

North Idaho Air Quality Summary – July 2014

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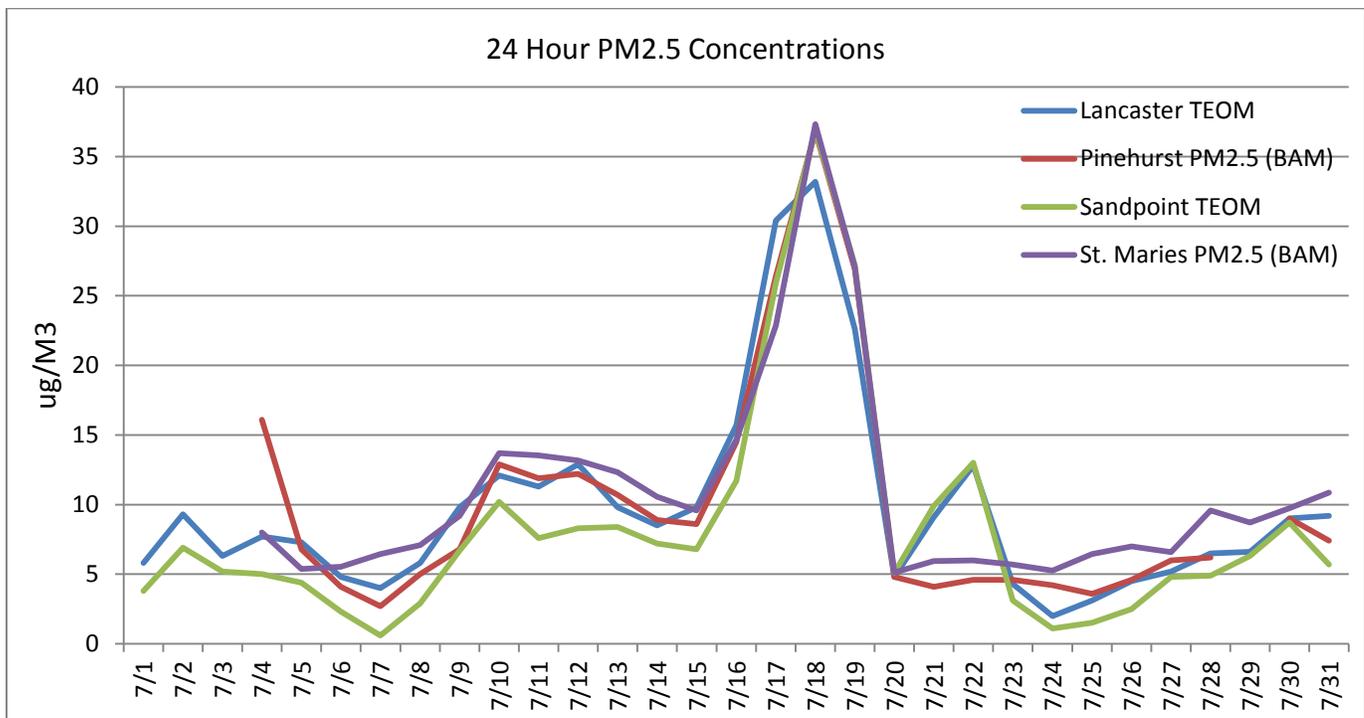
This summary of North Idaho’s air quality is compiled from the various air quality samplers located in the Department of Environmental Quality’s Coeur d’Alene Region for the month of July 2014.

The Coeur d’Alene Regional Network encompasses the counties of Boundary, Bonner, Kootenai, Shoshone, and Benewah. The data presented in this report is considered preliminary data and has not been completely evaluated for all quality assurance requirements.

PM2.5 CONTINUOUS DATA

The graph below displays the average daily 24-hour PM_{2.5} values for the month and is expressed in micrograms per cubic meter, ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$). These values were calculated by averaging hourly values midnight to midnight from the agency’s PM_{2.5} TEOM and BAM samplers located in the Cities of Pinehurst, Sandpoint, and St. Maries and on Lancaster Road in Kootenai County.

In March 2013 the US EPA revised the PM_{2.5} NAAQS by lowering the annual standard to $12 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ from $15 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. The 24 hour NAAQS remains at $35 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.



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The table below shows the maximum 24 hour values calculated from continuous TEOM and BAM monitoring for this reporting period. The National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for PM_{2.5} is 35 µg/m³ for a 24 hour average. The U.S. EPA approved the BAM 1020 as a Federal Equivalent Method (FEM) for the collection and reporting of PM_{2.5} data. In February 2014 the Coeur d'Alene Regional Office requested approval to begin using a BAM for NAAQS reporting from the Pinehurst monitoring station beginning for 2014. The CRO still uses the Federal Reference Method (FRM) filter based sample measurements at the St. Maries monitoring site to determine NAAQS compliance. Depiction of preliminary continuous monitoring data in the table below is for reporting purposes only.

