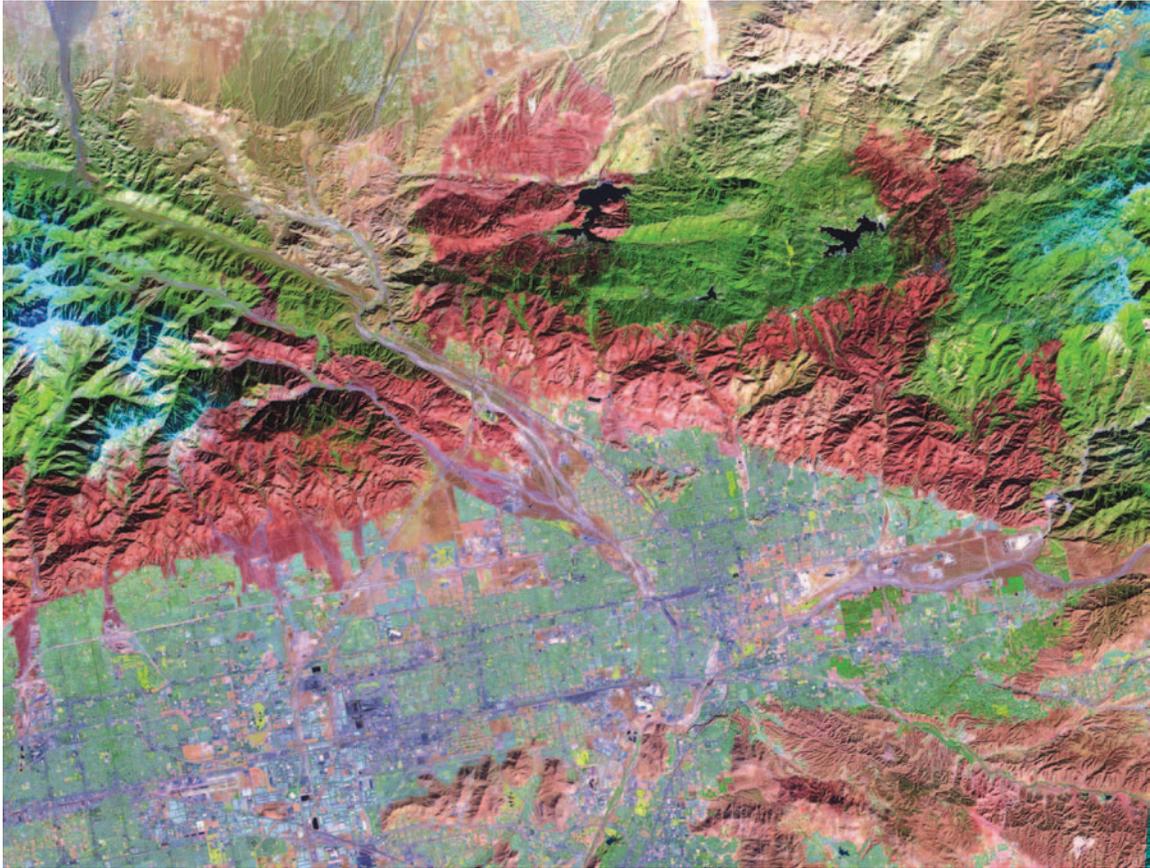


# Issues & Strategies



*The photo above shows the burned area of the Grand Prix and Old Fires (in red) as captured on November 18, 2003 by ASTER (Advanced Spaceborne Thermal Emission and Reflection Radiometer). ASTER flies aboard the Terra satellite as part of NASA's Earth Observing System (EOS).*

A fire siege of the magnitude of the October 2003 Southern California Fires impacts numerous aspects of society. These impacts, in turn, create social-political issues that must be translated into strategic decisions by the various incident commanders. For purposes of this report, many incident commanders from local, state, and federal agencies were interviewed in an attempt to identify the key issues and impacts they considered and their responding strategies. The results of these interviews are summarized here with a short discussion of the social, political, environmental, and organizational issues, the impact on the fire response organization, and the ensuing strategic response. One intent of this report is to document the connection between social political issues and fire strategies. It will be up to others to further evaluate specific problems and implement appropriate solutions.