

Air Quality Summary – Lava Mountain Fire

Thursday 28, 2016

Prepared by: Andrea Nick (anick@fs.fed.us) and Susan O’Neill (smoneill@fs.fed.us)

Today: Smoke will be present in the Wind River Valley during the morning hours due to overnight settling. The main smoke column will travel east ward in the afternoon hours. Scattered smoke will be present in the areas adjacent to the fire’s edge, general haze will be present anywhere downwind from the fire. In general, afternoon hours have the best air quality once smoke lifts from the valley bottom.

Visibility on Highway 26 tonight should be improved compared to previous days. Around 4am Friday, smoke will start to settle in the Timberline Ranch area and expand eastward towards Dubois. Smoke will remain in the highway corridor until late morning.

Air Quality Outlook (Smoke-Related)

Sites with air quality monitors (based on Air Quality Index for each 24-hr day)			
Site	Today	Tomorrow	When smoke may be worse
Dubois	Unhealthy	Unhealthy	Highest concentration of smoke in the morning hours. By late-morning smoke should lift and have “good” air quality until late evening. “Unhealthy” daily average.
Timberline Ranch Area	Hazardous	Hazardous	Highest concentration of smoke during overnight and morning hours with “hazardous” air quality. Afternoons improved to a “moderate” with lighter smoke. Daily 24-hour average is considered “hazardous”.
Locations without monitors			
Site	Today	Tomorrow	When smoke may be worse
Crowheart	USG	USG	Smoke in the morning hours. By late-morning smoke should lift and have “good” air quality until late evening.
Pavillion	USG	Moderate	Smoke in the morning hours. By late-morning smoke should lift and have “good” air quality until late evening.
Riverton	USG	Moderate	Smoke in the morning hours. By late-morning smoke should lift and have “good” air quality until late evening.
Disclaimer: Conditions may change quickly. These predictions are based on anticipated weather and fire activity.			
Air Quality Index (AQI) Levels of Health Concern		ACTIONS TO PROTECT YOURSELF	
Good		None	
Moderate		Unusually sensitive individuals should consider limiting prolonged or heavy exertion.	
Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups (USG)		People within Sensitive Groups* should reduce prolonged or heavy outdoor exertion. Everyone else may find relief by limiting prolonged or heavy outdoor exertion.	
Unhealthy		People within Sensitive Groups* should avoid all physical outdoor activity. Everyone else should avoid prolonged or heavy outdoor exertion.	
Very Unhealthy		Everyone else should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion	
Hazardous		Everyone should avoid any outdoor activity.	

* Sensitive Groups include people with heart or lung disease, children, pregnant women and older adults

Useful Links

Real-time Air Quality Monitoring: <http://www.wyvisnet.com/> Click on the link on the right-hand side for temporary fire monitors.

How to estimate smoke levels using visibility: https://nmtracking.org/en/environ_exposure/fire-and-smoke/

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Information about wildfire smoke and health impacts: <http://www.cdc.gov/features/wildfires/>