



REGIONAL HAZE FACTSHEET

ALASKA

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 Alaska, those places include Denali National Park and Wilderness Area and Tuxedni, Bering Sea and Simeonoff Wilderness Areas.

Alaska has submitted its regional haze plan to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The plan outlines what pollution reductions the state will require from industrial facilities, if any. EPA must now decide to approve, partially approve, or disapprove the plan.



11

Industrial facilities in Alaska potentially affecting visibility in 3 regional Class I Areas.

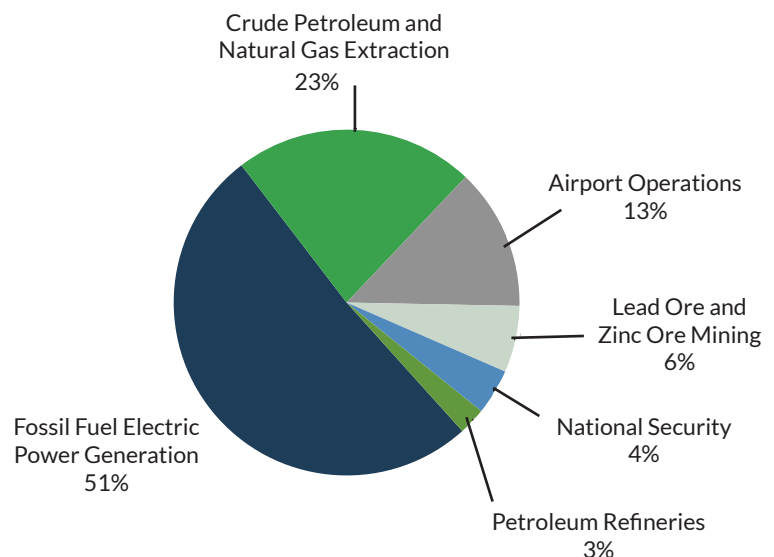
Scenic views located along the park road between Highway Pass and Divide Mountain, Denali National Park. Credit © Ian Shive.

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.

ALASKA’S INDUSTRIAL SECTORS OF HAZE POLLUTION

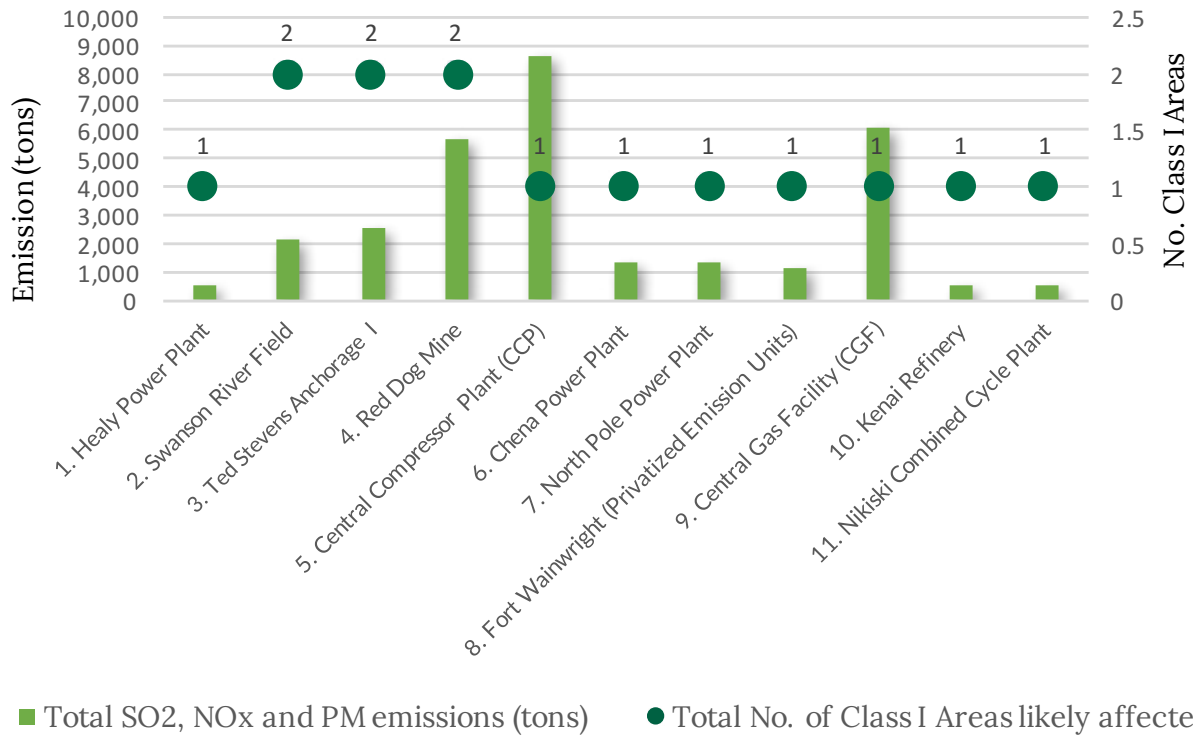
NPCA analyzed publicly available data to identify the worst sources and industrial sectors of haze pollution potentially affecting Class I Areas. We evaluated these emitters to determine which sources should be selected by the state for a four-factor reasonable progress analysis.

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



Sources of Visibility Impairing Pollution in Alaska

ALASKA'S 11 WORST SOURCES OF REGIONAL HAZE POLLUTION



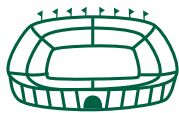
The state of Alaska is identifying a set of point sources for four-factor reasonable progress analyses and should be requesting information on emission reduction options from these source owners. NPCA supports the evaluation of all sources listed above and we urge the state of Alaska to ensure pollution 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 ALASKA FILL WITH THEIR EMISSIONS EACH YEAR?



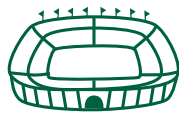
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Healy Power Plant
Denali County
533 tons



9

Swanson River Field
Kenai County
2,154 tons



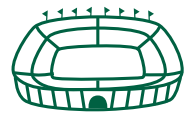
10

Ted Stevens
Anchorage Airport
Anchorage County
2,512 tons



23

Red Dog Mine
Northwest Arctic
County
5,636 tons



34

Central Compressor
Plant (CCP)
North Slope County
8,574 tons

TAKE ACTION: We have an opportunity to achieve a regional haze plan for Alaska 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 Jim Adams at jadams@npca.org.