

NASA images: Colby fire near Los Angeles, California

January 17 2014



The Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) on NASA's Terra and Aqua satellites captured this images of the Colby fire just before noon on Jan. 16. Credit: NASA image by Holli Riebeek and courtesy LANCE/EOSDIS MODIS Rapid Response Team at NASA GSFC.

A wildfire started and spread quickly in the foothills northeast of Los Angeles on January 16, 2014. The plume of ash and smoke blanketed much of the metropolitan area and prompted air quality warnings.

The Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) on NASA's Terra and Aqua satellites captured these images of the Colby fire just before (top) and just after noon on January 16. The morning image is clearer because the scene was centered under the satellite, while the afternoon image is fuzzy because the satellite was observing from an angle.

According to InciWeb, the fire started around 6 a.m. Pacific Time on January 16 in Angeles National Forest near Glendora, California. As of 3 p.m. local time, nearly 500 firefighters were working the fire, which had destroyed 1,700 acres and at least two homes. Fire officials were concerned about gusty winds and extremely low humidity that could promote fire growth.



The Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer on NASA's Aqua satellite captured this image of the Colby fire just after noon on Jan. 16. Credit: NASA image by Holli Riebeek and courtesy LANCE/EOSDIS MODIS Rapid Response Team at NASA GSFC.

More information: References:

InciWeb: Incident Information System (2014, January 16) Colby Fire. Accessed January 16, 2014.

Los Angeles Times (2014, January 26) Colby fire: Plume of smoke, ash prompts air quality advisories. Accessed January 16, 2014.

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NASA image by Holli Riebeck and courtesy LANCE/EOSDIS MODIS Rapid Response Team at NASA GSFC. Caption by Michael Carlowicz.

Provided by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

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