

State of Arizona Exceptional Event Documentation for Wildfire-Caused Ozone Exceedances on June 20, 2015 in the Maricopa Nonattainment Area

Produced by:

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality
Maricopa Association of Governments

DRAFT Report
August 2016

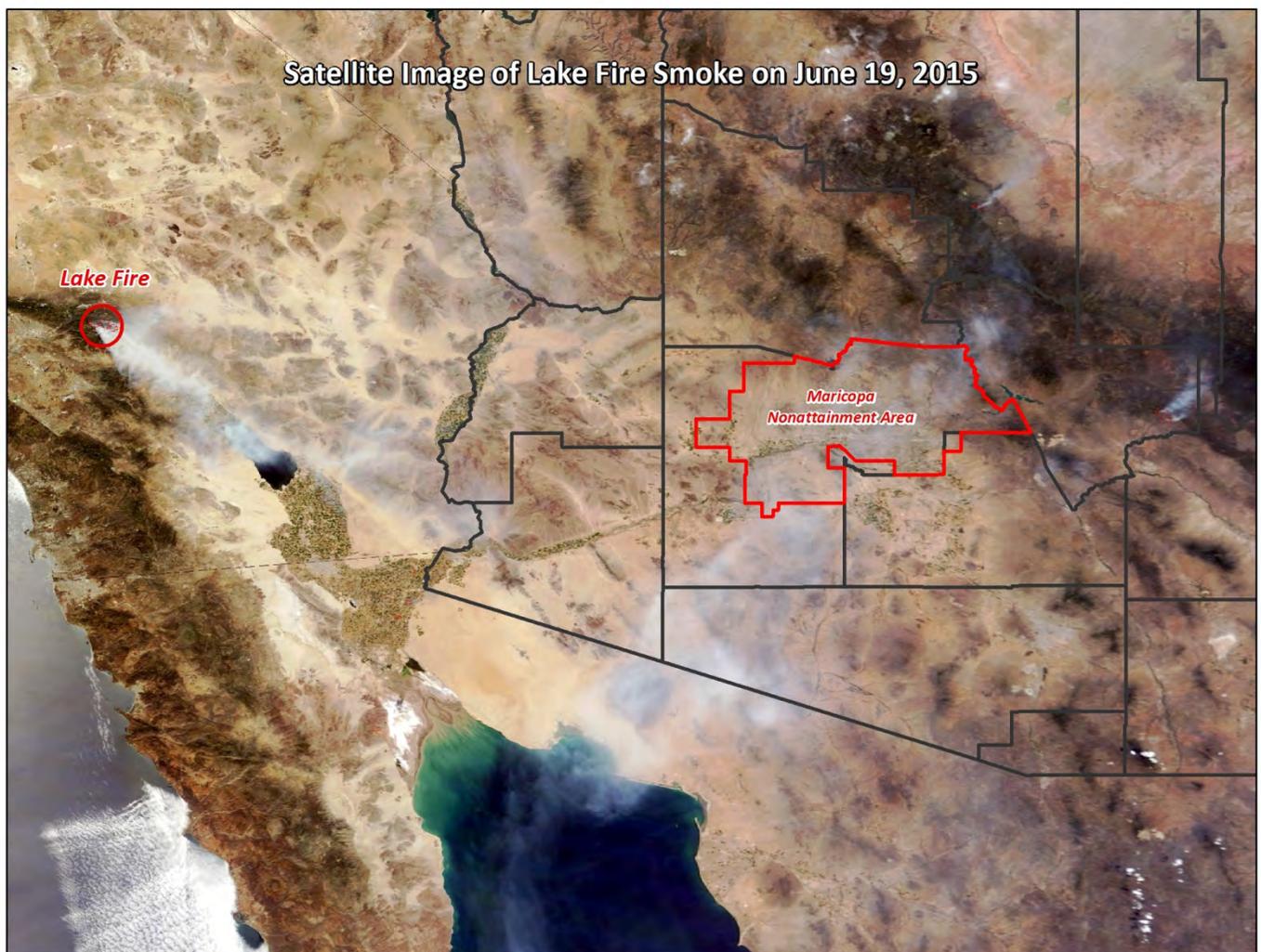


Table of Contents

I. INTRODUCTION	1
Summary of the Exceptional Event.....	1
Statutory and Regulatory Requirements.....	2
Procedural Requirements.....	3
II. CONCEPTUAL MODEL	5
Typical Ozone Formation in the Maricopa Nonattainment Area.....	5
Overview	5
Ozone Season Monthly Variations	6
Wildfire Description.....	8
Ozone Formation in the Maricopa Nonattainment Area due to the Wildfire Event	16
Ozone Monitoring Data.....	16
III. CLEAR CAUSAL RELATIONSHIP	21
Introduction	21
Comparison of Event Concentrations with Historical Concentrations.....	21
Tiered Approach.....	28
Tier 2 Key Factor #1	29
Tier 2 Key Factor #2	30
Additional Evidence of a Clear Causal Relationship	31
Evidence that the Wildfire Emissions were Transported to the Affected Monitors.....	31
HYSPLIT Back Trajectories	31
NOAA Smoke Maps	38
Regional and Local Meteorology.....	38
Evidence that the Wildfire Emissions Affected the Monitors.....	45
Concurrent Rise in Ozone Concentrations.....	45
Altered Concentrations of PM _{2.5} and NO ₂	57
Multiple Variable Regression Analysis (“But For” Demonstration)	65
Regression Analysis Development and Performance	65
Regression Analysis Results	67
IV. NATURAL EVENT AND NOT REASONABLY CONTROLLABLE OR PREVENTABLE CRITERIA	69
Natural Event.....	69
Not Reasonably Controllable or Preventable	69
V. SUMMARY CONCLUSION	70

List of Tables

Table 1-1. Ozone Monitors Affected by the Lake Fire Exceptional Event.	1
Table 2-1. Ozone Exceedance Days (2008 Standard) by Month in the Maricopa Eight-Hour Ozone Nonattainment Area.	7
Table 2-2. Maximum Daily Eight-Hour Ozone Concentrations (ppm) at Maricopa Nonattainment Area Monitors on June 13-27, 2015.	17
Table 3-1. Change in Maximum Daily Eight-Hour Ozone Concentrations (ppm) at Alamo Lake, Flagstaff, Grand Canyon, Petrified Forest, Prescott and Yuma During June 17-21, 2015.....	45
Table 3-2. Change in Maximum Daily Eight-Hour Ozone Concentrations (ppm) at Maricopa Nonattainment Area Monitors During June 17-21, 2015.....	51
Table 3-3. Independent Variables in the Regression Analysis.	66
Table 3-4. Regression Analysis Basic Performance Statistics.....	67
Table 3-5. Regression Analysis Results.....	68

List of Figures

Figure 2-1. Maricopa eight-hour nonattainment area and ozone monitoring stations (monitors on tribal lands excluded).....	5
Figure 2-2. Lake Fire perimeter on June 17, 2015 (87 acres).....	9
Figure 2-3. Lake Fire perimeter on June 18, 2015 (6,080 acres).....	10
Figure 2-4. Lake Fire perimeter on June 19, 2015 (14,968 acres).....	11
Figure 2-5. Lake Fire perimeter on June 20, 2015 (15,008 acres).....	12
Figure 2-6. Map of the Lake Fire as of July 5-7, 2015.	13
Figure 2-7. Active wildfires on June 20, 2015 in Arizona, southeastern California and northern Mexico.	14
Figure 2-8. Satellite imagery of Lake Fire smoke on June 19, 2015.	15
Figure 2-9. Maximum daily eight-hour ozone concentrations (ppm) at the nonattainment area monitors on June 13-27, 2015.	18
Figure 2-10. Maximum daily eight-hour ozone concentrations (ppm) at the exceeding monitors on June 13-27, 2015.	19
Figure 2-11. Diurnal profile of exceeding monitors on June 20, 2015.	20
Figure 3-1. Plot of 5-year ozone season daily maximum 8-hour average concentrations at the Apache Junction monitor.	22
Figure 3-2. Plot of 5-year ozone season daily maximum 8-hour average concentrations at the Blue Point monitor.	23
Figure 3-3. Plot of 5-year ozone season daily maximum 8-hour average concentrations at the Falcon Field monitor.	24
Figure 3-4. Plot of 5-year ozone season daily maximum 8-hour average concentrations at the Mesa monitor.	25
Figure 3-5. Plot of 5-year ozone season daily maximum 8-hour average concentrations at the Pinnacle Peak monitor.	26
Figure 3-6. Plot of 5-year ozone season daily maximum 8-hour average concentrations at the Tonto National Monument monitor.	27
Figure 3-7. Map showing distance of Lake Fire to affected ozone monitors in the Maricopa nonattainment area (460 km).	30
Figure 3-8. Lower (yellow) and upper (green) back trajectories for the Apache Junction monitor.	32
Figure 3-9. Lower (yellow) and upper (green) back trajectories for the Blue Point monitor.	33
Figure 3-10. Lower (yellow) and upper (green) back trajectories for the Falcon Field monitor.	34
Figure 3-11. Lower (yellow) and upper (green) back trajectories for the Mesa monitor.	35
Figure 3-12. Lower (yellow) and upper (green) back trajectories for the Pinnacle Peak monitor.	36
Figure 3-13. Lower (yellow) and upper (green) back trajectories for the Tonto National Monument monitor.	37

