Lake States Fire Science Consortium

A JFSP KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE CONSORTIUM

2014-2015 Webinar Series April 16, 2015

Easy-to-Use Smoke Tools

Trent Wickman

Air Resource Management Great Lakes National Forests - Eastern Region

Audio will start at top of the hour.

This webinar is listen only – to ask questions please use the chat box in lower right of screen.







Burn Boss Refresher

Smoke Management

Trent Wickman twickman@fs.fed.us

(218) 626-4372



Who am I?

- Attended Michigan Tech
- Worked for the State of MN for 5 years as an air permit engineer
- Been with Forest Service since 2001
- 2009 became Lake States Forest's Air Dude
- Native of NE MN and UP of MI



Region 9 Zoned Air Program

- <u>Claire O'Dea</u> (Southern Tier Forests): Hoosier, Mark Twain, Monongahela, Shawnee, Wayne, and Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie
- <u>Ralph Perron</u> (Northeastern Forests): Allegheny, Finger Lakes, Green Mountain, and White Mountain
- <u>Trent Wickman</u> (Lake States Forests): Chequamegon-Nicolet, Chippewa, Hiawatha, Huron-Manistee, Ottawa, and Superior

Why Do I Need to Know About Smoke?



What do I need to know about Smoke? (Cliff Notes version)

- Your State Smoke Management Plan
 - Or Basic Smoke Management Practices if you don't have a plan
- What a Nonattainment Area is and why its bad
 And if you burn in one
- How to figure out how polluted the air is now
- How to predict where my smoke will go (or where it went) and how thick it will be
- How to estimate how bad the smoke was?

What do I need to know about Smoke? (Cliff Notes version)

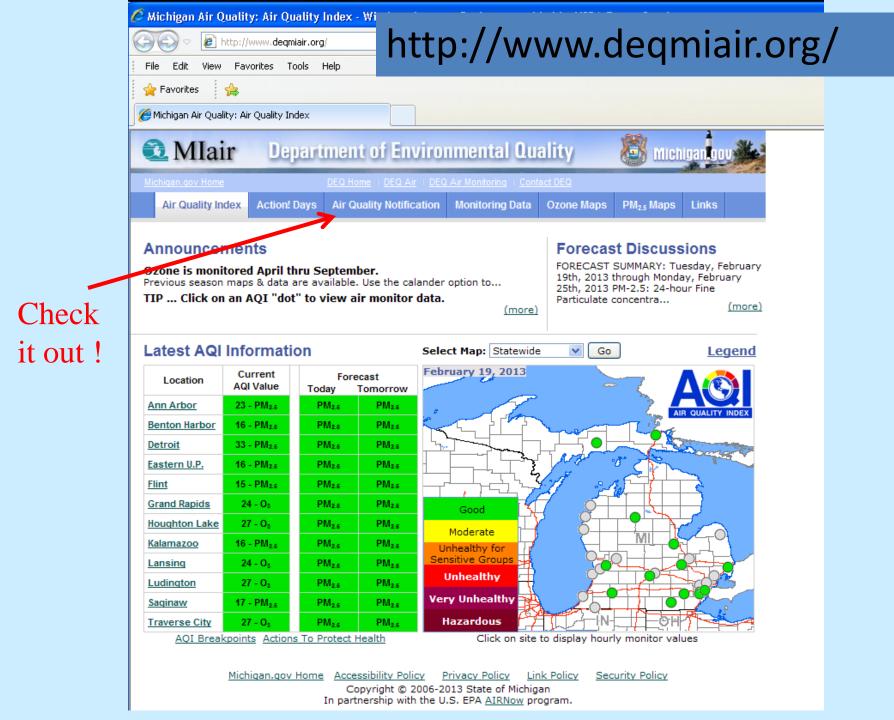
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EPA's Air Quality Index (AQI) for PM_{2.5}

- Shorter averaging and reporting times
- Uses information from continuous monitoring instruments (some are not "official" like the FRM)
- Used for real time communication with the public
- Could trigger evacuations
- What you hear about in the news



Index Values	Levels of Health Concern	Cautionary Statements	PM _{2.5} Breakpoints (μg/m³, 24-hr ave)
0 – 50	Good	None	0.0 - 12.0
51 – 100	Moderate	Unusually sensitive people should consider reducing prolonged or heavy exertion outdoors.	12.1 - 35.4
101 – 150	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	Active children and adults, and people with lung disease, such as asthma, should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion outdoors.	35.5 - 55.4
151 – 200	Unhealthy	Active children and adults, and people with lung disease, such as asthma, should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion outdoors. Everyone else, especially children, should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion outdoors.	55.5 - 150.4
201 – 300	Very Unhealthy	Active children and adults, and people with lung disease, such as asthma, should avoid all outdoor exertion. Everyone else, especially children, should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion outdoors.	150.5 - 250.4
301 – 500	Hazardous	Everyone should avoid all physical activity outdoors	250.5 - 500

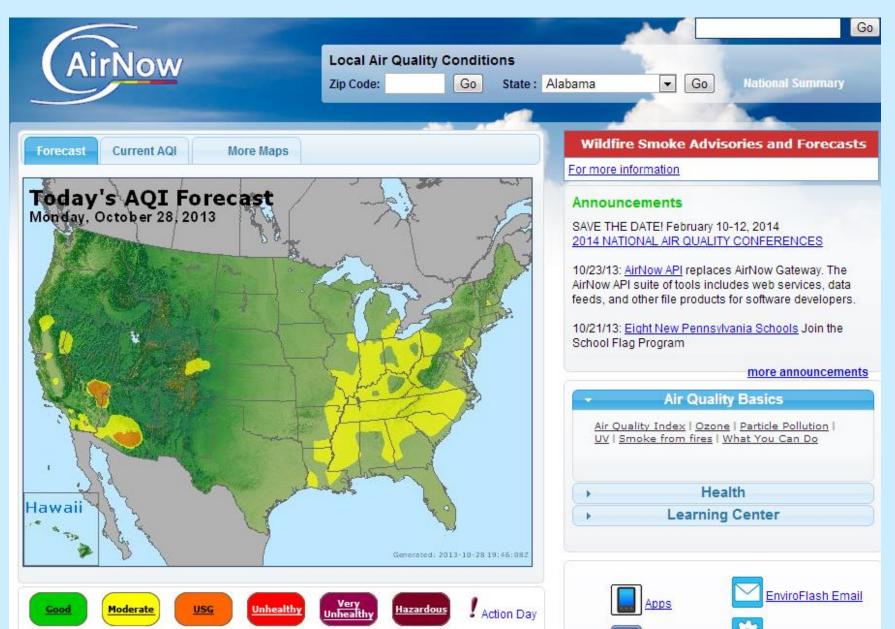


Minnesota

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http://www.airnow.gov/



What do I need to know about Smoke? (Cliff Notes version)

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All Models Are Wrong

Some Models Are Useful



How to predict where my smoke will go (or where it went) and how thick it will be

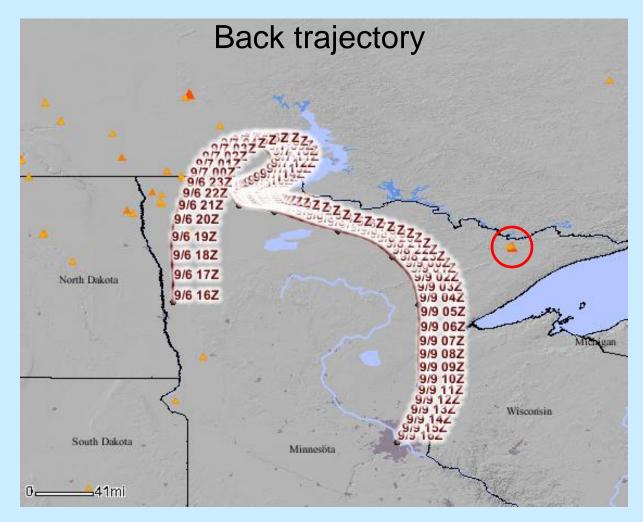
- Where my smoke will go (or where it went)
 - Trajectory Modeling
 - Hysplit
- How to predict how thick it will be
 - Dispersion Modeling
 - Screening
 - Smoke Screen
 - Refined
 - VSmoke-Web
 - Bluesky

Trajectory Models

 Model that uses archived and/or predicted meteorological info to calculate where air came from (back trajectory) or traveled to (forward trajectory) based on a starting location, <u>height</u> and time.



