

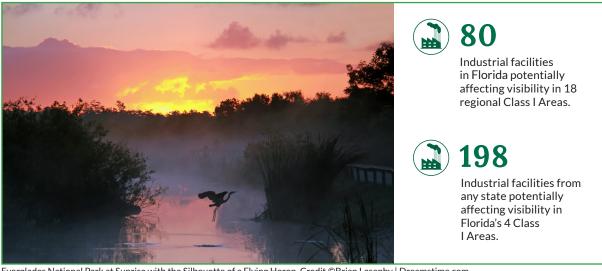
# REGIONAL HAZE FACTSHEET

#### **CLEARING THE AIR**

Air pollution remains one of the most serious problems facing national parks. It is threatening the health of park visitors, wildlife and neighboring communities, driving the climate crisis and compromising our views with hazy skies. In fact, nearly 90 percent of our more than 400 national parks are plagued by haze pollution caused mostly by coal plants, vehicles and other industrial sources, as well as oil and gas development and operations.

Fortunately, certain national parks and wilderness areas, labeled "Class I" areas, have the strongest clean air protections in the country, mandated by the Clean Air Act (CAA). The Regional Haze Rule is the CAA's time-tested, effective program that requires federal and state agencies as well as stakeholders to work together to restore clear skies at Class I areas around the country. In Florida those places include Everglades National Park and St. Marks, Bradwell Bay, and Chassahowitzka Wilderness Areas.

The state of Florida has submitted its regional haze plan to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Unfortunately, the proposed haze plan fails to reduce pollution, falling short of the state's obligation to improve air quality for our parks and wilderness areas. The state has improperly concluded that almost no new reductions in pollution are warranted. Florida used a <u>flawed methodology</u> to justify ignoring nitrogen oxides (NOx) and particulate matter (PM) from its analysis, and exempt multiple large polluting facilities from review or reductions in their pollution. Florida also is not considering the substantial emissions from the sugar industry in its plan, which harm visibility in the Everglades and vulnerable communities downwind. EPA must now decide whether to approve, partially approve, or disapprove the state's plan.

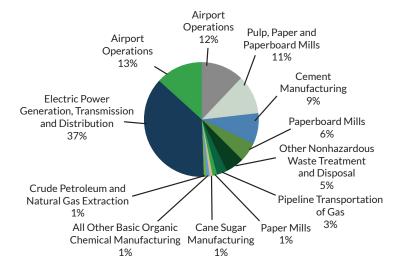


Everglades National Park at Sunrise with the Silhouette of a Flying Heron. Credit ©Brian Lasenby | Dreamstime.com NPCA analysis of impact of industrial facilities based on publicly available emissions data from the EPA's 2017 National Emissions Inventory (NEI) and the 2019 Air Markets Program Data (AMPD). Note that data regarding emission numbers and sources of pollution may have changed since the creation of this fact sheet. Please contact dorozco@npca.org for updated data information.

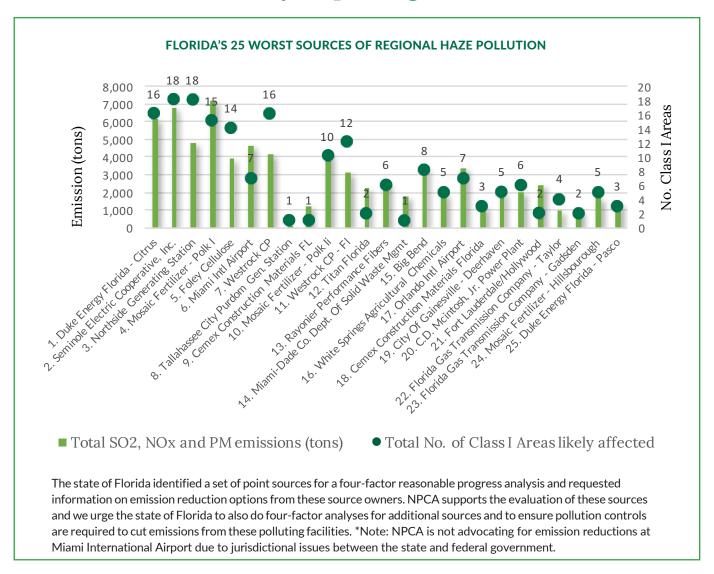
## FLORIDA'S INDUSTRIAL SECTORS OF HAZE POLLUTION

NPCA analyzed publicly available data to identify the worst sources and industrial sectors of haze pollution potentially affecting Class I Areas. We evaluated these emitters to determine which sources should be selected by the state for a fourfactor reasonable progress analysis.

The chart on the right shows the industrial sectors emitting the most visibility impairing pollution in Florida.



## Sources of Visibility Impairing Pollution in Florida



### HOW MANY FOOTBALL STADIUMS (8 STORIES HIGH) COULD EACH OF THE TOP FIVE INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES IN FLORIDA FILL WITH THEIR EMISSIONS EACH YEAR?



**TAKE ACTION:** We have an opportunity to achieve a regional haze plan for Florida that protects people, parks, and our future. Please join our effort to ensure that all decision-makers and stakeholders, at the federal, state, and municipal level work to make this happen.

For more information, please contact Ulla Reeves at ureeves@npca.org.