List of Figures (continued)

Figure 3-14. NOAA smoke map for June 17, 2015.....	39
Figure 3-15. NOAA smoke map for June 18, 2015.....	40
Figure 3-16. NOAA smoke map for June 19, 2015.....	41
Figure 3-17. NOAA smoke map for June 20, 2015.....	42
Figure 3-18. NWS upper level (500 mb) winds on June 17-20, 2015.....	43
Figure 3-19. 24-Hour nonattainment area wind roses on June 17-20, 2015.....	44
Figure 3-20. State-wide ozone concentrations on June 17, 2015.....	46
Figure 3-21. State-wide ozone concentrations on June 18, 2015.....	47
Figure 3-22. State-wide ozone concentrations on June 19, 2015.....	48
Figure 3-23. State-wide ozone concentrations on June 20, 2015.....	49
Figure 3-24. State-wide ozone concentrations on June 21, 2015.....	50
Figure 3-25. Maricopa nonattainment area ozone concentrations on June 17, 2015.....	52
Figure 3-26. Maricopa nonattainment area ozone concentrations on June 18, 2015.....	53
Figure 3-27. Maricopa nonattainment area ozone concentrations on June 19, 2015.....	54
Figure 3-28. Maricopa nonattainment area ozone concentrations on June 20, 2015.....	55
Figure 3-29. Maricopa nonattainment area ozone concentrations on June 21, 2015.....	56
Figure 3-30. Hourly PM _{2.5} concentrations at Alamo Lake and Yuma during June 17-21, 2015.....	59
Figure 3-31. 24-Hour PM _{2.5} concentrations at Alamo Lake and Yuma during June 16-23, 2015.....	60
Figure 3-32. Total and percent of 24-hour PM _{2.5} that is organic and elemental carbon at the JLG Supersite monitor.....	61
Figure 3-33. June 2010-2014 hourly average and 24-hour average NO ₂ by day at the West Phoenix monitor.....	62
Figure 3-34. Comparison of hourly average NO ₂ on June 13-27, 2015 with hourly average June 2010-2014 NO ₂ at the West Phoenix monitor.....	63
Figure 3-35. Hourly average NO ₂ on June 9-12, 2015 and hourly average NO ₂ on June 17-20, 2015 at the West Phoenix monitor.....	64

List of Appendices

Appendix A – ADEQ Forecast Products for Greater Phoenix Area

Appendix B – NWS Meteorological Observations at Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport

Appendix C – NOAA HYSPLIT Model Output Files

Appendix D – Regression Analysis

Appendix E – Notice of Public Comment Period

Appendix F – Exceptional Event Initial Notification Form

Appendix G Supplementary Analysis of the Exceedance at the Tonto National Monument Monitor in Relation to the 2015 Ozone Standard

I. INTRODUCTION

This documentation is being submitted to EPA to demonstrate that exceedances of the 2008 ozone standard at six monitors in or near the Maricopa eight-hour ozone nonattainment area on June 20, 2015 should be excluded from use in determinations of exceedances or violations of the ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) as exceptional events caused by a wildfire. Supplemental analysis of the June 20, 2015 exceedance at the Tonto National Monument monitor as it relates to the 2015 ozone standard is included in Appendix G. This documentation serves to meet the requirements of Clean Air Act Section 319(b) (Air quality monitoring data influenced by exceptional events); 40 CFR Section 50.14 (Treatment of air quality monitoring data influenced by exceptional events); and EPA's November 2015 draft *Guidance on the Preparation of Exceptional Events Demonstrations for Wildfire Events that May Influence Ozone Concentrations* (Wildfire Guidance). Additionally, EPA is currently in the process of revising the requirements of 40 CFR Section 50.14. This documentation is structured in such a way as to meet both the existing requirements in 40 CFR Section 50.14 and the proposed revisions to 40 CFR Section 50.14 that EPA plans to finalize in late 2016.

Summary of the Exceptional Event

On June 17, 2015, a large, human-caused wildfire (labeled as the Lake Fire) started in the San Bernardino National Forest in southeastern California. The fire burned approximately 31,359 acres and was 98% contained as of July 9, 2015, and completely contained as of August 1, 2015. The fire grew to approximately 14,968 acres (48% of the fire) in the first three days of the fire (June 17-19, 2015). Prevailing winds transported significant smoke, ozone and ozone precursor emissions from the Lake Fire into Arizona over the period of June 18 – June 20, 2015. These transported emissions caused exceedances of the 2008 ozone standard (0.075 ppm) at six monitors (Apache Junction, Blue Point, Falcon Field, Mesa, Pinnacle Peak, and Tonto National Monument) in or very near the Maricopa 8-hour ozone nonattainment area on June 20, 2015 as listed in Table 1–1. Satellite photos, smoke maps, back trajectories, elevated ozone concentrations across northern and central Arizona, and unusual NO₂ and PM_{2.5} concentrations indicate that ozone and/or ozone precursor emissions from the Lake Fire were transported to the exceeding monitors and confirm a clear causal relationship between the exceeding monitors and the Lake Fire. Regression analyses provide additional evidence that the monitors affected by the ozone and ozone precursor emissions from the Lake Fire would not have normally exceeded the 2008 ozone standard under the meteorological conditions present in the nonattainment area on June 20, 2015.

Table 1-1. Ozone Monitors Affected by the Lake Fire Exceptional Event.

Monitor Name	County	Operating Agency	Monitor ID	Exceeding Ozone Concentration
Apache Junction	Pinal	Pinal County Air Quality Control District	04-021-3001	0.078 ppm
Blue Point	Maricopa	Maricopa County Air Quality Department	04-013-9702	0.077 ppm
Falcon Field	Maricopa	Maricopa County Air Quality Department	04-013-1010	0.080 ppm
Mesa	Maricopa	Maricopa County Air Quality Department	04-013-1003	0.079 ppm
Pinnacle Peak	Maricopa	Maricopa County Air Quality Department	04-013-2005	0.078 ppm
Tonto Nat. Monument	Gila	Arizona Department of Environmental Quality	04-007-0010	0.079 ppm

Statutory and Regulatory Requirements

Clean Air Act Section 319(b) defines an exceptional event as an event that:

1. affects air quality;
2. is not reasonably controllable or preventable.;
3. is an event caused by human activity that is unlikely to recur at a particular location or a natural event; and
4. is determined by the Administrator through the process established in the regulations promulgated under paragraph (2) [Regulations] to be an exceptional event.

EPA regulations in 40 CFR Section 50.14(c)(3)(iv) states that in order to justify excluding air quality monitoring data as an exceptional event, evidence must be provided for the following elements:

- A. The event satisfies the criteria set forth in 40 CFR Section 50.1(j) that:
 - (1) the event affected air quality,
 - (2) the event was not reasonably controllable or preventable, and
 - (3) the event was caused by human activity unlikely to recur in a particular location or was a natural event;
- B. There is a clear causal relationship between the measurement under consideration and the event that is claimed to have affected the air quality in the area;
- C. The event is associated with a measured concentration in excess of normal historical fluctuations, including background; and
- D. There would have been no exceedance or violation but for the event.

