ORD Tools & Resources Webinar

Public Health Impact of Wildfire Emissions

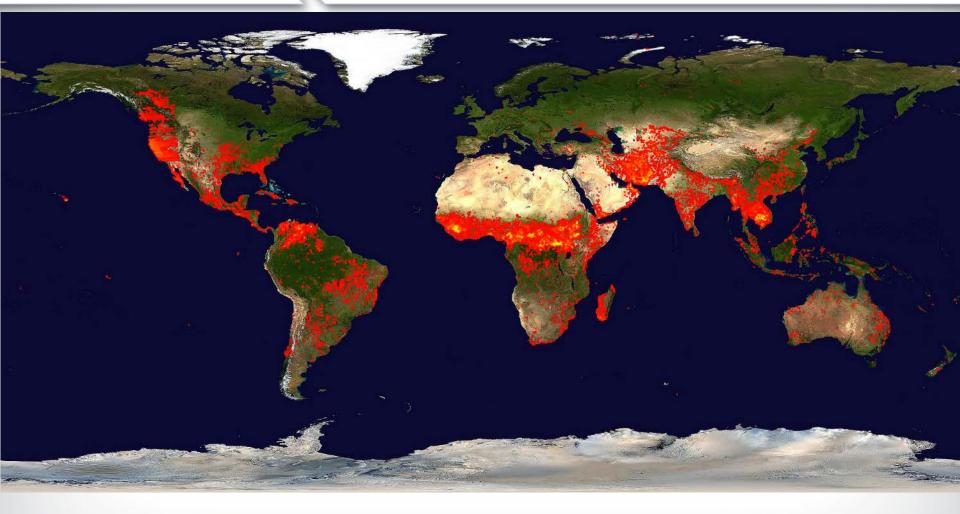
Wayne Cascio, MD, FACC Director, Environmental Public Health Division National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory Office of Research and Development US EPA

High Park Wildfire June 27, 2012, USDA Photo

SEPA

Chapel Hill, NC March 16, 2016

Wildland Fires and Emissions A <u>Global</u> Public Health Issue

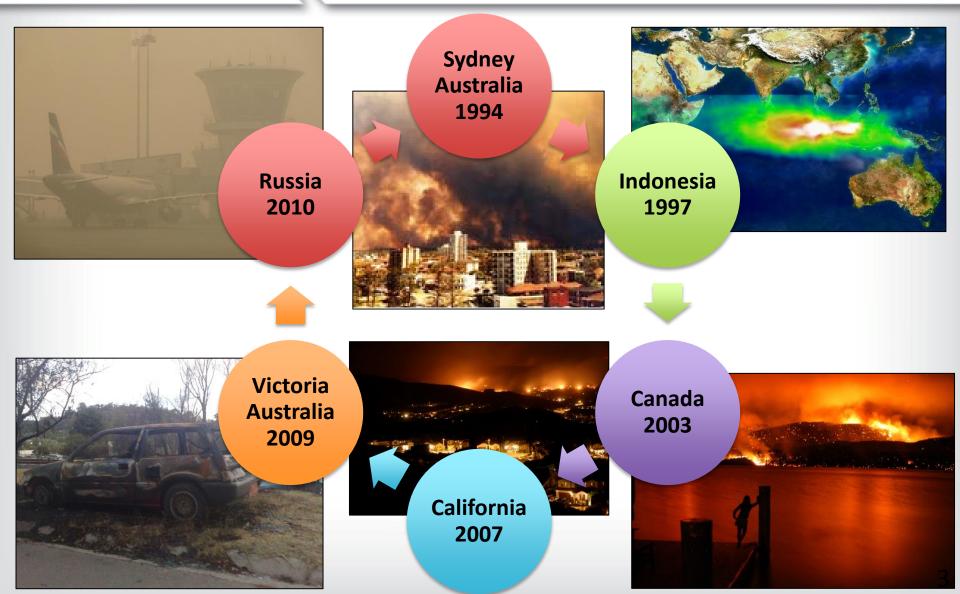


Global Fire Map 2/20/2016 - 2/29/2016

SEPA

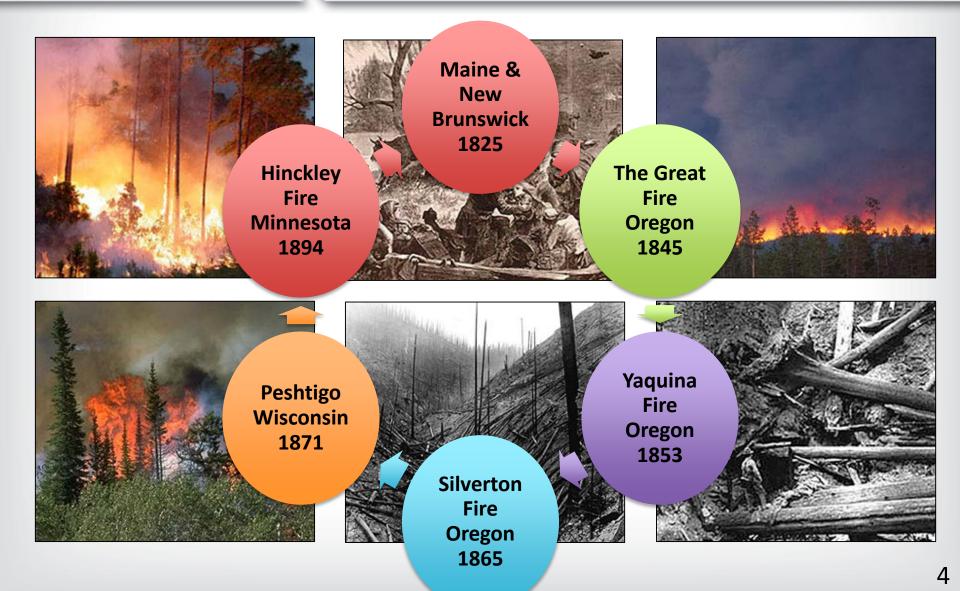
URL: lance-modis.eosdis.nasa.gov/cgibin/imagery/firemaps.cgi 2

Wildland Fire Smoke & Populations Regional Impacts on At-Risk Populations



SEPA

FEPA Historical Legacy of Large Wildfires 19th Century Wildland Fires in the U.S.

