



# Smoke Outlook

## Black Bear Black Bear

11/18 - 11/19

Issued by [Wildland Fire Air Quality Response Program](#) on November 18, 2023 at 07:49 AM EST

### Special Statement

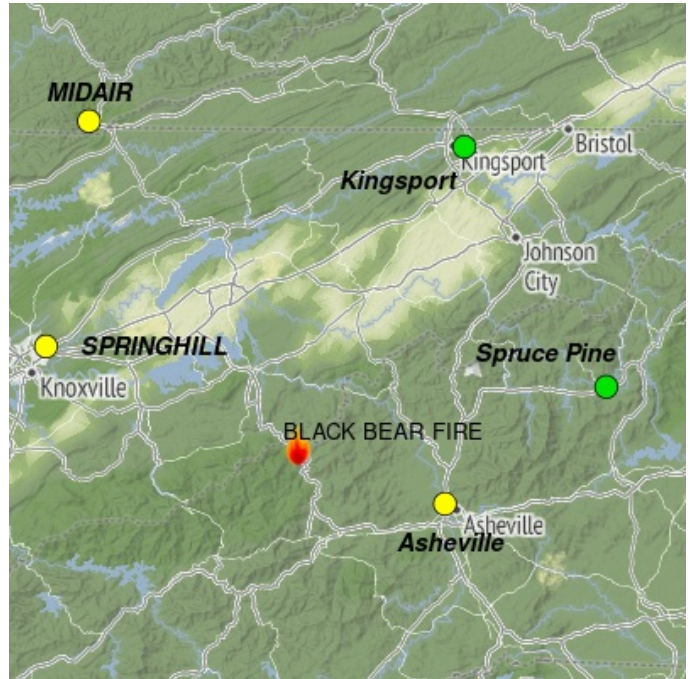
The Black Bear Fire was started by a vehicle accident on Hwy. 40 on November 16, 2023 and quickly outpaced initial attack forces. Dry fuels, high winds, and steep terrain spurred the fire up the mountain, making containment difficult. Fire is currently at 1,192 acres with 0% containment.

### Fire

Precipitation over the fire area received last night. This should favor suppression efforts. However; winds are expected to continue to be breezy in am before lessening in pm which could dry out fuels making them receptive to burning.

### Smoke

Humidities and smoke will create low visibility. There is a potential for super fog development tonight. Regardless of super fog conditions or not, smoke will likely cause extremely low visibility along Hwy. 40 where canyons become narrow allowing smoke to pool into drainages coupled with river bottoms. Drivers should check with local authorities on road conditions or consider avoiding the areas from Buzzard Rock overlook to north of Wilton Springs and south to Pigeon River Crossing.



Daily AQI Forecast\* for Saturday

Station	Yesterday			Fri 11/17	Comment for Today -- Sat, Nov 18	Forecast*	
	hourly					Sat 11/18	Sun 11/19
Asheville	6a	noon	6p	●	Winds out of NW may bring smoke in Asheville	●	●
SPRINGHILL				●	Potential for GOOD to MODERATE air today	●	●
Kingsport				●	GOOD to MODERATE air expected today	●	●
Spruce Pine				●	GOOD to MODERATE air expected today	●	●
MDAIR				●	Rainfall should help diminish smoke production	●	●

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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

[Collett Fire](https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/nfsnc/news-events/?cid=FSEPRD1150420) -- <https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/nfsnc/news-events/?cid=FSEPRD1150420>

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



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

Black Bear Updates -- <https://outlooks.wildlandfiresmoke.net/outlook/8a90385a>

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