



Port of Skamania Wildfire Smoke Response Plan

Washington State Wildfire Smoke Rules (WAC 296-842; WAC 296-307-09805)

**Worksites: Stevenson Waterfront
North Bonneville**

Purpose

This plan describes how the Port of Skamania will monitor wildfire smoke conditions, communicate hazards, and protect employees from wildfire smoke exposure, consistent with Washington State wildfire smoke rules.

1. Scope and Covered Work

Port of Skamania operations include work at the Stevenson Waterfront and North Bonneville, Washington, including Port-owned/managed waterfront areas, docks/pier areas, parking and public access areas, and any associated buildings, grounds, and equipment/storage areas. Typical outdoor work may include facility and grounds maintenance, dock/marina area checks, trash/litter removal, landscaping/vegetation management, minor repairs, clean-up and pressure washing, signage placement, event or public area set-up/take-down, inspections/walk-throughs, and vehicle/equipment operation while outdoors. Seasonal or temporary work may increase during spring/summer/fall due to higher visitor use, maintenance projects, landscaping, and event support. This plan also applies to temporary employees and volunteers performing Port-directed work, and to contractors working on Port sites when their work is under Port control or coordination; contractors are expected to have their own wildfire smoke plan and follow Port site requirements while on Port property.

Employees covered by this plan:

Any Port of Skamania employee, seasonal worker, or temporary worker who is assigned to outdoor tasks at Port worksites.

Plan applies when wildfire smoke creates a risk of exposure to PM_{2.5} at or above 20.5 µg/m³ (AQI 69 or higher) during work.

2. Roles and Responsibilities

Plan Administrator (primary contact):

Pat Albaugh, Executive Director 1-509-427-5484

Supervisors / Leads:

Doug Bill, Facilities Manager 1-541-490-2578

Employees:

Employees will: (1) follow training and instructions, (2) report symptoms promptly, and (3) use controls/respirators as directed.

3. Health Effects and Symptoms of Wildfire Smoke Exposure

Wildfire smoke contains fine particulate matter (PM2.5) that can be inhaled deep into the lungs. Exposure can cause respiratory and cardiovascular symptoms, and may worsen existing health conditions.

Common symptoms may include:

- Cough, sore throat, runny nose, phlegm
- Shortness of breath, wheezing, asthma attacks
- Difficulty breathing, chest tightness or chest pain
- Headache, fatigue, nausea, or vomiting
- Fast or irregular heartbeat; feeling light-headed or dizzy

Emergency warning signs (seek immediate medical attention):

- Severe difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
- Chest pain or pressure; pain/discomfort in arms, shoulders, jaw, neck, or back
- New confusion, trouble speaking, or sudden weakness/numbness (especially on one side)
- Sudden trouble seeing, dizziness/loss of balance, or severe headache with no known cause
- Fainting (loss of consciousness)

Employees at increased risk:

- Pregnant people
- People 65+
- People with heart or lung conditions (e.g., asthma, COPD)
- People with diabetes or other chronic conditions
- People recovering from respiratory infections (including COVID-19)

4. Reporting Symptoms and Accessing Medical Attention

How employees report symptoms:

Employees who experience wildfire smoke symptoms (coughing, shortness of breath, chest tightness, dizziness, headache, nausea, etc.) will stop work and notify Doug Bill immediately by phone or text at 1-541-490-2590. If Doug is unavailable or cannot be reached promptly, employees will call the Port office at 1-509-427-5484. If symptoms are severe or include emergency warning signs (e.g., severe trouble breathing, chest pain/pressure, confusion, fainting), employees or supervisors will call 911 immediately first, then notify Doug Bill and/or the Port office as soon as possible.

How the Port will respond to symptom reports:

When an employee reports wildfire smoke symptoms, the supervisor/lead will direct the employee to stop work immediately and move to a cleaner-air location. Cleaner-air locations include the Red Barn, the Port Office, and other Port buildings. If an enclosed building is not immediately available, the

employee may move into a vehicle with windows closed and ventilation set to recirculate until they can get indoors.

The supervisor will assess the severity of symptoms and determine next steps:

Emergency symptoms: If the employee has severe difficulty breathing, chest pain/pressure, fainting, confusion, or other emergency warning signs, the supervisor (or employee) will call 911 immediately and provide the employee's location (Stevenson Waterfront or North Bonneville and the specific site area). The supervisor will stay with the employee until help arrives.

Non-emergency symptoms: If symptoms are mild to moderate, the employee will remain in clean air (Red Barn/Port Office/Port building), be monitored, and may be reassigned to indoor duties or sent home if symptoms persist or worsen.