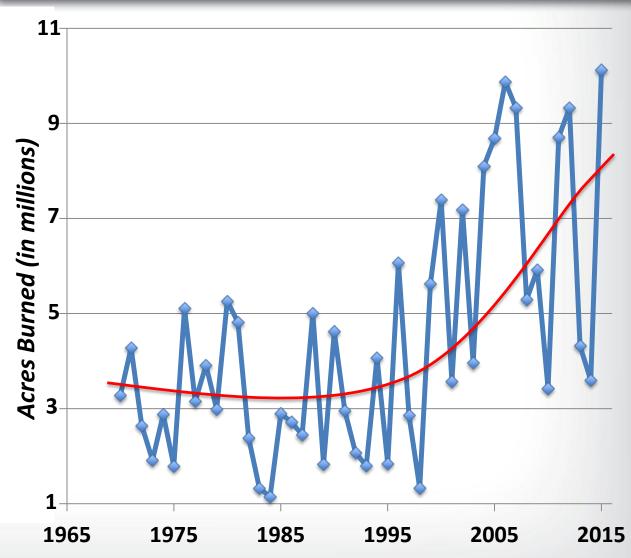


Wildfire in the U.S. Annually

Present Concerns

Increasing acreage burned

- increased vulnerability of populations
- Increasing impact on urban areas
 - 10% of all land with housing are situated in the wildland-urban interface
 - 38.5% of U.S. housing units (Radeloff et al. 2005)



Adapted from https://www.nifc.gov/fireInfo/fireInfo_stats_totalFires.html

Why is Wildfire Important to the EPA Protecting Public Health & Environment

- ♦ Increasing Fire Size & Intensity
- Community & Fire Fighter Health
 - PM, Toxics
 - Susceptible Subpopulations
- ♦ Ambient Air Quality
 - PM, O₃, NOx, NH₃, CO, VOCs
- ♦ Global Climate



 CO₂, CH₄, Black & Brown carbon vs Blue carbon, Organic Aerosols, NOx, N₂O





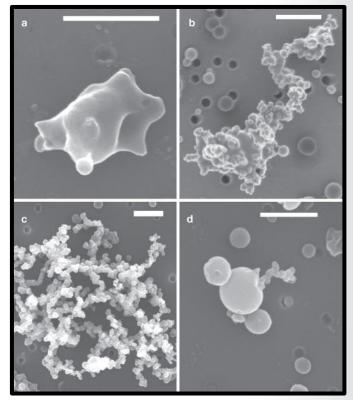




Constituents of Wildfire Smoke



- Particulate matter
- CO
- Ozone
- VOCs
- Trace gases
- Air toxics
- Hg



China S, et al. Nat Commun 4, No.: 2122 doi:10.1038/ncomms3122

Cascade Complex, Idaho, 2007

https://picasaweb.google.com/lh/photo/-ZF6POTn-Q0Dubaw7GCsktMTjNZETYmyPJy0liipFm0?full-exif=true

Health Effects of Wildfire Smoke Recent Review & Case Controlled Study

ELSEVIER	Environmental Research 136 (2015) 120–132 Contents lists available at ScienceDirect Environmental Research journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/envres	<u>Environ Res.</u> 2015 Jan;136:120-32. doi:	
non-occupational expo Jia C. Liu ^{a,*} , Gavin Pereira ^b , S [*] School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, Yo	f the physical health impacts from osure to wildfire smoke Sarah A. Uhl ^a , Mercedes A. Bravo ^a , Michelle L. Bell ^a lale University, 195 Prospect Street, New Haven, CT 06511, USA Il Epidemiology, School of Medicine, Yale University, New Haven, CT 06511, USA	10.1016/j.envres.20 14.10.015.	
L	Johnston et al. Environmental Health 2014, 13 :105 http://www.ehjournal.net/content/13/1/105	ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH	
	RESEARCH	Open Access	
Environ Health. 2014 Dec 10;13:105. doi: 10.1186/1476- 069X-13-105.	Air pollution events from forest fires and emergency department attendances in Sydney, Australia 1996–2007: a case-crossover analysis		
	Fay H Johnston ^{1*} , Stuart Purdie ² , Bin Jalaludin ^{3,4} , Kara L Martin ^{5,6} , Sarah B H	Henderson' and Geoffrey G Morgan ^{8,9}	

Health Effects of Wildland Fires

Health effects <u>known</u> or <u>suspected</u> to be caused by wildfire smoke:

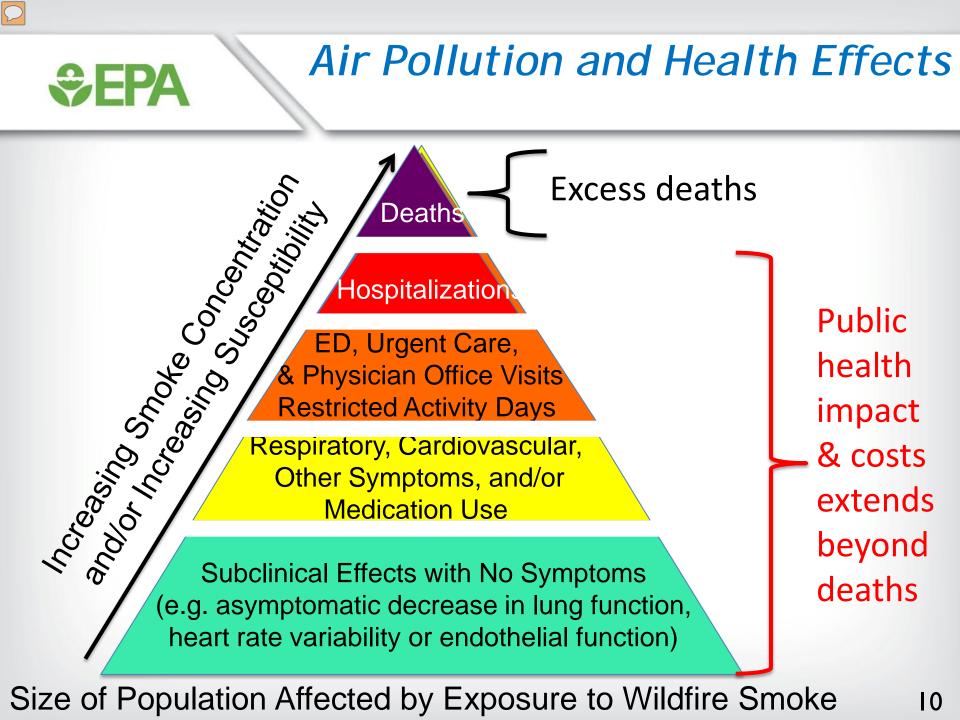
All-cause mortality

EPA

- Asthma & COPD exacerbations
- Bronchitis & pneumonia
- Childhood respiratory disease
- Cardiovascular outcomes
- Adverse birth outcomes
- Anxiety
- Symptoms such as: eye irritation, sore throat, wheeze, cough, & chest pain



