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Yesterday, August 15, 2013

Smoke production from the [Corral Complex](#), [Butler Fire](#), and [Salmon River Complex](#) was less than it has been all week. Air quality impacts continue to occur at about the same time within communities each day. Somes Bar and Happy Camp both reached the unhealthy level in the early afternoon. Hoopa, Etna, Ft. Jones, and Yreka all saw impacts similar to the previous day at almost exactly the same time. The exceptions were Weitchpec, where air quality reached the unhealthy for sensitive groups range in mid-afternoon, and Sawyers Bar and Forks of Salmon, where air quality improved slightly.

Friday, August 16, 2013

Friday morning will see better air quality in Etna, Ft. Jones, and Yreka, hovering between moderate and good AQI and improving through the morning hours. Hoopa and Willow Creek will see only a hint of smoke with air quality in the good range. Any lingering morning smoke in Somes Bar and Happy Camp will start to clear by midmorning. Smoke will begin to lift out of the low-lying areas in the early afternoon, resulting in light, general haziness. As the fires become active in the later part of the day, southwest upper level winds will transport smoke north to Medford, OR. Air quality in Happy Camp and Somes Bar will be in the moderate AQI range for most of the day. Etna, Ft. Jones, and Yreka will see smoke levels start to rise around mid to late afternoon that might reach the moderate AQI level. Hoopa and Willow creek will have only light haze all day. Air quality in Sawyers Bars will spend a few hours in the unhealthy for sensitive groups, but overall will be in the very unhealthy range.

Saturday, August 17, 2013

Smoke haze covers the region Saturday morning; though the smoke is noticeable surface impacts will be light, with the exception for those communities in the fires drainages areas. As a cut off low sets up off the coast, upper level winds will be from the southwest, which will keep Hoopa and Willow Creek in the good air quality level. Happy Camp, Etna, Ft. Jones and Yreka will be in the moderate AQI range most of the day with a few hours reaching unhealthy for sensitive groups. Of concern are Sawyers Bar and Forks of Salmon; they will see unhealthy for sensitive groups for most of the day, reaching the very unhealthy AQI levels during the night. Smoke is starting to drift south impacting Cecilville area.

Long-range outlook

Towards the end of the week, winds could weaken and switch to the east to north-northeast. With the weaker winds, atmospheric dispersion will decrease, reducing smoke transport, and increasing the chance for poor air quality.

Site	24-hour Average PM2.5 (µg/m ³)	3-hour Max PM2.5 (µg/m ³)	Level of Health Concern	Meaning	Actions to Protect Yourself	Forecast for Friday Aug. 16, 2013
Crescent City Gasquet Hoopa	5 4 8	10 9 36	Good	Air quality is satisfactory and poses little or no health risk	None	Crescent City Gasquet Hoopa
			Moderate	Air quality is acceptable for most. There may be moderate health concern for a small number of sensitive people.	Unusually sensitive people should consider reducing prolonged or heavy outdoor exertion.	Yreka Ft. Jones Etna Medford
Happy Camp Ft. Jones Yreka Weitchpec	25 54 37	116 89 74	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	Members of sensitive groups may experience health effects. The general public is not likely to be affected.	People with heart or lung disease, children and older adults should reduce prolonged or heavy outdoor exertion. Everyone else should limit prolonged or heavy exertion.	Somes Bar Happy Camp Weitchpec
Somes Bar	16	161	Unhealthy	Everyone may begin to experience more serious health effects.	The following groups should avoid all physical outdoor activity: People with heart or lung disease, children and older adults. Everyone else should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion.	
			Very Unhealthy	Triggers a health alert, meaning everyone may experience more serious health effects	Everyone should avoid any outdoor exertion; people with respiratory or heart disease, the elderly and children should remain indoors.	Sawyers Bar Forks of Salmon
Sawyers Bar	305	369	Hazardous	Everyone may begin to experience more serious health effects.	People with heart or lung disease, children and older adults should avoid all physical outdoor activity. Everyone else should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion	