

Explosive activity of Chikurachki volcano in January–February of 2023 (Paramushir Island, Northern Kuril Islands)

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Abstract. The first information about the eruption of Chikurachki volcano in 2023 (Paramushir Island, Northern Kuril Islands) obtained on the basis of satellite and visual data is presented. In the period from January 28 to February 8, 2023, another explosive eruption of Chikurachki volcano, which in its nature was similar to the previous five episodes of explosive activity of the volcano that occurred throughout 2022. The volcano activity was characterized by the manifestation of moderate volcanic activity: both separate explosions and phases of a relatively calm and prolonged (several hours) emission of an ash-gas mixture were observed. In total, in the period from January 28 to February 8 of 2023, eight ejections were recorded at a height of 2.5 to 4.5 km a.s.l. Ash plumes were directed mainly to the east and northeast, their length was 100–155 km. Given the high activity and explosive nature of the activities of Chikurachki volcano in recent years, during which extended ash plumes form, the volcano is potentially dangerous for international and local airlines.

Keywords:

Kuril Islands, Chikurachki volcano, eruption, Paramushir, volcanic ash, satellite data

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