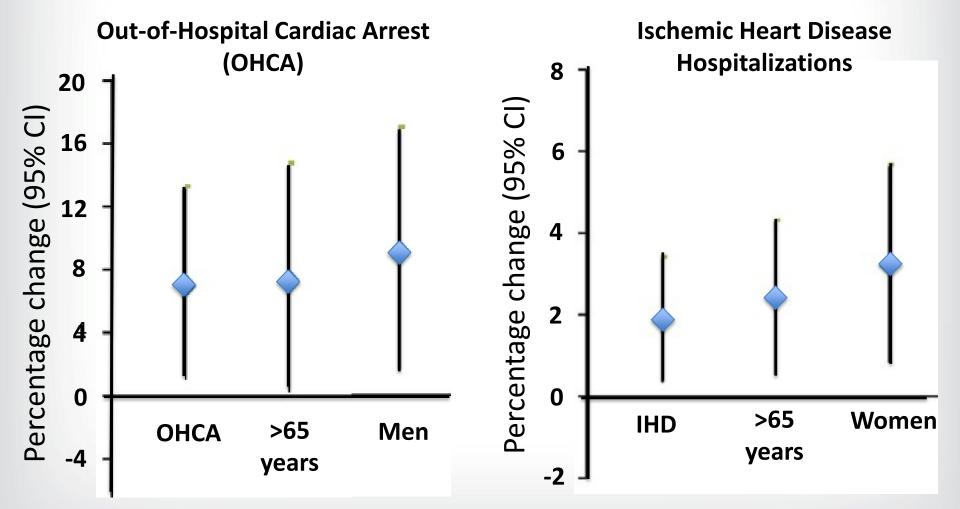
Elliott CT. Guidance for BC Public Health Decision Makers During Wildfire Smoke Events 2014



Cardiovascular Health Effects Australian Wildfire Smoke Health Effects

Victoria, Australia - December 1, 2006, to January 31, 2007

SEPA



Adapted from Haikerwal et al. J Am Heart Assoc. 2015;4:e001653

Who is at Risk from Wildfire Smoke NHANES 2007-2010, N=10,898

Susceptible category	Ν	Percent (95% Cl)		
None	7135	73.0 (71.4, 74.6)		
Respiratory only	642	6.4 (5.5, 7.2)		
Cardiovascular only	319	2.6 (2.3, 2.9)		
>65 years only	1713	10.9 (10.1, 11.8)		
Respiratory and cardiovascular	136	1.0 (0.7, 1.3)		
Respiratory and >65 years	220	1.6 (1.3, 1.8)		
Cardiovascular and >65 years	608	3.8 (3.3, 4.3)		
All three groups	125	0.7 (0.5, 0.9)		

NHANES = National Health and Nutrition Education Survey

€PA

Wells EM, Dearborn DG, Jackson LW (2012). PLoS ONE 7(11): e50526 12

Who is at Risk from Wildfire Smoke NHANES 2007-2010, N=10,898

Susceptible category		Ν	Percent	nt (95% CI)	
None		7135	73.0 (7	1.4, 74.6)	
Respiratory only	270	6 fall int	o at	.5, 7.2)	
Cardiovascular only	217	.3, 2.9)			
>65 years only).1, 11.8)			
Respiratory and care		.7, 1.3)			
Respiratory and >65	SUSC	.3, 1.8)			
Cardiovascular and	C	.3, 4.3)			
All three groups		125	0.7 (0	.5 <i>,</i> 0.9)	

Wells EM, Dearborn DG, Jackson LW (2012). PLoS ONE 7(11): e50526

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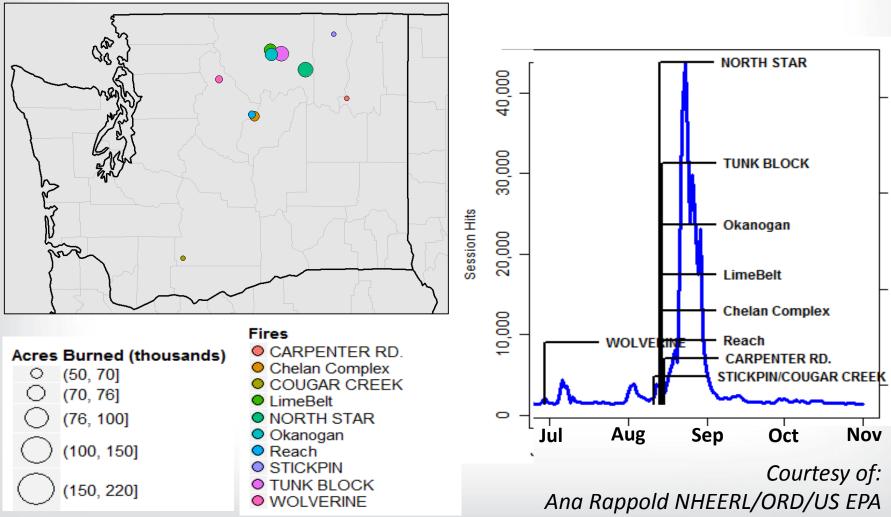
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Wildfire Smoke Information Public Interest in AirNow

