

**Final Area Designations for the  
2015 Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards  
Technical Support Document (TSD)**

**Duval County, FL; Matanuska-Susitna, AK; Marion County, OR**

This TSD describes the EPA’s designation of Duval County, FL as unclassifiable; and Matanuska-Susitna Borough, AK and Marion County, OR as attainment/unclassifiable for the 2015 ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). On October 1, 2015, the EPA promulgated revised primary and secondary ozone NAAQS (80 FR 65292; October 26, 2015). The EPA strengthened both standards to a level of 0.070 parts per million (ppm). In accordance with section 107(d) of the Clean Air Act (CAA), whenever the EPA establishes a new or revised NAAQS, the EPA must promulgate designations for all areas of the country for that NAAQS.

Upon promulgation of a NAAQS, section 107(d) of the CAA requires the EPA to subsequently promulgate area designations based on that NAAQS. Specifically, the EPA must designate as “nonattainment” those areas that are violating a NAAQS, or that are contributing to a violation of the NAAQS in a nearby area. By contrast, the EPA designates as “attainment/unclassifiable” those areas where air quality monitoring data indicate attainment of the NAAQS, and for areas that do not have monitors but which the EPA has reason to believe are likely to be in attainment and are not contributing to nearby violations. Finally, the EPA reserves the category of “unclassifiable” for areas where the EPA cannot determine based on available information whether an area is meeting the NAAQS or contributing to a nearby violation.

After review of the 2014-2016 data in the Air Quality System (AQS) and considering issues raised in the Office of Inspector General’s (OIG) report (*Differences in Processing Practices Could Decrease the Reliability of Ozone Data Used for Assessing Air Quality to Protect Public Health*<sup>1</sup>), we determined that Duval County, FL, Matanuska-Susitna Borough, AK and Marion County, OR had incomplete 2014-2016 data.<sup>2</sup> On December 20, 2017, we notified the States of Florida, Alaska, and Oregon that we intended to designate each of these three areas as unclassifiable for the 2015 ozone NAAQS.

The State of Florida has not submitted certified air quality data for 2017. Based on the three most recent years of air quality data (Table 1), we are designating Duval County, FL as unclassifiable. The States of Alaska and Oregon have certified 2017 data. Air quality data from 2015-2017 is complete and we calculated valid design values for these area; the design values show that these two areas are attaining the NAAQS (Table 2). Therefore, we are finalizing a designation of attainment/unclassifiable for Matanuska-Susitna Borough, AK and Marion County, OR.

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<sup>1</sup> Report #18-P-0105, February 28, 2018, <https://www.epa.gov/office-inspector-general/report-differences-processing-practices-could-decrease-reliability-ozone>

<sup>2</sup> The specific methodology for calculating the ozone design values, including computational formulas and data completeness requirements, is described in Appendix U to 40 CFR part 50.

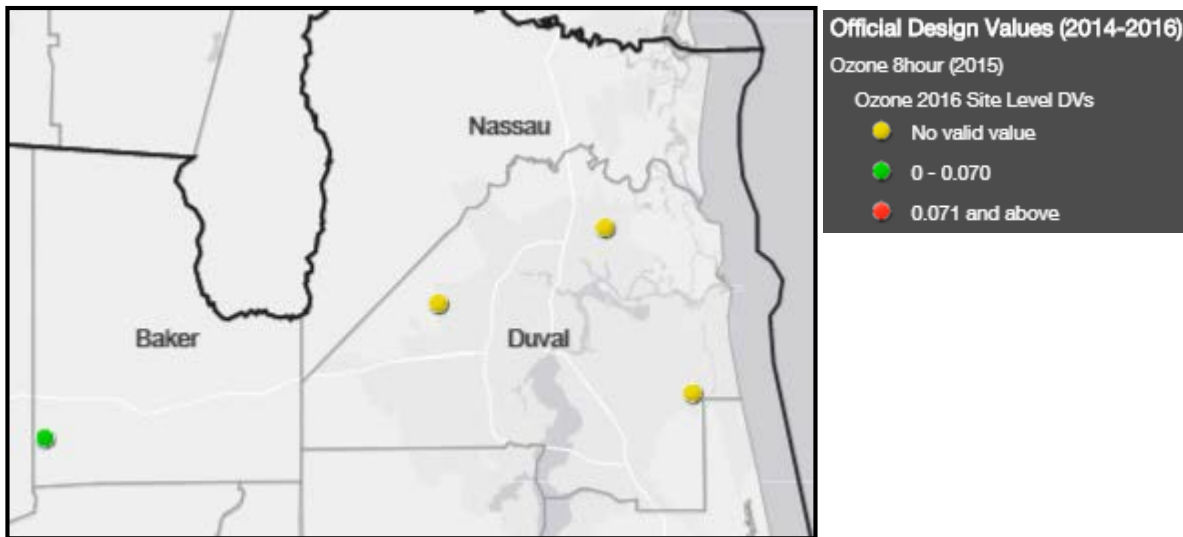
**Table 1. Air Quality Data for Duval County, FL**