The supervisor/lead will ensure the employee has access to prompt medical evaluation as needed. If the employee cannot safely drive, the Port will arrange transportation (e.g., supervisor transport or emergency services, as appropriate). After the situation is stabilized, the supervisor will notify Doug Bill (1-541-490-2590) and/or the Port office (1-509-427-5484) and will document the incident, including: date/time, work location, air quality conditions if known, symptoms reported, actions taken (clean-air relocation, medical care, 911 call), and follow-up steps. The Port will review the report to determine whether additional exposure controls, schedule changes, or work pauses are needed.

5. Identifying Harmful Wildfire Smoke Exposure (Monitoring PM2.5)

The Port will monitor PM2.5 levels using reliable sources. PM2.5 is measured as micrograms per cubic meter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$). Air quality index (AQI) values may be used when matched to PM2.5.

Primary monitoring method(s) used by the Port:

- EPA AirNow / AirNow NowCast <https://www.airnow.gov/> Any employee trained to read results may check. 1–2 times per day (example: start of shift + mid-shift), especially during wildfire season.
- Washington State air monitoring network: Washington Dept. of Ecology – Washington Air Quality Map (AirQualityWA): <https://airqualitymap.ecology.wa.gov/> Any employee trained to read results may check. Frequency: Start of shift + mid-shift during wildfire season; when smoke is present or AQI ~69+ / PM2.5 20.5+, check every 2–4 hours and anytime conditions change (visible smoke, odor, wind shift, symptoms)
- Local monitor(s) (e.g., PurpleAir) - if used, note location and how readings are interpreted
- Other resource

Reference monitor location(s):

The Port of Skamania uses the nearest representative air quality monitor readings available for each work location. For the Stevenson Waterfront and North Bonneville worksites, the Port references the closest appropriate monitor shown on EPA AirNow and the Washington State air monitoring network (AirQualityWA map). If a nearby PurpleAir sensor is available, it may be used as a supplemental local check for rapidly changing conditions. If monitoring sources differ between locations, the Port will use the highest (most protective) PM2.5 reading that is representative of where employees are working.

How employees can check current PM2.5 levels:

The supervisor/lead will provide air-quality updates by phone/text to affected employees as needed and will post the current PM2.5/AQI for the day on the safety bulletin board at the Port Office/Red Barn. Employees may also check conditions anytime using EPA AirNow and AirQualityWA on their phone.

6. Action Levels and Required Controls (Summary)

Use the table below to select required actions based on current PM2.5. Implement the highest applicable level.

Current PM2.5 ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)	AQI guidance (approx.)	Required / recommended actions
0.0 - 20.4	AQI 0 - 68	Maintain this plan and keep it available. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide wildfire smoke training to employees.• Watch PM2.5 conditions and forecasts.• Maintain a two-way communication system and notify employees of conditions.• Make provisions for prompt medical attention and permit it without retaliation.
20.5 - 35.4	AQI 69 - 100	All of the above, plus: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Notify employees of PM2.5 conditions and forecasts.• Ensure only trained employees work outdoors.• Consider implementing exposure controls.• Consider providing voluntary-use respirators (e.g., N95).
35.5 - 250.4	AQI 101 - 300	All of the above, plus:

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement exposure controls. • Make N95 respirators available for voluntary use.
250.5 - 500.3	AQI 301 - 499	<p>All of the above, plus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure workers experiencing symptoms requiring immediate medical attention are moved to a location with sufficient clean air. • Directly distribute N95 respirators for voluntary use (recommended).
500.4 - 554.9	Beyond AQI 500	<p>All of the above, plus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement a complete required-use respiratory protection program (fit testing, medical evaluations, clean-shaven requirement, and use of particulate respirators).
555 or more	Beyond AQI 500+	<p>All of the above, plus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Require respirators with assigned protection factor (APF) 25 or higher (N95 respirators are not sufficient at this level).

7. Wildfire Smoke Hazard Communication

The Port will communicate wildfire smoke hazards when PM_{2.5} is at or above 20.5 µg/m³ (AQI 69+) or when conditions are forecast to worsen.

Communication methods used:

The Port of Skamania will communicate wildfire smoke conditions and required actions using supervisor briefings (in person at the start of shift and as needed), phone calls and SMS/text messages to employees working outdoors (primary contact: Doug Bill – 1-541-490-2590), and posted notices in common areas (Port Office, Red Barn, and other Port buildings). Employees may also call the Port Office – 1-509-427-5484 for current status/updates.

Who sends updates and how often:

Doug Bill, Facilities Manager (or designee) will provide wildfire smoke updates to employees working outdoors at the start of the shift and mid-shift, and as needed when conditions change. When smoke is

present or PM2.5 is 20.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (AQI ~69) or higher, updates will be provided every 2–4 hours during the shift.

