

Deception Fire

Air Quality Report and Outlook for 9/15/14

On Sunday, mop-up and control operations were successful at keeping the fire within containment lines. Smoke capped the fire in the morning but started lifting around 1:00 PM. The fire started creeping around once the smoke lifted. After sunset, down-slope winds pushed smoke down Deception creek towards Highway 58. The Westfir and Oakridge monitors recorded "moderate" levels of particulate matter over night and early morning for only a short period. Early afternoon smoke rolled into the Middle Fork Ranger Station, and for a short period air quality was in the "unhealthy" range.

Today's smoke will transport to the east in the morning, the winds will transition to the west in afternoon. The main weather feature that dominated the region the last few days is giving way to cooler temperatures and higher humidity. Preceding the cooler weather, however, interior smoke production will be increased by warm temperatures and dry conditions. Instability will help increase the mixing heights; thus, we can expect good smoke dispersion. We forecast the morning air quality to reach "Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups" in Westfir as smoke vents down the Deception Creek drainage, and "Moderate" for Oakridge. Air quality in the early afternoon may reach the "Unhealthy" for a short period, clearing to "Moderate" by early evening for Westfir and Oakridge.

Deception Complex Smoke Report (prepared by Mark Fitch, Air Resource Advisors) Air Quality Forecast for Monday (Particulate Matter less than 2.5 µm in diameter)

Site	Monday Morning Sep 15, 2014	Monday Afternoon Sep 15, 2014	Monday Evening Sep 15, 2014
Oakridge	Moderate	Unhealthy	Moderate
Westfir	USG	Unhealthy	Moderate

AQI Index (µg/m3)	Potential Health Impacts	Actions to Protect Yourself
Good (0-12)	Air quality is satisfactory and poses little or no health risk.	None
Moderate (13-35)	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.
Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups (36-55)	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.
Unhealthy (56-150)	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 (151-250)	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.

For more information see the Oregon Smoke blog: <http://oregonsmoke.blogspot.com>
Air Quality data can be viewed at: <http://www.deq.state.or.us/aqi/index.aspx>

Deception Complex 24-Hour Average Pm 2.5 concentrations

Monday September 15, 2014