AirNow Sessions Hits in Washington State 2015

With Fires Burning >50,000 Acres

Locations for Fires > 50,000 Acres Washington State for 2015



14

200,000

150,000

100,000

50,000

Acres Burned

SEPA Odds Ratio for Changing Activity due to Poor Air Quality

Susceptible category	Unadjusted	Adjusted		
None (referent)				
Respiratory only	2.64 (2.06, 3.37)	2.61 (2.03, 3.35)		
Cardiovascular only	1.16 (0.76, 1.77)	1.33 (0.86, 2.04)		
>65 years only	1.20 (0.93, 1.54)	1.22 (0.95, 1.57)		
Respiratory and cardiovascular	4.06 (2.31, 7.15)	4.36 (2.47, 7.69)		
Respiratory and >65 years	3.64 (2.35, 5.64)	3.83 (2.47, 5.96)		
Cardiovascular and >65 years	1.23 (0.78, 1.91)	1.38 (0.89, 2.13)		
All three groups	2.80 (1.94, 4.04)	3.52 (2.33, 5.32)		

NHANES 2007–2010, N = 10,898. Wells EM, Dearborn DG, Jackson LW (2012). PLoS ONE 7(11): e50526

\$EPA O		hanging Activity Poor Air Quality
Susceptible category	Unadjusted	Adjusted
None (referent)		
Respiratory only	2.64 (2.06, 3.37)	2.61 (2.03, 3.35)
Cardiovasce • 12% of	f the study popu	<i>ilation</i> 0.86, 2.0 <mark>4)</mark>
>65 years only change	ed activities due	e to bad
Respiratory and cardiovascular <i>air qua</i>		4.36 (2.47 <i>,</i> 7.6 <mark>9</mark>)
	f those with a re	
Cardiovascular an Conditi years	ion changed act	tivities (0.89, 2.1 ₃₎
All three groups	2.80 (1.94, 4.04)	3.52 (2.33, 5.32)

NHANES 2007–2010, N = 10,898.

Wells EM, Dearborn DG, Jackson LW (2012). PLoS ONE 7(11): e50526

Reproducibility of Health Effects Eastern NC Pocosin (Peat) Wildfires

2008 Pocosin Lakes National Wildlife Refuge

Peat Bog Wildfire Smoke Exposure in Rural North Carolina is Associated with Cardiopulmonary Emergency Department Visits Assessed through Syndromic Surveillance

Ana G. Rappold, Susan L. Stone, Wayne E. Cascio, Lucas M. Neas, Vasu J Kilaru, Martha Sue Carraway, James J. Szykman, Amy Ising, William E. Cleve, John T. Meredith, Heather Vaughan-Batten, Lana Deyneka, and Robert B. Devlin

Environmental Health Perspective 119:1425, 2011

Total costs of the 45 day fire was:

- \$20 million to suppress the fire
- \$48 million in economic costs

2008

Heart failure, COPD, asthma, pneumonia, bronchitis

- Increased regional focus on health effects of wildfire
- smoke
- State sponsored public health messaging

2011 Pains Bay

Tinling et al. Environmental Health (2016) 15:12 DOI 10.1186/s12940-016-0093-4

Environmental Health

RESEARCH

Open Access

CrossMark

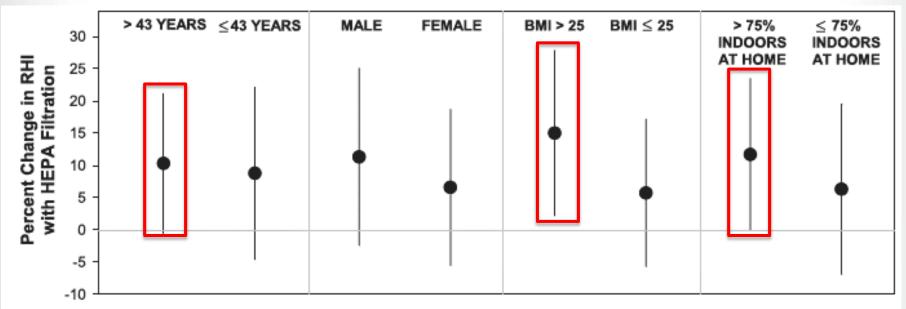
Repeating cardiopulmonary health effects in rural North Carolina population during a second large peat wildfire

Melissa A. Tinling¹, J. Jason West², Wayne E. Cascio³, Vasu Kilaru⁴ and Ana G. Rappold^{3*}⁽⁰⁾

Respiratory symptoms, upper respiratory infection, hypertension

SEPA HEPA Filters & Vascular Function

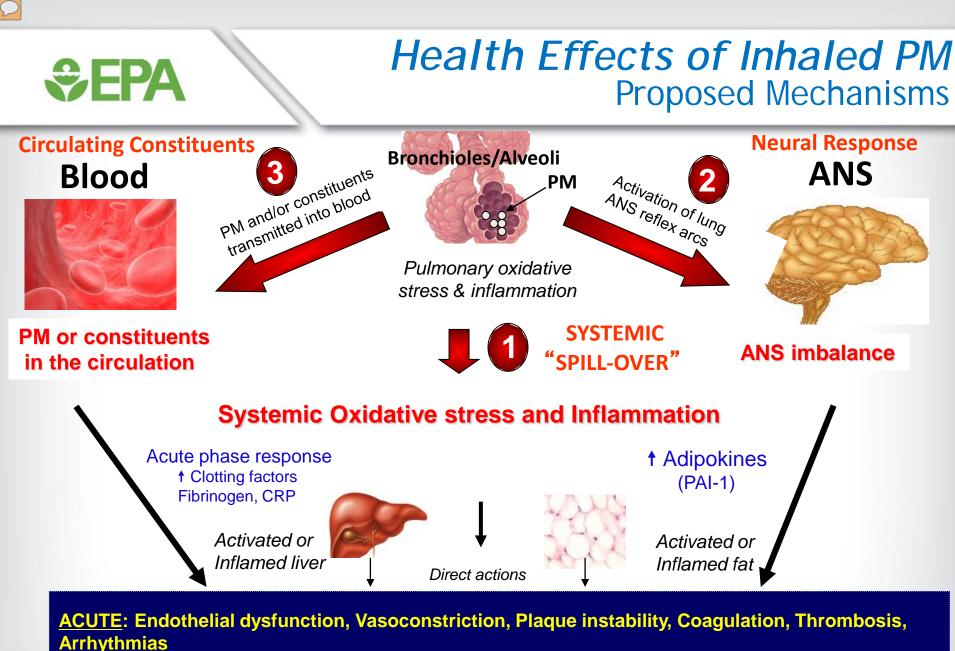
HEPA Filtration Improves Vascular Function Wood smoke impacted community – British Columbia



