

This service summarizes current satellite mapping activities of interest to GDACS stakeholders. It is issued weekly and based on contributions from map-producing entities and GDACS partners.

Satellite mapping overview

As of 26 September 2016

Asia

Japan tropical cyclone – GLIDE number: TBD

A new tropical cyclone, Malakas, appeared in East Asia less than one week following tropical cyclone Meranti's activity in the region. The NASA Earth Observatory acquired satellite imagery of Malakas on 19 and 20 September 2016, and produced overview maps. In the afternoon of 19 September 2016, Malakas was visible approaching Japan as a category-3 equivalent storm with maximum sustained winds of 195 kilometers per hour. At this time, the storm had already traveled offshore of Taiwan, bringing high winds and heavy rains to that island. By the early morning of 20 September 2016, Malakas could be seen hovering over Japan. It made landfall over the island of Kyushu with winds reportedly measuring 185 kilometer per hour. Map products are available for online viewing or download in GeoTIFF and JPEG format on the NASA Earth Observatory website.

Source: NASA Earth Observatory

Links: <http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/NaturalHazards/view.php?id=88773&eocn=home&eoci=nh>
<http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/NaturalHazards/view.php?id=88788&eocn=home&eoci=nh>

Russia wildfires – GLIDE number: TBD

Russia continues to experience an active season of wildfires this year, particularly in Siberia. The NASA Earth Observatory collected 18 September 2016 satellite imagery of wildfires in this region and produced an overview map. As of this date, numerous fires were detected and large plumes of smoke moving in a northwest direction engulfed the region. Additional satellite data from 20 September 2016 revealed that the top of smoke plumes reached up to 9 kilometers in altitude. A few days prior to the latest image capture, a haze of smoke reportedly filled the sky in Ust'-Kut and ash flakes fell over the town as well. The fires also necessitated the evacuation of employees working on the Eastern Siberia-Pacific Ocean oil pipeline. This map product is available for online viewing or download in JPEG format on the NASA Earth Observatory website.

Source: NASA Earth Observatory

Link: <http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/NaturalHazards/view.php?id=88792&eocn=home&eoci=nh>

This service summarizes current satellite mapping activities of interest to GDACS stakeholders. It is issued weekly and based on contributions from map-producing entities and GDACS partners.

North America

United States power outage – GLIDE number: TBD

On 21 September 2016, an explosion at a local power plant in Salinas, Puerto Rico, led to a fire and the collapse of the power system. Nearly 1.5 million consumers lost power and the event affected water provision, air conditioning, traffic, businesses and schools. The NASA Earth Observatory acquired 21 and 22 September 2016 satellite imagery of the situation and made overview maps. While nighttime lights were visible throughout Puerto Rico prior to the outage on 21 September 2016, by 22 September 2016 parts of the island located outside of the San Juan metropolitan area were left in darkness. The Ponce, Humacao, Aguadilla, Arecibo, and Mayagüez areas were particularly affected. As of 24 September 2016, power was restored to most of the island. Map products are available for online viewing or download in GeoTIFF and JPEG format on the NASA Earth Observatory website.

Source: NASA Earth Observatory

Link: <http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/NaturalHazards/view.php?id=88796&eocn=home&eoci=nh>

United States wildfire – GLIDE number: TBD

In California, an illegal campfire from late July 2016 expanded near the coast between Big Sur and Monterey. Throughout August it burned in Los Padres National Forest, and continued to burn into the month of September. The NASA Earth Observatory captured 15 September 2016 of the fire, known as Sobranes, and created overview maps. At this time, a large burn scar was visible close to the coast. An active fire with smoke emanating from it could be seen also. Smoke from the fire has affected the local air quality, rendering it unhealthy for areas in close proximity to it, including Carmel Valley, Cachagua, and Tassajara. As of 25 September 2016, the Sobranes fire had burned roughly 512.7 square kilometers and was 77 percent contained. It has become the most expensive wildfire to extinguish in United States history. Map products are available for online viewing or download in GeoTIFF and JPEG format on the NASA Earth Observatory website.

Source: NASA Earth Observatory

Link: <http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/NaturalHazards/view.php?id=88781&eocn=home&eoci=nh>

This service summarizes current satellite mapping activities of interest to GDACS stakeholders. It is issued weekly and based on contributions from map-producing entities and GDACS partners.

This summary is compiled by the GDACS mapping & satellite imagery coordination mechanism, operated by the UNITAR Operational Satellite Applications Programme (UNOSAT).

When referring to this summary, please credit: GDACS, UNITAR-UNOSAT.

For comments, questions and to submit information on satellite image derived products, please contact:

maps@gdacs.org

Sources indicate satellite analysis production entities and imagery providers. The products referenced in this summary are based on remote satellite imagery and may not be validated in the field prior to release, in which case findings are based only on what is observed in the satellite imagery.

**Not an official GLIDE number, as event has no entry in GLIDE database, but used by GDACS for seamless information integration.*