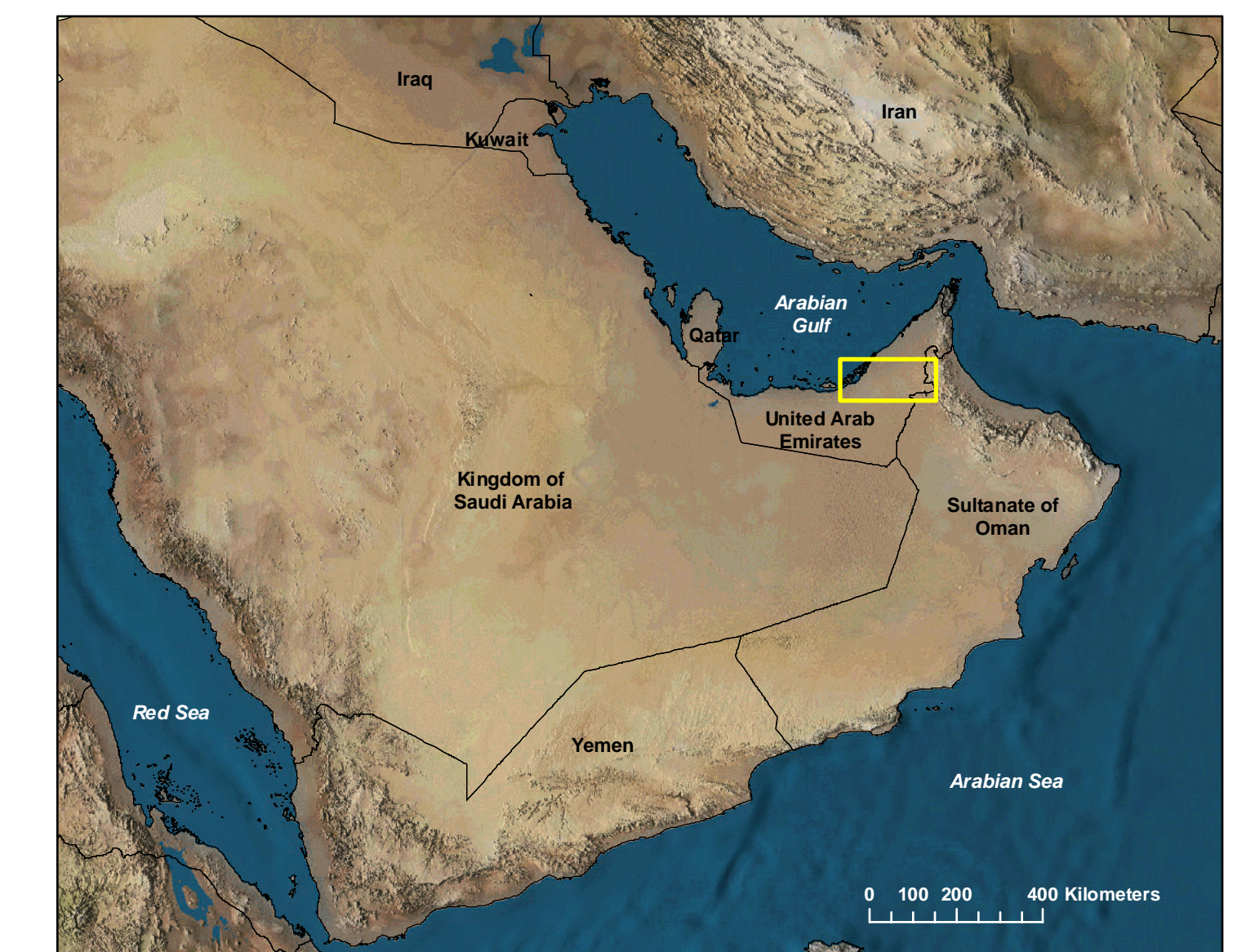


Satellite Image Maps

These satellite images were acquired by the Enhanced Thematic Mapper on the Landsat 7 satellite. The 1996 image was acquired on 30 April, 1996, and the 2004 image was acquired on 30 May, 2004. The images are composed of spectral bands 1 (450 - 515 nanometers, blue), 2 (525 - 605 nanometers, green), and 3 (630 - 690 nanometers, red). These images are a subset of Landsat 7 scene (path 160, row 043) in the World Reference System 2. Horizontal resolution is 29 meters.

The most noticeable change in the landscape between 1996 and 2004 is the increase in irrigated vegetation. The Emirate of Abu Dhabi has had great success in increasing the amount of green vegetation through the use of modern irrigation methods. Three broad categories of vegetation can be seen in these satellite images: 1 - Forest areas are large expanses of planted trees, typically varieties of acacias. These areas are seen as pale green rectangular patches, usually some distance from main roads. 2 - Vegetable fields are smaller individual areas, usually aggregated along main roads. A variety of vegetables have been grown in the past, but this has been replaced in some areas by increased grass production that is used in part for animal fodder. Date palms typically are planted along the edges of the fields. Vegetable fields appear as darker green, smaller rectangular areas, typically clustered together in a grid fashion. Large fodder fields appear as larger, dark green rectangular areas. 3 - Date palm oases usually exist in and around populated places. These appear as dark green, irregular shaped patches.

Small color and tonal variations between the two images are partially because of differences in sun angle, atmospheric conditions, and data processing steps.



Location Diagram

This map has been produced by the Mid-Continent Geographic Science Center for the Ground-Water Research Program, a cooperative research effort between the National Drilling Company and the United States Geological Survey.

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Transverse Mercator Projection
Central Meridian 54 degrees east
Nahrwan Datum 1967