Smoke in Minneapolis: Sept 9, 2011

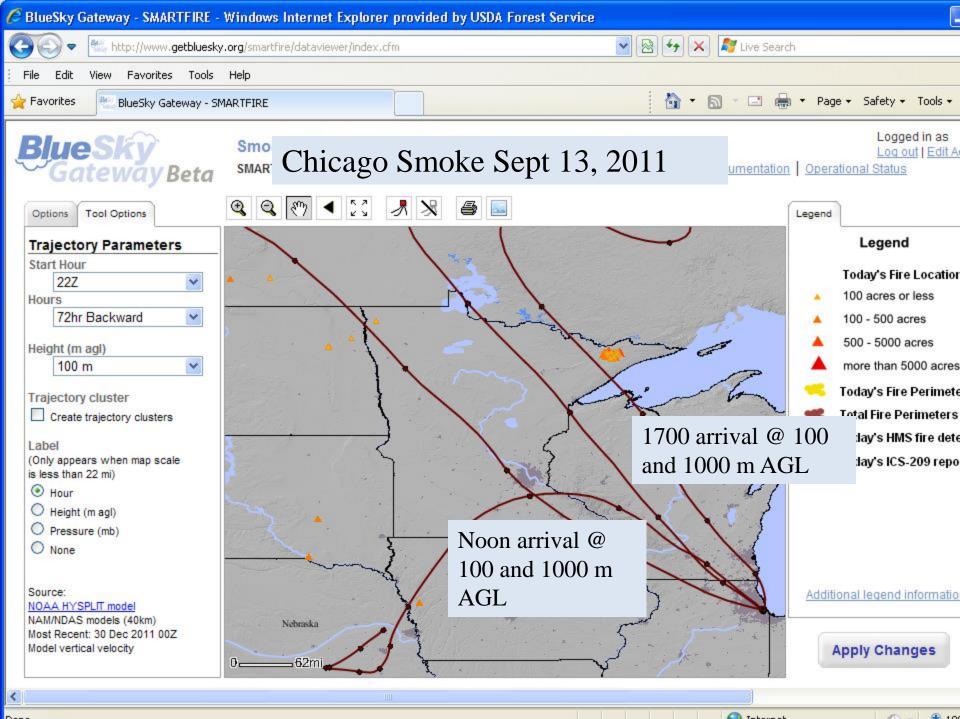


What it does NOT do

- HYSPLIT trajectory model does <u>NOT</u> produce concentration estimates of smoke.
- ...meaning it does <u>NOT</u> tell you how <u>MUCH</u> smoke is in the air
- ...it just tells you <u>WHERE</u> the smoke is going or where it has been

Key Inputs

- Where Location of fire (smoke)
 - X,Y not as important as height AGL (plume rise)
- When when will smoke be generated at a significant height?
- Try to bracket possible combinations of conditions (perform multiple runs)



Key Issues

- Accuracy model uses gridded meteorological data. Some are 12 x 12 km cells
- Not useful for near-field impacts (use spot forecasts of surface and transport wind directions)
- A useful tool when used correctly by someone who understands its limitations



Websites for Tools

Trajectories - HYSPLIT

- 1) EPA AirNow-Tech <u>http://airnowtech.org/</u>
- 2) NWS Spot Weather Forecast Page
- 3) <u>http://ready.arl.noaa.gov/HYSPLIT.php</u>



Example: HYSPLIT through AirNow-Tech

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About	Polling Summary				
AirNow-Tech is a password-protected website for air quality data	Color Legend				
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primarily used by the federal, State, Tribal, and local air quality organizations that provide data and forecasts to the AirNow	Red over	6 hrs old	Gray	Unknown	status
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A comprehensive list of EPA air pollution data sources	AR1	04/15 05:00	04/15	05:00	
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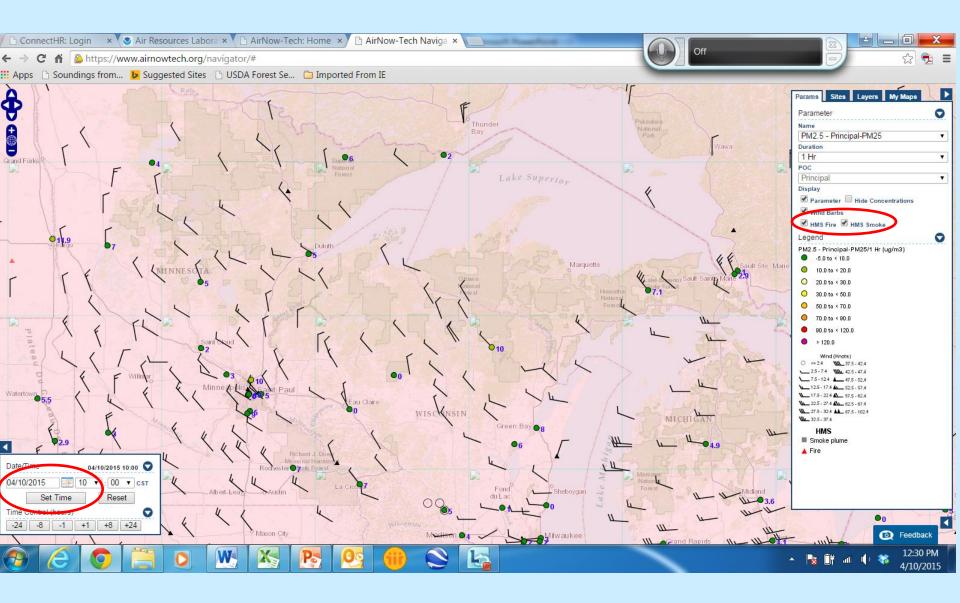
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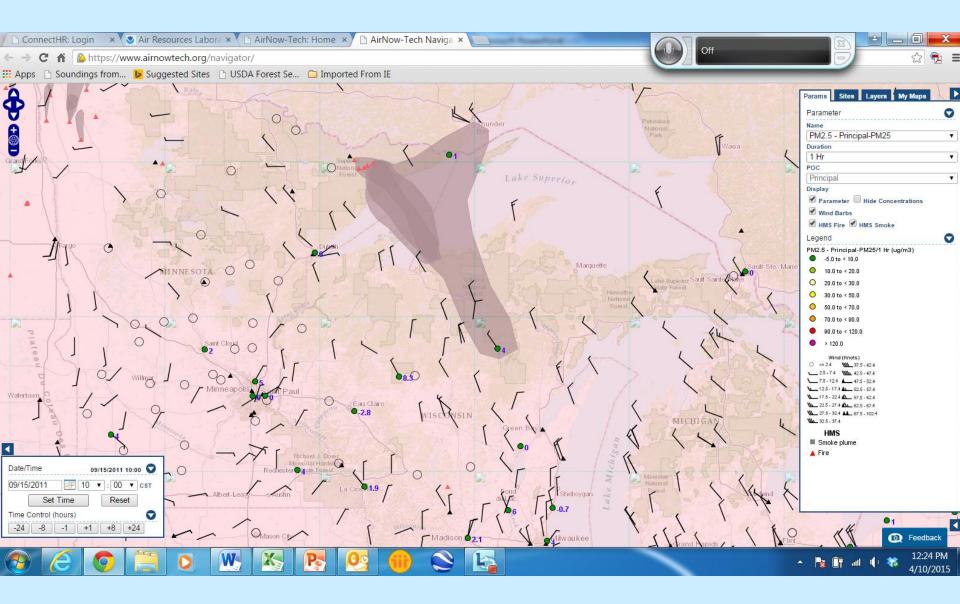