RHI = Reactive hyperemia index, a measure of an artery's capacity to respond to low O_2

HEPA filtration improved blood vessel function in people older than 43 years, having BMIs >25, and spending more than 75% of their time indoors

HEPA filtration improved biomarkers of inflammation in men and in people having BMIs >25 Allen et al. AJRCCM 2011 18



<u>CHRONIC</u>: LV hypertrophy, Atherosclerosis, Arterial Stiffness, Metabolic Syndrome: HTN, Insulin resistance, Dyslipidemia

Protecting the Health of the Public Interagency Cooperation

- National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC)
 - Coordination of Federal Agencies Efforts on National Fire Planning and Operations
 - USFS, BLM, NWS, NPS, BIA, FWS, NOAA, NBC, NASF, FEMA – U.S. Fire Administration

Department of Agriculture

- U.S. Forest Service
- Fire Research Pacific Northwest, Pacific Southwest, Rocky Mountain, Northern, & Southern Stations
 - BlueSky Wildland Fire Emissions and Smoke Forecasting Model, Emission Factors, Fuel Research
- Fire Management Suppression, Fuels Management, Predictive Services
- Burned Area Emergency Response After Fire Support

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

- National Weather Service
- Fire Weather Planning Tools

- Department of Interior
 - National Park Service
 - Fire Management Suppression, Fuels Management
 - Bureau of Land Management
 - Fire and Aviation Program Suppression, Fuels Management, Predictive Services
 - ✤ U.S. Geological Survey
 - Data Management National Mapping Facilities, Maintains Satellite Land Remote Sensing Data
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
 - Satellite Products (Aqua, Aura, MODIS, Fire Information for Resource Management System)
- Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC)
 - Environmental Protection Agency
 - National Ambient Air Pollution Regulations
 - Fire Research & Human Health Assessment 20

EPA Research

ORD's Wildfire Emissions Research Program

EPA Expertise - Linking Air Pollution to Health Effects

Source Emission to Exposure (NRMRL & NERL)

- Emission Characterization
- Ambient Monitoring Methods
- Atmospheric Chemistry
- Human Exposure

Health Effects (NHEERL)

- Mechanistic Toxicological Effects
- Epidemiological Modeling

Multi-pollutant Context (NHEERL)

• Human & Animal Models

Model Development & Assessment (NERL)

Deterministic Modeling (CMAQ)
 Receptor Modeling (PMF, Unmix, CMB)

EPA Expertise - Climate Change & Health Risk Assessment

- Data Integration & Analysis
- Health Communication (AQI, Healthy Heart)

EPA Research ORD's Wildfire Emissions Research Program

Aerial Sampling



SEPA



- Onboard Computer with Data Transmission
- User-set CO₂ Triggering of Samplers
- GPS, CO₂, CO
- Semi-Volatile Organic Compounds (SVOCs)
- Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)
- Black Carbon (BC)
- Brown Carbon
- PM by Filter (PM_{2.5}, PM₁₀)
- Continuous PM_{2.5}, PM₁₀
- 3D-anemometer

Terrestrial Sampling



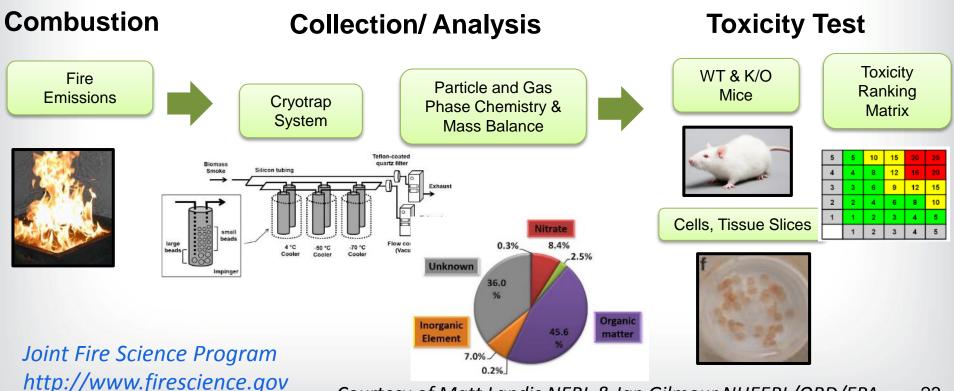


Courtesy of Matt Landis NERL 22

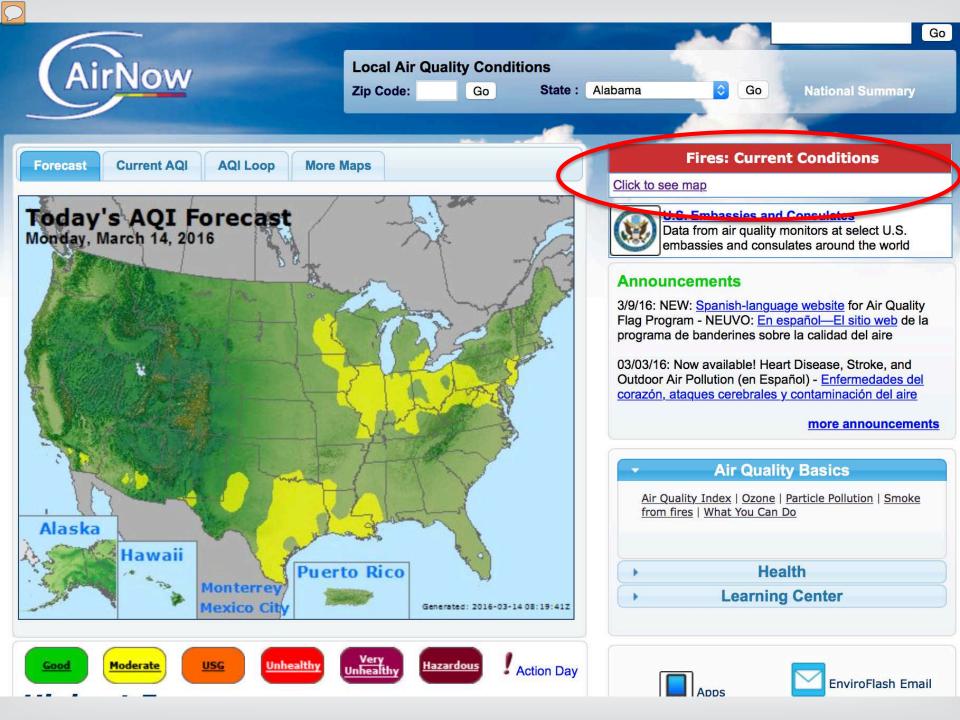
ORD - Ouantifying Smoke Toxicity JFSP Research Plan FY 2015-2017

