



# Smoke Outlook

## North Central Idaho / SW Montana

8/21 - 8/22

Issued by [Wildland Fire Air Quality Response Program](#) on August 21, 2024 at 08:15 AM MDT

### Special Statement

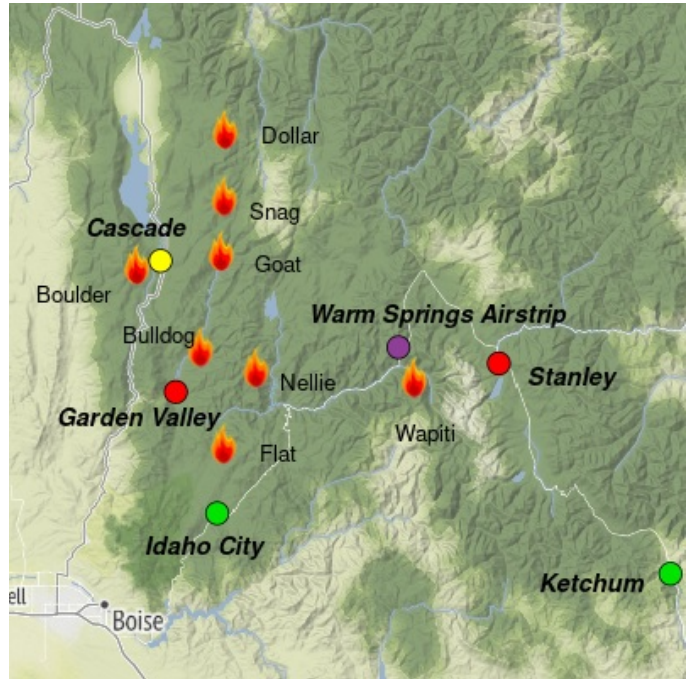
Idaho DEQ has issued an AIR QUALITY ALERT until at least 3PM Wednesday for Boise and Valley Counties.

### Fire

The **Middle Fork Complex**: Bulldog and Nellie Fires, totals 31,087 acres. The **Wapiti Fire** is at 17,520 acres, and the **Flat Fire** is at 3,664 acres. Elevated to near critical fire weather conditions continue until a weather shift later in the week to weekend. Group torching, spotting, and continued large fire growth is possible. More information regarding the area near the **Dollar, Snag, Goat, and Boulder Fires** can be found at: [Smoke Outlook Western Idaho Limepoint](#)

### Smoke

With fire growth on the Wapiti Fire, overnight drainage smoke will increasingly impact the Sawtooth Valley and Stanley area. Heaviest smoke impacts are expected in valleys and low-lying areas adjacent to active fire. In these areas, smoke levels will build overnight, peaking mid-morning, and decrease with afternoon mixing. Along the South Fork of the Payette from Crouch to Garden Valley, Grimes Pass to Lowman, along HWY-21 to Warm Springs Airstrip, and northward to Banner Creek Pass, heavy overnight smoke will lift by mid-afternoon. Today, west-southwesterly winds will increase daytime smoke along SH-21 and RT-17, across the Sawtooth Valley and eastward. By this weekend, a weather shift should decrease the potential for new significant smoke production.



Daily AQI Forecast\* for Wednesday

Station	Yesterday			Tue 8/20	Forecast*	Wed 8/21	Thu 8/22
	hourly						
Garden Valley					UNHEALTHY to V UNHEALTHY morning to midday, clearing by late afternoon.		
Idaho City					GOOD air quality with periods of disperse smoke.		
Cascade					USG overall, starting off MODERATE building to USG by midday, then PM clearing.		
Stanley					Increasing smoke impacts across the valley, UNHEALTHY to USG expected.		
Warm Springs Airstrip	No hourly data				Heavy smoke impacts AM hours, some relief by late afternoon.		
Ketchum					GOOD overall, haze aloft and distant smoke plumes visible.		

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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

[Middle Fork Complex \(Bulldog, Nellie\)](#) -- <https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/idbof-middle-fork-complex-fire-bulldog-nellie-anderson>  
[Flat Fire](#) -- <https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/idids-2024-flat>

[Wapiti Fire](#) -- <https://inciweb.wildfire.gov/incident-information/idbof-wapiti-fire>  
[IDEQ Smoke Blog](#) -- <https://idsmoke.blogspot.com/>



Issued by Interagency Wildland Fire Air Quality Response Program -- [www.wildlandfiresmoke.net](http://www.wildlandfiresmoke.net)  
 North Central Idaho / SW Montana Updates -- <https://outlooks.wildlandfiresmoke.net/outlook/098b2cf8>  
 \*Smoke and Health Info -- [www.airnow.gov/air-quality-and-health](http://www.airnow.gov/air-quality-and-health)