

## Image: Japan's coastline before and after the tsunami

March 14 2011

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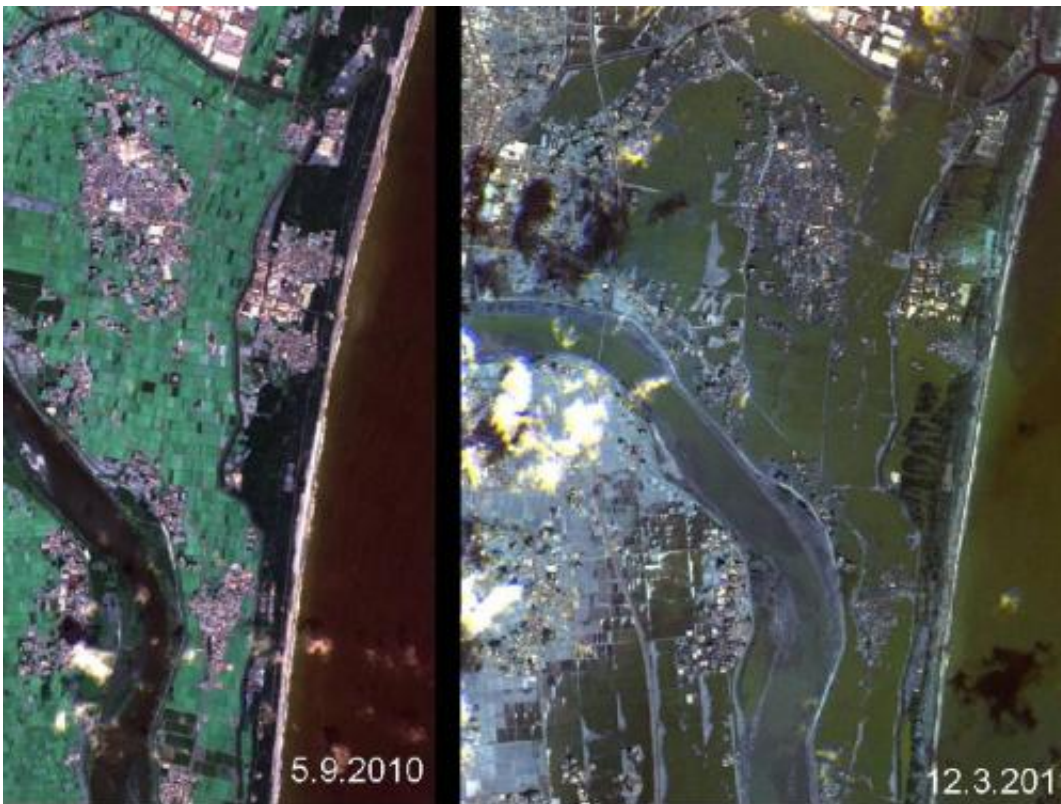
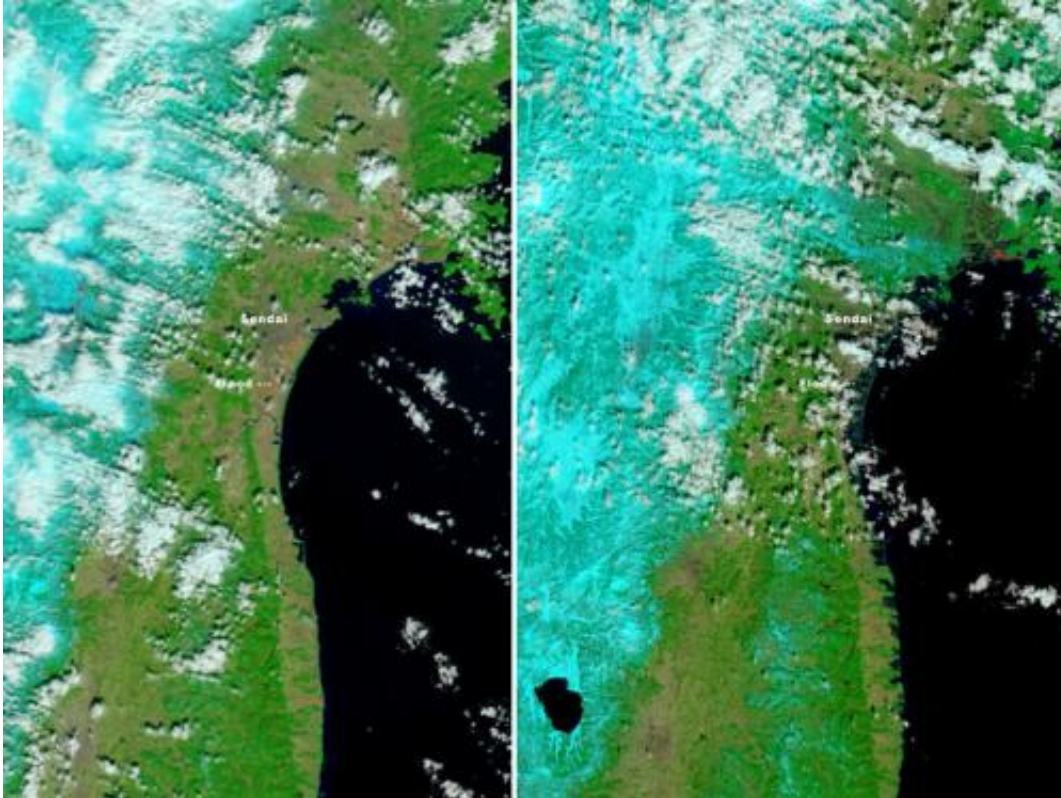


Image Credit: German Aerospace Center (DLR)/Rapid Eye

These images show the effects of the tsunami on Japan's coastline.

The image on the left was taken on Sept. 5, 2010; the image on the right was taken on March 12, 2011, one day after an earthquake and resulting tsunami struck the island nation.



Credit: NASA

NASA's Terra satellite's first view of northeastern [Japan](#) in the wake of a devastating [earthquake](#) and [tsunami](#) reveal extensive flooding along the coast. The Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) acquired the right image of the Sendai region on March 12, 2011, at 10:30 a.m. The left image, taken by Terra MODIS on February 26, 2011, is provided as a point of reference.

Water is black or dark blue in these images. It is difficult to see the [coastline](#) in the March 12 image, but a thin green line outlines the shore. This green line is higher-elevation land that is above water, presumably preventing the flood of water from returning to the sea. The flood

indicator on the left image illustrates how far inland the flood extends.

Provided by JPL/NASA

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