The EPA proposed revisions to 40 CFR Section 50.14(c)(3)(iv) require a demonstration to justify data exclusion that must include:

- A. A narrative conceptual model that describes the event(s) causing the exceedance or violation and a discussion of how emissions from the event(s) led to the exceedance or violation at the affected monitor(s);
- B. A demonstration that the event affected air quality in such a way that there exists a clear causal relationship between the specific event and the monitored exceedance or violation;
- C. Analyses identified in Table 3 to § 50.14 comparing the claimed event-influenced concentration(s) to concentrations at the same monitoring site at other times consistent with Table 3 to § 50.14 to support the requirement at paragraph (c)(3)(iv)(B) [clear causal relationship] of this section. The Administrator shall not require a State to prove a specific percentile point in the distribution of the data;
- D. A demonstration that the event was both not reasonably controllable and not reasonably preventable; and
- E. A demonstration that the event was a human activity that is unlikely to recur at a particular location or was a natural event

Details on how the statutory and regulatory requirements are addressed in this documentation is presented in the bulleted list below:

- Section II of this assessment includes a conceptual model that describes the genesis and location of the wildfire and how ozone and ozone precursor emissions from the wildfire caused the ozone exceedances on June 20, 2015 in the Maricopa nonattainment area.

- Section III provides a detailed body of evidence to support the clear causal relationship between the emissions from the wildfire and the ozone exceedances in the Maricopa nonattainment area and that the event affected air quality. This section includes an evaluation of the event to the tiered demonstration levels in EPA's Wildfire Guidance document, comparisons of event concentrations to historical ozone season concentrations, a discussion of the meteorology that allowed the transport of emissions from the fire to the exceeding monitors, a presentation of satellite photos, HYSPLIT trajectories and smoke maps showing that emissions from the wildfires reached the monitors, time-series maps showing elevated ozone concentrations across the state in response to the arrival of emissions from the wildfire, and elevated and unusual PM_{2.5} and NO₂ concentrations in conjunction with the arrival of emissions from the wildfire. This section also includes a regression analysis that indicates that the affected monitors normally would not have exceeded the ozone standard under the meteorological parameters present on June 20, 2015. This regression analysis serves the dual purpose of providing additional evidence in support of the clear causal relationship between the wildfire and the exceedances, and as evidence that the monitors would not have exceeded but for the event (a requirement of the existing exceptional events regulations).
- Section IV presents evidence that the event was a natural event and that the event was neither reasonably controllable nor preventable.
- Section V includes a summary of the evidence presented in Sections II-IV.

Procedural Requirements

This section presents a review of the procedural requirements of the EER as required by 40 CFR Section 50.14. The procedural requirements include public notification that an event was occurring; placement of informational flags on data in EPA's Air Quality System (AQS); notification to EPA of the intent to flag through submission of initial event description; documentation that the public comment process was followed; and submittal of a demonstration supporting the exceptional events flag. Specific procedural requirements are presented below:

- Public notification that event was occurring, 40 CFR Section 50.14(c)(1)(i):

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) issued an ensemble air quality forecast for the Greater Phoenix area on June 19, 2015 that discusses the presence of smoke from the Lake Fire in the area. At the time of the forecast, it was uncertain whether the smoke and emissions from the Lake Fire would affect ozone concentrations. ADEQ's ensemble forecast issued on June 21, 2015, confirmed that the emissions from the Lake Fire contributed to the ozone exceedances on June 20, 2015. The forecast products that were issued on June 19, 2015 and June 21, 2015 are included in Appendix A.

- Notify EPA of intent to exclude one or more measured exceedances by the placement of a flag in the appropriate field for the data record in AQS, 40 CFR Section 50.14(c)(2)(i):

ADEQ and other operating agencies in Arizona submit data into EPA's AQS. When ADEQ and/or the operating agency have determined a potential exists that the monitor reading has been influenced by an exceptional event, a preliminary flag is submitted for the measurement

in the AQS. The data are not official until they undergo more thorough quality assurance and quality control, leading to certification by May 1st of the year following the calendar year in which the data were collected (40 CFR Section 58.15(a)(2)). The presence of the flag can be confirmed in AQS. The following monitors have been flagged as exceeding the 2008 ozone standard on June 20, 2015 as a result of the wildfire exceptional event:

Apache Junction, (04-021-3001); Blue Point, (04-013-9702); Falcon Field, (04-013-1010); Mesa, (04-013-1003); Pinnacle Peak, (04-013-2005); and Tonto National Monument, (04-007-0010)

Additionally, EPA's proposed revisions to 40 CFR Section 50.14(c)(2)(i) require a state to engage in an Initial Notification of Potential Exceptional Event process. ADEQ began initial discussions with EPA about this event on February 29, 2016. From that date, frequent discussion continued with EPA on the development of documentation needed to support the event. ADEQ submitted formal initial notification of the June 20, 2015 ozone wildfire exceptional event to EPA Region IX on July 8, 2016. A copy of the initial notification form is included in Appendix F.

- Submittal of flagged data and initial event description to EPA by July 1 of calendar year following event, 40 CFR Section 50.14(c)(2)(iii):

The ozone exceedances on June 20, 2015 caused by the wildfire event were flagged in AQS by April 2016. An initial description of the event is included with the flagged data. The April 2016 flagging date also complies with the exceptional event schedule requirements of the final EPA rule promulgating the 2015 ozone standard as reflected in Table 1 to 40 CFR 50.14(c)(2)(vi).

- Document that the public comment process was followed for event documentation, 40 CFR Section 50.14(c)(3)(v):

ADEQ posted this assessment report on the ADEQ webpage and placed a hardcopy of the report in the ADEQ Records Management Center for public review. ADEQ opened a 30-day public comment period on XXXX. A copy of the public notice certification, along with any comments received, will be submitted to EPA, consistent with the requirements of 40 CFR Section 50.14(c)(3)(v). See Appendix E for a copy of the affidavit of public notice.

- Submit demonstration supporting exceptional event flag, 40 CFR Section 50.14(c)(3):

At the close of the comment period, and after ADEQ has had the opportunity to consider any comments submitted on this document, ADEQ will submit this document, the comments received, and ADEQ's responses to those comments to EPA Region IX headquarters in San Francisco, California. The deadline for the submittal of this demonstration package is October 1, 2016 in accordance with the schedule established with the issuance of the final 2015 ozone standard as reflected in Table 1 to 40 CFR Section 50.14(c)(2)(vi).

II. CONCEPTUAL MODEL

Typical Ozone Formation in the Maricopa Nonattainment Area

Overview

Ozone concentrations during the summer ozone season in the Maricopa eight-hour ozone nonattainment area are influenced by several factors including: westerly transport of upwind pollutants; a favorable synoptic weather pattern featuring high pressure over the northeastern portion of the state, a low pressure center in the southwest portion, and local emissions that are coincident with valley-wide stagnant and weak winds. The spatial distribution of high ozone concentrations depends on a diurnal valley breeze and directional change in winds induced by surrounding topography. Examination of the entire summer season shows the strong influence meteorological variability on ozone formation in the nonattainment area. As such, several meteorological regimes may result in an ozone exceedance. A map depicting the location of ozone monitors in the Maricopa eight-hour ozone nonattainment area is shown in Figure 2-1.

