springs, Locust Valley. This zone is dedicated to farming and is defined by NDPRAC.
- V** Soufriere Hills, South Soufriere Hills, Plymouth, Lee's, Harris, Spanish Point.
- T** Trant's. Limits marked by red flags, southern limit is Farm River. This zone is dedicated to sand and gravel extraction and is defined by NDPRAC. Access requires the use of special procedures for monitoring activity and rapid response.

Maritime Exclusion Zones

- W** 2 km offshore between Sturge Park and O'Garro's.
- E** 4 km offshore between Roches Yard and Spanish Point, decreasing to 2 km offshore from Spanish Point to Pelican Ghaut.

Hazard Level ¹		1	2	3	4	5
Typical Activity²		More than one year with no measured activity.	No activity that threatens the north or west. ³ Low measured activity. ⁴	Mild activity that threatens the west. ⁵ Significant change of measured activity. ⁶ High measured activity. ⁷	Lava extrusion that threatens the north or west. Large unstable dome to the north or west.	Threat of large pyroclastic flows to the north or north-west. Threat of lateral blast or sector collapse.
Zones	A	Unrestricted	Unrestricted	Unrestricted	Unrestricted	Controlled access
	B	Unrestricted	Unrestricted	Unrestricted	Controlled access	Controlled access
	C	Unrestricted	Daytime access	Controlled access	Controlled access	Essential workers
	F	Unrestricted	Daytime access	Daytime access	Controlled access	Controlled access
	V	Daytime access to some areas	Controlled access	Essential workers	Essential workers	Essential workers
	T	Daytime access	Controlled access	Controlled access	Essential workers	Essential workers
Maritime Exclusion Zones	W	Unrestricted	Daytime access	Daytime transit	Essential workers	Essential workers
	E	Unrestricted	Essential workers	Essential workers	Essential workers	Essential workers

Access Restrictions
Unrestricted - Ashfall and lahars can be significant hazards in all areas, and require appropriate precautions.
Daytime access - Access is permitted from 6:30 am until 5:30 pm. Access gates will be locked at all other times.
Daytime access to some areas - Areas will be defined depending on state and location of the volcanic activity.
Daytime transit - Boats permitted to travel through the MEZ without stopping from 6:30 am until 5:30 pm.
Controlled access - No access without approval from NDPRAC. Approval considered on a case-by-case basis. Gates will be locked at all times.
Essential workers - No access apart from MVO and associated staff. Access for essential maintenance only with approval from NDPRAC. Gates will be locked at all times.

Severe Weather
Hazard level or access restrictions may be changed for severe weather such as unusually high rainfall, storms or hurricanes.

¹ The Hazard Level is not related to the Alert Level used prior to 1 August 2008.
² The descriptions of types of volcanic activity are indicative only. The level will be set by the MVO based on assessment of the actual activity.
³ For example, growth contained by the crater or non-growing lava dome contained by the crater.
⁴ Measured activity refers to all the monitoring techniques used by the Montserrat Volcano Observatory (MVO) including seismic, ground deformation, gas measurements and visual observations.
⁵ For instance, mild ash venting from vents located on the northern or western side of the crater with no measured activity that might be a precursor to larger activity.
⁶ Any change in measured activity which may be the precursor to an eruption caused by a sudden rise of magma beneath the dome. This may, or may not, be accompanied by surface activity such as explosions or dome growth.
⁷ A high level of measured activity which may be the precursor to an eruption caused by the steady rise of magma within the volcano. This may, or may not, be accompanied by surface activity such as explosions or dome growth.



Further information: www.mvo.ms