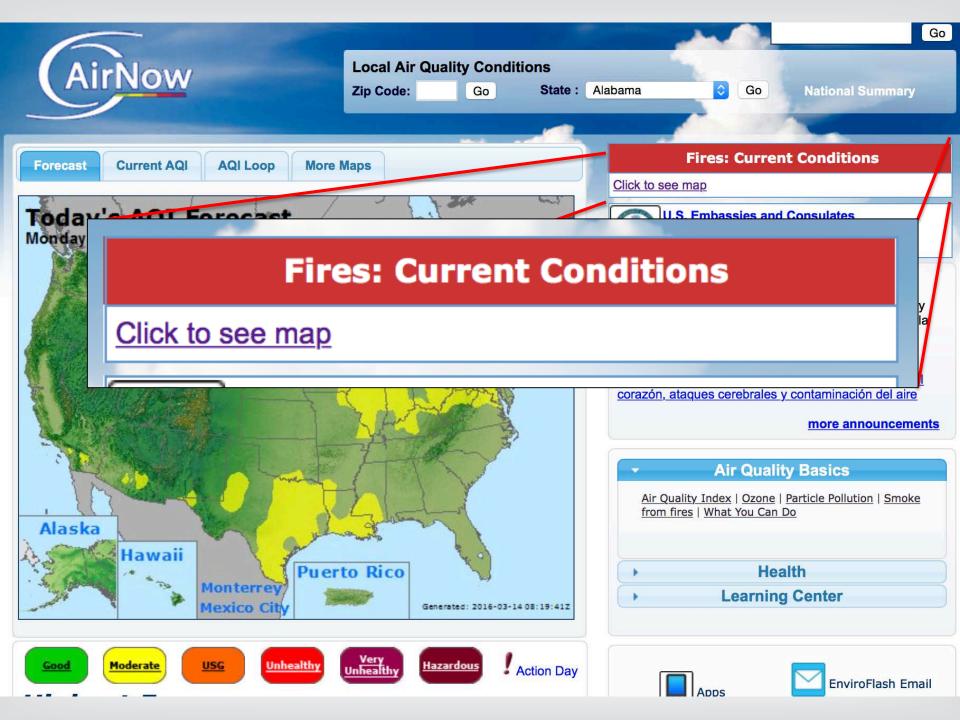
Research Goals:

- 1) Compare the relative cardiopulmonary toxicity and mutagenicity of PM emissions from different fuel types (e.g., pine, oak, peat, chaparral) and burning conditions (e.g., flaming, smoldering)
- 2) Provide a potency ranking matrix



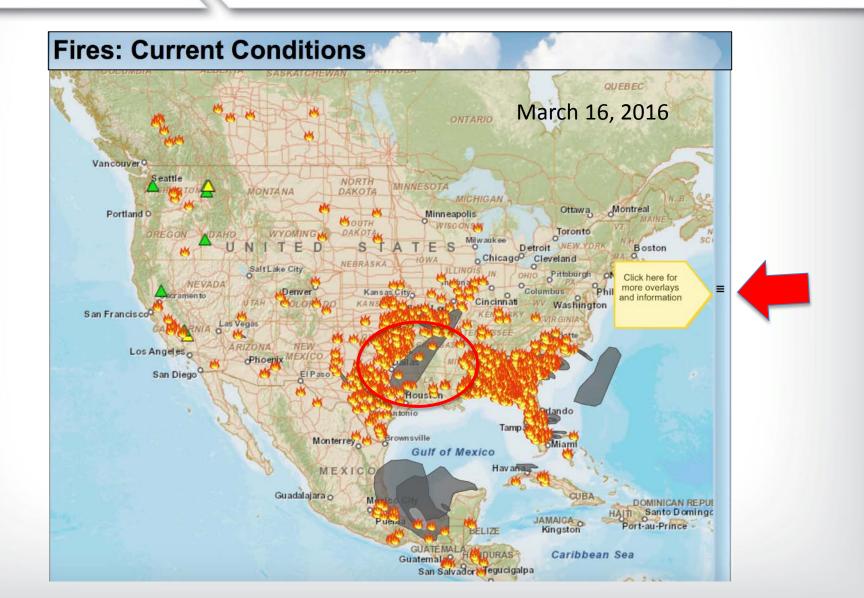
Courtesy of Matt Landis NERL & Ian Gilmour NHEERL/ORD/EPA 23





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AirNow Current Fire Conditions



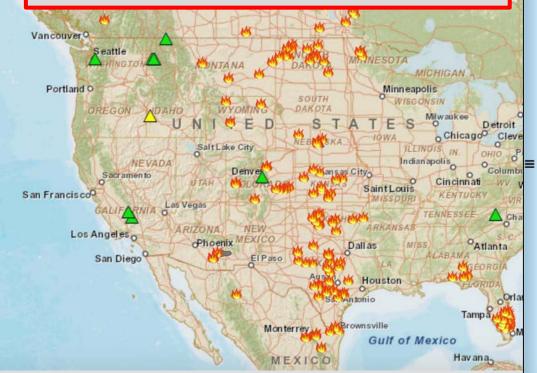
Set EPA

AirNow Current Fire Conditions

Fires: Current Conditions

Latest PM_{2.5} AQI from Temporary Monitors

- Latest PM_{2.5} AQI from AirNow Monitors
- Incident Information System (InciWeb)
- Hazard Mapping System Fire Locations
- Hazard Mapping System Smoke Plumes



Please click boxes to display map layers

- Latest PM_{2.5} AQI from Temporary Monitors
- Latest PM_{2.5} AQI from AirNow Monitors
- Incident Information System (InciWeb)
- Hazard Mapping System Fire Locations
- ✓ Hazard Mapping System Smoke Plumes