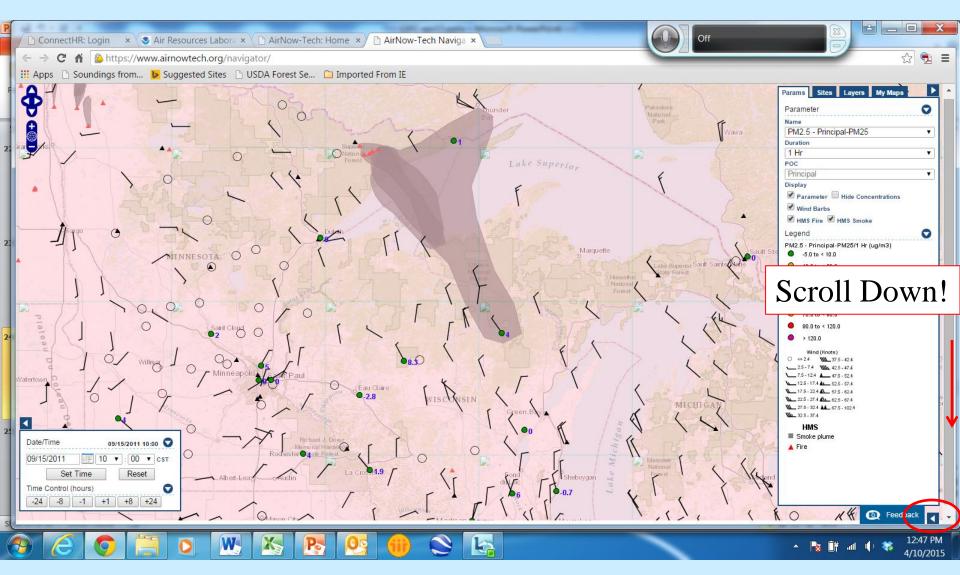


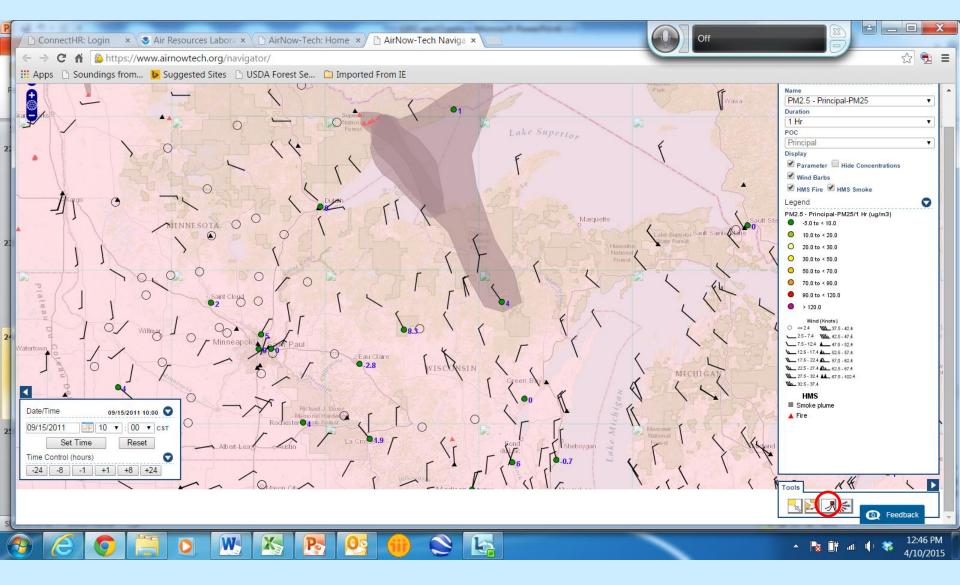
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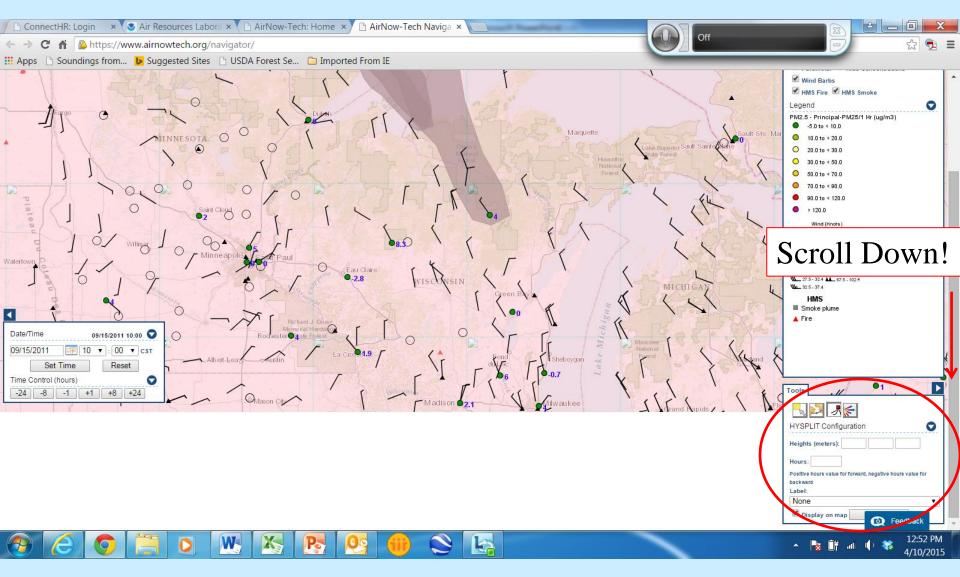


