

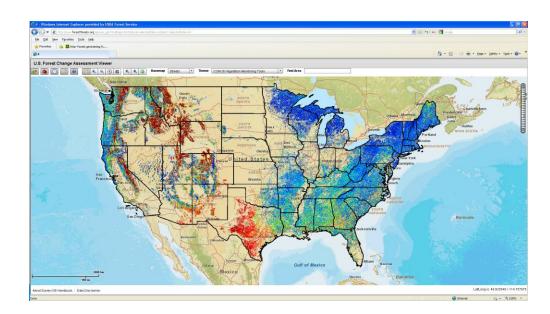


from the Forest Services' Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center (EFETAC) and the Western Wildlands Environmental Threat Assessment Center (WWETAC)

A Help document for basic navigation, data layers and uses

(click heading to jump to section)

- 1. Map Navigation
- 2. Obtaining Data Layer Information
- 3. Basemap Types
- 4. Choosing 'Themes' of Data Layers
- The 'Current' Forest Change Layer: MODIS Near Real Time (NRT) Products
- 6. <u>Sharing views with Colleagues</u>
- 7. News Events of 2011 to Date
- 8. Points of Contact
- 9. Quick Start Guide (for familiarized users)
- 10. Tips and Hints
- 11. Frequently Asked Questions
- 12. <u>Phenology-related Internet Websites</u>
- 13. Appendices: Other Phenology Data Sets



Forest Change Assessment Viewer Website:

http://ews.forestthreats.org/

Threat Assessment Center Websites:

http://forestthreats.org/
http://www.fs.fed.us/wwetac/



- Partners -



National Environmental Modeling and

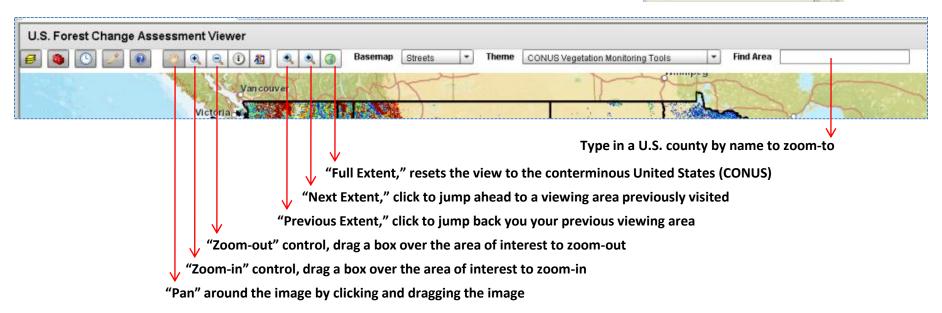




from the Forest Services' Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center (EFETAC) and the Western Wildlands Environmental Threat Assessment Center (WWETAC)

Basic Navigation: Moving around the map











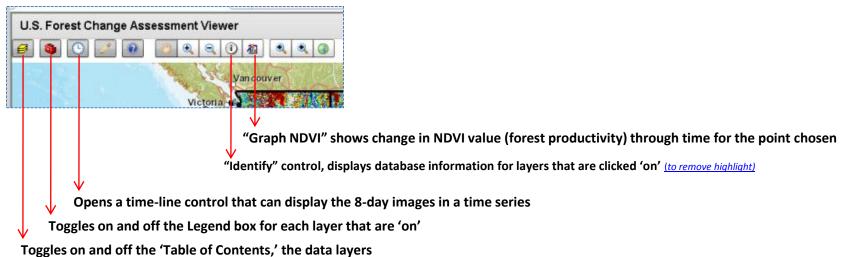


from the Forest Services' Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center (EFETAC) and the Western Wildlands Environmental Threat Assessment Center (WWETAC)

Portion of Viewer detailed is shown in red

Basic Navigation: **Obtaining Information**













from the Forest Services' Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center (EFETAC) and the Western Wildlands Environmental Threat Assessment Center (WWETAC)

Data Layers: Choosing a Basemap





Portion of Viewer detailed is shown in red



Click the "Basemap" dropdown to choose among the types below

...this may become more important when viewing forest disturbance image products later, keep the default "Streets" to begin with