Monitoring Site	Highest Reading (µg/m ³)	Date
Lancaster TEOM	33.2	July 18
Pinehurst BAM	36.8	July 18
Sandpoint TEOM	36.9	July 18
St. Maries BAM	37.3	July 18

PM_{2.5} FEDERAL REFERENCE METHOD (FRM) DATA

At this time the Coeur d'Alene Regional Office of Idaho DEQ uses the Federal Reference Method Sampler (filter based) measurements for NAAQS compliance determination at the St. Maries monitoring site. This method requires that 75% of available data be collected per quarter. Other filter processing requirements are applicable to this method. The Coeur d'Alene Regional Office's collection efficiency rate for July is shown in the table below. The FRM monitor at the Pinehurst site is used for quality assurance purposes.

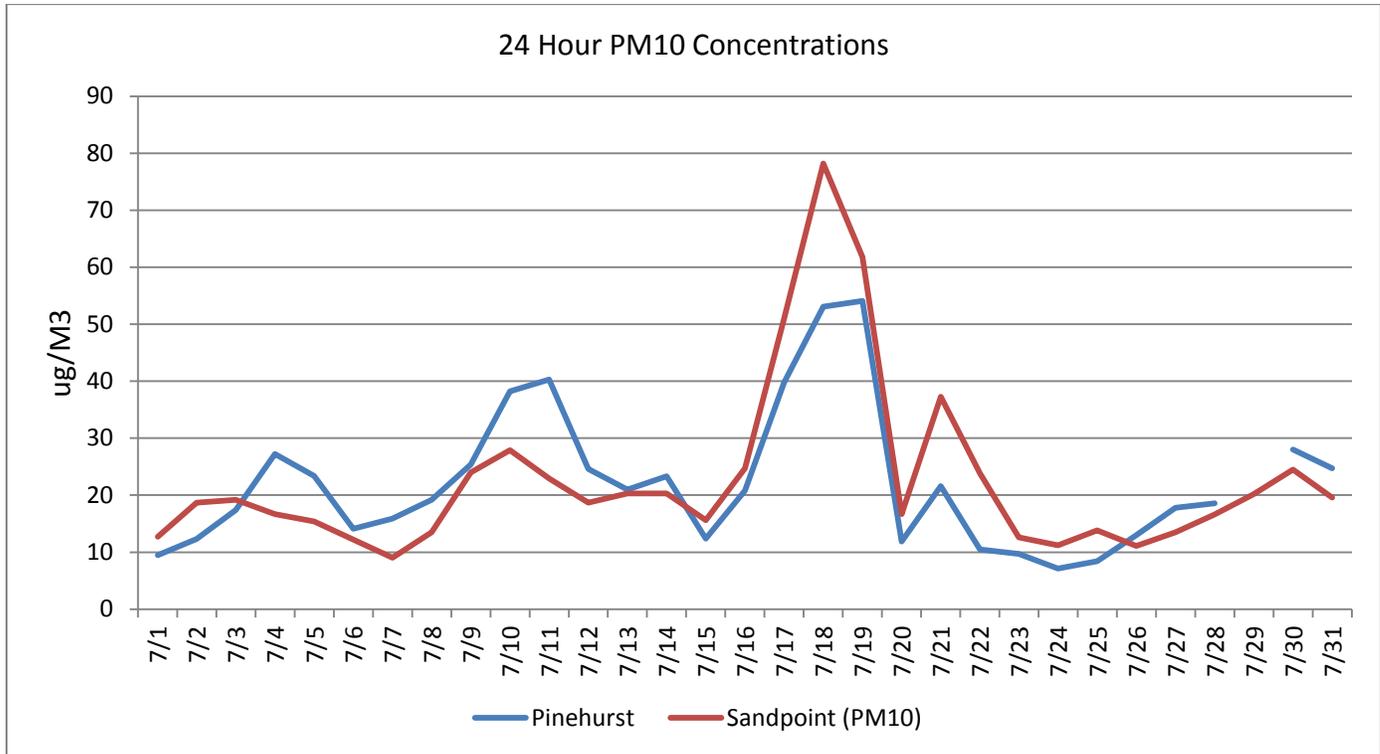
July FRM filter recovery Efficiency

Site	Sample Days	Valid Samples	Collection Percentage
Pinehurst	31	30	97%
St. Maries	5	5	100%

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PM10 CONTINUOUS DATA

The graph below shows the 24 hour values for PM10. No apparent exceedances of the 150 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ for a 24 hour average standard have occurred over this reporting period.



