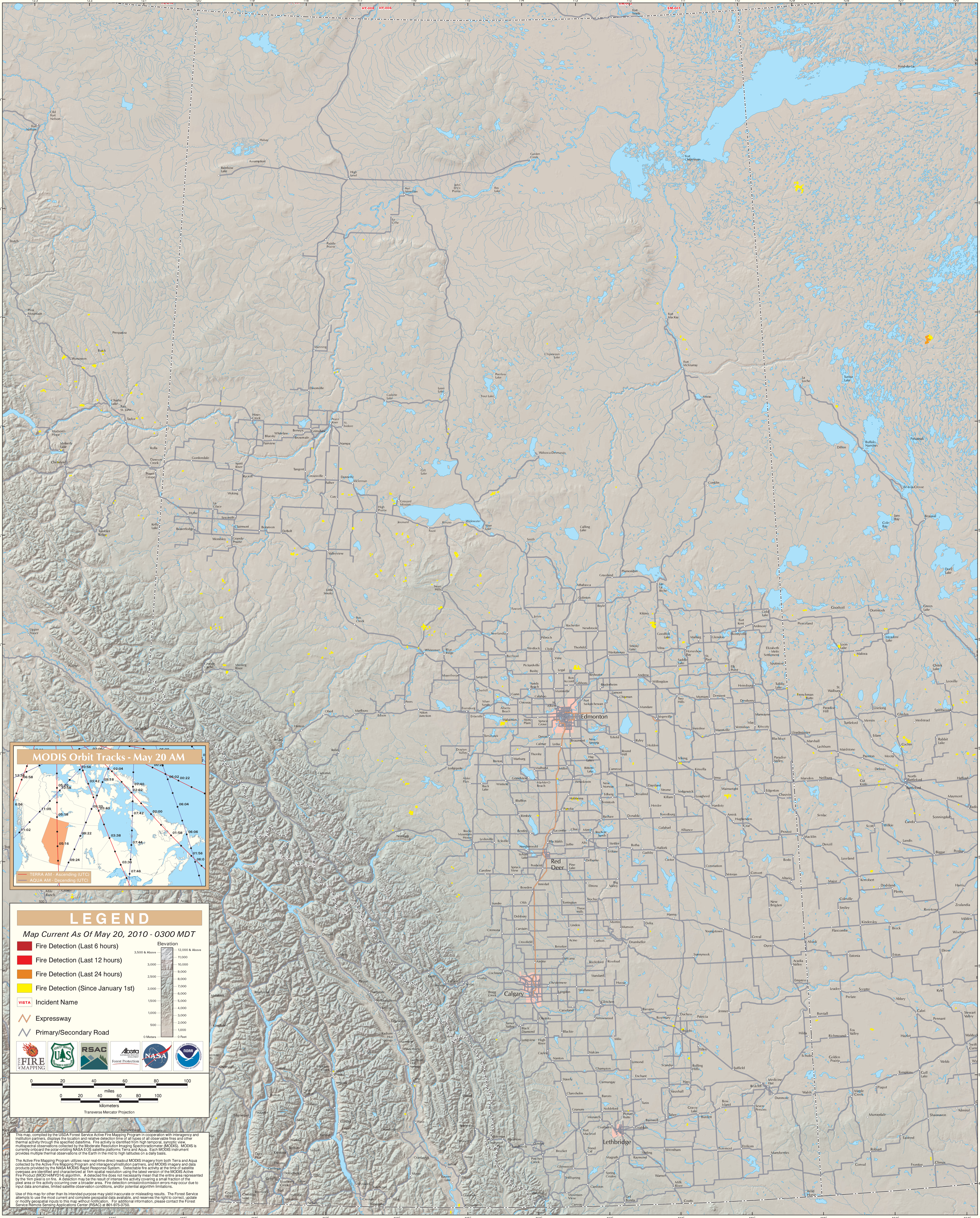
MODIS Active Fire Detections - May 20, 2010



This map, compiled by the USDA Forest Service Active Fire Mapping Program in cooperation with interagency and institution partners, displays the location and relative detection time of all types of all observable fires and other thermal activity through the specified datetime. Fire activity is identified from high temporal, synoptic view, multispectral observations collected by the Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS). MODIS is currently onboard the polar-orbiting NASA EOS satellite platforms Terra and Aqua. Each MODIS instrument provides multiple thermal observations of the Earth in the mid to high latitudes on a daily basis.

The Active Fire Mapping Program utilizes near real-time direct readout MODIS imagery from both Terra and Aqua collected by the Active Fire Mapping Program and interagency/institution partners, and MODIS imagery and data products provided by the NASA MODIS Rapid Response System. Detectable fire activity at the time of satellite overpass are identified and characterized at 1km spatial resolution using the latest version of the MODIS Active Fire Product (MOD14/MYD14) algorithm. A detected fire does not necessarily mean that the entire area represented by the 1km pixel is on fire. A detection may be the result of intense fire activity covering a small fraction of the pixel area or fire activity occurring over a broader area. Fire detection omission/comission errors may occur due to input data anomalies, limited satellite observation conditions, and/or potential algorithm limitations.

Use of this map for other than its intended purpose may yield inaccurate or misleading results. The Forest Service attempts to use the most current and complete geospatial data available, and reserves the right to correct, update or modify geospatial inputs to this map without notification. For additional information, please contact the Forest Service Remote Sensing Applications Center (RSAC) at 801-975-3750.

Alberta