Notes – all basemap layers exhibit increased detail when zoomed (*) USGS quads 1:24k, 1:100k and 1:250k

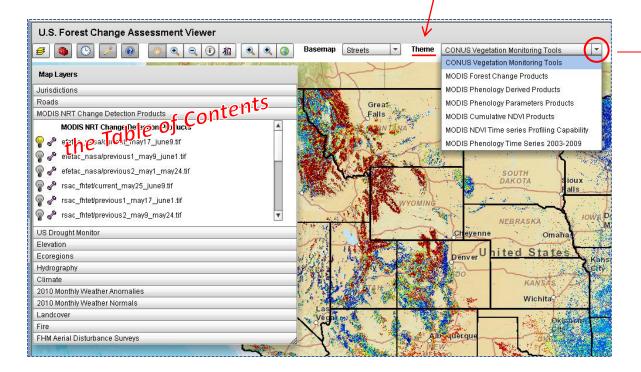






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Data Layers: Choosing a Data Theme



Portion of Viewer detailed is shown in red



The "Theme" dropdown adds specific data layers to the Table of Contents, only one "Theme" can chosen at a time.

Beginning users should leave the theme choice set to the default "CONUS Vegetation Monitoring Tools."

More detail will follow regarding the other thematic collections, the specific data layers that are added to the Table of Contents and to which purpose(s) the other themes and data layers are appropriate.



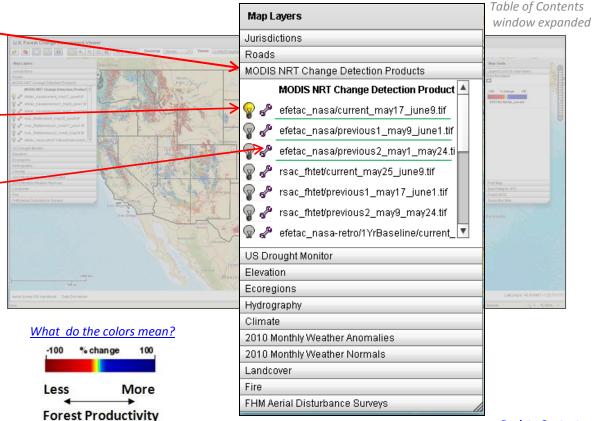




from the Forest Services' Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center (EFETAC) and the Western Wildlands Environmental Threat Assessment Center (WWETAC)

<u>Data Layers</u>: Viewing the most recent forest change image product

- In the Table of Contents window, —
 click on the tab heading "MODIS
 NRT Change Detection Products" to
 expand and view the data layers
 (NRT near real time)
- Click the 'lightbulb' to the left of the top data layer, this turns-on the most recent forest change detection image
- Use the 'wrench' icon adjust the transparency of any layer to better view the basemap, or other layers
- The top three layers are the (3) most recent eight-day forest change products from EFETAC
- 5. Uses: toggle the three most recent products to view a time-based progression of a disturbance (shades of yellow to red), or "green-up" (shades of green to blue)











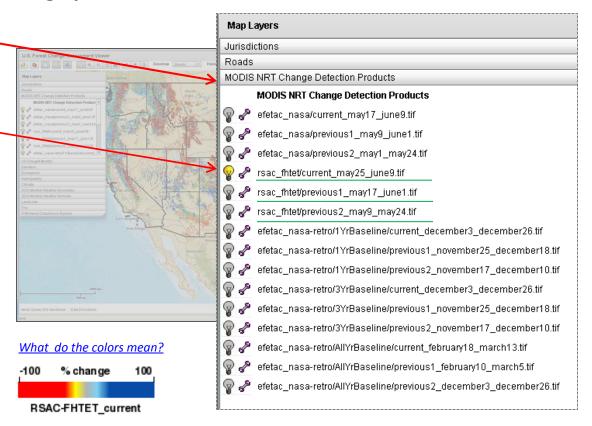


from the Forest Services' Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center (EFETAC) and the Western Wildlands Environmental Threat Assessment Center (WWETAC)

Data Layers: Forest Change image products from the RSAC (the Remote Sensing Application Center, USDAFS)