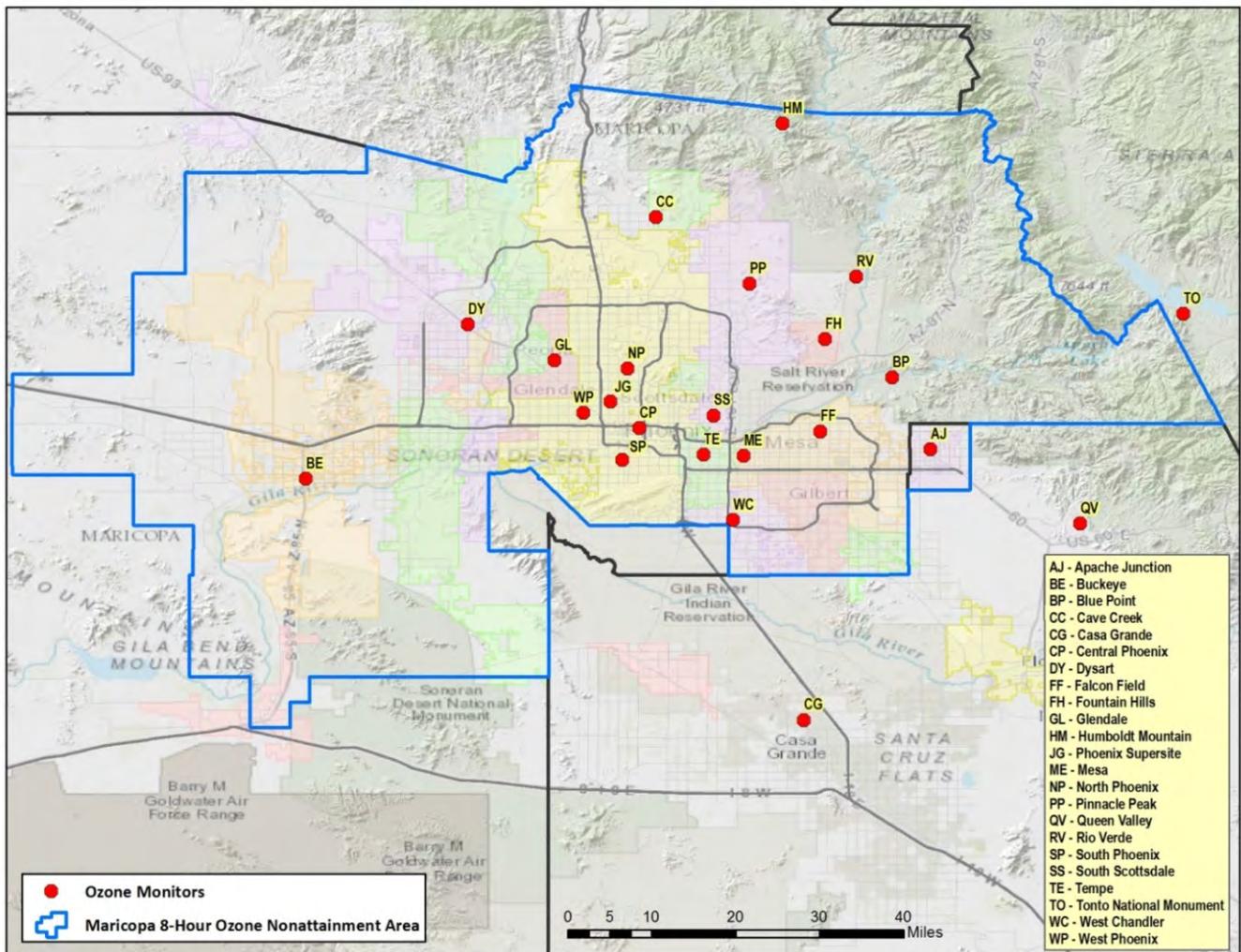


Figure 2-1. Maricopa eight-hour nonattainment area and ozone monitoring stations (monitors on tribal lands excluded).

The Phoenix metropolitan area includes several major cities and is the core of the nonattainment area. Networks of freeways and arterial roads, and several significant point sources, exist in the urban core. The edges of the nonattainment area are considered suburban or rural and monitoring sites in these zones are typically in more remote or mountainous locations. Ozone can advect downwind of the urban core to surrounding rural and suburban sites and these regions can have different profiles than those in the urban core. The coupling of the urban and downwind sites depends greatly on how the daily weather conditions interact with local emissions.

The photochemical reaction processes are essential for ozone formation. The desert Southwest yields sufficient solar radiation that promotes the efficient photochemical reactions of nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and volatile organic carbons (VOC) to form ground level ozone. Biogenic emissions are the largest VOC source, mostly formed in the Tonto National Forest located in the northeast portion of the nonattainment area and in agricultural areas. These emissions mix with urban anthropogenic VOC sources. The largest source of NO_x is motor vehicle exhaust, but point sources such as electric generating units are also important NO_x emission sources.

Transported ozone (international, interstate, stratospheric) can also influence local ozone levels, especially in the late spring and early summer when the transport pathways are conducive to elevated ozone. The nonattainment area is often downwind from source regions in Southern California and Northern Mexico. It is also aligned with the Rocky Mountains where early summer stratospheric ozone intrusions have been documented. Cold front storm systems associated with a southerly deviation of the late spring jet stream are conducive to these types of long range and vertical transport.

Under more localized conditions, most elevated ozone episodes occur under a distinct mesoscale meteorological pattern with a pronounced valley breeze or general stagnation. Many of the urban ozone monitors in the area are located within a basin surrounded by mountain ranges, and differential solar heating of surrounding topography often creates a thermal circulation known as the valley breeze. Under weak large scale summer weather patterns, local winds flow calmly to the southwest late at night and into morning and then strengthen towards the northeast in the afternoon hours. Although a variety of large scale weather patterns occur in the desert southwest, favorable patterns for elevated ozone often recur throughout the summer. These patterns create high temperatures, upper level winds from the south and/or west, sinking air from higher altitudes, and a sustained valley breeze circulation at the surface.

Each monitoring site within the nonattainment area exhibits a diurnal pattern in ozone levels, but the timing and magnitude depend on locations. Urban sites exhibit a more pronounced diurnal cycle in ozone, with the maximum occurring in late afternoon before sunset and the minimum just prior to sunrise. Ozone can be consumed by titration from locally generated NO_x in the urban core and also removed by dry deposition during night. In contrast, maximum ozone concentrations have been measured hours later at downwind rural sites. Most anthropogenic precursors are emitted from the urban core and follow a diurnal pattern related to traffic patterns that peak twice daily with the morning and evening rush hours. Anthropogenic emissions also vary by day of week, with most sources exhibiting lower emissions on the weekends due to fewer industrial, commercial and traffic activities. Naturally occurring VOC levels vary over the course of the ozone season, and biogenic emissions highly depend on meteorology (i.e. sunlight, temperature, and relative humidity).

Ozone Season Monthly Variations

Ozone concentrations vary by month in the ozone season, with historical exceedances of the 2008 ozone standard recorded in the months of April through September. Table 2–1 provides a month-by-month

analysis of the number of ozone exceedance days (days with at least one exceeding monitor, relative to the 2008 ozone standard) per month in the Maricopa nonattainment area. Historically, a small percentage of exceedance days occurred in April and September, while more than 90% of the exceedance days occurred in May through August.

Table 2-1. Ozone Exceedance Days (2008 Standard) by Month in the Maricopa Eight-Hour Ozone Nonattainment Area.

Month	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total
April	4	0	0	2	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	9
May	8	7	5	2	1	2	2	10	3	1	0	41
June	12	17	4	8	1	5	9	3	3	4	6	72
July	12	12	5	7	1	0	2	3	4	3	0	49
August	4	6	6	3	0	0	4	10	2	0	2	37
September	1	0	1	0	0	3	1	0	1	3	0	10

On average, May has relatively lower temperatures, less sunlight and stronger ventilating westerly winds, all of which typically limit ozone production. But during this time transport from Southern California and Mexico can be enhanced by cold fronts and stratospheric intrusions from late-spring low pressure systems. Cold fronts and associated westerly transport can recur several times before the monsoonal high pressure system begins to dominate in the region.

June is usually much warmer than May. Early in the month the air is dry prior to development of the southwestern monsoon pattern. Afternoons can be extremely hot ($T > 110$ °F) and dry ($RH < 10\%$), and have the longest exposure to sunlight near the summer solstice. The majority of exceedance days have occurred historically in the month of June when local meteorological conditions (e.g., weak or stagnant winds) favor ozone production. By the end of the month, the monsoonal high pressure pattern begins to dominate.

July and August have extremely high daytime temperatures and are influenced much more by the regional monsoon pattern. A large scale upper level high pressure feature usually aligns over the Four Corners area and pumps moist, unstable air from the southeast. While the synoptic pattern can persist for several weeks, sudden changes in mesoscale weather during this time make ozone formation more complicated. Under monsoonal steering winds, small scale thunderstorms thrive under these favorable dynamics. Days are typically more humid and can exhibit short lived severe weather (intense rain, strong winds and windblown dust). The high pressure often controls the local flow in between thunderstorm events. Stagnant winds can last long enough to trap pollutants and create the highest ozone of the season. Additionally, peak biogenic VOC emissions occur in August that may enhance ozone formation.

Wildfire Description

The Lake Fire, located in the San Bernardino National Forest in southeastern California, began on June 17, 2015, as a human-caused wildfire that is still under investigation. The fire started out as an 87-acre fire on June 17, 2015 which rapidly grew to 6,080 acres on June 18, 2015, and 14,968 acres on June 19, 2015. It is the combined emissions of ozone and ozone precursor emissions on June 17-19, 2015 that resulted in the ozone exceedances on June 20, 2015 in the Maricopa nonattainment area. Figures 2-2 through 2-5 show the growth in the fire perimeter on June 17-20, 2015.

The fire ultimately burned 31,359 acres and was 98% contained by July 9, 2015, and fully contained by August 1, 2015. The fire burned through a combination of timber, brush and grass. A map of the fire area as of July 5-7, 2015 is included in Figure 2-6. A detailed description of the Lake Fire can be obtained here: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/4302/>.