Escalation triggers:

Updates will be issued immediately if any of the following occur:

PM2.5 increases to a higher action level (e.g., AQI 101+ / PM2.5 35.5+),

Visible smoke increases, smoke odor strengthens, or wind shifts bring smoke into the work area,

Any employee reports symptoms or concerns,

Crews move between Stevenson Waterfront and North Bonneville and conditions differ by location,

Forecasts indicate worsening smoke during the shift.

Additional notification/oversight:

Pat Albaugh, Executive Director, will be notified as needed when smoke conditions require significant operational changes (e.g., limiting outdoor work, rescheduling work, or implementing higher-level protective measures).

Sample message template:

Wildfire smoke update – Port of Skamania: PM2.5 = [] $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (AQI []) as of [time]. Today's actions: [work changes/controls/respirators]. If you feel symptoms (cough, shortness of breath, chest pain, dizziness), contact Doug Bill (Facilities Manager) 1-541-490-2590 immediately. If unavailable, call the Port Office 1-509-427-5484. Emergency: call 911.

8. Employee and Supervisor Training

All employees who may work outdoors during wildfire smoke conditions will receive training. Supervisors will receive additional training to implement exposure controls and respond to symptom reports.

Training frequency:

Training frequency: Initial, annual refresher, and as needed when plan changes or new hazards are identified.

Training topics (minimum):

- Health effects and symptoms of wildfire smoke exposure
- How the Port monitors PM2.5 and communicates conditions
- Exposure controls and how to use them
- Respirator availability/requirements and limitations
- How to report symptoms and obtain medical attention

Training records location:

Training records will be maintained in both (1) a paper binder located at the Port Office, and (2) a digital folder titled "2026 Safety Policy and Standards." The Executive Office Administrator (Office Manager) will file and maintain the records (including sign-in sheets, training materials, and dates).

9. Responding to Wildfire Smoke Exposure Symptoms

Immediate response steps:

1. Stop the task and move the employee to cleaner air (indoors or vehicle with HEPA filtration, if available).
2. Assess severity of symptoms; call 911 for emergency warning signs.
3. Arrange transportation for medical evaluation if needed.
4. Adjust work assignments, schedules, or location to reduce exposure.
5. Document the report and follow up as appropriate.

Port-specific procedures (including who to call, where 'clean air' locations are, and transportation options):

Stop work and move to clean air: At the first sign of wildfire smoke symptoms, the employee will stop work and move to a clean-air location: Red Barn, Port Office, or other Port buildings. If none are immediately available, the employee may move into a vehicle with windows closed and ventilation on recirculate until they can get indoors.

Notify supervisor/contact: The employee (or supervisor) will notify Doug Bill, Facilities Manager (call/text 1-541-490-2590) immediately. If Doug is not available, call the Port Office (1-509-427-5484).

Triage and emergency response: The supervisor will assess symptoms. If the employee has emergency warning signs (severe breathing difficulty, chest pain/pressure, fainting, confusion, or other severe symptoms), the supervisor/employee will call 911 and provide the location (Stevenson Waterfront or North Bonneville and the specific site area). The supervisor will remain with the employee until help arrives.

Non-emergency care and monitoring: If symptoms are mild/moderate, the employee will remain in clean air and be monitored. The supervisor may reassign the employee to indoor duties, reduce exertion, or send the employee home if symptoms persist or worsen.

Transportation: If medical evaluation is needed and the employee cannot safely drive, the Port will arrange transportation via supervisor transport or emergency services, as appropriate.

Documentation and follow-up: The supervisor will document the report (date/time, location, symptoms, air quality if known, actions taken, and outcome) and notify Pat Albaugh, Executive Director, as needed.

The Port will review the incident to determine whether additional controls, schedule changes, or work delays are required.

10. Controlling Employee Exposures to Wildfire Smoke

The Port will implement feasible engineering and administrative controls to reduce PM2.5 exposure. Controls may be combined and adjusted based on conditions.

Engineering controls (examples):

- Move work indoors or to enclosed structures where air is adequately filtered
- Use HEPA air cleaners in occupied indoor spaces
- Use vehicles/equipment with closed cabs and effective filtration

Administrative controls (examples):

- Relocate work to areas with lower PM2.5
- Reduce physical exertion and pace work
- Rotate workers and shorten time outdoors
- Schedule outdoor work for times when smoke is lower
- Reduce or postpone non-essential outdoor work

Port-specific exposure controls by location/task:

Responsible person: Doug Bill, Facilities Manager (implementation and daily monitoring/updates).

Oversight/escalation: Pat Albaugh, Executive Director (notified when operations change significantly).