- In the Table of Contents window, click on the tab heading "MODIS NRT Change Detection Products" to expand and view the data layers (NRT – near real time)
- Click the 'light bulb' to the left of the top "RSAC" data layer, this turns-on the most recent forest change detection image from the RSAC Forest Health Technology Enterprise Team of the USDA Forest Service (*)
- Uses: toggle the three most recent RSAC image products to view a timebased progression of a disturbance (shades of yellow to red), or "greenup" (shades of green to blue)

(*) Different methodologies are employed by EFETAC and RSAC to produce forest change image products







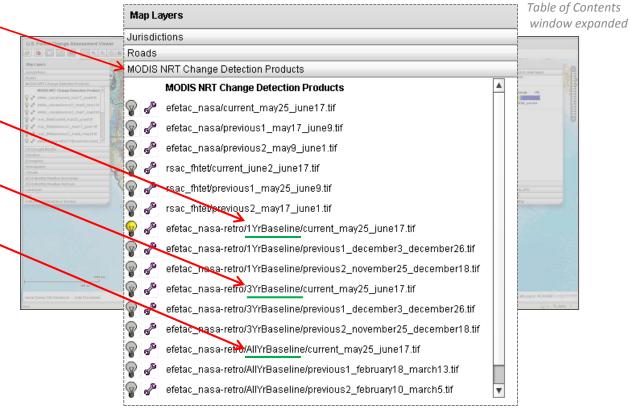




from the Forest Services' Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center (EFETAC) and the Western Wildlands Environmental Threat Assessment Center (WWETAC)

<u>Data Layers</u>: The (3) most recent "BASELINE" forest change image products

- In the Table of Contents window, click on the tab heading "MODIS NRT Change Detection Products," this expands the tab and presents the data layers (NRT – near real time)
- The "Baseline" products are identified by three time periods: (a) a 1-year, (b) a 3-year and (c) an "All-year" baseline
- The 1-year baseline image presents the degree of forest change for a specific date compared to the maximum greenness value of for all the images of the previous 1-year (2009)
- The 3-year baseline image presents the degree of forest change for a specific date compared to the maximum greenness value of for all the images of the previous 3-years (2006-2009)
- The All-year baseline image presents the degree of forest change for a specific date compared to the maximum greenness value of for all the images of the previous 9-years (2003-2009)
- Use the 'wrench' icon adjust the transparency of any layer to better view the basemap, or other layers
- The top three layers are the (3) most recent eightday forest change products from EFETAC based on the All-year
- Uses: toggle the three most recent products to view a time-based progression of a forest disturbance (shades of yellow to red), or forest productivity, and/or "green-up" (shades of green to blue)







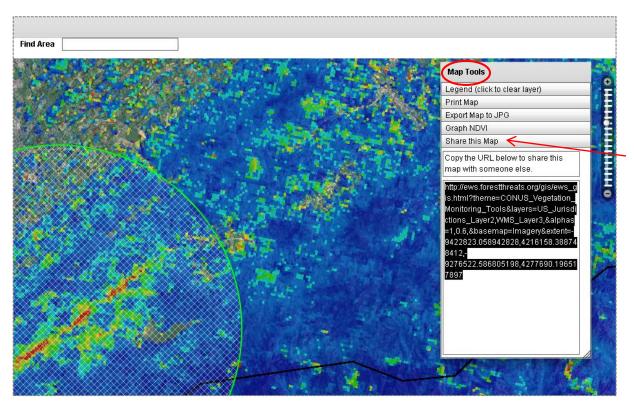


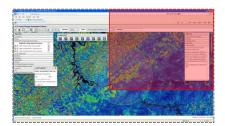


from the Forest Services' Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center (EFETAC) and the Western Wildlands Environmental Threat Assessment Center (WWETAC)

Portion of Viewer detailed is shown in red

How to: Share Disturbance Events with Colleagues





The "Map Tools" box in the upper right portion of the Viewer offers the capability to send a URL of a view via your email client to a colleague.

Click the "Share this Map" tab, then highlight and copy the URL, and paste the link into your email program. Your colleague can open the Viewer to the same extent and data layers you were using to explore a disturbance event.

