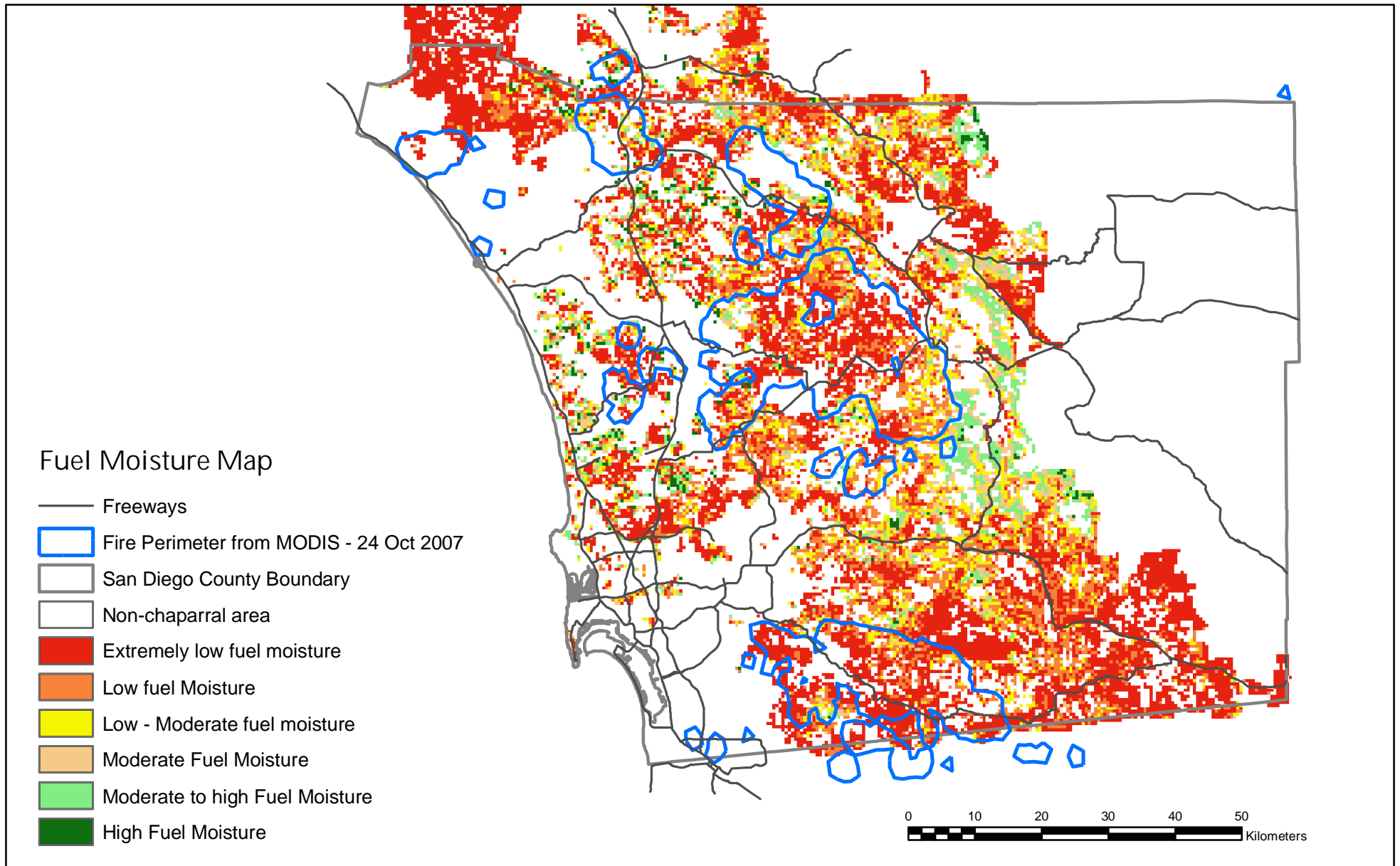


Satellite-derived Map of Chaparral Live Fuel Moisture San Diego County - 8-15 October 2007



This map depicts relative amounts of live fuel moisture (LFM), the amount of water contained within the living part of plants, for the lands predominantly covered by chaparral vegetation communities within (and just beyond) San Diego County. LFM levels are estimated by correlating image data from the MODIS sensor on the NASA Terra satellite with ground-level measurements of LFM made by the California Department of Forestry. Notice that much of San Diego County and particularly the chaparral lands within the recently burned areas are mapped as Extremely Low LFM. This makes the vegetation fuels particularly flammable, even though the severe wind and low humidity conditions during October 21 through 24 were capable of burning and propagating fires in vegetation having higher LFM. The fire perimeters (as of Oct 24 2007) are shown in blue.