



## REGIONAL HAZE FACTSHEET

# WYOMING

### 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 Wyoming those places include Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks and Bridger, Fitzpatrick, Washakie, Teton and North Absaroka National Wilderness Areas.

The state of Wyoming 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 no new reductions in pollution are warranted. Despite 84% of the visibility impairing pollution coming from coal-fired power plants and mines, Wyoming has not required emission controls from those sources. With the proposed plan, close to 100,000 tons of uncontrolled haze-causing pollution will continue to be released into the air each year. EPA must now decide whether to approve, partially approve, or disapprove the state’s plan.



Cyclists enjoy views of the Grand Tetons. Credit: (c) Carol M. Highsmith | 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.



## 36

Industrial facilities in Wyoming potentially affecting visibility in 89 regional Class I Areas.



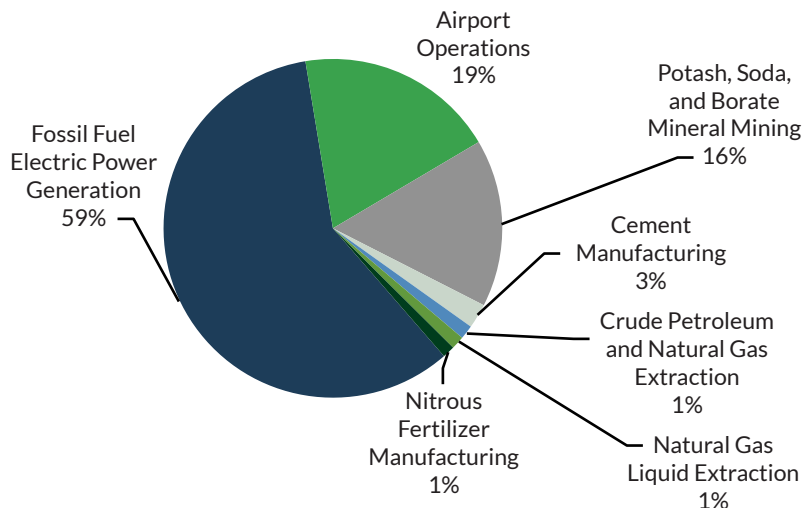
## 65

Industrial facilities from any state potentially affecting visibility in Wyoming’s 7 Class I Areas.

### WYOMING’S INDUSTRIAL SECTORS OF HAZE POLLUTION

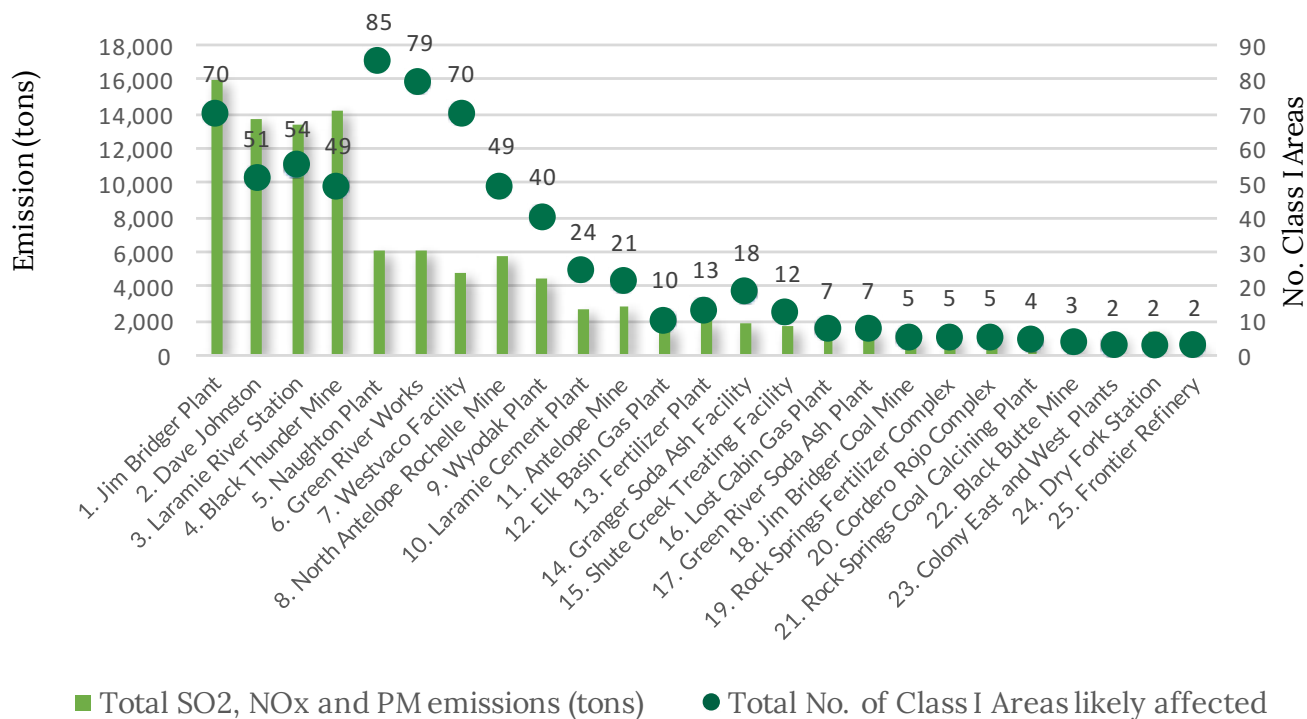
NPCA analyzed publicly available data to identify the worst sources and industrial sectors of haze pollution potentially affecting Class I Areas. We evaluated these emitters to determine which sources should be selected by the state for a four-factor reasonable progress analysis.

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



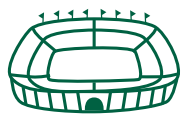
# Sources of Visibility Impairing Pollution in Wyoming

WYOMING'S 12 WORST SOURCES OF REGIONAL HAZE POLLUTION



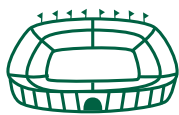
The state of Wyoming identified a set of point sources for a four-factor reasonable progress analysis and requested information on emission reduction options from these source owners. NPCA supports the evaluation of these sources and we urge the state of Wyoming to also do four-factor analyses for additional sources and to ensure pollution controls are required to cut emissions from these polluting facilities.

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



64

Jim Bridger Plant  
Sweetwater County  
16,004 tons



55

Dave Johnston  
Converse County  
13,683 tons



53

Laramie River  
Station  
Platte County  
13,324 tons



57

Black Thunder Mine  
Campbell County  
14,142 tons



24

Naughton Plant  
Lincoln County  
6,093 tons

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

For more information, please contact Natalie Levine at [nlevine@npca.org](mailto:nlevine@npca.org).