Triggers and controls (apply the highest level that matches conditions)

PM2.5 < 20.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (AQI < ~69) – Normal operations

Controls: Monitor conditions and forecast; maintain access to clean-air spaces (Red Barn/Port Office/Port buildings).

Verification: Monitoring log entry at start of shift (and mid-shift during wildfire season).

PM2.5 20.5–35.4 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (AQI ~69–100) – Elevated / “Advisory”

Administrative controls:

Reduce non-essential outdoor tasks (postpone discretionary work).

Encourage slower pace / reduced exertion; take additional breaks in clean air.

Keep employees informed (start of shift + mid-shift; more if conditions change).

Respirators: N95s available for voluntary use (request from Doug).

Verification: Supervisor check-ins; posted update / text update; note actions in monitoring log.

PM2.5 35.5–250.4 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (AQI ~101–300) – Unhealthy

Engineering + administrative controls:

Move work indoors where feasible (Red Barn/Port Office/Port buildings).

Use vehicles/cabs as temporary clean-air spaces (windows closed, HVAC recirculate).

Shorten time outdoors (task rotation, limit duration), schedule outdoor work for lower-smoke times if possible.

Postpone heavy-exertion work (e.g., prolonged grounds work, pressure washing, hauling).

Respirators: Make N95s readily available; strongly encourage voluntary use for outdoor tasks.

Verification: Document control decisions in monitoring log; spot-check that breaks are taken indoors and tasks were adjusted.

PM2.5 250.5–500.3 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (AQI ~301–499) – Very Unhealthy / Hazardous

Controls:

Suspend non-essential outdoor work; only critical safety/security tasks outdoors.

Increase indoor time and require frequent clean-air recovery breaks.

If anyone becomes symptomatic, move immediately to clean air and follow response procedures.

Respirators: N95s directly distributed for outdoor critical tasks (voluntary use; consider stepping up protection if available).

Verification: Supervisor approval required before outdoor critical tasks; document decisions and duration outdoors.

PM2.5 ≥ 500.4 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (Beyond AQI 500) – Extreme

Controls: Stop outdoor work unless absolutely necessary for life/safety; implement required-use respiratory protection program before assigning any outdoor work.

Verification: Executive Director approval + required-use program documentation (medical eval/fit testing/training as applicable).

PM2.5 ≥ 555 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ – Extreme (higher protection)

Controls: If work must continue, use respirators with APF 25+ (not N95) as required by rule/program.

Verification: Same as above + confirm correct respirator type is issued/used.

11. Respirator Use for Wildfire Smoke

When conditions require or when the Port provides respirators for voluntary use, only NIOSH-approved respirators will be used.

Voluntary use (typically PM_{2.5} 20.5 - 500.4 µg/m³):

NIOSH-approved N95 respirators will be stored in the Port Office, the Red Barn, and/or other designated Port buildings in clearly labeled containers. Employees may request an N95 at any time when wildfire smoke is present. Doug Bill, Facilities Manager, (or designee) will distribute respirators and ensure an adequate supply is maintained. Supervisors/leads may also distribute respirators in the field as needed.

Required use (PM_{2.5} 500.4 µg/m³ and higher, or as otherwise directed):

The Port of Skamania will implement a required-use respiratory protection program when conditions require it. Pat Albaugh, Executive Director, is the program owner with overall responsibility for the program. Doug Bill, Facilities Manager, (or designee) is responsible for day-to-day implementation, including issuing equipment, coordinating evaluations/testing, and enforcing use.

Medical evaluations: Employees required to wear a respirator will complete a medical evaluation (e.g., required questionnaire reviewed by a licensed healthcare professional) before being assigned required respirator use. Medical evaluations will be coordinated through [clinic/occupational health provider].

Fit testing: Employees required to wear tight-fitting respirators will receive initial fit testing prior to required use and annual fit testing thereafter (and whenever a different respirator model/size is used or facial changes occur). Fit testing will be conducted by [qualified provider/vendor] following applicable requirements.

Training: Employees will receive training on proper use, limitations, donning/doffing, seal checks, maintenance (if reusable), and when to replace respirators, before required use and as needed thereafter.

Enforcement: When respirator use is required, employees must wear the assigned respirator correctly and consistently. Facial hair that interferes with the face seal is not permitted for tight-fitting respirators. Supervisors will monitor compliance and address issues immediately. Employees may be removed from exposure conditions if they cannot safely use required respiratory protection.

Respirator limitations:

- Respirators do not supply oxygen and do not protect from gases unless specifically designed for that hazard.
- A proper seal is required. Facial hair that interferes with the seal is not permitted when respirators are required.