State Name	County Name	AQS Site ID	Percent Complete <sup>3</sup>				4th Highest Daily Maximum Value		
			2014	2015	2016	2014-2016	2014	2015	2016
Florida	Duval	120310077	97	32	96	75	0.062	0.054	0.057
Florida	Duval	120310100	92	69	96	86	0.071	0.061	0.064
Florida	Duval	120310106	98	0	98	65	0.060	N/A	0.062

Duval County, Florida

The State of Florida identified issues with air quality data collected at three monitors in Duval County, FL which is part of the Jacksonville, FL metropolitan statistical area. Data collected between 2013 and 2015 that did not meet quality assurance criteria found in Appendix A to part 40 CFR part 58 was removed from AQS. As a result, the three monitors in Duval County (Figure 1) do not have valid 2014-2016 design values because the minimum data completeness requirements found in 40 CFR Part 50 Appendix U are not met. Therefore, the EPA is designating Duval County as unclassifiable.

**Figure 1. Duval County, Florida**



<sup>3</sup> Appendix U requires a minimum of 75 percent data completeness in each of the three calendar years, and an average of 90 percent data completeness across the three years in order to establish a valid, attaining ozone design value.

**Table 2. Air Quality Data for Matanuska-Susitna Borough, AK and Marion County, OR**

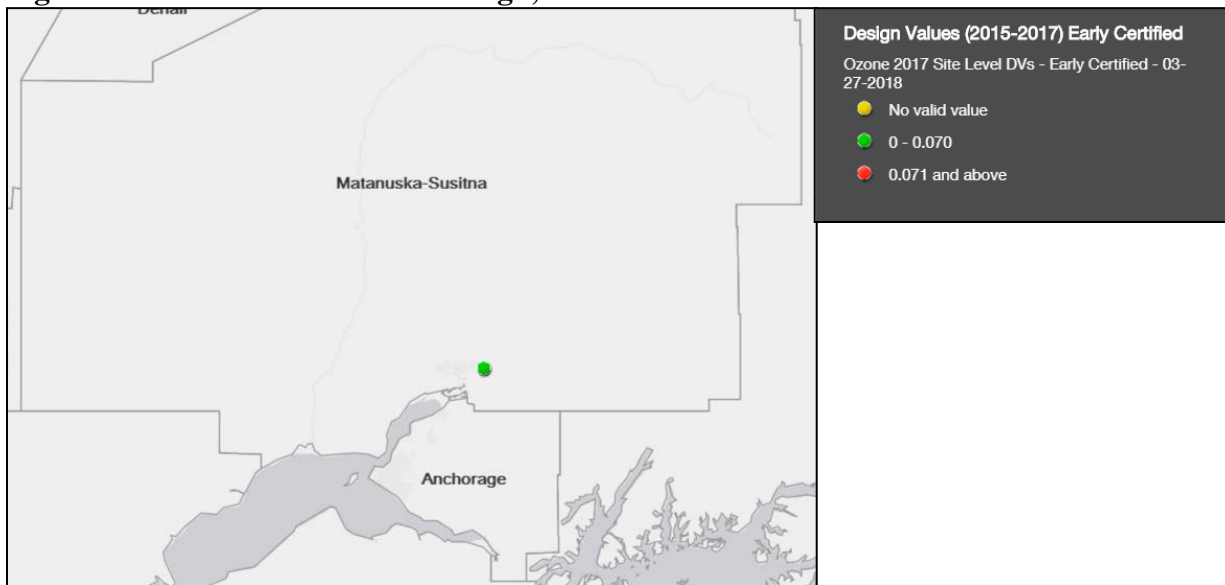
State Name	County Name	AQS Site ID	2015-2017 DV	Percent Complete <sup>4</sup>				4th Highest Daily Maximum Value		
				2015	2016	2017	2015-2017	2015	2016	2017
Alaska	Matanuska-Susitna	021700012	0.044	92	99	100	97	0.047	0.044	0.043
Oregon	Marion	410470004	0.069	99	83 <sup>5</sup>	99	94	0.065	0.065	0.078

Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Alaska

The ozone monitor in the Anchorage, AK metropolitan statistical area (AQS ID 021700012) is located in the city of Palmer, which is in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough (Figure 2). The State of Alaska moved the ozone monitor that was previously located in the city of Wasilla to the Palmer location in 2015. The Palmer monitor only had two years of ozone data (2015 and 2016) in AQS, and therefore did not have sufficient data to calculate a valid 2014-2016 design value.

