



Smoke Outlook

Salmon-Challis Idaho Elkhorn Fire

8/19 - 8/20

Issued by [Wildland Fire Air Quality Response Program](#) on August 19, 2023 at 08:44 AM MDT

Fire

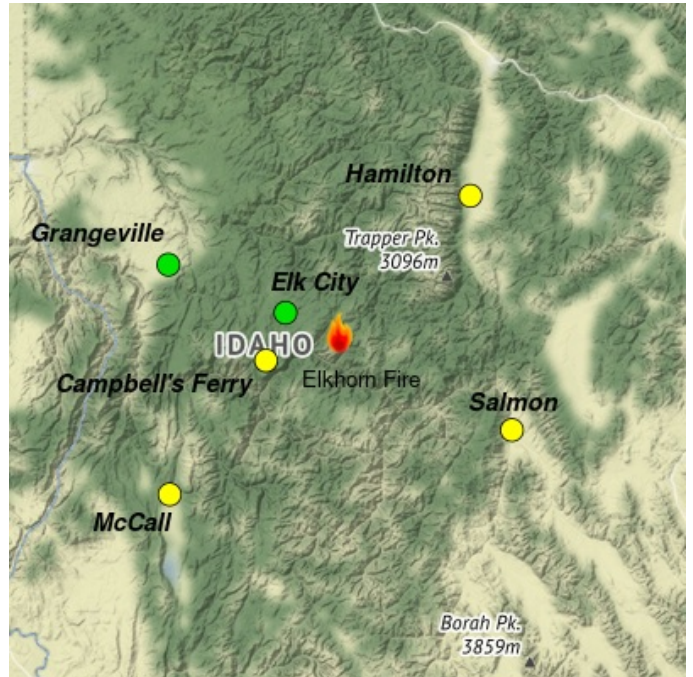
The Elkhorn Fire stands at 26,048 acres burned and 45% completion (see [Inciweb-Elkhorn](#)). Lower temperatures and increased cloud cover with greater chances of precipitation in the evening should minimize fire activity today. Fire continues to creep and smolder with isolated torching still possible. Fire growth is not expected to the east or west along the Salmon River due to lack of ignition source.

Smoke

Smoke continues to decrease in the river basin with GOOD conditions present earlier in the day than previously observed. MODERATE conditions will persist primarily upriver in the fire area as lingering smoke begins to lift and exit from prevailing W-SW winds. Haze from neighboring fires may reduce visibility only slightly. Smoke from the East Fire near Cascades, Idaho may impact communities north (McCall, Grangeville) and northeast (Elk City) of the fire footprint. Smoke continues to move off the Bowles Creek Fire east of Hamilton, MT into Hamilton and also Salmon, MT to negatively affect air quality in those communities. Agricultural burning west of Grangeville should decrease over the weekend which should improve air quality out of MODERATE into GOOD.

Websites

- <https://fire.airnow.gov>
- <https://outlooks.airfire.org/outlook/e397ee0b>
- <https://inciweb.nwac.gov/incident-information/idpaf-elkhorn-fire>



Daily AQI Forecast* for Saturday

Station	Yesterday hourly	Fri 8/18	Forecast*	Sat 8/19	Sun 8/20
Hamilton	6a, noon, 6p	Yellow	Mostly MODERATE today from Bowles Creek Fire smoke - periods of GOOD	Yellow	Yellow
Grangeville		Yellow	Weekend air quality should be GOOD with reduced AG burning	Green	Green
Elk City		Yellow	GOOD conditions today, possible smoke from SW East Fire	Green	Green
Salmon		Green	Mostly MODERATE today	Yellow	Green
McCall		Yellow	Expect MODERATE conditions today from East Fire smoke	Yellow	Yellow
Campbell's Ferry	No hourly data		Reduced smoke from lessened fire activity on the Elkhorn Fire	Yellow	Green

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Air Quality Index (AQI)	Actions to Protect Yourself
Green: Good	None
Yellow: Moderate	Unusually sensitive individuals should consider limiting prolonged or heavy exertion.
Orange: USG	People within Sensitive Groups* should reduce prolonged or heavy outdoor exertion.
Red: Unhealthy	People within Sensitive Groups* should avoid all physical outdoor activity.
Purple: Very Unhealthy	Everyone should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion.
Dark Purple: 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.



Issued by Interagency Wildland Fire Air Quality Response Program -- www.wildlandfiresmoke.net
 Salmon-Challis Idaho Updates -- <https://outlooks.wildlandfiresmoke.net/outlook/e397ee0b>
 *Smoke and Health Info -- www.airnow.gov/air-quality-and-health