

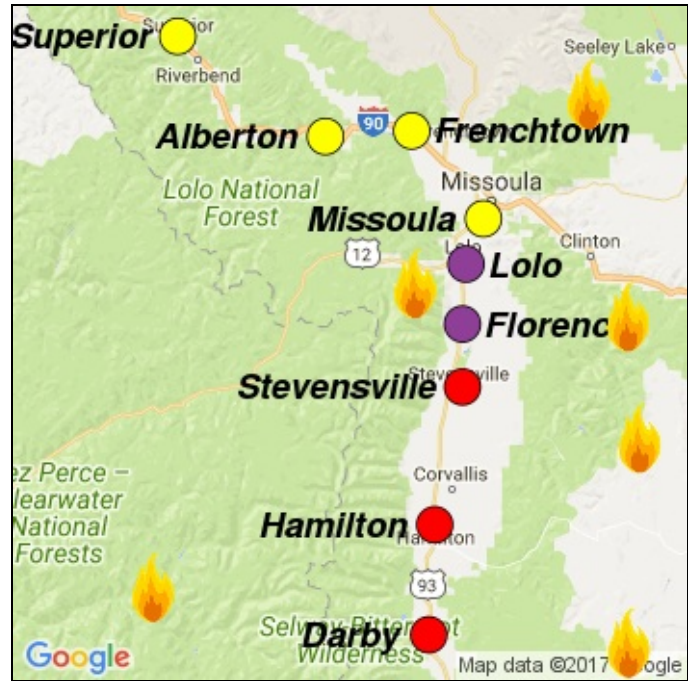
Outlook for Bitterroot Valley

Smoke: Stronger winds today are expected to be west-northwesterly at 10-20 mph, gusting up to 25-30 mph. This should encourage smoke ventilate, and it will likely encourage active fire behavior. A slight chance of thunderstorms also brings a chance for gusty erratic winds.

Fire: A red flag warning has been issued for this afternoon. With both live and dead fuels available to burn, active fire behavior is anticipated. Backing, flanking and head fire with single tree and group torching possible. Short duration crown fire runs could happen where slopes and fuels align. The potential for spotting remains very high.

Other: The cold air mass over British Columbia is on track to move through the Pacific Northwest on Thursday. Along with much cooler temperatures, precipitation is expected on Thursday and into Friday. Snow accumulation is possible above 6000 feet. Lolo monitor has been replaced by a neighborhood monitor: <https://tinyurl.com/y9rhwa79>

Daily AQI Forecast for Sep 13, 2017



| Station | Yesterday hourly | Tue 9/12 | Forecast Comment for Today -- Wed, Sep 13 | Wed 9/13 | Thu 9/14 |
|--------------------|------------------|----------|---|----------|----------|
| Superior | | | Air quality is expected to be 'Moderate' today. Change in wind direction tomorrow brings uncertainty. | | |
| Alberton | No hourly data | | Air quality is expected to be 'Moderate' today. Change in wind direction tomorrow brings uncertainty. | | |
| Frenchtown | | | Air quality is expected to be 'Moderate' today. Change in wind direction tomorrow brings uncertainty. | | |
| Missoula Boyd Park | | | Air quality is expected to be 'Moderate' today. Change in wind direction tomorrow brings uncertainty. | | |
| Lolo | | | 'Very Unhealthy' levels for air quality today, conditions may persist tomorrow. | | |
| Florence | | | 'Very Unhealthy' levels for air quality today, conditions may persist tomorrow. | | |
| Stevensville | | | 'Unhealthy' levels for air quality today, similar conditions tomorrow. | | |
| Hamilton | | | 'Unhealthy' levels for air quality today, similar conditions tomorrow. | | |
| Darby | | | 'Unhealthy' levels for air quality today, similar conditions tomorrow. | | |

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| Air Quality Index (AQI) | Actions to Protect Yourself |
|-------------------------|---|
| Good | None |
| Moderate | Unusually sensitive individuals should consider limiting prolonged or heavy exertion. |
| USG | People within Sensitive Groups* should reduce prolonged or heavy outdoor exertion. |
| Unhealthy | People within Sensitive Groups* should avoid all physical outdoor activity. |
| Very Unhealthy | Everyone should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion. |
| Hazardous | Everyone should avoid any outdoor activity. |

Disclaimer: Forecasts may be wrong; use at own risk. Use caution as conditions can change quickly. See your health professional as needed. Smoke sensitive groups should take appropriate precautions.

Additional Links

[Montana Visual Smoke Blog](#)

[Montana Dept. of Environmental Quality; Today's Air](#)

[Missoula Public Health; Current Air Quality](#)

[Stevensville Haze Camera](#)