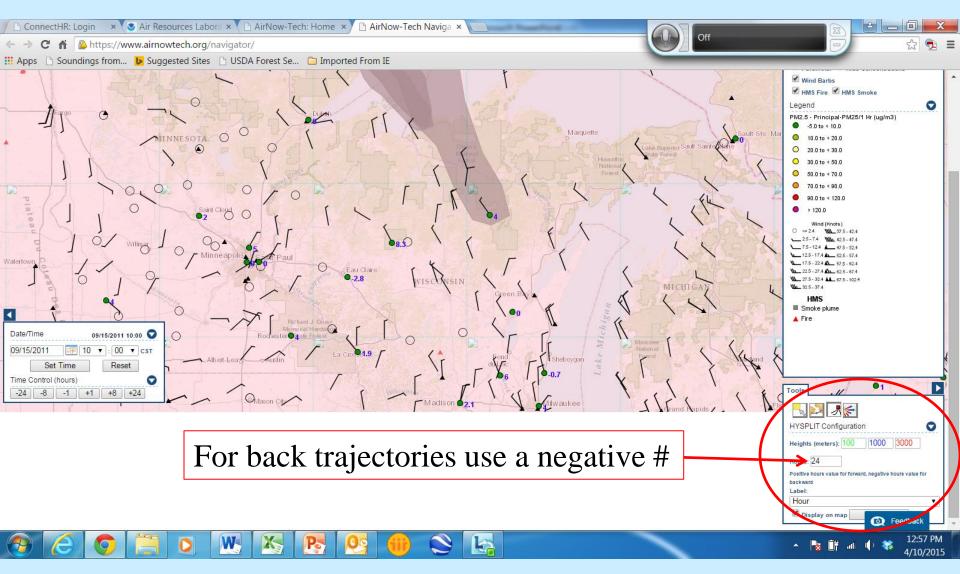
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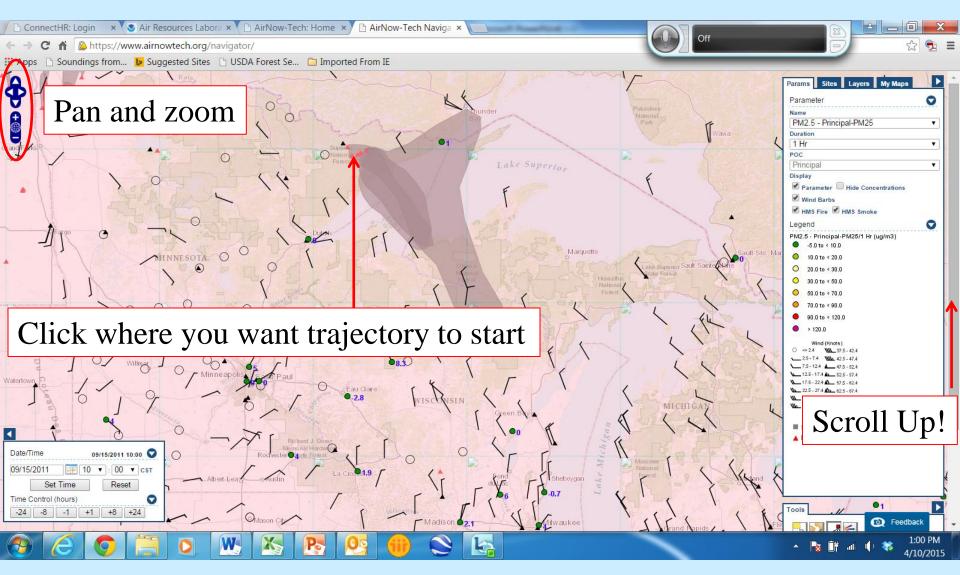




