

Bushfires continue to plague Victoria, Australia

February 24 2014



This natural-color satellite image was collected by the Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) aboard the Terra satellite on Feb. 23, 2014. Actively burning areas, detected by MODIS's thermal bands, are outlined in red. Credit: NASA image courtesy Jeff Schmaltz, MODIS Rapid Response Team. Credit: NASA/Goddard, Lynn Jenner

Reports coming from Australia are more positive than negative now with

regards to the Morwell fire, but officials say they still have a "long way to go." Considerable progress has been made in extinguishing the fire, but there is still significant heat that continues to generate smoke from the open mine. Fire activity has been cut in half since February 11, but there are still "weeks of firefighting ahead" according to Craig Lapsley, Fire Services Commissioner on the County Fire Authority website.

According to the Australian News, "The [Morwell] fire, which started on February 9, is burning on two worked-out faces of the mine, spread over 2.5km. A number of firefighters have been treated for higher than normal levels of [carbon monoxide](#) and the EPA is doubling its [air monitoring](#) in response to community concerns."

The Snowy River Complex fire has currently burned over 500 square miles to date. Many of the bushfires are now considered under control by local fire authorities, however, due to the hot, dry conditions that are not abating threaten more fire outbreak in the area. It has been a devastating fire season in Victoria this year.

Provided by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

Citation: Bushfires continue to plague Victoria, Australia (2014, February 24) retrieved 23 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2014-02-bushfires-plague-victoria-australia.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.