Printing, graphing and the ability to save a JPEG of the view is also available here.

Shown: Forest damage by an EF4 tornado in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park (April 27, 2011).



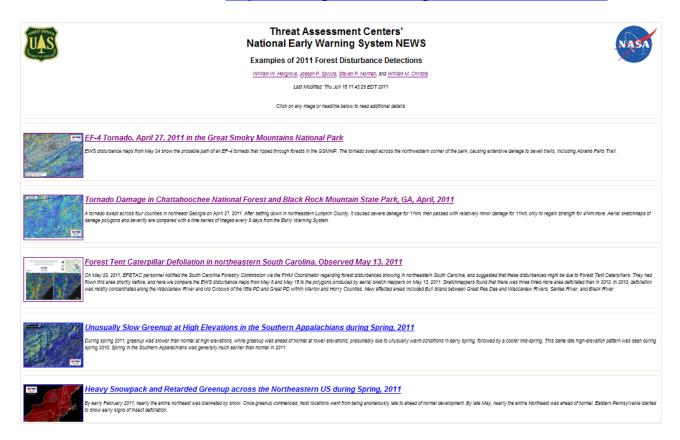




from the Forest Services' Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center (EFETAC) and the Western Wildlands Environmental Threat Assessment Center (WWETAC)

2011 Forest Disturbance 'NEWS' Events

viewable at this URL - http://www.geobabble.org/~hnw/first/EWSNews/









Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center Southern Research Station 200 W.T. Weaver Blvd. Asheville, NC 28804



http://www.forestthreats.org

Points of Contact

Team Lead: Danny C. Lee, EFETAC Director, 828.257.4854, dclee@fs.fed.us

Principal Investigator: William (Bill) W. Hargrove, Research Ecologist, 865.235.4753, whargrove@fs.fed.us

Outreach: Perdita Spriggs, Communications Director, 828.259.0542, pspriggs@fs.fed.us

Technical Assistance: Bill Christie, Biological Scientist (GIS/RS), 828.257.4370, wchristie@fs.fed.us





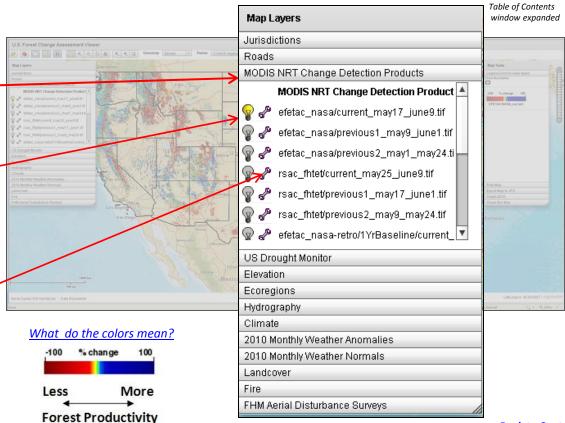




from the Forest Services' Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center (EFETAC) and the Western Wildlands Environmental Threat Assessment Center (WWETAC)

Quick Start Guide (for returning users, and those familiar with web-based map viewers)

- 1. Open this URL in a web browser http://ews.forestthreats.org/gis/ews_gis.html# app=9432&6ca8-selectedIndex=2&e411selectedIndex=0
- In the Table of Contents window, click on the tab heading "MODIS NRT Change Detection Products" to expand and view the data layers (NRT – near real time)
- Click the 'light bulb' to the left of the top data layer, this turns-on the most recent forest change detection image
- 4. Use the map controls to zoom and pan, or type the name of a county in the "Find Area" box in the top-right area of the FCAV viewer window
- Use the 'wrench' icon adjust the / transparency of any layer to better view the basemap, or other layers
- 6. Return to this Help documents' first page to learn more of the Forest Change Assessment Viewer (FCAV)













from the Forest Services' Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center (EFETAC) and the Western Wildlands Environmental Threat Assessment Center (WWETAC)