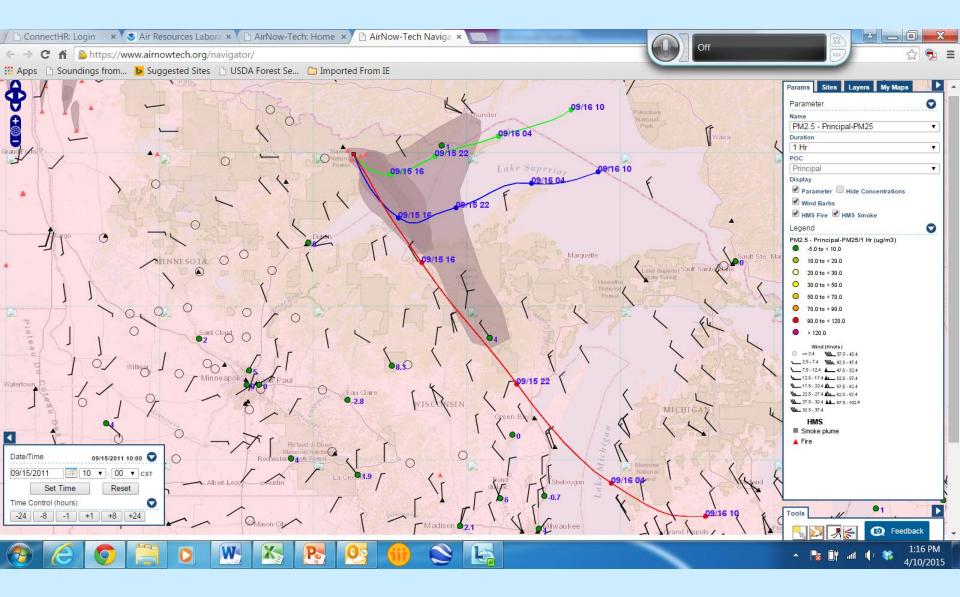






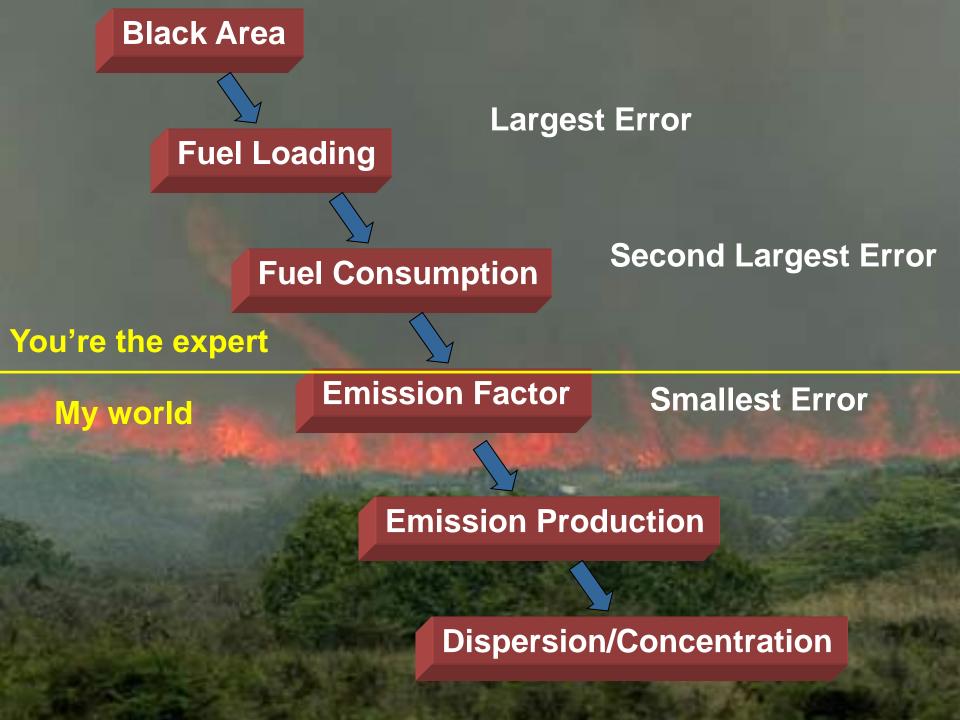


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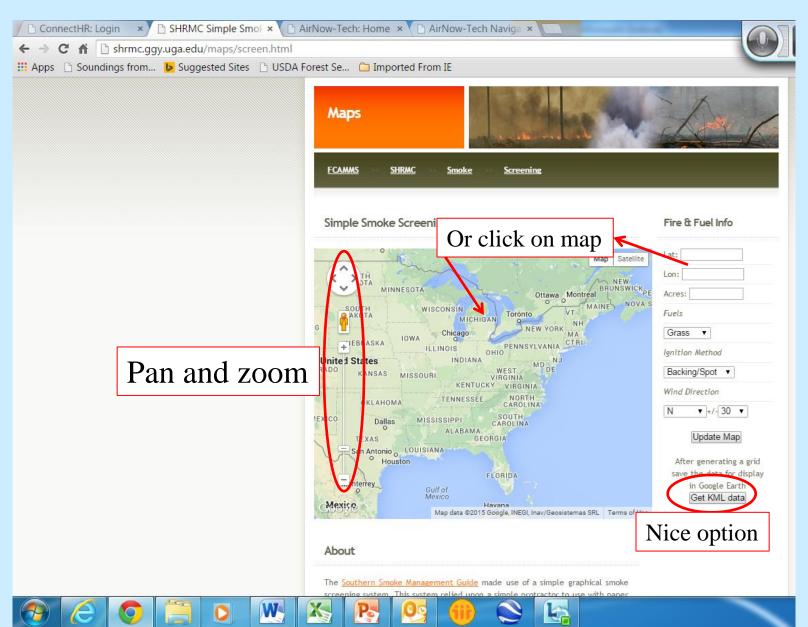


How to predict where my smoke will go (or where it went) and how thick it will be

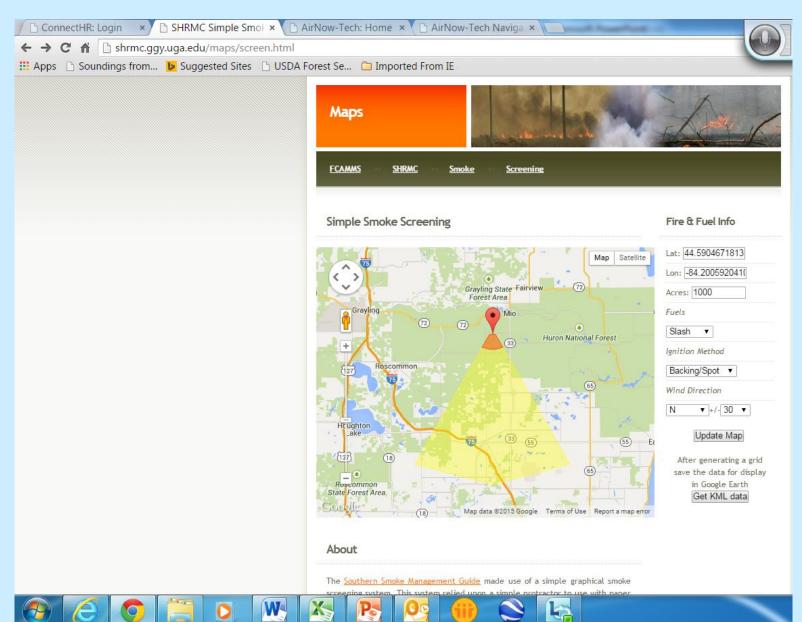
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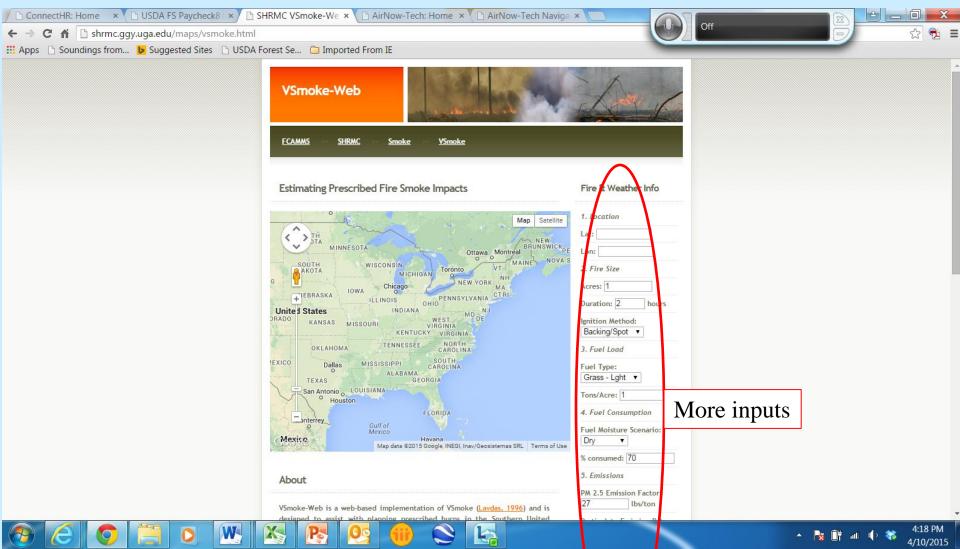
Screening Modeling



Screening Modeling



Vsmoke-Web



VSmoke-Web

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	designed to assist with States. VSmoke is a sin isopleths of surface sm peak hourly concentrr Contour values and the Air Quality Index (AQI moderate to hazardous set by clicking on the that the Latitude and	based implementation of VSmoke (<u>Lavdas, 1996</u>) and is h planning prescribed burns in the Southern United mple gaussian smoke dispersion model that calculates oke concentration. Output from the model represents ations of PM2.5 or visibility (under development). Fir colors correspond to the PM 2.5 thresholds for the I) and reflect potential health impacts ranging from (<u>Visit AirNow for mode AQI info</u>). Burn location can be map or by entering the Latitude and Longitude. Note d Longitude should be entered in decimal degrees exest-decimal minutes (30 22.80, -84 22.20 - note the and minute values).	27 Ibs/ton Particulate Emission Rate: 1.19 grams/se Heat Release Rate: 1.77 MW 6. Weather Mixing Height: 2000 ft Transport Wind: 10 mph	
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	Levels of AQ Health Valu	PM 2.5 Meaning	Moderately Unstable More inp	buts
	Good 0 to	Air quality is considered satisfactory,	Run Model 8. Misc Options	
	Moderate 51 to	Air quality is acceptable; however, for some pollutants there may be a 100 39 to 88 moderate health concern for a very small number of people who are unusually sensitive to air pollution.	Background PM 2.5: 5 ug/m3 Plume Rise Fraction: 0.50 9. HYSPLIT Info	
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	Very Unhealthy 201 to	Health alert: everyone may 300 352 to 526 experience more serious health	~	-
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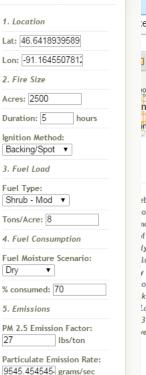
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About

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VSmoke-Web is a web-based implementation of VSmoke (Lavdas, 1996) and is designed to assist with planning prescribed burns in the Southern United States. VSmoke is a simple gaussian smoke dispersion model that calculates isopleths of surface smoke concentration. Output from the model represents peak hourly concentrations of PM2.5 or visibility (under development). Contour values and their colors correspond to the PM 2.5 thresholds for the Air Quality Index (AQI) and reflect potential health impacts ranging from moderate to hazardous (Visit AirNow for mode AQI info). Burn location can be set by clicking on the map or by entering the Latitude and Longitude. Note that the Latitude and Longitude should be entered in decimal degrees (30.38,-84.37) or degrees+decimal minutes (30 22.80, -84 22.20 - note the space between degree and minute values).



