



# Smoke Outlook

## Southwest Colorado Quartz Ridge / Bear Creek Fires

# 8/17 - 8/18

Issued by [Wildland Fire Air Quality Response Program](#) on August 17, 2023 at 06:54 AM MDT

### Special Statement

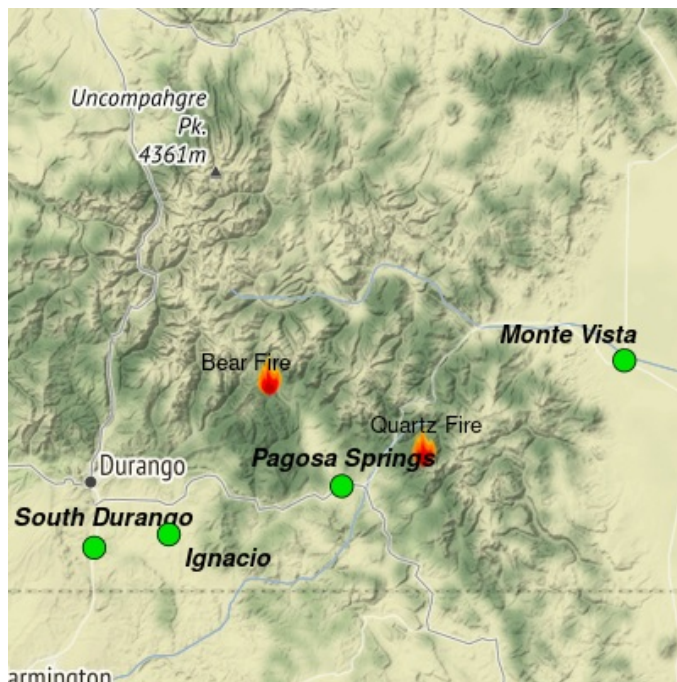
This is an extended Smoke Outlook for the Quartz Ridge and Bear Fires. For near current air quality information, including the current Air Quality Index (AQI), refer to the [Fire and Smoke Map](#)

### Fire

Monsoonal conditions and scattered showers continue to dampen fire behavior. As the weather dries a bit this weekend, activity should wake up and some smoke will be produced. With the wet conditions, large fire growth isn't anticipated. For more information on the Quartz Ridge and Bear Creek fires, visit their Inciweb pages at: [Bear Creek Fire](#) || [Quartz Ridge Fire](#)

### Smoke

GOOD air quality is expected across the Outlook area for the next week. As the weather dries over the weekend, smoke could once again be produced by the fires. However, impacts are expected to be light. Communities that are down drainage from the fires could wake up to MODERATE to USG air quality, but the smoke should clear as the inversions lift by mid-morning. We may begin to see some hazy skies as more smoke is produced, but overall air quality should remain GOOD.



Daily AQI Forecast\* for Thursday

Station	Yesterday			Wed 8/16	Comment for Today -- Thu, Aug 17	Forecast*	
	hourly					Thu 8/17	Fri 8/18
South Durango	6a	noon	6p	●	Expecting GOOD air quality for the day.	●	●
Ignacio				●	Expecting GOOD air quality for the day.	●	●
Monte Vista				●	Expecting GOOD air quality for the day.	●	●
Pagosa Springs				●	Expecting GOOD air quality for the day.	●	●

Issued Aug 17, 2023 by Jill Webster, Air Resource Advisor, ([jill.webster@usda.gov](mailto:jill.webster@usda.gov))

Air Quality Index (AQI)	Actions to Protect Yourself
● Good	None
● Moderate	Unusually sensitive individuals should consider limiting prolonged or heavy exertion.
● USG	People within Sensitive Groups* should <b>reduce</b> prolonged or heavy outdoor exertion.
● Unhealthy	People within Sensitive Groups* should <b>avoid all</b> physical outdoor activity.
● Very Unhealthy	Everyone should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion.
● Hazardous	Everyone should avoid any outdoor activity.

**\*Disclaimer:** This forecast is based on fine particulates only; ozone is not included. Forecasts may be wrong; use at own risk. Use caution as conditions can change quickly. See your health professional as needed. Smoke sensitive groups should take appropriate precautions.

### Additional Links

[Quartz Ridge Fire Facebook Page](https://www.facebook.com/people/Quartz-Ridge-Fire/100095556640621/) -- <https://www.facebook.com/people/Quartz-Ridge-Fire/100095556640621/>

[Smoke and your Health](https://www.colorado.gov/airquality/wildfire.aspx) -- <https://www.colorado.gov/airquality/wildfire.aspx>

[AirNow Fire and Smoke Map](https://fire.airnow.gov) -- <https://fire.airnow.gov>

[Air Quality Advisory Wildfire Smoke](https://www.colorado.gov/airquality/addendum.aspx#smoke) -- <https://www.colorado.gov/airquality/addendum.aspx#smoke>

[Facebook CDPHE Air Pollution Control Division](https://www.facebook.com/cdphe.apcd) -- <https://www.facebook.com/cdphe.apcd>

[AIR QUALITY Southern Ute Indian Tribe Monitors](https://www.southernutensn.gov/justice-and-regulatory/epd/air-quality/ambient-monitoring/) -- <https://www.southernutensn.gov/justice-and-regulatory/epd/air-quality/ambient-monitoring/>



Issued by Interagency Wildland Fire Air Quality Response Program -- [www.wildlandfiresmoke.net](http://www.wildlandfiresmoke.net)

Southwest Colorado Updates -- <https://outlooks.wildlandfiresmoke.net/outlook/933fc4e4>

\*Smoke and Health Info -- [www.airnow.gov/air-quality-and-health](http://www.airnow.gov/air-quality-and-health)