Tips and Hints

- •If a URL hangs up during load, try changing the backdrop
- •The "imagery" basemap works very well to locate general disturbances, since it has dark colors
- •To see if a potential disturbance is drought related, try turning on the Drought Monitor Data Layer
- •To see if a potential disturbance is wildfire related, turn on the "Monitoring Trends in Burn Severity" (MTBS) fire layers, this layer is associated with the default "Theme" located under the "Fire" tab
- •To see if a potential disturbance is insect or disease related, try turning on the sketchmapper polygons from past years. If there has been insect or disease activity nearby in the past, it is likely to have happened again
- •To view a past disturbance to a forested area, access the Archived imagery and choose imagery before and after the incident:
- to view previous 8-day imagery, change the "Theme" to "MODIS Forest Change Products," in the Table of Contents open the tab named "Archived NRT EFETAC-NASA," scroll to dated pre- and post-incident to view the extent of forest change, or disturbance
- •The EWS provides an extraordinary mechanism for mapping fuelproducing events and fuel moisture. Blow-downs, ice storms and beetle kill areas can be targeted for fuels management (Norman, EFETAC)

- •The 1-year Baseline product can present less 'noise' when interpreting the severity of a forest disturbance
- •Other standard data layers can assist in the interpretation of a forest disturbance event, following are some examples:
- under the Elevation tab, "SRTM" (Shuttle Radar Topography Mission) "DEM" (Digital Elevation Model) may suggest affects from a gradient of altitude
- under the Elevation tab, use of the "Aspect" and "Hillshade" layers can assist in the interpretation of the effects of topographic position
- •To view the "MODIS NRT Change Detection Products" on a desktop GIS via a Web Map Service (WMS) connection, use the URL below to define the WMS location (in ESRI's ArcGIS Desktop 9.3.1, choose version 1.0.0 in the GIS Server properties dialog box):

http://fswms.nemac.org/ewswgs84?SERVICE=WMS&REQUEST=GetCapabilities&

- •Using the MODIS NRT WMS connection will allow desktop users to integrate their own local data layers for comparison, analysis and quantification of the spatial extent, content and severity of forest disturbance events
- •Use the MODIS NRT WMS connection to screen digitize polygons of forest disturbance









from the Forest Services' Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center (EFETAC) and the Western Wildlands Environmental Threat Assessment Center (WWETAC)

Frequently Asked Questions (pg 1 of 2)

What is the best image to display to see if there is any forest disturbance in my area of interest?

The most recent forest disturbance image is located in the Table of Contents, under the tab named "MODIS NRT Change Detection Product." Click this tab and look at the top of the listing for the most recently-dated file called "efetac nasa/current monthday monthday. tif' (replace the "monthday" reference with the most current date range), click the 'light-bulb' to display the image. MODIS NRT Change Detection Products efetac_nasa/current_may25_june17.tif efetac_nasa/previous1_may17_june9.tif efetac_nasa/previous2_may9_june1.tif

Also, look down in the data layer listing under this heading for the most recently dated "Baseline" product from EFETAC. For descriptions of the "Baseline" products, click here (MODIS = Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectrometer, 231 meter pixel)(NRT = Near-Real-Time)

What do the colors mean?

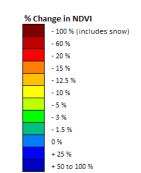
Generally, the colors relate to forest productivity as compared to a previous baseline (8-year: the default, 3-year or 1-year baseline). Shades of blue-to-green denote a healthy forest condition and similar in development to previous year (s). Shades of red-to-yellow denote a forest condition where the greenness at that time period differs greatly-to-moderately when compared to the forest productivity, or greenness values of the previous year(s).

Specifically, the colors denote the percent change difference when comparing the current images NDVI (Normalized Difference Vegetation Index) value with the maximum NDVI pixel value over the past 8-, 3- or 1-year baseline NDVI image set. NDVI values are calculated via a band ratio of red to infrared (of the electromagnetic spectrum) and range from +1.0 to -1.0 in value.

Baseline products: Located under the same tab named "MODIS NRT Change Detection Product," the first three forest change images 9the three most recent) are a result of comparing the observed "greenness" for that date range with the maximum "greenness" observed over the past 8-years (2003-2010). Try looking at the "current" 1-year baseline for the most current date to display the forest change image for the current period compared to ONLY last year (be sure to unclick the most recent 8-year baseline image to see the 1-year baseline image).

