



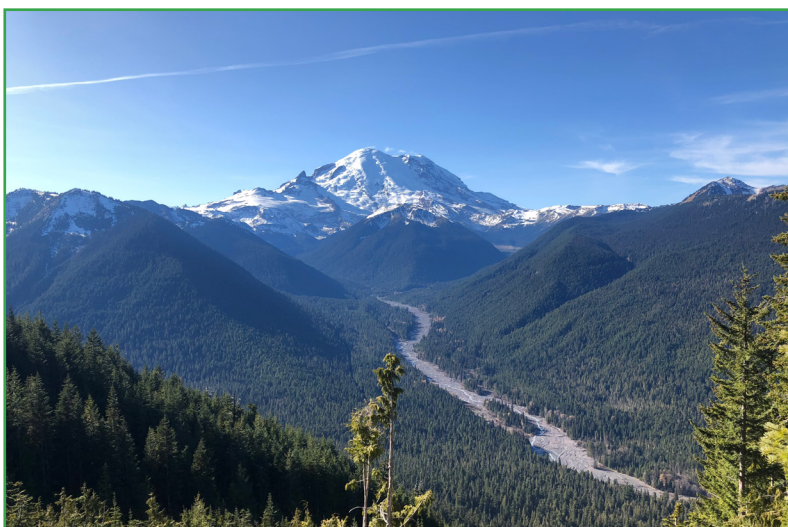
REGIONAL HAZE FACTSHEET WASHINGTON

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 Washington those places include Mt. Rainier, North Cascades and Olympic National Parks as well as Alpine Lakes, Glacier Peak, Goat Rocks, Mount Adams and Pasayten Wilderness Areas.

The state of Washington 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. This conclusion is particularly alarming as many of the polluting sources in Washington are in vulnerable communities. While minimal pollution reductions will be required at the Cardinal Glass and Ash Grove facilities, there are huge emission reductions that are being ignored from the petroleum refineries and pulp and paper mills. With the proposed plan, close to 5,000 tons of 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.



View of Mt. Rainier from Crystal Mountain. @Joshua Jenkins

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.



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Industrial facilities in Washington potentially affecting visibility in 31 regional Class I Areas.



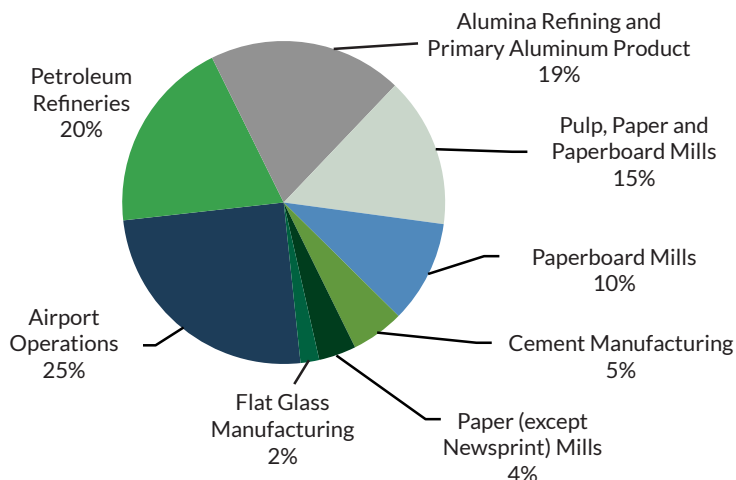
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Industrial facilities from any state potentially affecting visibility in Washington’s Class I Areas.

WASHINGTON’S INDUSTRIAL SECTORS OF HAZE POLLUTION

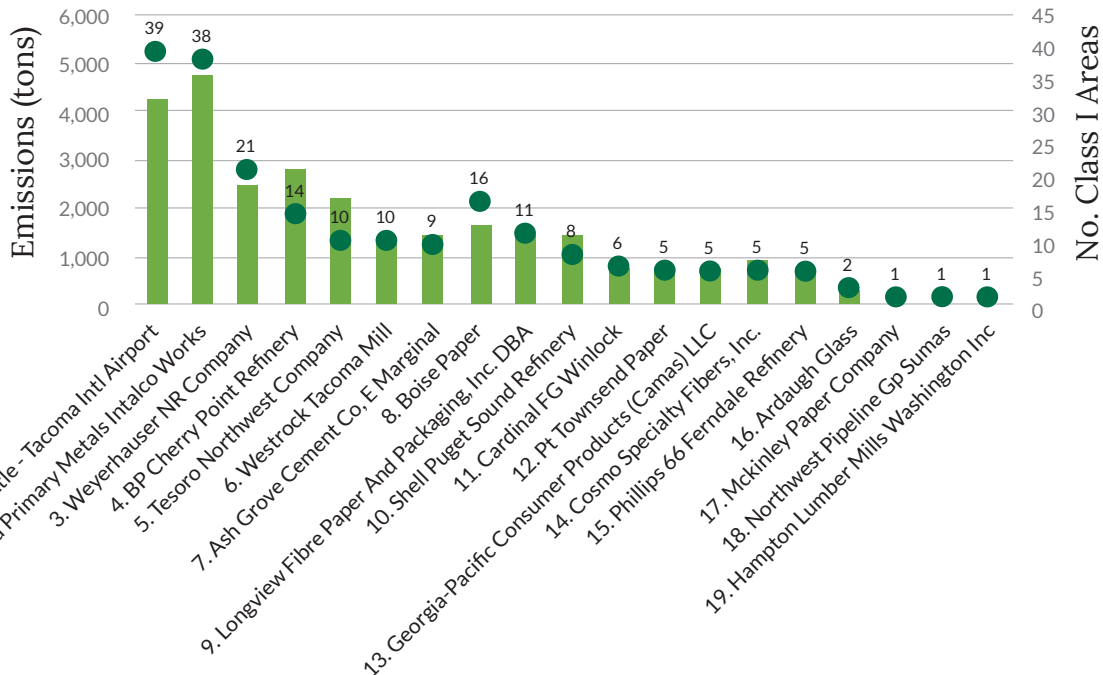
NPCA analyzed publicly available data to identify the worst sources and industrial sectors of haze pollution potentially affecting Class I Areas. We evaluated these emitters to determine which sources should be selected by the state for a four-factor reasonable progress analysis.

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



Sources of Visibility Impairing Pollution in Washington

WASHINGTON'S 19 WORST SOURCES OF REGIONAL HAZE POLLUTION



■ Total SO₂, NO_x and PM emissions (tons) ● Total No. of Class I Areas likely affected

The state of Washington 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 Washington to also do a four-factor analysis for the sources highlighted in red.

Environmental Justice Intersections: Seattle's Duwamish Valley is home to two significant sources of haze pollution in Washington state. Residents of the Valley suffer some of the highest rates of respiratory and cardiovascular health problems in the city due to their proximity to stationary and mobile sources of pollution. The Duwamish Valley serves as an example that controlling haze causing emissions will not only make the skies in our parks clearer, but will also protect our communities.

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



17

Seattle-Tacoma Intl Airport*
King County
4,287 tons



19

Alcoa Primary Metals Intalco Works
Whatcom County
4,776 tons



10

Weyerhaeuser NR Company
Cowlitz County
2,464 tons



11

BP Cherry Point Refinery
Whatcom County
2,808 tons



9

Tesoro Northwest Company
Shaghit County
2,194 tons

TAKE ACTION: We have an opportunity to achieve a regional haze plan for Washington 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 Colin Deverell at cdeverell@npca.org.

*NPCA is not pushing the state to include airports in their Regional Haze plan due to split jurisdiction between state and federal agencies.