Figure 2-7 contains a map of the all fires actively burning in Arizona, southeastern California and northern Mexico on June 20, 2015, including the Lake Fire. The location of these fires was obtained at <http://www.airfire.org/data/bluesky-daily/>. The small fires burning southwest of Yuma (estimated to be approximately 100 acres each) in Mexico may have also contributed some ozone and ozone precursor emissions that were transported to the nonattainment area, but are minimal compared to the emissions from the Lake Fire. The larger fires burning east and north of the nonattainment area (e.g., Kearney Fire) appear to have minimal impact on the nonattainment area as emissions from these fires were blown north and east on prevailing winds. Figure 2-8 provides a satellite image of the Lake Fire smoke transporting across Arizona and the Maricopa nonattainment area on June 19, 2015.

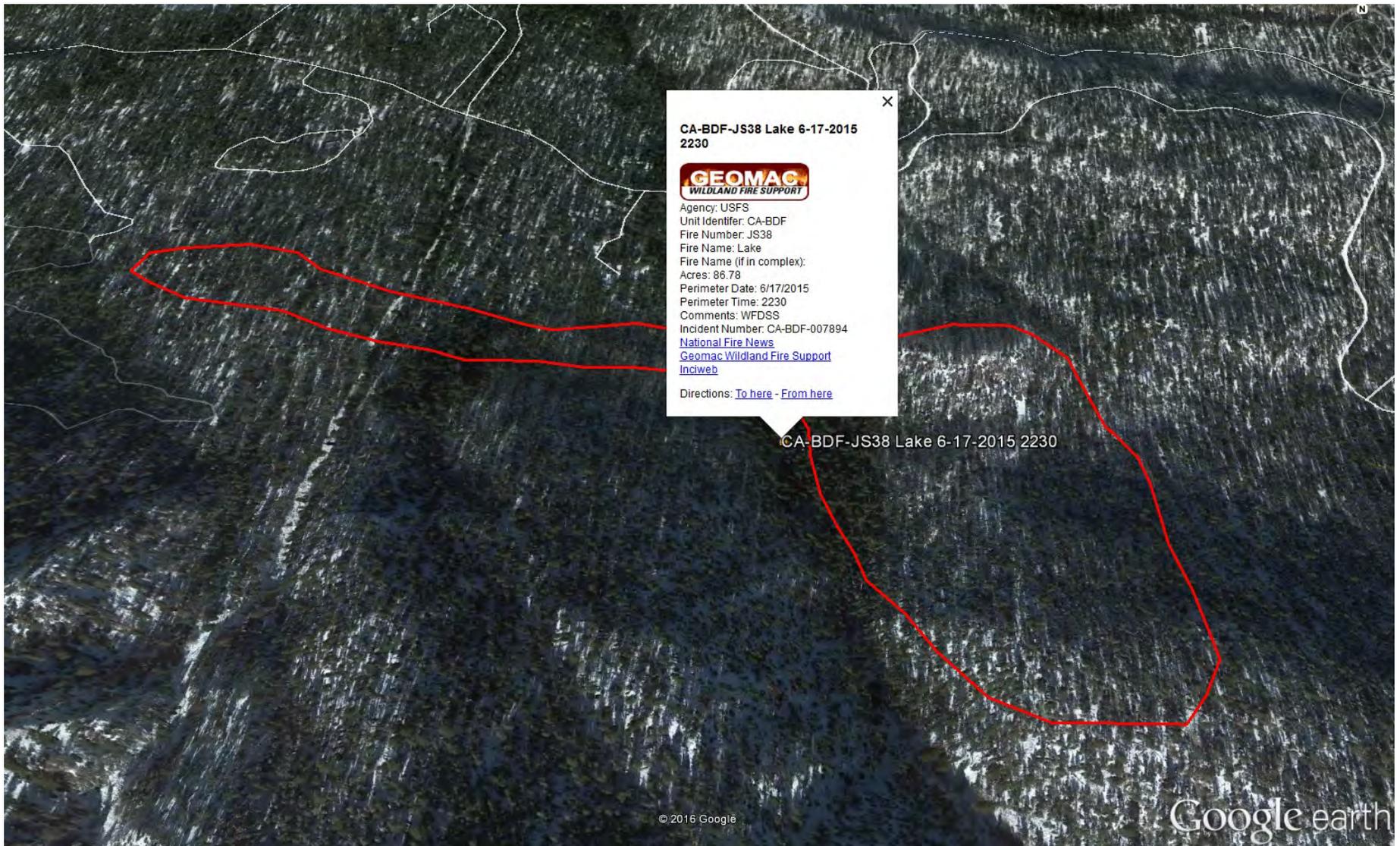


Figure 2-2. Lake Fire perimeter on June 17, 2015 (87 acres).

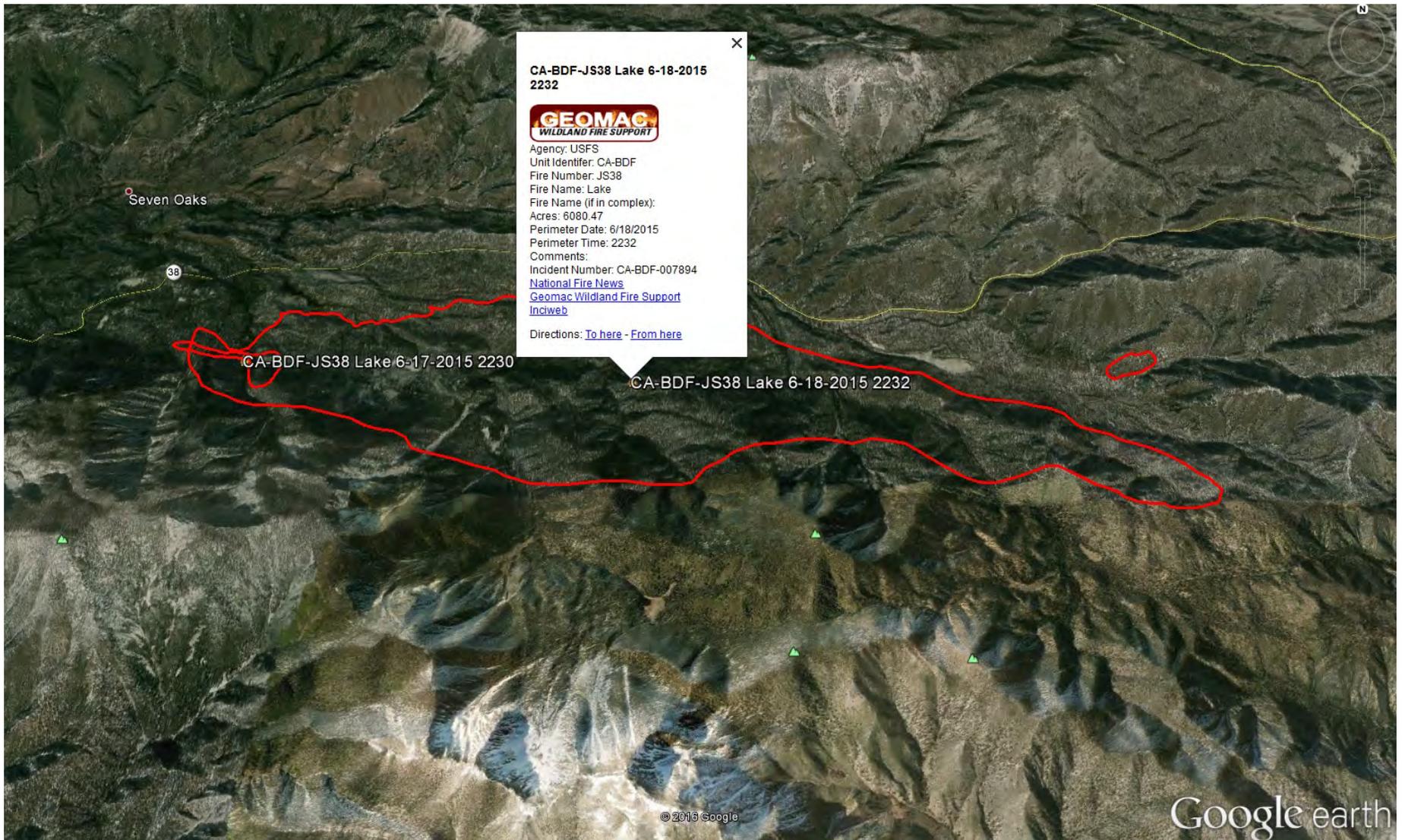


Figure 2-3. Lake Fire perimeter on June 18, 2015 (6,080 acres).