The forest disturbance image is covering up the basemap and I can't see where I am viewing?

Located in the Table of Contents beside each data layer is a "wrench"-looking icon, clicking this icon will open a control that one can use to apply a transparency for any data layer. Set the slider at a position where you can see both the basemap and the colors of the forest disturbance image.



The transparency tool is located in the Table of Contents

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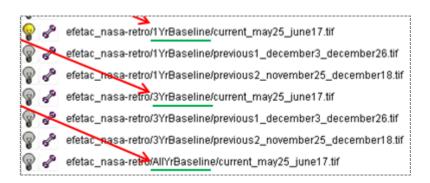
Frequently Asked Questions (pg 2 of 2)

What are the "Baseline" products?

Baseline products: Located under the same tab named "MODIS NRT Change Detection Product," the first three forest change images 9the three most recent) are a result of comparing the observed "greenness" for that date range with the maximum "greenness" observed over the past 8-years (2003-2010). Try looking at the "current" 1-year baseline for the most current date to display the forest change image for the current period compared to ONLY last year (be sure to unclick the most recent 8-year baseline image to see the 1-year baseline image).

The image to the right is a zoomed portion of the Table of Contents tab "MODIS NRT Change Detection Products"

Note: at the time of this printing only the most currently dated change image is available in the three baseline products, eventually, the three most current forest change products will be available In the Table of Contents for the three baseline periods.



How do I remove the highlight color after an "Identify" operation is performed?

At this stage, the only way to remove the highlight of a data layer from the Viewer is to click an area in the ocean (try clicking the "Full Extent" icon-1, then click an area of the ocean, then the "Previous Extent" icon-2, to return)



What is the quickest way to see if a forest disturbance is taking place in my area?

Reference the "Quick Start Guide" of this help document (click here).

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http://www.forestthreats.org

Phenology-related Websites

National Phenology Network

USGS-Remote Sensing and Phenology

Measuring Vegetation (NDVI & EVI)

USDA/FS Forest Change Assessment Viewer (FCAV) Early Warning System (EWS)

Phenology - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia







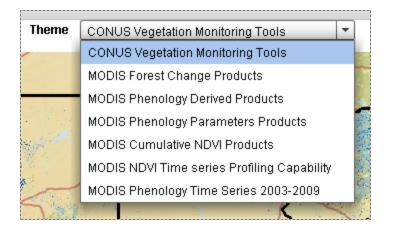


from the Forest Services' Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center (EFETAC) and the Western Wildlands Environmental Threat Assessment Center (WWETAC)

Appendices: Theme-based Data Layers

(click heading to jump to section)

- 1. CONUS Vegetation Monitoring Tools
- 2. MODIS Forest Change Products
- 3. MODIS Phenology Derived Products
- 4. MODIS Phenology Parameters Products
- 5. MODIS Cumulative NDVI Products
- 6. MODIS NDVI Time Series Profiling Capability
- 7. MODIS Phenology Time Series 2003 2009



For a description of the following products, go to:

http://www3.nemac.unca.edu/wpfstest/ews/datasets/national-phenology-data-set-npds/









from the Forest Services' Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center (EFETAC) and the Western Wildlands Environmental Threat Assessment Center (WWETAC)

Appendix 1: CONUS Vegetation Monitoring Tools (Thematic Group Data Layers)

MODIS NRT Change Detection Products

efetac_nasa/previous2_may1_may24.tif

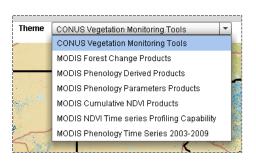
💡 🥜 rsac_fhtet/current_may25_june9.tif

👔 🧬 rsac_fhtet/previous1_may17_june1.tif

rsac_fhtet/previous2_may9_may24.tif

The (3) most recent 8-day forest change image products, look for a new forest change image every 8-days from EFETAC

