

Outline of the Act on Special Measures for Active Volcanoes (Act No. 61 of 1973)

1. Purpose

The purpose of this Act is to strengthen active volcano countermeasures in areas, etc. that are deemed to have suffered or are at risk of suffering significant damage from volcanic eruptions and other volcanic phenomena by formulating basic guidelines for the comprehensive promotion of active volcano countermeasures, developing alert and evacuation systems, taking special measures such as promoting the development of evacuation facilities and disaster management agricultural business facilities, etc., and the implementation of ash removal projects, and by establishing a Headquarters for Volcano Research Promotion, etc., thereby ensuring the safety of the lives and bodies of residents, climbers, and others in the areas, as well as the stability of residents' lives and the management of agriculture, forestry, fisheries, small and medium-sized enterprises, etc.

2. Outline

Formulation of basic guidelines for the promotion of active volcano countermeasures by the national government (Article 2)

Designation of volcanic disaster hazard zones (Article 3)

The Prime Minister designates areas where the development of alert and evacuation systems should be particularly promoted.

Volcanic Disaster Management Council (Article 4)

...persons concerned as one will consider the matters while incorporating specialized knowledge.

Prefectures and municipalities are to establish volcanic disaster management councils (required).

Required members

Prefectures and municipalities	Meteorological observatories	Regional Development Bureaus, etc (Erosion Control Departments)	
Volcano experts	Self-Defense Forces	Police	Fire departments

Add as needed

Tourism-related organizations, etc.

*Other organizations include environmental offices, regional forest office, transportation and communications carriers, etc. Managers of facilities that attract visitors and mountain huts are also eligible.

Discussion matters

Discussions are to be held concerning a series of alert and evacuation systems, including setting volcanic alert level and establishing evacuation systems in accordance with those levels.

Eruption scenario

*A chronological summary of the phenomena and changes in the impact by the eruption

Volcanic Hazard Map

*A map showing the area affected by the phenomena of the eruption

Volcanic Alert Level

*Restriction on proximity to the volcano and evacuation, etc. depending on the stage of eruption activity.

Evacuation plans

*Indicating evacuation sites, evacuation routes, evacuation means, etc.

[To be included in area disaster management plans after hearing opinions from the council (required)]

[Prefectures] (Article 5)

1. Gathering and transmission of information concerning the occurrence and progression of volcanic phenomena, and issuance and transmission of forecasts and alarms (within prefectures)

2. Standards for determining 2 and 3 on the right

3. Wide-area coordination of evacuation and rescue, etc.

[Municipalities] (Article 6)

1. Gathering and transmission of information concerning the occurrence and progression of volcanic phenomena, and issuance and transmission of forecasts and alarms (within municipalities)
2. Notifications, etc. by mayors regarding evacuation such as displacement preparations, etc. (volcanic alert level)
3. Evacuation sites and evacuation routes
4. Names and locations of facilities attracting visitors and facilities for persons requiring special care
5. Evacuation drill and rescue etc.

[Obligation of mayors to inform] (Article 7)

Distributing volcanic disaster prevention maps to publicize matters necessary to ensure smooth alert and evacuation, such as evacuation sites, etc.



[Example of a volcanic disaster prevention map (Sakurajima)]

[Obligation to prepare plans for ensuring evacuation] (Article 8)

Preparation of plans and conduct of drills by managers, etc. of facilities that attract visitors (ropeway stations, hotels, etc.) and facilities for persons requiring special care Assistance from mayors and advice from councils regarding the preparation of plans for ensuring evacuation, etc.

Development of a research and observation system, strengthening of cooperation between research institutions, and developing and continuous securing of volcano experts (Article 30)

- Improving education to help people acquire specialized knowledge and skills related to volcanoes
- Making efforts to develop and continuously secure human resources

Establishment of Volcano Disaster Prevention Day (Article 37)

- August 26th will be designated as Volcano Disaster Prevention Day with the aim of deepening interest and understanding of active volcano countermeasures widely among the people.
- On Volcano Disaster Prevention Day, efforts are made to hold events appropriate to the purpose, such as disaster prevention drills, etc.

Establishment of the Headquarters for Volcano Research Promotion (Articles 31 through 36)

[Affairs handled by the Headquarters]

- ① Formulating comprehensive and fundamental policies for the promotion of observation, surveying, research and studies
- ② Coordination of administrative affairs such as budgets, etc. for research and study relating to volcanoes by relevant administrative bodies
- ③ Formulating a comprehensive survey and observation plan
- ④ Collecting, organizing, and analyzing survey results, etc. from relevant administrative bodies, universities, etc. and conducting a comprehensive evaluation.
- ⑤ Public relations based on comprehensive evaluation

Designation of areas requiring emergency development of evacuation facilities (Article 13)

Preparation of evacuation facilities emergency development plans (Article 14)

Preparation of disaster management agricultural business facilities development plans, etc. (Article 19)
<Prefectural Governors>

Implementation of ash removal projects (Article 22)