Heat Release Rate: 10359.29292! MW

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6. Weather

Mixing Height:

ft 300

Transport Wind: 10

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>b is a web-based implementation of VSmoke (Lavdas, 1996) and is o assist with planning prescribed burns in the Southern United noke is a simple gaussian smoke dispersion model that calculates f surface smoke concentration. Output from the model represents ly concentrations of PM2.5 or visibility (under development). lues and their colors correspond to the PM 2.5 thresholds for the y Index (AQI) and reflect potential health impacts ranging from o hazardous (Visit AirNow for mode AQI info). Burn location can be king on the map or by entering the Latitude and Longitude. Note Latitude and Longitude should be entered in decimal degrees 37) or degrees+decimal minutes (30 22.80, -84 22.20 - note the een degree and minute values).

of h rn	AQI Value	Hourly PM 2.5 Conc.	Meaning
	0 to 50	0 to 38	Air quality is considered satisfactor and air pollution poses little or no risk
te	51 to 100	39 to 88	Air quality is acceptable; however, for some pollutants there may be a moderate health concern for a very small number of people who are unusually sensitive to air pollution.
y for ve os	101 to 150	89 to 138	Members of sensitive groups may experience health effects. The general public is not likely to be affected.

et N	Tons/Acre: 8
	4. Fuel Consumption
TOF	Fuel Moisture Scenario: Dry •
	% consumed: 70
	5. Emissions
	PM 2.5 Emission Factor:
	27 Ibs/ton
	Particulate Emission Rate:
	9545.4545454 grams/sec
	Heat Release Rate:
	10359.29292! MW
	6. Weather

Mixing Height: 300 ft

Transport Wind: 10 mph

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Stability Class: Moderately Unstable <

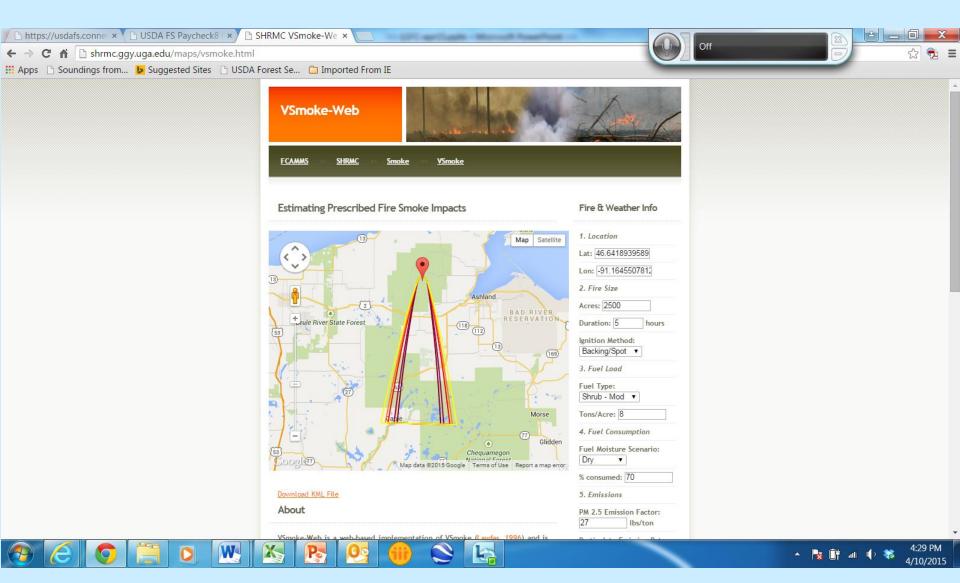


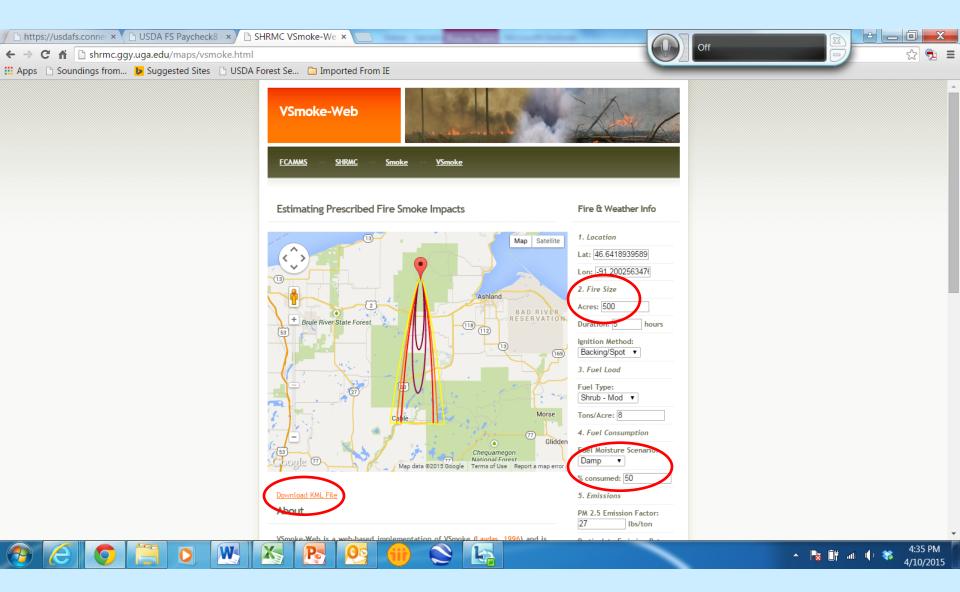
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Plume Rise Fraction: -0.50

9. HYSPLIT Info

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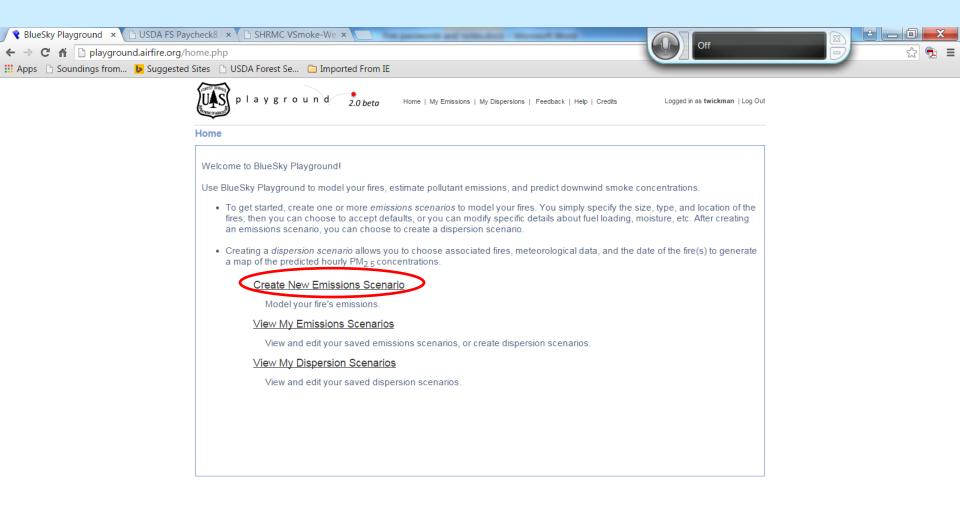




