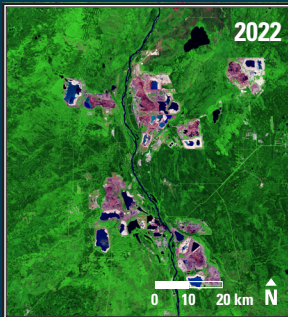
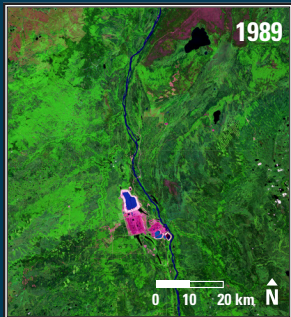


# Athabasca Oil Sands, Alberta, Canada



## Athabasca Oil Sands, Alberta, Canada 1989–2022

One of the world's largest oil reserves sits under the boreal forest of northwestern Alberta, Canada. In the Athabasca region near Fort McMurray, the oil sands are shallow enough for surface mining. Once the forest is cleared, the soil and rock above the oil sand is removed. This creates the maroon or gray irregularly shaped open pits.

Date	Satellite	Bands	Res	Path	Row
Aug. 6, 1989	Landsat 5 TM	7,4,2	30 m	42	20
Aug. 25, 2022	Landsat 9 OLI	7,5,4	30 m	42	20

### Earthshots: Satellite Images of Environmental Change

The U.S. Geological Survey Earth Resources Observation and Science (EROS) Center archives data from the Landsat satellites (1972–present). Earthshots presents environmental changes using Landsat images.



[eros.usgs.gov/earthshots](https://eros.usgs.gov/earthshots)