

Deception Fire

Air Quality Report and Outlook for 9/12/14

Yesterday, fire operations designed to protect the northern and western perimeters continued, due to strong East winds. Active fire behavior within the interior produced a lot of emissions; however, with good ventilation smoke dispersed to the west. Residual smoke flowed down drainage and pooled in the valley causing elevated PM concentrations Friday morning. The Westfir and Oakridge, monitors recorded unhealthy for sensitive groups to moderate levels of PM over night and early morning PM levels for a short period. By midafternoon today, air quality improves to the good range. The forecast for a weaker inversion than night before, and with winds a bit faster smoke will not accumulate in low laying areas. Air quality will start to improve after the morning inversion breaks.

Today's smoke will transport to the north-northeast with the winds transitioning to the south to southwest. With the combination of warmer temperatures and dry conditions, there is a chance of increase emission production; however, with high mixing heights and strong transport winds, we can expect good smoke dispersion. We forecast the morning air quality to reach "**Moderate**" in Westfir as smoke vents down the Deception Creek drainage, and "**Moderate**" for Oakridge. Smoke should clear after winds increase with inversion break. Lake Waldo could see light haze Friday as the winds swing to the southwest.

Deception Complex Smoke Report (prepared by Mark Fitch, Air Resource Advisors)

Air Quality Forecast for Friday (Particulate Matter less than 2.5 µm in diameter)

Site	Friday Morning Sep 12, 2014	Friday Afternoon Sep 12, 2014	Friday Evening Sep 12, 2014
Oakridge	Moderate	Good	Moderate
Westfir	Moderate	Good	Moderate
Dexter	Moderate	Good	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>