



06.12.2025

Memorandum

To
SRST Districts and
Administration

From
Saul Bobtail Bear
Air Quality Coordinator

CC
Kerry Libby
Adam Rookey

Re
Visible Haze from
Wildfires

Subject: Use Caution During Smoky Conditions

The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe (SRST) Department of Environmental Regulations /EPA office continues its recommendation that residents limit prolonged outdoor activities during smoky conditions across Standing Rock, especially residents with known respiratory conditions.

Particulate matter, which consists of extremely small particles of soot and ash, have been increasing across the area over the last several hours. Particulate matter can cause irritation to the respiratory system, especially those who suffer from allergies, asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). During this period of smoky conditions, the Department recommends the elderly and young children to limit or completely avoid unnecessary outdoor exposure.

The smoke in the area is resulted from wildfires in Canada and is expected to remain in the area throughout the week. The Standing Rock EPA department will monitor the Air Quality Index and update the alert as necessary.

Primary Pollutant

This pollutant currently has the highest AQI in the area.

PM2.5

139

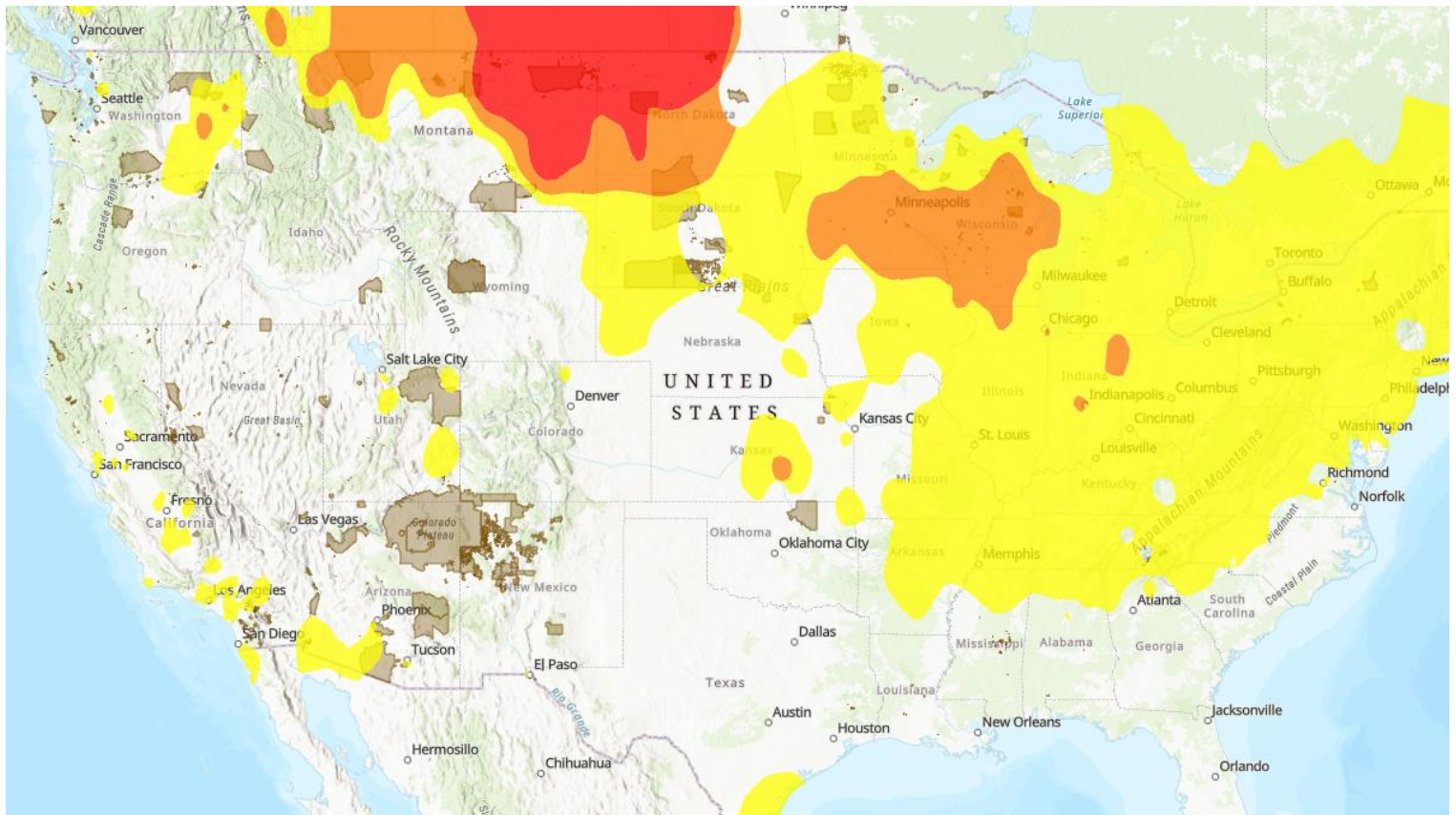
Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups

People with heart or lung disease, older adults, children and teens – take any of these steps to reduce your exposure:

- Choose less strenuous activities (like walking instead of running) so you don't breathe as hard.
- Shorten the amount of time you are active outdoors.
- Be active outdoors when air quality is better.

AQI Basics for Ozone and Particle Pollution

| Daily AQI Color | Levels of Concern | Values of Index | Description of Air Quality |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|---|
| Green | Good | 0 to 50 | Air quality is satisfactory, and air pollution poses little or no risk. |
| Yellow | Moderate | 51 to 100 | Air quality is acceptable. However, there may be a risk for some people, particularly those who are unusually sensitive to air pollution. |
| Orange | Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups | 101 to 150 | Members of sensitive groups may experience health effects. The general public is less likely to be affected. |
| Red | Unhealthy | 151 to 200 | Some members of the general public may experience health effects; members of sensitive groups may experience more serious health effects. |
| Purple | Very Unhealthy | 201 to 300 | Health alert: The risk of health effects is increased for everyone. |
| Maroon | Hazardous | 301 and higher | Health warning of emergency conditions: everyone is more likely to be affected. |



The Department continues to monitor the changing conditions through the nationwide air quality network. As a reminder, those who are experiencing difficulty breathing or respiratory distress during these smoky conditions should seek out assistance from medical providers.

Informational resources and interactive maps can be found at:

<https://www.airnow.gov/state/?name=north-dakota>

<https://gispub.epa.gov/airnow/?showgreencontours=false>

<https://map.purpleair.com/1/mAQI/a10/p604800/cC0?select=160479#9.05/46.1996/-100.761>