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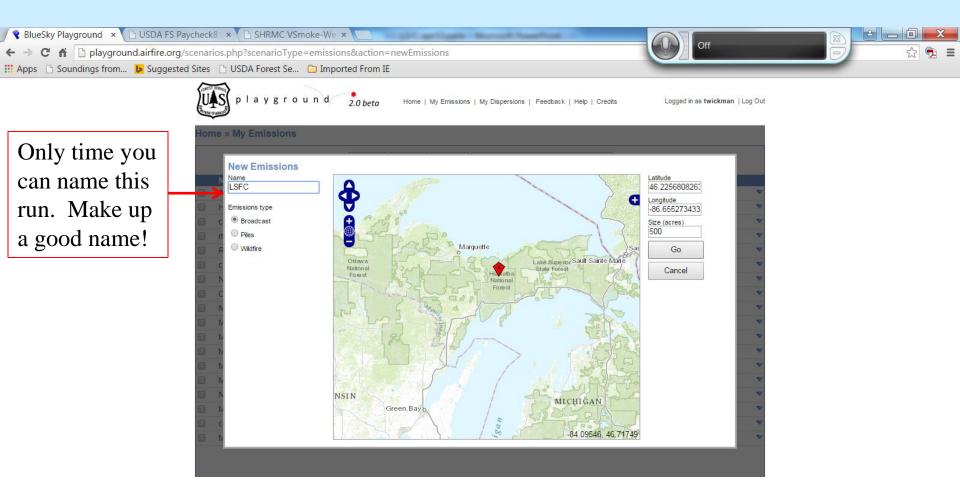
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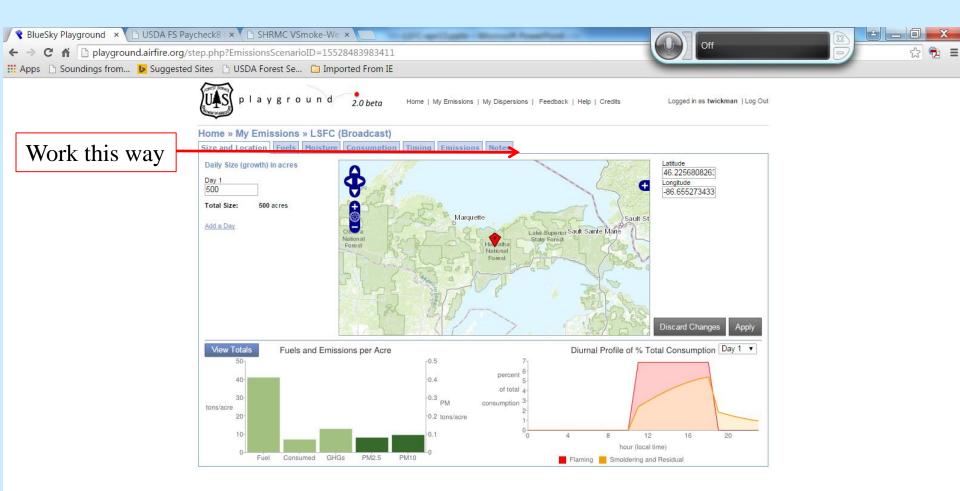
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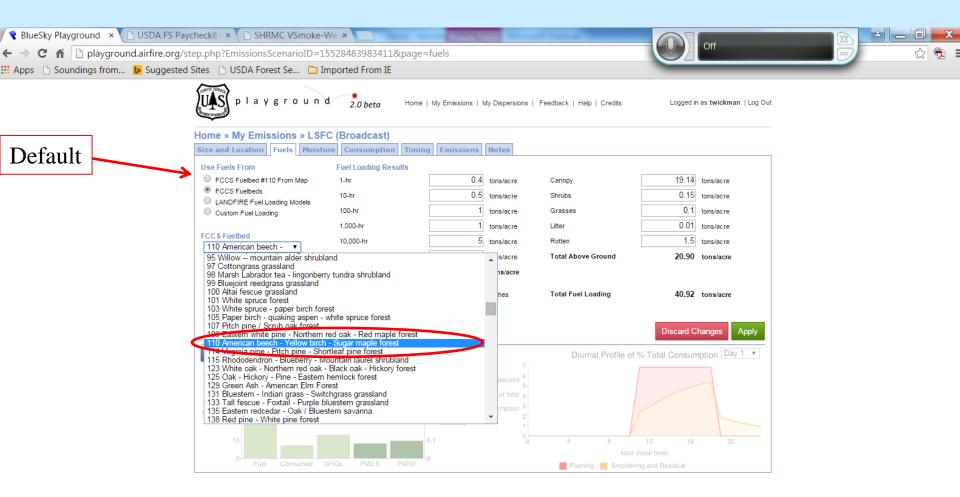


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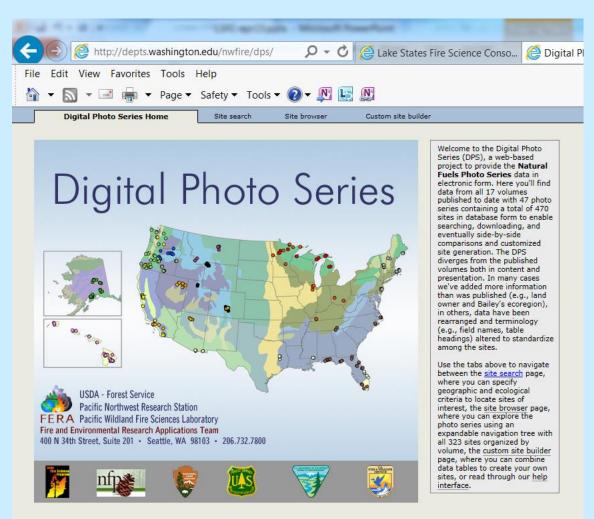
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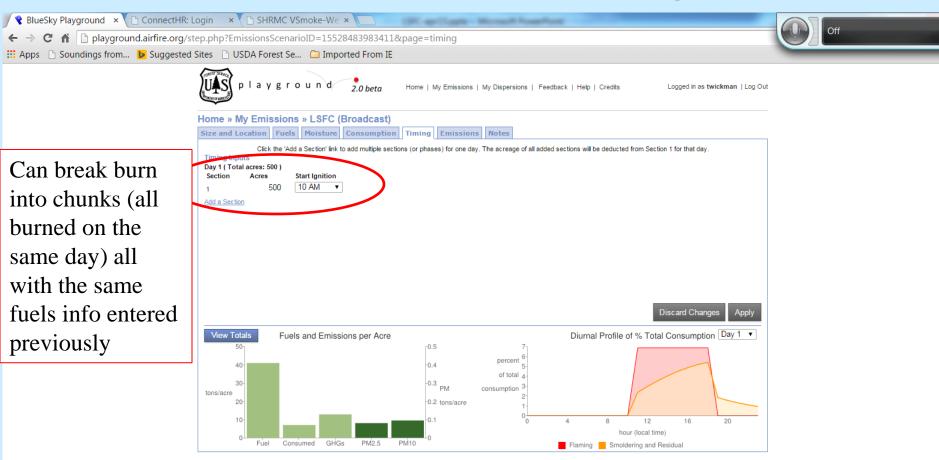
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Digital Photo Series

