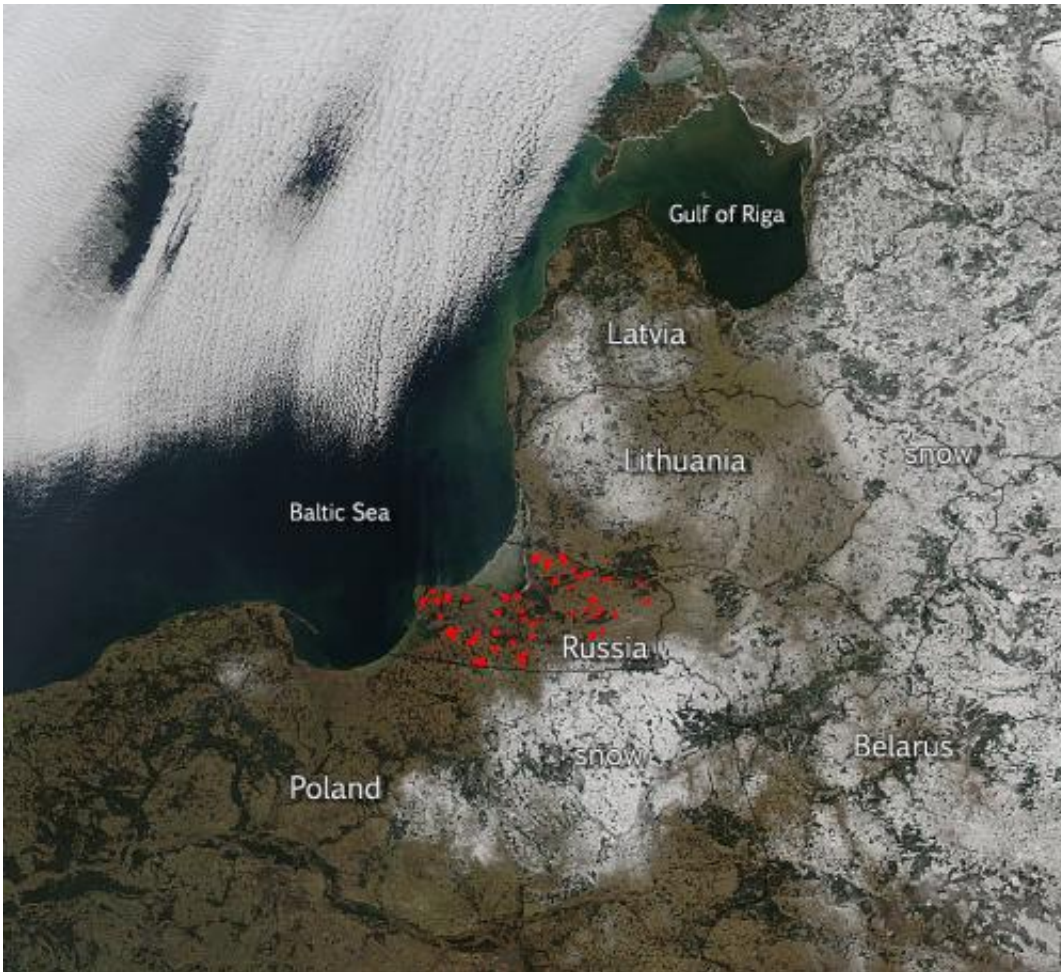


Fires and snow in Central Europe

February 18 2015



The Aqua satellite captured this image on Feb. 17, 2015 of multiple hot spots scattered throughout the Kaliningrad Oblast, Russia landscape. Credit: Jeff Schmaltz, MODIS Rapid Response Team.

The Aqua satellite captured this image on February 17, 2015 of multiple

hot spots scattered throughout the Kaliningrad Oblast, Russia landscape.

Each hot spot, which appears as a red mark, is an area where the thermal detectors on the MODIS instrument recognized temperatures higher than background. When accompanied by plumes of smoke, as in this image, such hot spots are diagnostic for fire.

The smoke released by any type of fire (forest, brush, crop, structure, tires, waste or wood burning) is a mixture of particles and chemicals produced by incomplete burning of carbon-containing materials. All smoke contains carbon monoxide, [carbon dioxide](#) and particulate matter or soot.

Surrounding these hotspots are large expanses of snow which cover parts of Poland, Belarus, Lithuania, and Latvia.

Provided by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

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