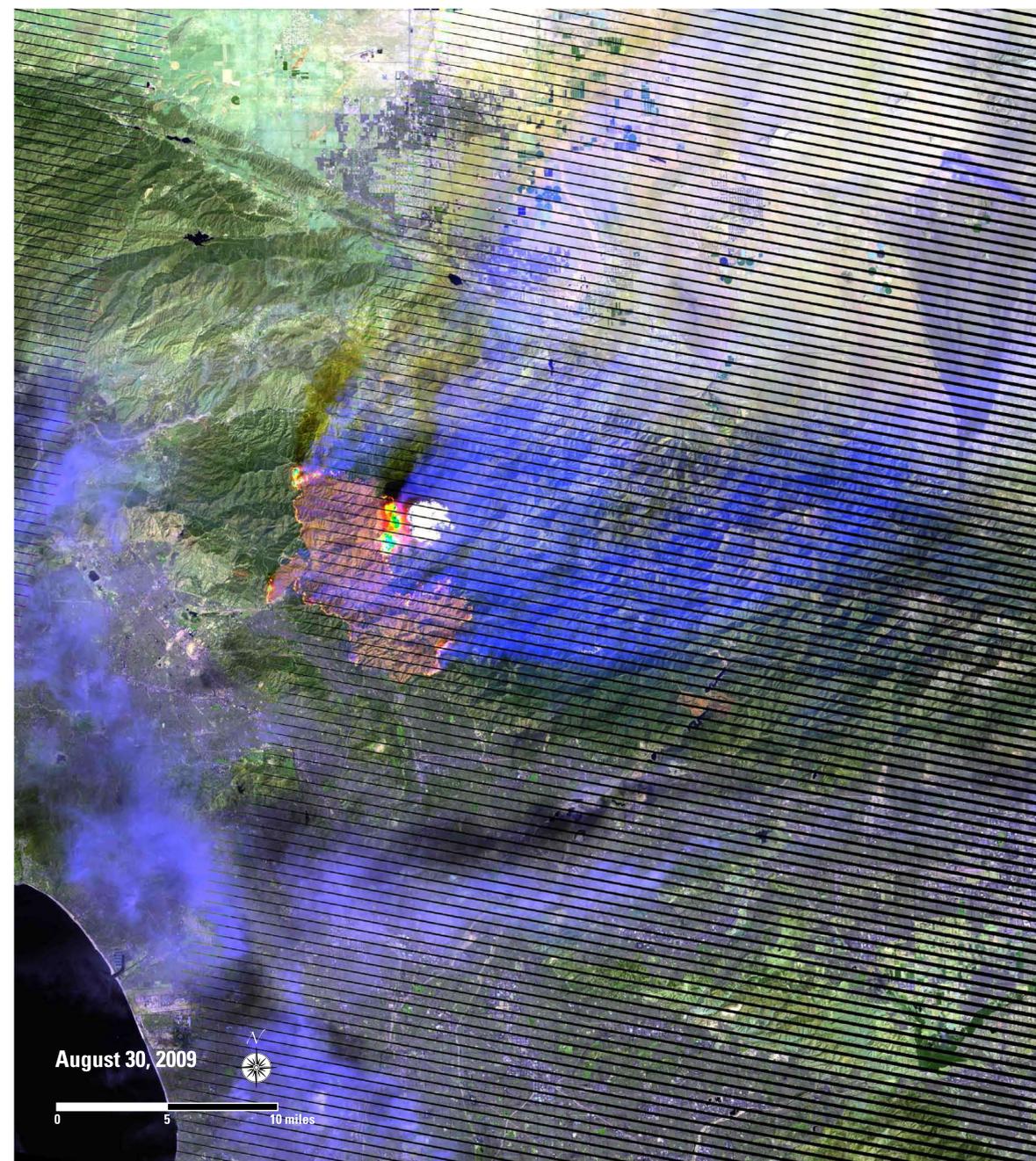
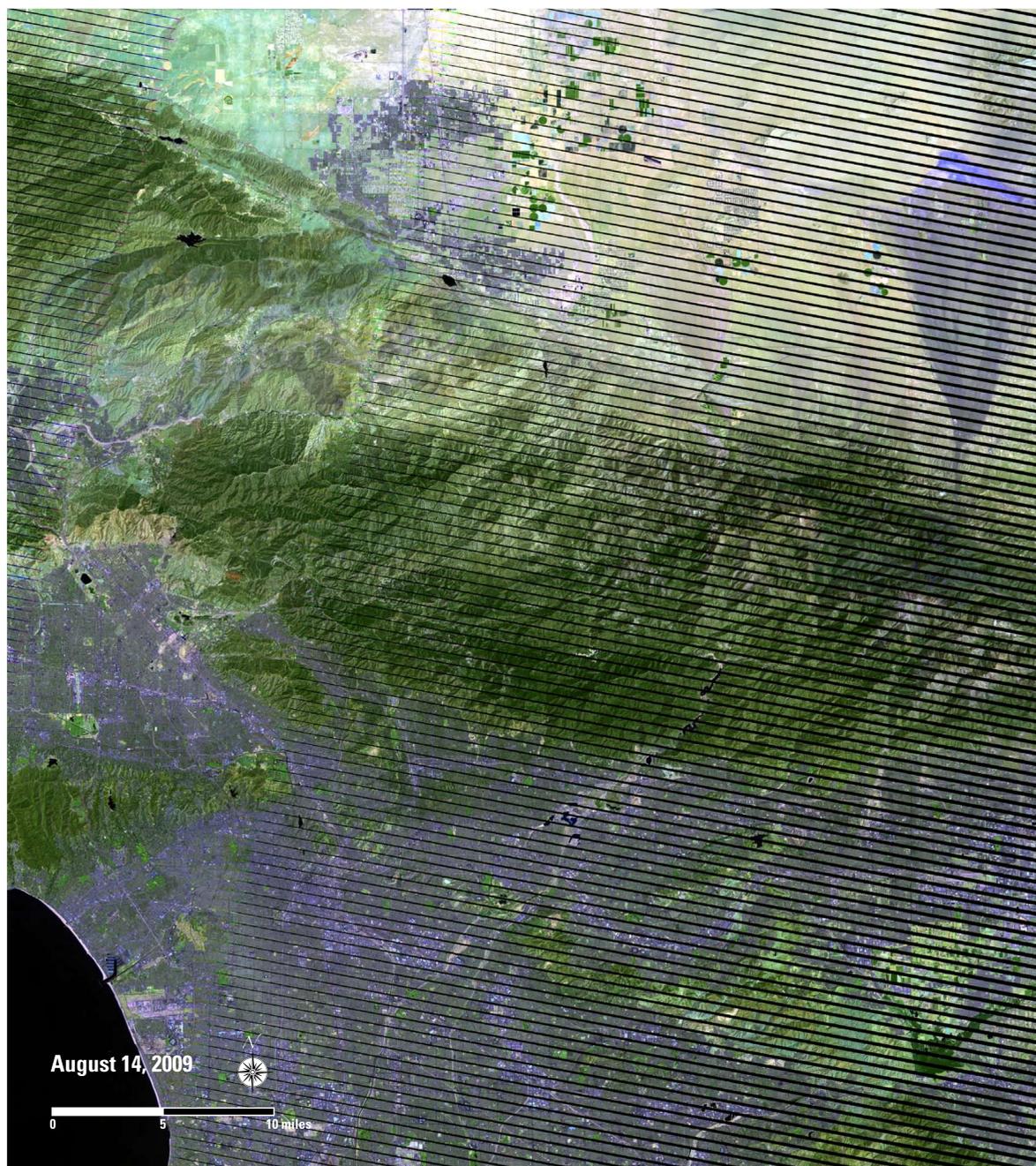


