



Natural color satellite image of the Aral Sea on April 9, 2006, with an overlay showing the shoreline of the sea in 1960. By 2006, lake level had fallen over 20 m since the early 1960s, and the Small and Large Seas had become separate lakes, although during the spring high flow season on the Syr Dar'ya, a channel still carried water from the Small to Large Sea. Vozrozhdeniya Island had by 2006 become a huge peninsula, which in the next few years will likely extend to divide the Large Sea into completely separate western and eastern portions. (Data from the MODIS instrument on the Terra satellite.)