Explanation of Map Layers

Hudson

- Latest PM_{2.5} <u>AQI</u> from Temporary Monitors shows particle pollution observed at portable, temporary PM2.5 monitors near large, active wildfires. These monitors are deployed by US Forest Service and state and local agencies for measuring air quality during wildfires. They may be moved based on wildfire locations. Data are not fully verified and only intended for real-time air quality reporting.
- Latest PM_{2.5} <u>AQI</u> from AirNow Monitors shows particle pollution observed at monitors operated by state, tribal, or local monitoring agencies using federal reference or equivalent monitoring techniques. Data are considered preliminary and non-regulatory.
- Incident Information System (InciWeb) shows the locations of active wildfires from the InciWeb <u>website</u>. Chrome and Firefox only.
- Hazard Mapping System Fire Locations are fire locations detected by satellites operated by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) <u>Hazard Mapping System</u>.
- Hazard Mapping System Smoke Plumes are smoke plumes analyzed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) <u>Hazard Mapping System</u>. Darker colors indicate denser smoke concentrations. The plumes may be at ground-level or high up in the atmosphere.

Go

AirNow

Advisories, Fires & Health, CDC's Guidance



Current Advisories

EPA

Fires and Health

Before, During, and After a Wildfire

More Fire Tools

- <u>NOAA Smoke Forecast Tool</u> Maps of surface and vertical smoke can be found under "Additional Air Quality Forecast Guidance."
- <u>NOAA's Fire Weather Outlook</u> This tool maps fire watches and warnings.
- <u>GEOMAC Wildland Fire Support</u> Access maps of current fire locations using this tool from the Geospatial Multi-Agency Coordination Group (GEOMAC).
- MODIS Active Fire Mapping This site from the USDA Forest Service Remote Sensing Applications Center (RSAC) maps active fires.

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AirNow *Current Advisories*

6					A	Go
AirNow	Local Air Quali	ty Conditio	ons			
AITNOW	Zip Code:	Go	State :	Alabama	🗘 Go	National Summary
			-			
AirNow Home >> Headline		1	5.7	1		
Smoke Advisories and Forecasts						
Fires and Your Health						
Fires: Current Conditions						
Advisories and Forecasts						
United States						
Alaska						
Alaska DEC Wildfire Information						
Arizona						
Arizona Wildfire Information						
California						
Butte County Air Quality Management District						
Northern Sierra Air Management District						
Shasta County Air Quality Management District						
Shasta County (Redding) Air Quality Webcam						
South Coast Air Quality Management District						
Ventura County Air Pollution Control District						
Colorado						
Colorado Wildfire Smoke Health Advisories						

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AirNow Fires and Your Health

Fires and Your Health

Smoke is made up of a complex mixture of gases and fine particles produced when wood and other organic materials burn. The biggest health threat from smoke is from fine particles. These microscopic particles can get into your eyes and respiratory system, where they can cause health problems such as burning eyes, runny nose, and illnesses such as bronchitis. Fine particles also can aggravate chronic heart and lung diseases - and even are linked to premature deaths in people with these conditions.

If you are healthy, you're usually not at a major risk from short-term exposures to smoke. Still, it's a good idea to avoid breathing smoke if you can help it. Everyone should take the steps below when wildfires are present.



Fires and smoke across Alaska and Northern Canada
<u>Archive Image courtesy of</u>
<u>NASA Modis</u>

Use common sense. If it looks smoky outside, it's probably not a good time to mow the lawn or go for a run. And it's probably not a good time for your children to play outdoors.

Pay attention to local air quality reports. Stay alert to smoke-related news coverage or health warnings.

Visit <u>AirNow</u> to find out the Air Quality Index in your area. As smoke gets worse, the amount of particles in the air changes - and so do the steps you should take to protect yourself. AirNow recommends precautions you can take to protect your health when air pollution gets bad.

If you are advised to stay indoors, take steps to keep indoor air as clean as possible. When smoke levels are high, try to avoid using anything that burns, such as wood fireplaces, gas logs, gas stoves - and even candles! Don't vacuum. That stirs up particles already inside your home. And don't smoke. That puts even more pollution in your lungs, and in the lungs of people around you.

If you have asthma or other lung disease, make sure you follow your doctor's directions about taking your medicines and following your asthma management plan. Call your doctor if your symptoms worsen.

Run your air conditioner if you have one. Keep the fresh air intake closed and the filter clean to prevent bringing additional smoke inside. Note: If you don't have an air conditioner, staying inside with the windows closed may be dangerous in extremely hot weather. In these cases, seek alternative shelter.

Health Resources

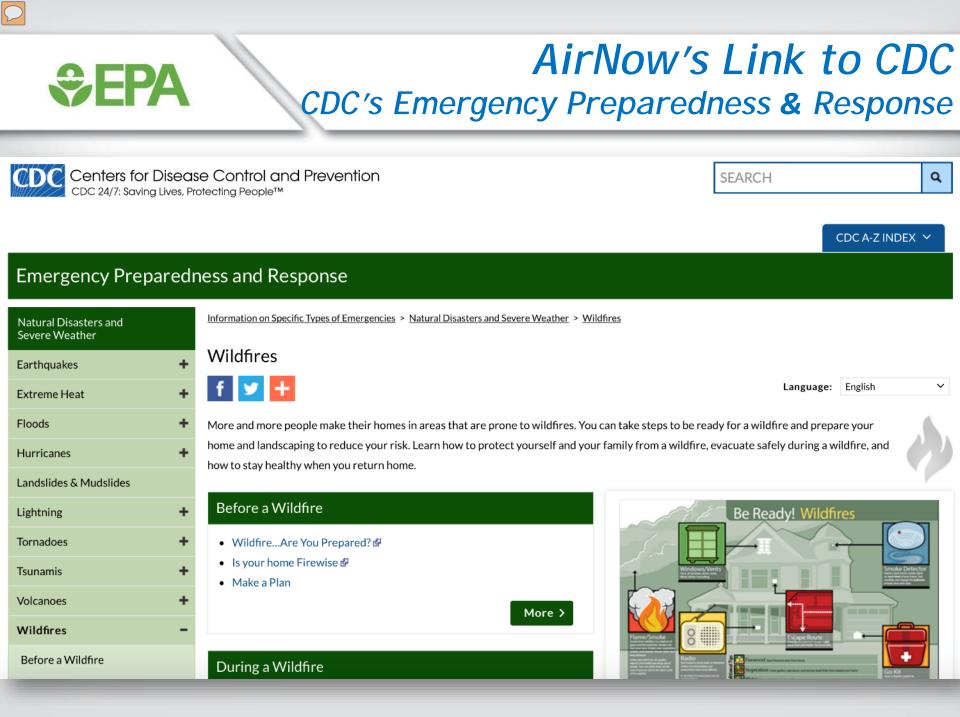
- How Smoke from Fires Can Affect Your Health - Learn steps you can take to protect your health.
- Particle Pollution and Your <u>Health</u> - Find out if you are at risk from exposure to particle pollution, and what health effects can be caused by particles.(PDF, 2 pp, 280KB, about PDF),

