California Wildland Fires
Download Links For PDF Maps
Most recent maps as of early on 10-15-2017
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I am a citizen who has volunteered to help people find authoritative information about the California Wildland fires. There is authoritative fire data on federal servers but many people would likely get lost and frustrated wandering through the directories looking for useful information. This report provides links to some of the most useful information that I have found on the federal servers. The last section of this report includes a link to a Google + GIS fire map that I produced.

The map links in this report extend from the Atlas fire in the south to the Redwood fire in the north.

Caution: Most of these files are moderately large in the range of 1.7MB to7.7MB. I expect the federal server that is hosting these files will be slow in the morning when fire teams are also downloading data from this server.

Part 1 - Atlas Fire

Last night (Saturday night) an infrared equipped plane flew over the Atlas fire. In the wee hours this morning (Sunday) that infrared data was analyzed and an updated fire perimeter was determined. The analyst also determined where the data indicated there was intense heat, scattered heat and isolated heat sources.

Below is a copy of the notes the infrared analyst attached to their report. I am not providing a link to the report since I do not want to expose the phone numbers it contains and also it is a docx file that not everyone will be able to open.

===== start quote =====

Comments /notes on tonight's mission and this interpretation:
Summary: I began tonight's interpretation with the previous night's heat perimeter.

Atlas Fire - 50,881 Acres (9 acres growth). There was no intense heat present tonight. Large areas of scattered heat are present along the eastern side of the fire, especially in the drainages. The remainder of the fire is a mixture of smaller areas of scattered heat and isolated heat sources.

Imagery was good quality tonight with only minimal cloud cover.

===== end quote =====

The following maps all show a fire perimeter based on the infrared flight described above.

1. Atlas fire 2017-10-15 topographic map, 2.9MB
http://ftp.nifc.gov/incident_specific_data/calif_n/!CALFIRE/2017_Incidents/CA-LNU-010105_SouthernLNUComplex/IR/20171015/20171015_Atlas_IR Map_11x17_topo.pdf

2. Atlas fire 2017-10-15 IAP (Incident Action Plan) map index, 3MB
http://ftp.nifc.gov/incident_specific_data/calif_n/!CALFIRE/2017_Incidents/CA-LNU-010105_SouthernLNUComplex/GIS/Products/20171015/iap_11x17_land_MPindex_20171015_0038_Southern_LNU_Complex%20_CALNU10105.pdf

Part 2 - Pocket, Tubbs and Nuns Fires

Also last night (Saturday night) the infrared equipped plane flew over the Pocket, Tubbs and Nuns fires. That data was analyzed and an updated fire perimeter was determined. Below is a copy of the notes the infrared analyst attached to their report.

===== start quote =====

Comments /notes on tonight's mission and this interpretation:
Initial perimeter based on GISS provided layer at 21:45. Flight for 10/14/2017. Time stamp on Shapefiles is for 2149, some runs were time stamped 2138.

Tubbs:
Very little Intense Heat detected on Tubbs. Primarily scattered and isolated heat sources detected throughout perimeter. Several isolated heat sources detected outside perimeter, one to the west, 5 to the south, and 4 to the east. These are probably generated from other sources but I did not want to take any chances so I went ahead and mapped all sources detected. I will check in with SITL for direction on how to handle these.

Nuns:
Nuns had the most growth with intense growth occurring on the north and east sides. On both areas of intense heat on the north side some significant halo effects were observed producing some false positive readings. I did not map these as they were not present on the color imagery. There was also a lot of scattered and isolated heat present throughout the perimeter. As was the case on Tubbs, several isolated heat sources were observed outside the perimeter. I went ahead and captured all of these even though it is highly likely they are within another complex or from natural sources.

Pocket:
There was a fair amount of growth with intense heat detected on the north and north east sides of the perimeter. Also some halo'ing was observed in these areas. A hand full of isolated heat sources were detected east of the perimeter. These are most likely natural sources but I wanted to be sure before omitting them. I will follow up with SITL about them.
===== end quote =====

The following maps all show a fire perimeter based on the infrared flight described above.

Three topographic map showing areas with intense heat, scattered heat and isolated heat sources. See the legend at the bottom of the map.