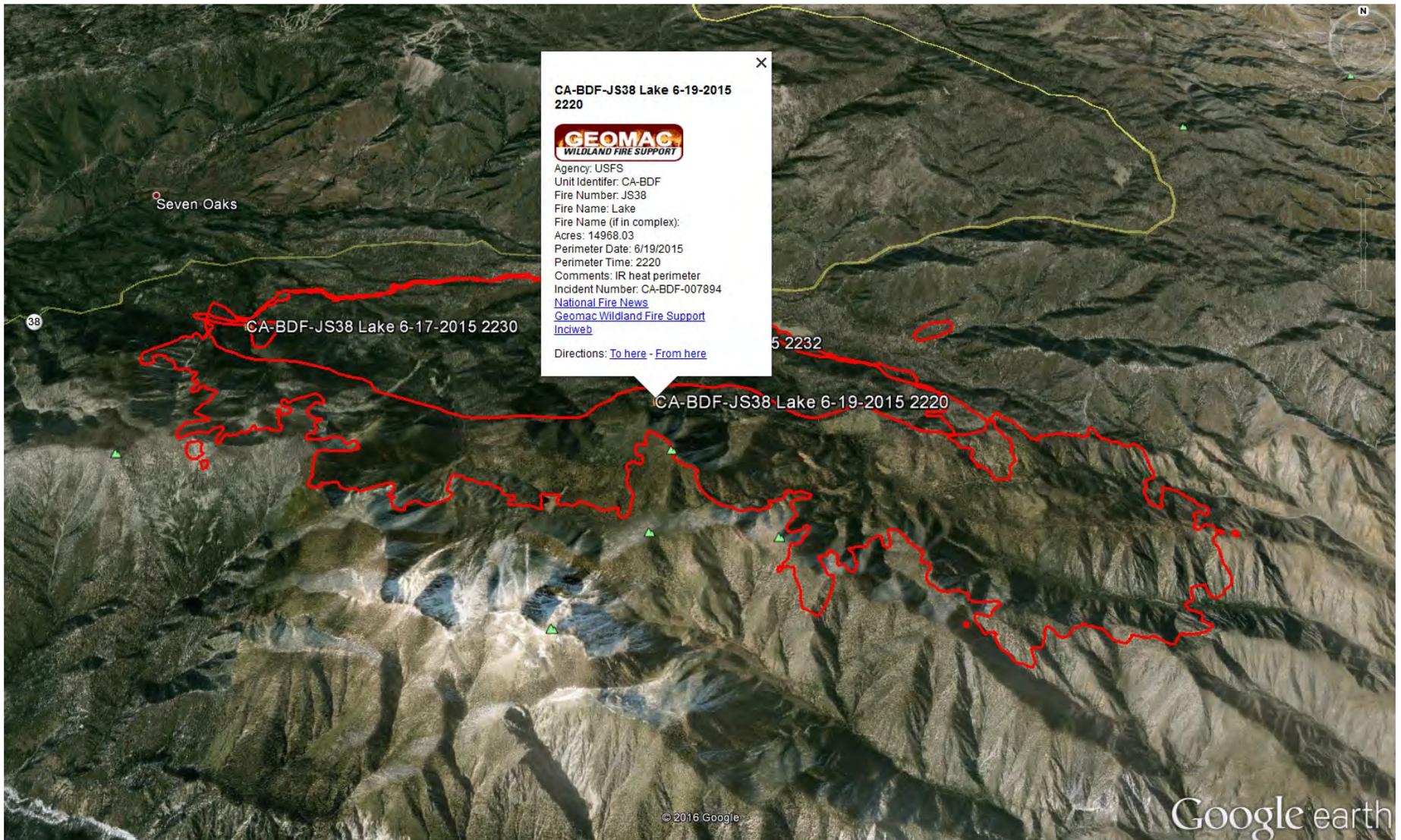


Figure 2-4. Lake Fire perimeter on June 19, 2015 (14,968 acres).

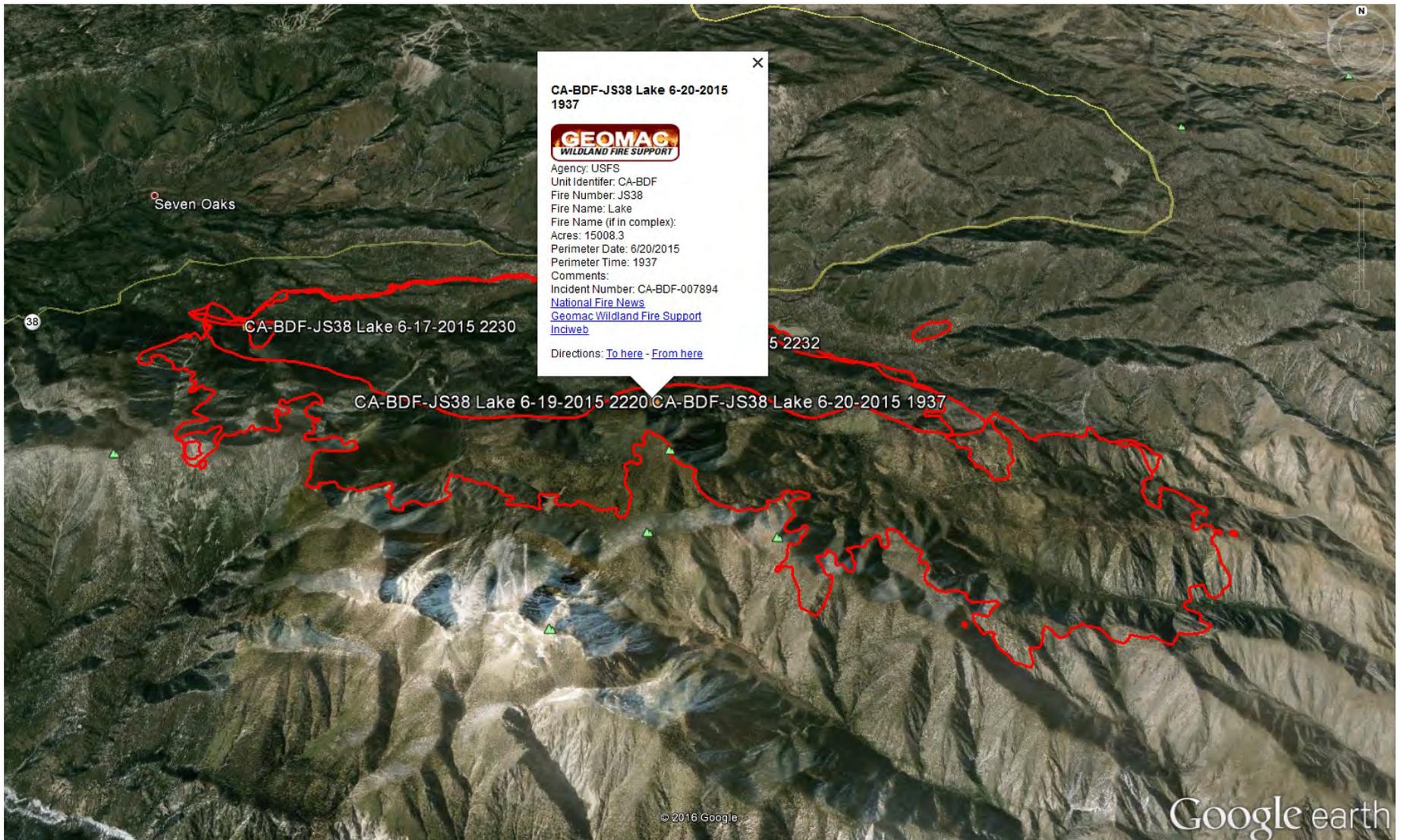
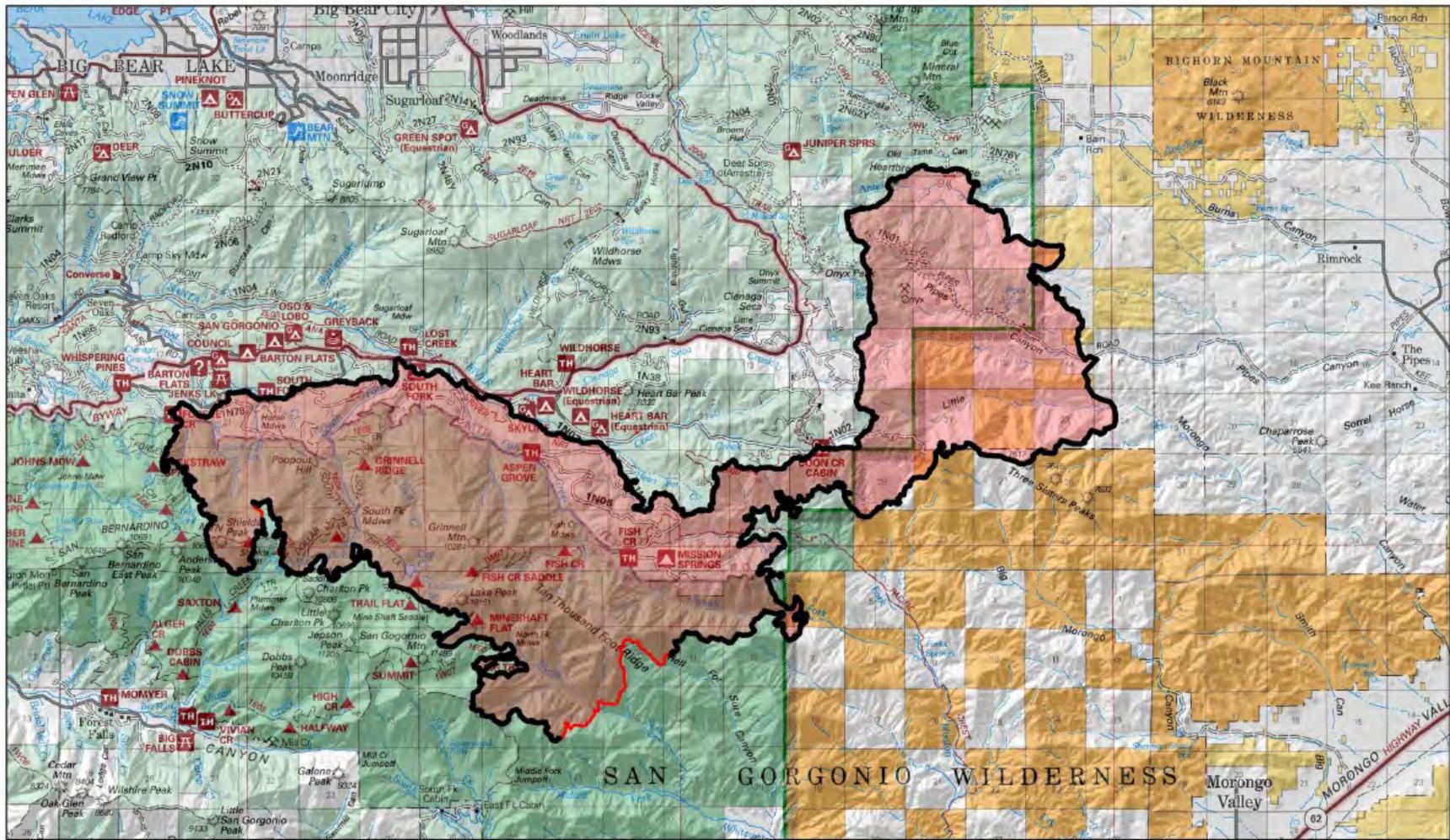