Educational Resources

- CDC Wildfire Fact Sheet -Information on emergency preparedness and response.
- <u>California Air Resources</u>
 <u>Board SMP Public Outreach</u>
 <u>Protocol Tools and Materials</u>

EXIT AIRNOW
 Wildfire Guide for Health
 Officials
 EXIT AIRNOW

 FOR KIDS- Follow <u>Smoky</u> <u>Bear's advice</u> when wildfires are in your area!



Wildfire Smoke: A Guide for Public Health Officials

Wildfire Smoke A Guide for Public Health Officials

Sepa

Revised July 2008

(With 2012 AQI Values)



http://oehha.ca.gov/air/risk_assess/wildfir e.html

Wildfire Guide developed in 2001

- Response to 1999 fires on Hoopa reservation
- Meetings in 2000 (CA OEHHA) and 2001 (Univ. of Washington) initiated its development
- Recommendation based on limited health or air quality information
- The Guide developed by EPA, CA and WA without any agency taking ownership. It was widely used by state/local agencies.

Revised in 2008

- Better information about health effects of PM & more continuous monitoring data was incorporated.
- Same partners made revisions. The guide is still widely used.

Wildfire Smoke: A Guide for Public Health Officials



EPA



- Composition of smoke
- Characteristics of wildfire smoke
- Health effects of smoke
- Sensitive populations
- Specific strategies to reduce smoke exposure
- Estimating particulate matter levels
- Recommendations for public health actions
 - Preseason public service announcements
 - Public advisories and protective measures
- Bibliography

SEPA

Public Health Recommendations Exposure Reduction Measures

0

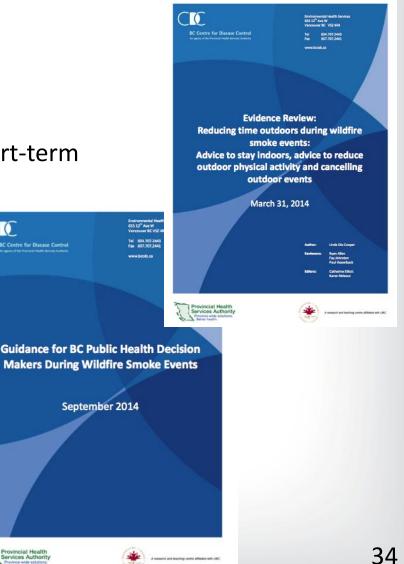
An individual can be advised to:

- Stay indoors
- Reduce outdoor physical activity
- Respirators (e.g., N-95) can help in the short-term
- Activate asthma/COPD action plans
- Use a home clean air shelter

A community can be advised to:

- Cancel outdoor events
- Provide community clean air shelters
- Increase air filtration in institutions
- Evacuate

Elliott CT. Guidance for BC Public Health Decision Makers During Wildfire Smoke Events. 2014





Wildfire Smoke Guide: Anticipated Upgrades

Wildfire Smoke A Guide for Public Health Officials Revised July 2008 (With 2012 AQI Values) Why Revise It Now Stronger evidence base is available. Federal partners are now making revisions with input from state and local partners. Writing Team Partners EPA Office of Air & Radiation (Lead)

- EPA Office of Air & Radiation (Lead)
 (Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards)
- ♦ EPA Office of Research & Development (National Health & Environmental Effects Research Lab)
- ♦ CDC Natl Center for Environmental Health
- CDC Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Units
- ♦ US Forest Service

Anticipated Upgrades

- ♦ Better defined health effects
- ♦ Children's health

\bigcirc



Expected Products and Timeline Draft and Final Wildfire Guide

2016

Early March Writing of revision with partners underway
 Late March Complete initial revision
 Early MayState comments provided to EPA as written comments
 End of May First Draft Revised Guide
 Jun, Jul, Aug Deliver Draft Revised Guide for use during 2016 fire season
 Late Sept EPA summarizes comments from States' from wildfire season experience and needs into further revision

2016-2017

WinterEPA and writing team work to finalize the document based on state inputWinterWork with partners to develop communication and outreach strategy for the
Final Guide

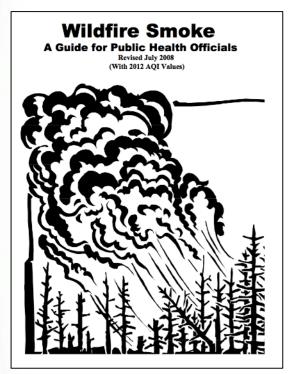
2017

Release Final Guide prior to 2017 fire season

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For More Information Visit

WILDFIRE GUIDE - A GUIDE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS, UPDATED JUNE 2013



http://oehha.ca.gov/air/risk_assess/ wildfire.html

Contact information: Wayne Cascio, MD email: cascio.wayne@epa.gov

- www.airnow.gov
 - EPA AirNow
- <u>www.usfs.gov</u>
 U.S. Forest Service
- <u>www.cdc.gov</u>
 - Wildfire
- www.nasa.gov
 - Satellite imaging
- www.noaa.gov
 - Forecasting
- www.nifc.gov
 - National Interagency Fire Center
- www.firescience.gov
 - Joint Fire Science Program



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Questions

Thank you

Wayne E. Cascio, MD, FACC, FAHA Environmental Public Health Division ORD/National Health Environmental Effects Laboratory U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Email: cascio.wayne@epa.gov