

WYOMING STATE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN
FOR CLASS I VISIBILITY PROTECTION

Purpose

The purpose of this plan is to assure reasonable progress towards meeting the National goal of preventing future, and remedying existing, visibility impairment in Class I areas.

This plan includes provisions for existing and new sources review, and long term periodic review requirements (attached as new Section 28 Visibility Regulations); Federal Land Manager Coordination, a monitoring strategy and a long term strategy.

Federal Land Manager Coordination

1. Notification of Public Hearings

The Division will provide written notification to each affected Federal Land Manager and other affected States of any public hearings conducted pursuant to the adoption of this plan or any future revisions to this plan. Such notification will state where the public can inspect a summary prepared by the Federal Land Managers of their conclusions and recommendations, if any, on the proposed plan.

2. State and Federal Land Manager Coordination

The Division will identify to the Federal Land Managers in writing the title of the official to which the Federal Land Manager of Class I areas can submit a recommendation on the implementation of this plan. For reference and use in this plan all recommendations should be sent to:

Administrator
Wyoming Air Quality Division
122 West 25th Street
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002

The recommendations on the implementation of this plan can include, but are not limited to:

- A. Identification of impairment in Class I areas of this State
- B. Identification of elements for inclusion in the visibility strategy of this plan

The Division has provided opportunity to affected Federal Land Managers to submit comments on the draft proposal of this plan during a public meeting that the Air Quality Advisory Board held on September 29, 1987. The Federal Land Managers will also have the opportunity to submit comments and recommendations on all elements of the plan prior to the public hearing to be conducted on January 28, 1988 by notice of the hearing.

As part of the Long Term Strategy of this plan, the Air Quality Advisory Board will devote one meeting a year to reviewing this plan. The Division will notify the Federal Land Managers in writing of this meeting and schedule a meeting between the Division and the Federal Land Managers prior to this meeting so that ample opportunity be given to discuss (1) assessment of any identified impairment of visibility in any Class I area; (2) recommendations on the development of the Long Term Strategy; and (3) any other element of this plan.

Monitoring Strategy

The goal of Wyoming's monitoring strategy is to assemble an adequate visibility data base to determine existing impairment, if any, that is occurring in Wyoming and, in particular, in Class I areas, and to maintain an on-going monitoring program to evaluate the impacts of new or modified sources from within and outside the State. The State will commit to the preparation of monitoring plans in cooperation with Federal Land Managers which describe monitoring locations, equipment, methods, monitoring frequency, data reporting and quality assurance procedures. Such plans will be made available to the public. The Division, in cooperation with the Federal Land Managers, will review the monitoring plan annually for each area and revise as necessary with an assessment of changes to visibility. Equipment to be used, as appropriate, shall consist of (1) photographic cameras, (2) fine particulate matter samplers, (3) teleradiometers, (4) nephelometers, (5) human observations, (6) other appropriate technology.

To accomplish this goal, the Division has already acquired a considerable amount of visibility data from throughout the State through its authority to require pre-application monitoring data from proposed new sources under Section 21 and Section 24 of existing regulations. A major portion of this data has been collected in Southwest Wyoming, which is generally upwind of the State's Class I areas. This data will be used in developing any trends in visibility by comparing it with ongoing and future monitoring data. The National Park Service has also been monitoring visibility in Yellowstone Park and Teton Park for many years and has offered the results of this data to the State to establish baseline conditions. The Division is not aware of any ongoing visibility monitoring in other Class I areas. However, these Class I areas (North Absaroka Wilderness, Teton Wilderness, Washakie Wilderness, and Fitzpatrick Wilderness) are generally adjacent to and down wind of the other Class I areas where monitoring is currently occurring. The Division believes that monitoring data from current sites should be indicative of visibility conditions in these areas. However, should this not be the case, monitoring needs in these other areas will be evaluated and monitors established if physically possible and allowable.

The State is not aware of any Federal Land Manager identification of visibility impairment in Class I areas that can be attributed to a source or small group of sources. Therefore, no specific monitoring plans are required to assess visibility impairment in Class I areas at this time. Any future identification of visibility impairment of this type will possibly require additional monitoring, including identification of plumes and probable sources by aerial photography and surveys. The State will participate in monitoring, if required, to the extent possible, given the resources available and fiscal constraints of its Air Quality Program. The assistance of Federal Land Managers, EPA, and sources responsible will also be sought or required.

The State is currently participating in the expense of operating an IMPROVE visibility monitoring site with the Forest Service in the Bridger Wilderness Class I area near Pinedale, Wyoming. The State will continue to cooperate with the Forest Service in the operation of this site to the extent it can. This site now has an automated camera and is due to have fine particulate monitoring equipment and a transmissometer. This site will be an important asset to Wyoming's Program in order to establish current visibility, visibility trends and pollutant types in this area. The contract between the Forest Service and the State requires that all collected data be submitted to the State on a yearly basis. This site is also included as a candidate site for one of the Western National dry deposition sites to be established some time in 1988.

