



Smoke Outlook

11/15 - 11/16

Nantahala Forest/Western N. Carolina Collett Ridge Fire

Issued by [Wildland Fire Air Quality Response Program](#) on November 15, 2023 at 07:45 AM EST

Special Statement

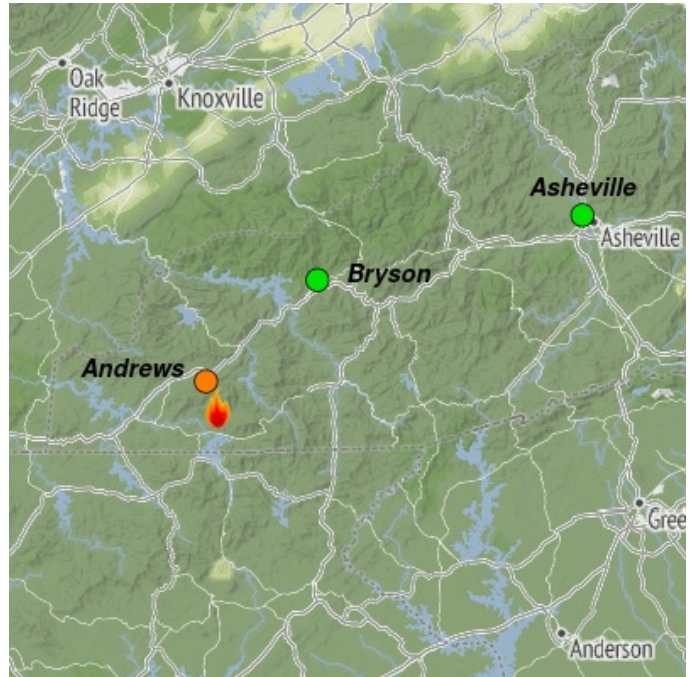
The Collett Fire was started October 23, 2023 by lightning on the Nantahala National Forest. Drought conditions allowed the fire to establish and eventually grow to 5,335 acres. Firefighters have worked hard to gain 79% containment of the fire.

Fire

A few persistent, large, woody materials have continued to burn and increased smoke ever so slightly with the dry conditions yesterday. Similar weather conditions and fire behavior are expected today as seen yesterday. These large debris will continue to smolder.

Smoke

The dry airmass yesterday allowed smoke production to increase. Today will most likely be a repeat of yesterday in terms of smoke production. Smoke was smelt in the town of Andrews yesterday and continued to flow and pool into the drainage at night. There are other fires and local burning in surrounding areas that may contribute to smoke in adjacent areas.



Daily AQI Forecast* for Wednesday

Station	Yesterday hourly		Tue 11/14	Comment for Today -- Wed, Nov 15	Forecast*	
	6a	noon 6p			Wed 11/15	Thu 11/16
Andrews	No hourly data			NA	Orange	Yellow
BRYSON			Green	Drier air is increasing smoke; however, wind flow should keep smoke away	Green	Green
Asheville - BDED			Green	Drier air is increasing smoke; however, wind flow should keep smoke away	Green	Green

Issued Nov 15, 2023 by Christina Clemons, christina.t.clemons@odf.oregon.gov

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.
Magenta 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

[InciWeb Collett Ridge Fire](https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident-information/ncncf-2023-collett-ridge-fire) -- <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident-information/ncncf-2023-collett-ridge-fire>
[Fire and Smoke Map](https://fire.airnow.gov/#close) -- <https://fire.airnow.gov/#close>

[Collett Fire Update](https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/nfsnc/news-events/?cid=FSEPRD1150420) -- <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/nfsnc/news-events/?cid=FSEPRD1150420>
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Issued by Interagency Wildland Fire Air Quality Response Program -- www.wildlandfiresmoke.net
Nantahala Forest/Western N. Carolina Updates -- <https://outlooks.wildlandfiresmoke.net/outlook/bde167d2>
*Smoke and Health Info -- www.airnow.gov/air-quality-and-health