

# Alaska volcano eruptions ground flights

January 31 2006

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Alaska Airlines has canceled all flights to and from Anchorage because of activity at the Augustine volcano, about 180 miles southwest of Anchorage.

The carrier's senior vice president for Alaskan operations, Bill McKay, said 36 flights were canceled as a safety precaution related to the pattern of ash being produced by the volcano.

Augustine began a new phase of near-constant eruption on Friday, the Anchorage Daily News reported. The volcano produced a staccato of explosions Monday and early Tuesday, ejecting plumes of ash and steam.

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