Station Fire



Landsat 7 satellite data, acquired before and during the fires in Southern California show the region affected and the size of the major burns.

The Station Fire near Los Angeles has grown to over 100,000 acres affected within the Angeles National Forest and threatens over 12,000 homes in the foothill communities of La Canada-Flintridge, La Crescenta, Acton, Soledad Canyon, Pasadena and Glendale. Mt. Wilson Observatory is also being threatened.

The fire started on Wednesday, August 26. Due to a lack of recent fires and drought conditions in the area there is plenty of fuel to feed the fire and the terrain in most areas is steep and relatively inaccessible, making fighting the fire from the ground difficult. Flames as tall as 80 feet have not been uncommon. Mandatory evacuations are in effect in many locations.

In the image the gray areas are urban/cities and the blue haze is smoke from the fires. The orange colored areas have been burned and the active fires are the brightest spots in the image. The dark lines in the image are the result a mechanical problem affecting the aging instrument.

This Landsat 7 image is a vital source of information needed by firefighters to control the Station fire and reduce the chances for loss of lives and property. Landsat 7 is a 10 year old satellite - 5 years past its design life - that is still collecting data needed by firefighters and others interested in land surface changes. Efforts are underway to replace Landsat 7 and to ensure that high quality Landsat data are available well into the future.