<Municipalities>
*Roads, sewers, urban drainage channels, parks, residential lands

Designation of ash fall prevention areas (Article 23)

Implementation of ash fall prevention projects (Articles 24 through 26)

- Facilitating the provision of information to local governments to grasp information on climbers, etc., and making efforts to ensure the safety of climbers (Article 11)
- Utilization of information and communications technology in the transmission of information (Article 12)
- Promotion of forest conservation and flood control projects (Article 27)
- Promotion of research and studies into the effects on human health, etc. (Article 29)

活動火山対策特別措置法（昭和48年法律第61号）の概要

1. 目的

火山の爆発その他の火山現象により著しい被害を受け、又は受けるおそれがあると認められる地域等について、活動火山対策の総合的な推進に関する基本的な指針を策定し、警戒避難体制の整備を図り、避難施設、防災営農施設等の整備及び降灰除去事業の実施を促進する等特別の措置を講ずるとともに、火山調査研究推進本部を設置すること等により、活動火山対策の強化を図り、もって当該地域における住民、登山者その他の者の生命及び身体の安全並びに住民の生活及び農林漁業、中小企業等の経営の安定を図ることを目的とする。

2. 概要

国による活動火山対策の推進に関する基本指針の策定（第2条）

火山災害警戒地域の指定（第3条）

警戒避難体制の整備を特に推進すべき地域を内閣総理大臣が指定

火山防災協議会（第4条）

…関係者が一体となり、専門的知見も取り入れながら検討
都道府県・市町村は、火山防災協議会を設置（義務）

必須構成員

都道府県・市町村

気象台

地方整備局等
(砂防部局)

火山専門家

自衛隊

警察

消防

必要に応じて追加

観光関係団体 等

※ その他、環境事務所、森林管理局、
交通・通信事業者等
集客施設や山小屋の管理者も可

協議事項

噴火警戒レベルの設定、これに沿った避難体制の構築など、一連の警戒避難体制について協議

噴火シナリオ

※ 噴火に伴う現象と及ぼす影響の推移
を時系列に整理したもの

火山ハザードマップ

※ 噴火に伴う現象が及ぼす範囲を地
図上に示したもの

噴火警戒レベル

※ 噴火活動の段階に応じた
入山規制、避難等

避難計画

※ 避難場所、避難経路、
避難手段等を示したもの

【協議会の意見聴取を経て、地域防災計画に記載（義務）】

【都道府県】（第5条）

1. 火山現象の発生・推移に関する情報の収集・伝達、予警報の発令・伝達（都道府県内）

2. 右の2. 3を定める際の基準

3. 避難・救助に関する広域調整
等

【市町村】（第6条）

1. 火山現象の発生・推移に関する情報の収集・伝達、予警報の発令・伝達（市町村内）

2. 立退きの準備等避難について市町村長が行う通報等（噴火警戒レベル）

3. 避難場所・避難経路

4. 集客施設・要配慮者利用施設の
名称・所在地

5. 避難訓練・救助
等

【市町村長の周知義務】（第7条）

火山防災マップの配布等により、避難場所等、円滑な警戒避難の確保に必要な事項を周知



【火山防災マップの例（桜島）】

【避難確保計画の作成義務】（第8条）

集客施設（ロープウェイ駅、ホテル等）や要配慮者利用施設の管理者等による計画作成・訓練実施
避難確保計画作成等に関する市町村長による援助、協議会による助言

研究観測体制の整備、研究機関相互の連携の強化、火山専門家の育成及び継続的な確保（第30条）

- 火山に関し専門的な知識・技術を習得させるための教育の充実
- 人材の育成及び継続的な確保に努める

火山防災の日の制定（第37条）

- 国民の間に広く活動火山対策についての関心と理解を深めることを目的に8月26日を火山防災の日に制定
- 火山防災の日には、防災訓練等その趣旨にふさわしい行事の実施に努める

火山調査研究推進本部の設置（第31条～第36条）

【本部でつかさどる事務】

- 観測、測量、調査及び研究の推進について総合的かつ基本的な施策を立案
- 関係行政機関の火山に関する調査研究予算等の事務の調整
- 総合的な調査観測計画を策定
- 関係行政機関、大学等の調査結果等を収集、整理、分析し、総合的な評価を実施
- 総合的な評価に基づく広報

避難施設緊急整備地域の指定（第13条）

避難施設緊急整備計画の作成（第14条） 防災営農施設整備計画等の作成（第19条）

<都道府県知事>

降灰除去事業の実施（第22条）

<市町村>

※ 道路、下水道、都市排水路、公園、宅地

降灰防除地域の指定（第23条）

降灰防除事業の実施（第24条～第26条）

- 自治体による登山者等の情報把握のための情報提供の容易化、登山者の安全確保に関する努力義務（第11条）
- 情報伝達における情報通信技術の活用（第12条）
- 人の健康等に及ぼす影響の調査・研究の推進（第29条）
- 治山・治水事業の推進（第27条）