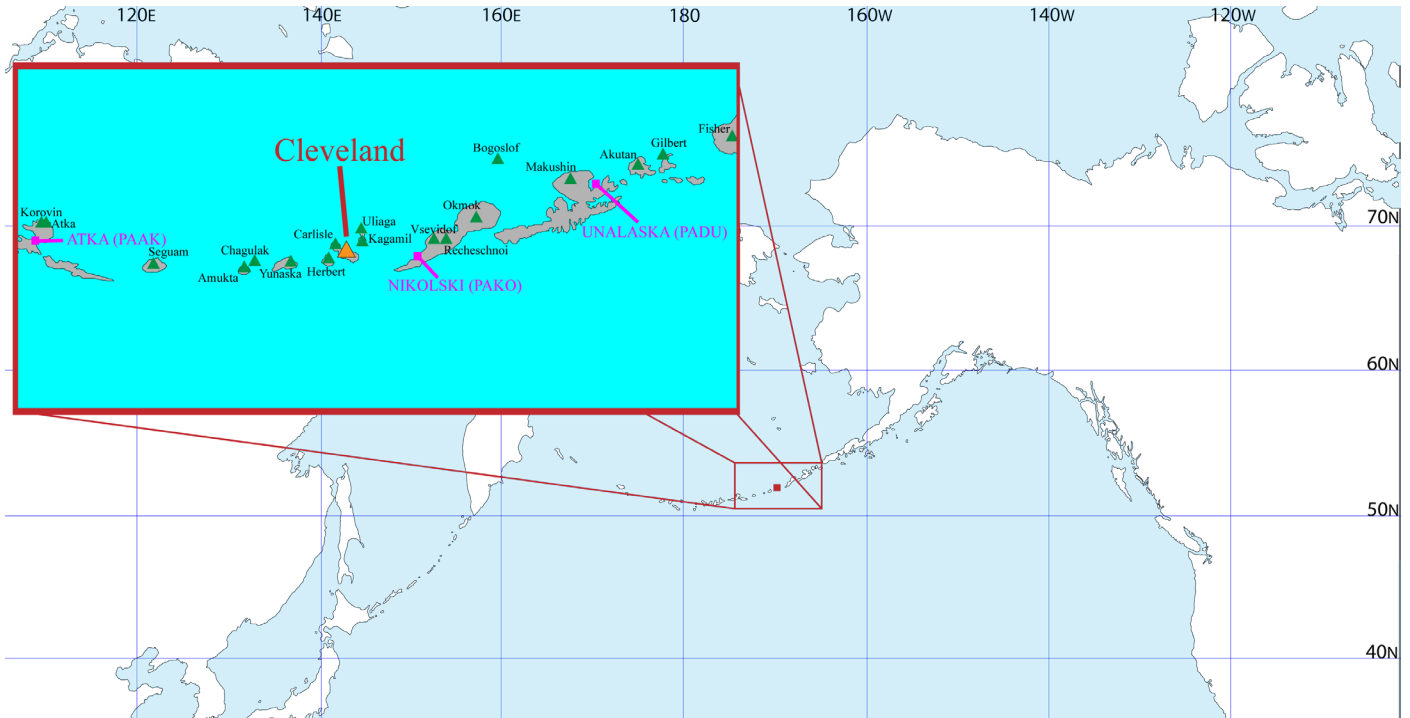


AVO raise Mt Cleveland threat level to orange



Mt Cleveland 52°49'20" N 169°56'42" W

The Alaska Volcano Observatory (AVO) raised the Aviation Color Code to Orange and the Alert Level to Watch yesterday in response to observations of a new lava dome in the summit crater of Mt Cleveland. New observations from August 2 show that the lava dome has grown from about 40 meters (131 feet) to about 50 meters (164 feet) in diameter since July 29. Weak thermal anomalies were detected in satellite images last night and this morning consistent with slow dome growth or a cooling dome. If dome growth continues, lava flows onto the flanks of the volcano may develop but would not be hazardous to aviation. The presence of the lava dome increases the possibility of an explosive eruption, but does not necessarily indicate that one will occur. Short-lived explosions could produce an ash cloud that exceeds FL200. These events can occur without warning and may go undetected in satellite imagery for hours.

Without a real-time seismic network at Mt. Cleveland, AVO is unable to track local earthquake activity related to volcanic unrest, provide forecasts of potential eruptions, or confirmation of explosive activity. Low-level ash emissions and elevated surface temperatures such as those observed recently do not necessarily mean a larger eruption is imminent. AVO continues to monitor the volcano using satellite imagery.

Additional Information

Click [here](#) for IFALPA's Position on the operation of aircraft near volcanic ash plumes

Click [here](#) for manufacturer advice on operation of aircraft near volcanic ash plumes