The (3) most recent 8-day forest change image products, look for a new forest change image every 8-days from RSAC



efetac_nasa-retro/1YrBaseline/current_december3_december26.tif

efetac_nasa-retro/1YrBaseline/previous1_november25_december18.tif

Pefetac_nasa-retro/1YrBaseline/previous2_november17_december10.tif

💡 🥓 efetac_nasa-retro/<u>3YrBaseline/</u>current_december3_december26.tif

efetac_nasa-retro/3YrBaseline/previous1_november25_december18.tif

efetac_nasa-retro/3YrBaseline/previous2_november17_december10.tif

💡 🥓 efetac_nasa-retro/<u>AllYrBaseline</u>/current_february18_march13.tif

efetac_nasa-retro/AllYrBaseline/previous1_february10_march5.tif

efetac_nasa-retro/AllYrBaseline/previous2_december3_december26.tif

In preparing current MODIS forest change images, a new NDVI image is compared to one of three baselines to establish percent change. As of 06/2011, change products are created via looking at the maximum NDVI value for a pixel against the longest baseline, specifically, the 2003 – 2009 baseline. Future plans are to create the (3) most recent forest change products based on each baseline length, namely, the current NDVI value compared to the maximum NDVI value during baseline 2001 – 2010, during baseline 2005-2010, and during baseline 2010.



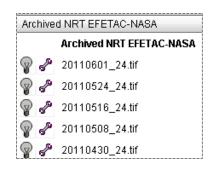




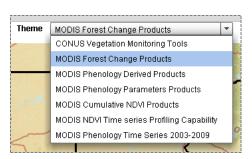


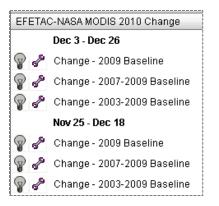
from the Forest Services' Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center (EFETAC) and the Western Wildlands Environmental Threat Assessment Center (WWETAC)

Appendix 2: MODIS Forest Change Products (Thematic Group Data Layers)



Individual 8-day images of forest change produced throughout the year from EFETAC. Look for a similar archive in the Table of Contents that presents forest change products from USDAFS Remote Sensing Application Center (RSAC)





Composite forest change images given the current 3-baseline time periods from EFETAC. Look for a similar data layer set in the Table of Contents that presents forest change products from USDAFS Remote Sensing Application Center (RSAC) for 2010.





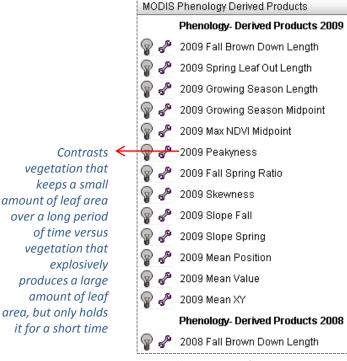




from the Forest Services' Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center (EFETAC) and the Western Wildlands Environmental Threat Assessment Center (WWETAC)

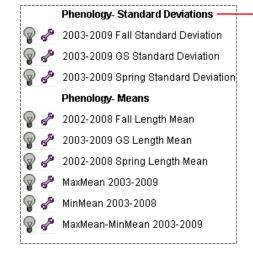
Appendix 3: MODIS Phenology Derived Products (Thematic Group Data Layers)

2003 – 2009 Phenology-based image products



listing repeats for next year...

2003 – 2009 Phenology Standard Deviations and Means



Shows places that are particularly predictable versus places that are particularly unpredictable (GS – Growing Season)

MODIS Phenology Derived Products

CONUS Vegetation Monitoring Tools MODIS Forest Change Products

MODIS Phenology Derived Products

MODIS Phenology Parameters Products
MODIS Cumulative NDVI Products

MODIS NDVI Time series Profiling Capability

MODIS Phenology Time Series 2003-2009

For a description of these products, go to:

http://www3.nemac.unca.edu/w pfstest/ews/datasets/nationalphenology-data-set-npds/

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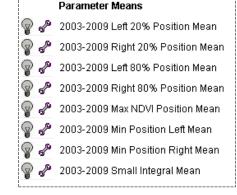
Appendix 4: MODIS Phenology Parameter Products (Thematic Group Data Layers)

