San Francisco engulfed in fog at sunrise on December 6, 2014. Photo: Anthony Quintano (CC BY 2.0)

March 2016

Moon phases are Universal Time (UT)

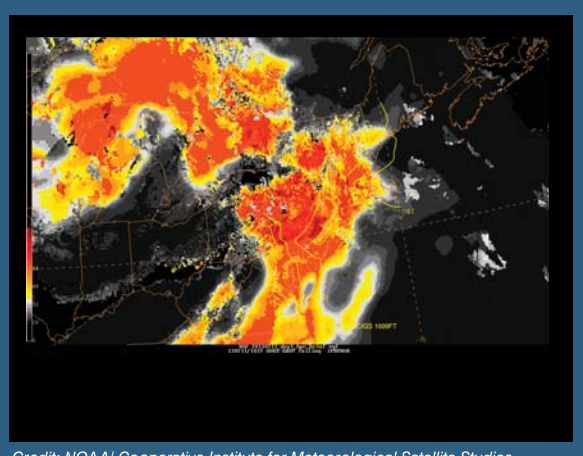
NEW MOON · FIRST QUARTER · FULL MOON · LAST QUARTER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
FEBRUARY S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	APRIL S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	1	2	3	4 GOES-15 launched, 2010	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 Daylight Saving Time begins	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 Vernal Equinox	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 Easter	28 NOAA-8 launched, 1983	29	30	31		

Using satellite data to improve transportation safety

Fog and low stratus clouds are a transportation hazard. Foggy conditions can drastically reduce visibility, creating dangerous situations for vehicles on roadways as well as airplanes, trains, boats and other modes of transportation. The improved spatial and temporal resolution of the GOES-R series Advanced Baseline Imager will allow forecasters to better identify potential hazards caused by fog and low stratus and also identify when these areas are moving or dissipating. Unlike qualitative imagery-based products, the GOES-R fog/low stratus products can be used to quantitatively identify the probability of Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) conditions, even when multiple cloud layers are present, day and night. IFR are a set of regulations established by the Federal Aviation Administration that dictate how aircraft are to be operated when the pilot is unable to navigate using visual references.

GOES-R fog/low stratus product using GOES-13 data.



Credit: NOAA/ Cooperative Institute for Meteorological Satellite Studies