



A shot of the Augustine volcano in western Alaska toward the end of its long eruption that lasted several months in 2006. Credit: Cyrus Read, USGS

June 2015



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Detecting volcanic ash in the atmosphere

Airborne volcanic ash has significant aviation, health, infrastructure, and economic impacts. It is important to monitor volcanic regions and promptly identify ash clouds. Both the advanced spectral, spatial, and temporal resolution of the GOES-R Advanced Baseline Imager, and the high-resolution imagery and global reach of JPSS's VIIRS instrument, will be used to generate a complete set of volcanic cloud detection and monitoring products, resulting in improved air and ground safety.

Suomi NPP VIIRS true-color image of the eruption of the Sangeang Api volcano in Indonesia on May 31, 2014.



Credit: NOAA/NESDIS