In conclusion, the Division will obtain all past or current visibility monitoring data and assessments that has been gathered by Federal Land Managers in Class I areas to establish visibility baselines for use in future decision making concerning new sources. The State will participate, to the extent that resources allow, in future monitoring efforts of Federal Land Managers and assemble and review all monitoring data obtained from the Federal Land Managers, including data obtained from any State efforts or other sources such as permit applicants on a yearly basis. An evaluation of this data will be included in the periodic review report for the Long Term Strategy.

Any new or modified source which may impact visibility in any Class I area will be required to utilize the visibility data available at the Division, if applicable, in formulating a visibility analysis. If no applicable data is available, the source will be required to conduct an approved visibility monitoring program in or near the Class I area pursuant to the requirements of Section 24(b)(1)(F) of the Wyoming Air Quality Standards and Regulations.

Long Term Strategy

The Division will review the long term strategy set forth below and prepare a public report as required in Section 28(f) of accompanying regulations. The Federal Land Managers will be consulted during this review process to assure coordination of their plans and goals with that of the State concerning visibility impairment in Class I areas. In implementing this review process, the Division will ask the Air Quality Advisory Board to include visibility issues in one of its regularly scheduled meetings each year and consider the visibility long term strategy to review progress, proposed standards, Federal Land Manager consultation and concerns, and public input to the strategy.

Wyoming's long term strategy will focus on the prevention of any future visibility impairment in Class I areas that can be attributed to a source or small group of sources as the Federal Land Managers have not identified any current impairment in the State's Class I areas due to such sources. The State is aware of the fact that Federal Land Managers have certified that visibility impairment from uniform haze exists in all mandatory Class I Federal areas and that no action on the part of the State is required at this time to address this problem. However, the State believes that this long term strategy should recognize the fact that the problem does exist and begin to address the problem through a program of identifying the problem and cause by consultation with Federal Land Managers, State Land Managers, industry and the general public, review of monitoring data, and the setting of visibility standards, if appropriate.

1. Review of Impacts from New or Modified Sources

The Division will review impacts from any new major stationary source or major modifications on visibility in Class I areas in accordance with Section 28(e) of accompanying regulations which refer such review and authority to Section 24, Prevention of Significant Deterioration Regulations, which are a part of Wyoming Air Quality Standards and Regulations.

2. Emission Reductions Due to Ongoing Control Program

Wyoming currently does not have any on-going control programs which address visibility directly except for an open burning permit program which is discussed under Smoke Management later on in this plan. The State does have an on-going control program for reduction in sulfur dioxide emissions from power plants which is nearing completion, with the last unit to be controlled by 1990. On completion of this control program, the State will have reduced sulfur dioxide emissions in Southwest Wyoming, which is generally upwind of all Class I areas, by about 45,000 tons from a 1985 inventory in Southwest Wyoming of 108,000 tons. As it is known that the formation of sulfates play a role in visibility impairment concerning regional haze, some benefit from this program should be realized in some of Wyoming Class I areas.

3. Smoke Management Techniques

The State currently requires that a permit be obtained from the Division per open burning regulations for the controlled burning of vegetation, timber and slash for wildlife habitat, range and timber management purposes. A requirement of such burning is utilization of good smoke management practices. The Division is currently working with the Forest Service, BLM, and State Forestry agencies to formulate a smoke management plan which will meet all agency needs. The National Park Service has also indicated that they are willing to work with the Division in developing smoke management plans for prescribed burning. The Division will continue to work with Federal Land Managers and State agencies to develop state of the art smoke management plans and, at a minimum, review these plans for adequacy and include such review in the public report required by Section 28(f).

4. Other Factors Which Must Be Considered

Other factors, such as source retirement and replacement schedules, additional emission limitations and schedules for compliance, and the enforceability of emission limitations and control measures, need not be considered at this time in the long term strategy as Federal Land Managers have not identified impairment at this time. Measures to mitigate the impacts of construction activities near Class I areas are not deemed to be a significant problem but if such should occur, the State already has sufficient authority to control such emissions to the degree necessary to prevent impairment to visibility.

5. Adequacy of Long Term Strategy

The State believes that this strategy, along with the proposed new Section 28 regulations and current regulations in Section 21 and Section 24 pertaining to Federal Land Manager Notification, monitoring requirements, and requirements for determining impacts to visibility in Class I areas, will be adequate for making reasonable progress toward the National visibility goal of remedying existing and preventing future impairment.