Air Quality Actions

Smoke from wildfires began moving into north Idaho in early July. The Coeur d'Alene Regional Office issued an Air Quality Alert and Stage 1 Burn Ban on July 17 due to heavy wildfire smoke in the area. The smoke was being generated by large wildfires occurring in Washington and elsewhere around the western U.S. and Canada. The alert and burn ban were lifted on July 21 when conditions improved.

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NETWORK INFORMATION

The table below summarizes all active and inactive air quality samplers located within the North Idaho area during the month of July 2014.

Site	Monitor	Type	Comments	Current Status	Data Completeness
Lancaster / Rathdrum Prairie	R&P 1400A TEOM PM2.5	Continuous		Active	99%
Lancaster / Rathdrum Prairie	Meteorological Tower	Continuous		Active	99%
St. Maries	PM2.5 BAM	Continuous		Active	90%
St. Maries	Thermo Model 2025 FRM PM2.5	Filter		Active	100%
Pinehurst	Thermo Model 2025 FRM PM2.5	Filter		Active	97%
Pinehurst	PM2.5 BAM	Continuous		Active	84%
Pinehurst	R&P 1400AB TEOM PM10	Continuous		Active	83%
Pinehurst	Meteorological Tower	Continuous		Active	99%
Sandpoint U of I Extension Office	Meteorological Tower	Continuous		Active	97%
Sandpoint U of I Extension Office	R&P 1400A TEOM PM2.5	Continuous		Active	98%
Sandpoint U of I Extension Office	R&P 1400AB TEOM PM10	Continuous		Active	97%
Lakes Management Plan	Meteorological Tower	Continuous		Active	100%
3 Meter G C Met	Meteorological Tower	Continuous		Active	91%
Porthill International Border Site	Radiance Research Nephelometer /wind speed & direction	Continuous	CRB Seasonal	Inactive	NA
Athol	Radiance Research Nephelometer	Continuous	CRB Seasonal	Inactive	NA
Mt. Hall School	Radiance Research Nephelometer	Continuous	CRB Seasonal	Inactive	NA
Garwood Elementary	Radiance Research Nephelometer	Continuous	CRB Seasonal	Inactive	NA

During June, 13 of 13 active samplers achieved 75% or greater data completeness.

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AIR QUALITY INDEX

The air quality index is a tool used to convey information to the public regarding local levels of air pollution and the associated health concerns. These levels are depicted in the table below.

Air Quality Index (AQI): Particle Pollution

Index Values	Levels of Health Concern	Cautionary Statements
0-50	Good	None
51-100	Moderate	Unusually sensitive people should consider reducing prolonged or heavy exertion outdoors.
101-150	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	People with heart or lung disease, older adults, and children should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion outdoors.
151-200	Unhealthy	People with heart or lung disease, older adults, and children should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion outdoors. Everyone else should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion.
201-300	Very Unhealthy	People with heart or lung disease, older adults, and children should avoid all physical activity outdoors. Everyone else should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion.
301-500	Hazardous	People with heart or lung disease, older adults, and children should remain indoors and keep activity levels low. Everyone else should avoid all physical activity outdoors.

Below is a table showing the total weekday Air Quality Index (AQI) values for each of the reporting cities located in North Idaho for this reporting month. Differences in totals were due to sampler down time. In March 2013 the US EPA revised the PM_{2.5} NAAQS by lowering the annual standard to 12.0 µg/M³ from 15.0 µg/M³. Because of this change in the NAAQS the breakpoints between AQI categories have also been modified.

July 2014

Coeur d'Alene	Pinehurst	Sandpoint	St. Maries
Green = 17	Green = 18	Green = 19	Green = 16
Yellow = 4	Yellow = 3	Yellow = 2	Yellow = 4
Orange = 0	Orange = 0	Orange = 0	Orange = 0
Red = 0	Red = 0	Red = 0	Red = 0

2014 YEAR TO DATE AQI TOTALS

Coeur d'Alene	Pinehurst	Sandpoint	St. Maries
Green = 132(97%)	Green = 103 (74%)	Green = 136(98%)	Green = 105 (82%)
Yellow = 4 (3%)	Yellow = 33 (24%)	Yellow = 3 (2%)	Yellow = 21 (16%)
Orange = 0	Orange = 2 (1%)	Orange = 0	Orange = 2 (2%)
Red = 0	Red = 1(1%)	Red = 0	Red = 0

For further information about air quality in Idaho and the northwest region visit the following sites on the Internet or contact Ralph Paul, Coeur d'Alene Region Airshed Coordinator, at 208-769-1422.

<http://www.deq.idaho.gov/>

<http://www.deq.idaho.gov/daily-air-quality-reports-forecasts>

www.airnow.gov/index.cfm?action=airnow.fcsummary&stateid=16