NWS
October 2020
Lattakia Wildfire Analysis

iMMAP Geoinformatics Unit
Major fires in the coastal regions of Syria have caused at least three deaths and dozens of injuries, with areas in the Lattakia Governorate districts of Al Fakhoura, Al Qirdaha, Jableh and Lattakia, along with the Tartous Governorate district of Safita, particularly affected. Local authorities report that up to 28,000 houses are directly affected, with a number of victims hospitalized for smoke inhalation. Damage to assets were reported in some areas, while up to 25,000 people are said to have been displaced. A significant number of households are affected by disruptions to critical public services such as health, water and power supply.

An estimated total of the potential affected area is 26,265.9 hectares (ha), 4,470 hectares of cropland, including orchards, olive trees, and greenhouses and 17,644.9 hectares of forest.

Assessments being conducted to assess the area of activity, led by the Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC). All fires have been contained with cooling and surveillance procedures to reduce the risk of re-inflammation in the coming days.

**Total Area Burnt - Lattakia 1 Sept - 14 Oct 2020**

**Lattakia Fires - October 2020**

*By applying a normalized burn ratio algorithm, burned areas were extracted from Sentinel-2 satellite data for the period between 1 September to 14 October 2020.*

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*Active fire hotspot detections provide unique insights into a region’s fire characteristics. Low resolution satellite sensors, such as the Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite (VIIRS) onboard Suomi-NPP, detects active fire locations across the globe with every 90-minute earth orbit. Active fires are classified as “fire hotspots” and represent a 375m² area (pixel), indicating a possible heat source. A single fire can consist of many hotspots (375m² pixels) depending on the total size of the fire.*