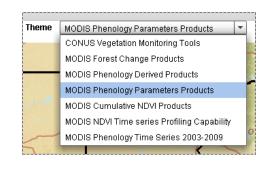
2003 – 2009 Phenology parameter products



Phenological
Parameters
do not
represent the
percentage of
the year, but
rather the
percentage of
the maximum
NDVI values
over the
course of the

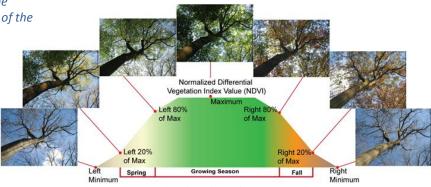
Phenology Parameter Means





For a description of these products, go to:

http://www3.nemac.unca.edu/wpfstest/ews/dat asets/national-phenology-data-set-npds/



listing continues...

The Phenological Curve (red dots indicate measurement points)

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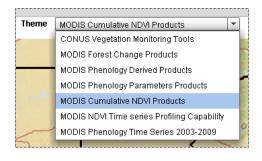
Appendix 5: MODIS Cumulative NDVI Products (Thematic Group Data Layers)

2003 - 2009 Cumulative NDVI products

MOD	3 Cumulative NDVI Products 2003-2006
MOD	3 Cumulative NDVI Products 2007-2009
P 6	2009 Cumulative Integral 2
P 4	2009 Cumulative Integral 1
2008 Cumulative NDVI	
P 6	2008 Cumulative Integral 22
P 6	2008 Cumulative Integral 21
P 4	2008 Cumulative Integral 20
P 6	2008 Cumulative Integral 19
P 5	2008 Cumulative Integral 18
P 5	2008 Cumulative Integral 17
P 5	2008 Cumulative Integral 16

Treating yearly NDVI in a cumulative way causes differences to become more pronounced throughout the year (Hargrove, EFETAC).

The MODIS satellite takes a complete picture of the continental United States every day, although cloud cover, smoke, and other interference often blocks the view of the landscape. To get a complete picture, a 16-day composite is made by taking the highest value for each pixel recorded over the 16-day period. For the Cumulative Phenology data set, the NDVI values in each successive 16-day interval are then summed to form an accumulating total, starting over at the beginning of each year. The first national 16-day interval map, or Interval #1, is usually excluded from products because it covers the December-January transition from one year to the next. Therefore, there are usually 22 intervals that make up one year (#2-23).



For a description of these products, go to:

http://www3.nemac.unca.edu/wpfstest/ews/datasets/national-phenology-data-set-npds/



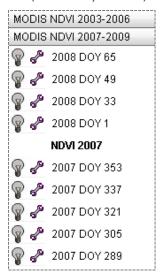




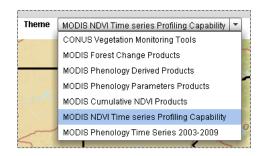
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Appendix 6: MODIS NDVI Time Series Profiling Capability (Thematic Group Data Layers)

2003 – 2009 NDVI Time Series Products (DOY – Day of Year)



The DOY products can tell one what day in the year a threshold is attained



For a description of these products, go to:

http://www3.nemac.unca.edu/wpfstest/ews/datasets/national-phenology-data-set-npds/





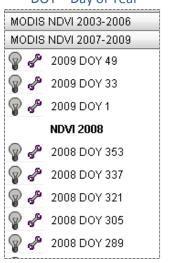




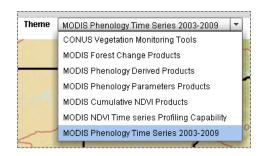
from the Forest Services' Eastern Forest Environmental Threat Assessment Center (EFETAC) and the Western Wildlands Environmental Threat Assessment Center (WWETAC)

Appendix 7: MODIS Phenology Time Series 2003 - 2009 (Thematic Group Data Layers)

2003 – 2009 Phenology Time Series Products DOY – Day of Year



The DOY NDVI value product can tell one what day in the year a threshold is attained



For a description of these products, go to:

http://www3.nemac.unca.edu/wpfstest/ews/datasets/national-phenology-data-set-npds/