Figure 2-5. Lake Fire perimeter on June 20, 2015 (15,008 acres).



Lake Fire
 CA-BDF-7894
 July 5 - 7, 2015

**INFORMATION
 MAP**

Fire Perimeter
 Completed Line

0 1 2 Miles



Figure 2-6. Map of the Lake Fire as of July 5-7, 2015.

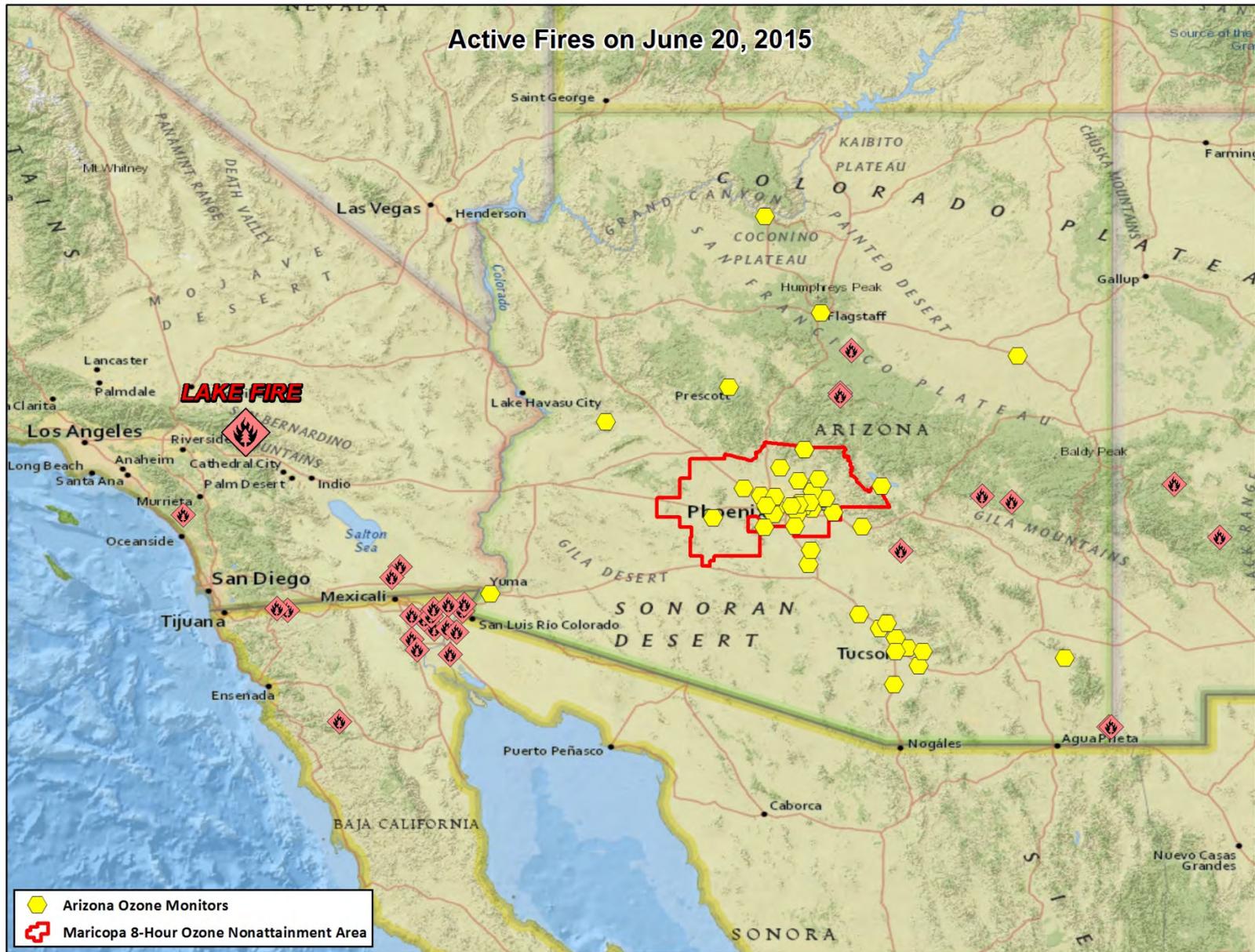


Figure 2-7. Active wildfires on June 20, 2015 in Arizona, southeastern California and northern Mexico.