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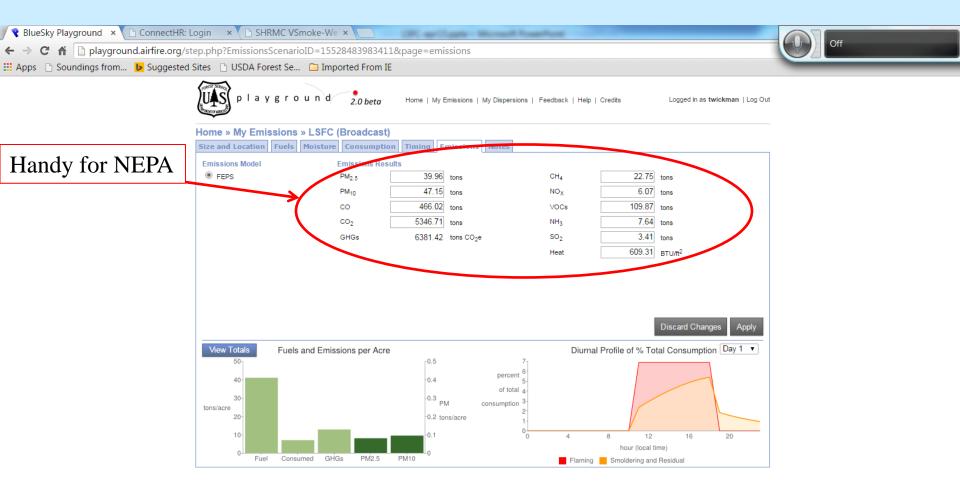




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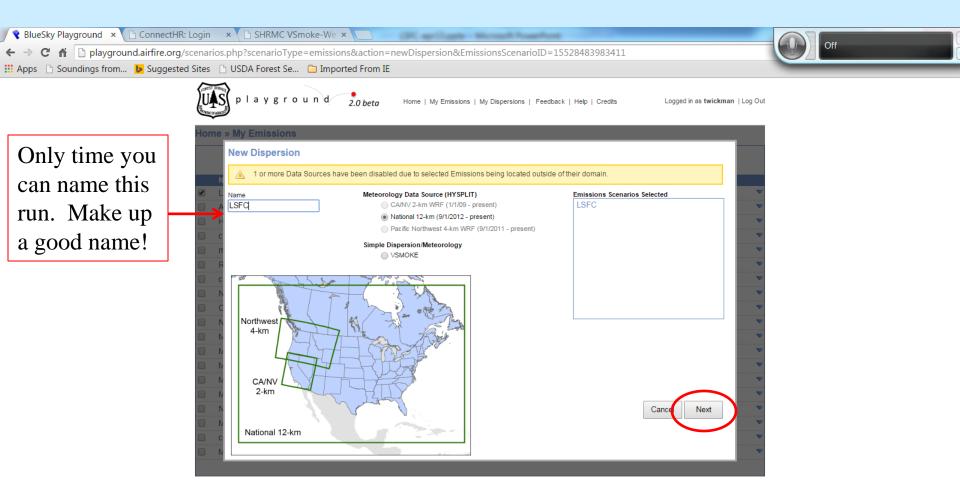
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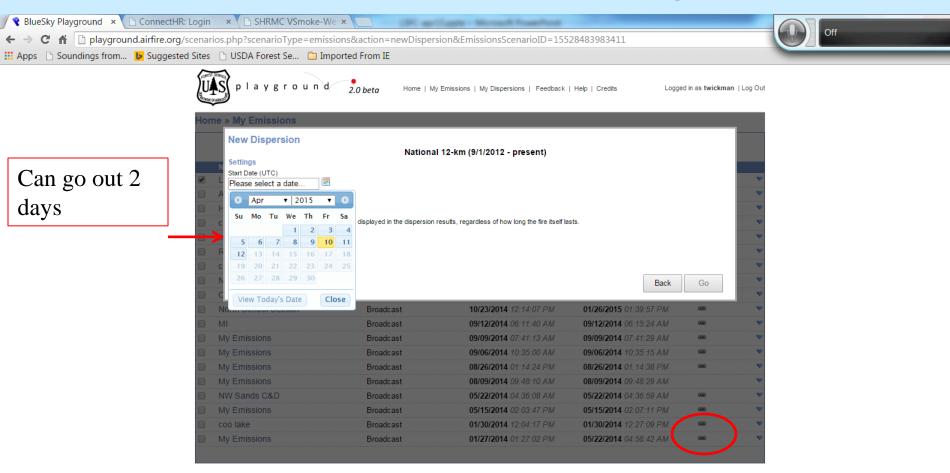


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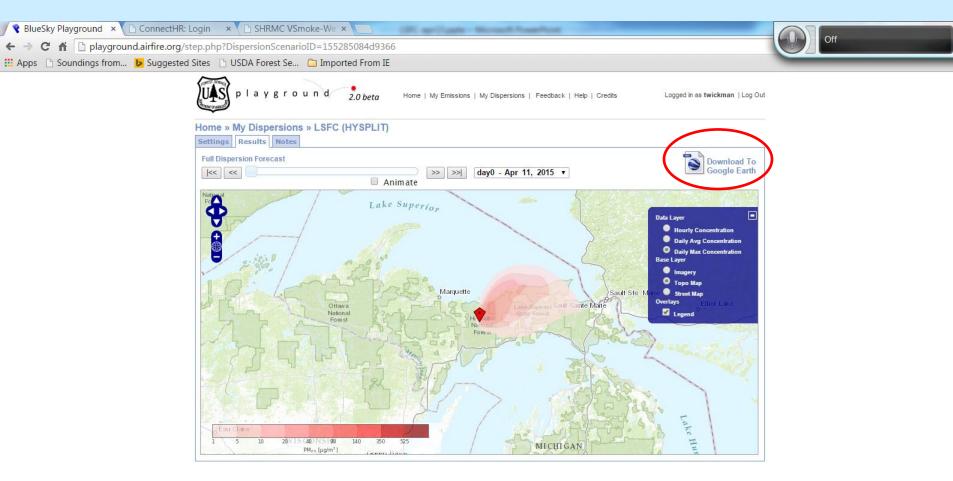
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	VSMOKE	09/06/2014 10:40:47 AM	09/06/2014 10:40:50 AM	V	
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Websites for Tools

Dispersion Modeling

1) Screening model: <u>http://shrmc.ggy.uga.edu/maps/screen.html</u>

2) VSmoke web: <u>http://shrmc.ggy.uga.edu/maps/vsmoke.html</u>

3) BlueSky Playground:

http://playground.airfire.org/login.php?next=/index.php



Smoke Management Program Tips

- Establish and maintain relationships with key state air quality folks
- Implement an ongoing program to educate the public in likely impacted areas,
 - To gain their support for your burning program
 - So at-risk folks will remove themselves from dangerous situations
- Take existing air quality into account (AQI)
- Know your SMP/state regs/procedures
- Always follow Basic Smoke Management Practices





http://www.oakfirescience.com/



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Welcome to the Oak Woodlands & Forests Fire Consortium.

Our mission is to provide fire science information to resource managers, landowners, and the public about the use, application, and effects of fire. Within these pages you should expect to find information on "everything fire".

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Climate Change Tipping Points

Arkansas Forestry

Commision Statewide

Current Fire Information

Timber Quality and Prescribed Fire workshop presentations now online!

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Questions?

Feel free to contact me with additional questions: Trent Wickman (<u>twickman@fs.fed.us</u>)

Lake States Fire Science Consortium

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2015-2016 Webinar Series

Starts October 15, 2015 Webinar TBD



