

ATTENTION: MORNING PRODUCERS & TV METEOROLOGISTS



LIVE SATELLITE INTERVIEW OPPORTUNITY

NASA satellites see hotter, dryer conditions fueling more wildfires around the world



Wildfires follow a simple but dangerous equation – hotter, dryer conditions + more people in the world = a greater likelihood that there will be more ferocious wildfires threatening lives and property. As temperatures around the world rise, even areas not accustomed to seeing wildfires could be at risk in the future.

Extended periods of triple-digit temperatures and very dry conditions have fueled wildfires from Alaska to New Mexico.

In June, a devastating wildfire in Yarnell, Arizona took the lives of 19 elite firefighters. Around the country, more than 2.2 million acres of forest have already burned this year. Those fires have damaged more than 1,400 structures including 876 homes, 88 commercial buildings and 481 outbuildings like barns and sheds between January and July alone. And the 2013 fire season isn't over yet.

Why is this happening? What does this mean for the future? NASA scientists are available on **Friday, August 9th** from **6:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. ET** and **1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. ET** to show your viewers how we use satellite imagery to study fires, talk about how climate change is impacting where we'll see fires, and what computer models tell us about the future.

NASA's fleet of Earth-observing satellites have been keeping a close eye on fires from space for decades, providing free, real-time data to forest services around the world. That data also helps scientists better understand how the dynamic for wildfires is changing as temperatures rise.

****To Book a Window* ***_Contact Michelle Handleman – michelle.z.handleman@nasa.gov / (301) 286-0918 office / (301) 633-5135 cell

Suggested questions:

1. Let's talk about this year's fire season. What have you seen so far?
2. NASA has been monitoring fires from space for about three decades. What are some of the trends that you're seeing?
3. What do projections show for the future?
4. How are NASA satellites – flying some 400 miles above the Earth - used to detect and monitor wildfires?
5. Where can we learn and see more?

Live shot details:

Doug Morton / NASA Scientist

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Michelle Thaller / NASA Scientist

-----OR-----

Chris Justice / NASA Scientist

Location: Greenbelt, MD

HD Satellite Coordinates: AMC-16 Ku-band Xp 16 Slot B | 85.0° W Longitude | DL 12.011 MHz | Horizontal Polarity | QPSK/DVB-S | FEC 3/4 | SR 13.235 Mbps | DR 18.2954 MHz | HD 720p | Format MPEG2 | Chroma Level 4:2:0 | AudioEmbedded

Test card for AMC-16 satellite, SD bars & ID with tone, available 24x7: AMC-16 Ku-band Xp 24 | 85.0° W Longitude | DL 12,195 MHz | Horizontal Polarity | DVB-S | SR 3.979 Mbps | I/F 1445

Video: NASA will roll all insert videos during live interviews. If needed, stations can roll on a clean feed of all video at **5:45 am on Friday, August 9** at the above listed satellite coordinates

For more information: www.nasa.gov/fires