

Deception Fire

Air Quality Report and Outlook for 9/16/14

Monday, fire operations remained the same as yesterday – control and mop up. Fire stayed in the box overnight, with smoke filling lower areas until early afternoon. Smoke started to lift around 1:00 PM, and the fire became active with surface heating. After sunset, down-slope winds pushed smoke down Deception creek towards Highway 58. Westfir recorded “Unhealthy” levels of PM over night and early morning, while Oakridge recorded for only a short period “Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups”. Early afternoon smoke rolled into the Middle Fork Ranger Station for a short period, air quality was in the “Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups” AQI level.

Today’s smoke will transport to the northeast, in the morning. The winds will transition to the southwest in afternoon. Forecast for cooler temperatures and higher humidity, and a chance of wetting rain later in the week, may reduce interior fire interior and smoke production. 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 “USG” 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	Tuesday Morning Sep 16, 2014	Tuesday Afternoon Sep 16, 2014	Tuesday Evening Sep 16, 2014
Oakridge	Moderate	USG	Moderate
Westfir	USG	USG	Moderate

AQI Index (µg/m ³)	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>