3. Nuns fire 2017-10-15 topographic map, 1.8MB
http://ftp.nifc.gov/incident_specific_data/calif_n/!CALFIRE/2017_Incidents/CA-LNU-010045_Central_LNU_Complex/IR/20171015/20171015_Nuns_IR_Topo.pdf

4. Pocket fire 2017-10-15 topographic map, 1.7MB
http://ftp.nifc.gov/incident_specific_data/calif_n/!CALFIRE/2017_Incidents/CA-LNU-010045_Central_LNU_Complex/IR/20171015/20171015_Pocket_IR_Topo.pdf

5. Tubbs fire 2017-10-15 topographic map, 1.7MB
http://ftp.nifc.gov/incident_specific_data/calif_n/!CALFIRE/2017_Incidents/CA-LNU-010045_Central_LNU_Complex/IR/20171015/20171015_Tubbs_IR_Topo.pdf

Four operations maps

6. Nuns, Pocket and Tubbs fires 2017-10-15, 8.2MB
http://ftp.nifc.gov/incident_specific_data/calif_n/!CALFIRE/2017_Incidents/CA-LNU-010045_Central_LNU_Complex/GIS/Products/20171015/OPS_E_AREA_20171015_Central_LNU_Complex_CALNU010104.pdf

7. Nuns Fire 2017-10-15 operations map, 7.5MB
http://ftp.nifc.gov/incident_specific_data/calif_n/!CALFIRE/2017_Incidents/CA-LNU-010045_Central_LNU_Complex/GIS/Products/20171015/OPS_E_20171010_Central_LNU_Complex_CALNU010045_NUNS.pdf

8. Pocket Fire 2017-10-15 operations map, 6.9MB
http://ftp.nifc.gov/incident_specific_data/calif_n/!CALFIRE/2017_Incidents/CA-LNU-010045_Central_LNU_Complex/GIS/Products/20171015/OPS_E_20171010_Central_LNU_Complex_CALNU010045_POCKET.pdf

9. Tubbs Fire 2017-10-15 operations map, 7.7MB
http://ftp.nifc.gov/incident_specific_data/calif_n/!CALFIRE/2017_Incidents/CA-LNU-010045_Central_LNU_Complex/GIS/Products/20171015/OPS_E_20171010_Central_LNU_Complex_CALNU010045_TUBBS.pdf

Part 3 - Redwood Fire

Infrared data was also collected for the The Redwood fire last night. Below are the comments the analyst made after reviewing that data.

===== start quote =====

Only the Redwood Fire of the Complex was mapped tonight.

I started mapping with the latest perimeter provided by the incident (FirePolygon from 2017_MendocinoLake Complex_17CAMEU012169_FIMT10011.gdb), after consulting with SITL.

Most of the perimeter growth occurred in the northeast corner of the fire. A few pockets of intense heat exist in this area along the margins of the perimeter, especially near Van Arsdale Reservoir (DIV O). Otherwise, the remainder of the perimeter is mostly unchanged. The interior of the fire is predominantly scattered heat, with a few cooler areas that have isolated heat sources.

===== end quote =====

The following map shows a fire perimeter based on the infrared flight described above.

10. Redwood fire 2017-10-15 topographic map, 2.6MB
http://ftp.nifc.gov/incident_specific_data/calif_n/!CALFIRE/2017_Incidents/CA-MEU-012169_MendocinoLakeComplex/IR/20171015/20171015_MendocinoLakeComplex_IR_Map_11x17_topo.pdf

Part 5 - Google + GIS Fire Map

The link below will open a map that I produced as a public service. It can display 20+ overlay layers showing data that is hosted on federal GIS (Geographical Information System) servers.

Map link: https://goo.gl/g82cFk

To see the map legend please click "Map Tips" in the upper left corner and then click the legend button.

The following GIS overlay layers are on when the map opens:
1. Fire _perimeter (yellow cross hatch)
2. VIIRS_fire_detection (small circles with white background)
3. MODIS_from_GeoMAC (large red/orange/black circles, updated twice per day)

VIIRS and MODIS are two satellite based systems for sensing hotspots. Keep in mind that satellite hotspot data is not perfect. Some of the hotspot data you can see on the map might not have any fire at all (false positive) while other areas may have burned but are not detected by the satellites.

MODIS red = actively burning
MODIS orange = burned in last 12-24 hours
MODIS black = burned 24-48 hours ago

The map does not display data from a static file that never changes. Instead, each time you open the map or turn on a overlay layer the most recent data hosted on the GIS server(s) appears on your screen.

Note that if you zoom in too far then the hotspot data does not display. I have no control over that since the zoom levels at which data displays is defined on the GIS server that is hosting the data.

To see the fire weather forecast:
1. Open the map.
2. Click the basemap button (next to the "Menu" button).
3. Look under the "Overlay" heading and click the "Fire_weather_forecast" layer. Mobile users scroll down.
4. Click the basemap button again and change the basemap to "m - Street map Google".
5. Click on zone.
6. Click the link in the popup.
7. Search the text just on the 3 digit zone code that you clicked.

I am happy to answer questions but please read the "Map Tips" first since they answer many common questions.

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