



Flooding on the coast of Vietnam, October 3, 2006. Typhoon Xangsane pounded the coastal city of Da Nang with sustained winds of 150 km per hour and heavy rain on October 1. When this image was taken, two days later, the clouds had cleared enough to enable a view of the hard-hit Vietnam coast. The land between the Vu Gia River and the Thu Bon River is covered with water. Mud gives the water on land its pale blue color while a similar pale blue indicates sediment-laden water emptying into the ocean. By the time that this image was taken, the storm had killed 41 people in Vietnam, and damage to infrastructure was extensive. The red box indicates an active fire. (Data from the MODIS instrument on the Aqua satellite; image courtesy of the MODIS Land Rapid Response Team.)