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation certified 2017 data in AQS to establish a valid 2015-2017 design value. The design value is below the level of the NAAQS, therefore the EPA is designating Matanuska-Susitna Borough as attainment/unclassifiable.

**Figure 2. Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Alaska**



<sup>4</sup> Appendix U requires a minimum of 75 percent data completeness in each of the three calendar years, and an average of 90 percent data completeness across the three years in order to establish a valid, attaining ozone design value.

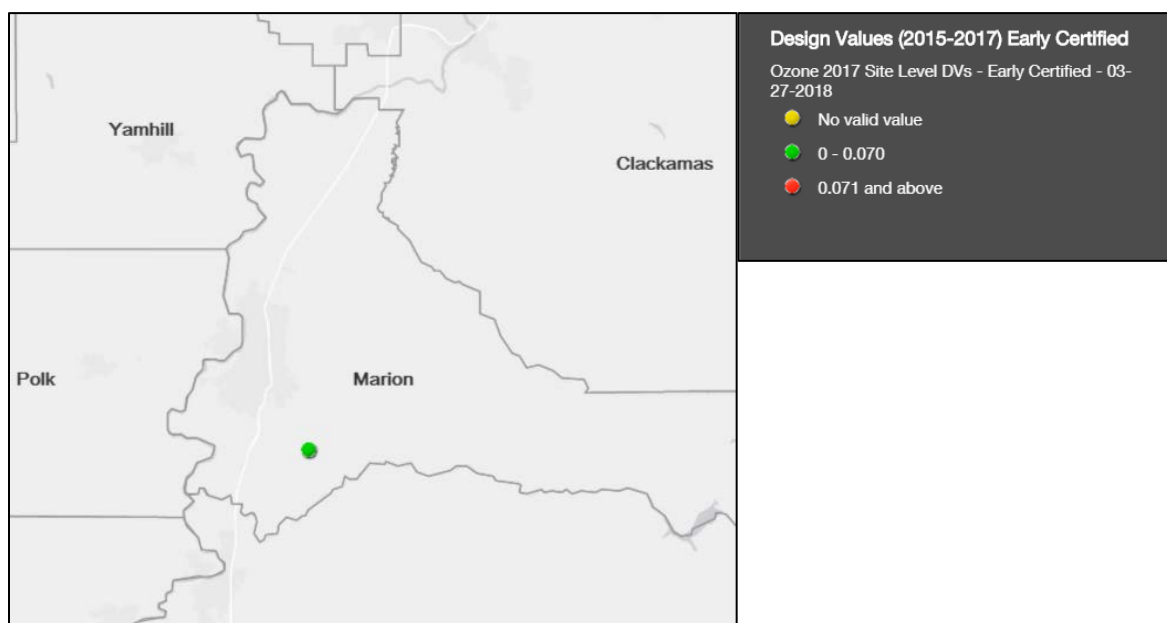
<sup>5</sup> These values differ from data in AQS after data identified as not meeting quality assurance requirements were removed.

### Marion County, Oregon

The ozone monitor in the Salem, OR metropolitan statistical area (AQS ID 410470004) is located in Marion County, OR (Figure 3). The EPA determined that some of the 2014-2016 data collected at this monitor did not meet the criteria found in the *QA Handbook for Air Pollution Measurement Systems*<sup>6</sup> and Appendix A to 40 CFR Part 58. When the data that did not meet these criteria was removed, the ozone monitor did not have a valid 2014-2016 design value because the minimum data completeness requirements in Appendix U to 40 CFR Part 50 were not met.

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality has certified 2017 data in AQS and recertified 2015 data to establish a valid 2015-2017 design value. The design value is below the level of the NAAQS, therefore the EPA is designating Marion County as attainment/unclassifiable.

**Figure 3. Marion County, Oregon**



<sup>6</sup> [https://www3.epa.gov/ttn/amtic/files/ambient/pm25/qa/Final%20Handbook%20Document%201\\_17.pdf](https://www3.epa.gov/ttn/amtic/files/ambient/pm25/qa/Final%20Handbook%20Document%201_17.pdf)