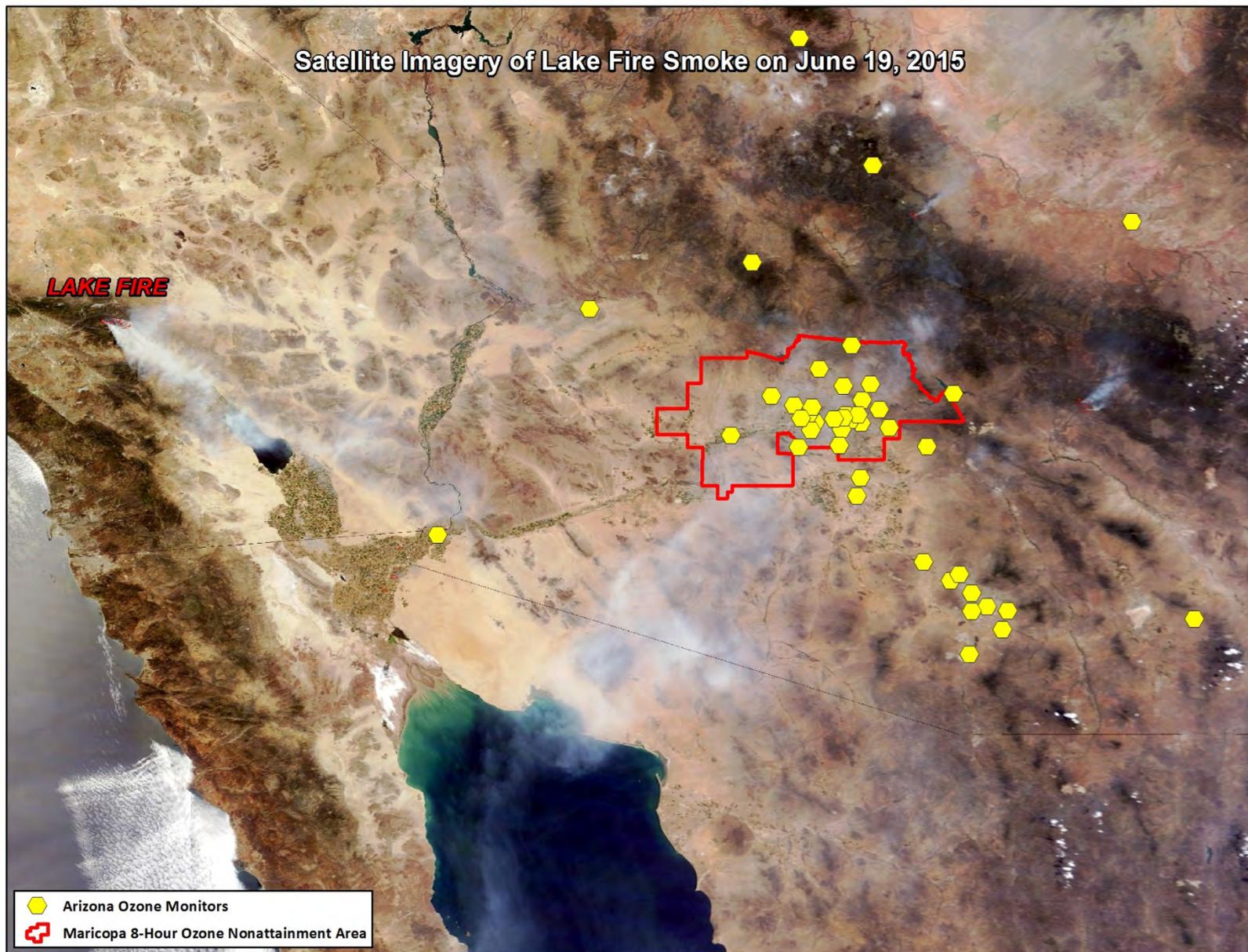


Figure 2-8. Satellite imagery of Lake Fire smoke on June 19, 2015.

Ozone Formation in the Maricopa Nonattainment Area due to the Wildfire Event

From June 17, 2015 to June 19, 2015, the human-caused Lake Fire wildland wildfire in the San Bernardino National Forest in southeastern California produced ozone and ozone precursor emissions that were transported to the Maricopa 8-hour ozone nonattainment area, causing six monitors to exceed the 2008 ozone standard (0.075 ppm) on June 20, 2015. The fire's rapid growth (perimeters of 87 acres on June 17; 6,080 acres on June 18; and 14,968 acres on June 19, 2015) quickly produced large amounts of smoke, ozone and ozone precursor emissions within the first three days of the fire. Smoke from the Lake Fire is visible across substantial portions of Arizona and the nonattainment area on June 18-20, 2015 in satellite photos and NOAA HMS satellite-derived smoke maps, indicating the transport of smoke (and associated ozone and ozone precursor emissions) from the fire into Arizona and the nonattainment area.

As the ozone and ozone precursor emissions from the fire transported west to east across Arizona on prevailing winds, ozone concentrations elevated across northern and central Arizona with the advancing plume, highlighted by the exceedance of the ozone standard at the Yuma monitor on June 19, 2015 and the near exceedance of the standard at two rural monitors on June 19, 2015 (Alamo Lake and Grand Canyon monitors). Elevated concentrations of PM_{2.5} are recorded at both the Yuma and Alamo Lake monitors on June 18, 2015 and June 19, 2015 indicating the presence of smoke at these monitors. As the plume reaches the nonattainment area on the afternoon/evening of June 19, 2015 the plume carries ozone and ozone precursors from the Lake Fire, as well as ozone that was created when the fire emissions interacted with urban emissions in Yuma. This transported ozone and ozone precursor emissions interact with the normal, seasonal emissions in the nonattainment area, causing exceedances at six monitors on June 20, 2015. The diurnal pattern of ozone concentrations on June 20, 2015 indicate the ozone plume starting out in the central portion of the nonattainment area in the morning/afternoon, and then moving slowly east and out of the nonattainment area on valley breezes into the afternoon and early evening. Unusually high concentrations of NO₂ on June 20, 2015 (a Saturday) in the nonattainment area provide evidence of the presence of an additional source of ozone or ozone precursor emissions and vary from the pattern seen during non-event exceedances of the ozone standard earlier in the month on June 12, 2015.

A regression analysis was performed to determine what the ozone concentration would have been at the exceeding monitors in the absence of Lake Fire ozone and ozone precursor emissions. Six years (2010-2015) of June meteorological and ozone concentration data in the nonattainment area were analyzed to develop a statistical relationship between meteorological parameters and ozone concentrations on non-event days. Results of this regression analysis find that the monitors affected by the ozone and ozone precursor emissions from the Lake Fire would not have normally exceeded the 2008 ozone standard under the meteorological conditions that existed on June 20, 2015.

Ozone Monitoring Data

Table 2–1 contains the maximum daily eight-hour average ozone concentration for the Maricopa nonattainment ozone monitors from June 13-27, 2015. Figures 2–9 and 2–10 provide a graph of the same values for the exceeding monitors and all nonattainment areas monitors, respectively. Figure 2–11 provides the diurnal profile of the exceeding monitors on June 20, 2015.

Table 2-2. Maximum Daily Eight-Hour Ozone Concentrations (ppm) at Maricopa Nonattainment Area Monitors on June 13-27, 2015.

Monitor	June 13	June 14	June 15	June 16	June 17	June 18	June 19	June 20	June 21	June 22	June 23	June 24	June 25	June 26	June 27
Apache Junction	0.069	0.067	0.068	0.073	0.067	0.069	0.065	0.078	0.059	0.067	0.069	0.059	0.065	0.067	0.065
Blue Point	0.064	0.062	0.067	0.069	0.065	0.066	0.067	0.077	0.052	0.065	0.063	0.058	0.061	0.064	0.056
Buckeye	0.058	0.052	0.052	0.049	0.051	0.052	0.056	0.054	0.039	0.045	0.043	0.048	0.036	0.038	0.044
Cave Creek	0.066	0.059	0.061	0.061	0.063	0.064	0.068	0.069	0.047	0.060	0.055	0.062	0.057	0.050	0.053
Central Phoenix	0.066	0.063	0.063	0.071	0.063	0.063	0.065	0.068	0.057	0.062	0.056	0.059	0.053	0.050	0.058
Dysart	0.063	0.056	0.058	0.058	0.062	0.060	0.061	0.062	0.044	0.055	0.053	0.056	0.049	0.044	0.05
Falcon Field	0.07	0.068	0.070	0.065	0.067	0.069	0.068	0.080	0.059	0.070	0.066	0.063	0.065	0.064	0.065
Fountain Hills	0.068	0.061	0.063	0.064	0.062	0.063	0.068	0.073	0.053	0.065	0.062	0.061	0.058	0.056	0.055
Glendale	0.064	0.059	0.051	0.057	0.060	0.058	0.066	0.064	0.046	0.060	0.053	0.050	0.041	0.044	0.048
Humboldt Mountain	0.063	0.059	0.062	0.062	0.062	0.059	0.069	0.073	0.050	0.062	0.056	0.063	0.057	0.051	0.055
JLG Supersite	0.069	0.067	0.068	0.073	0.066	0.069	0.066	0.068	0.054	0.064	0.058	0.061	0.052	0.048	0.056
Mesa	0.069	0.068	0.069	0.077	0.069	0.068	0.069	0.079	0.061	0.066	0.058	0.064	0.062	0.058	0.065
North Phoenix	0.071	0.068	0.071	0.070	0.068	0.070	0.071	0.073	0.055	0.070	0.062	0.063	0.055	0.050	0.056
Pinnacle Peak	0.073	0.066	0.070	0.068	0.068	0.070	0.074	0.078	0.056	0.067	0.064	0.068	0.067	0.059	0.059
Rio Verde	0.057	0.054	0.055	0.054	0.055	0.058	0.061	0.065	0.043	0.055	0.053	0.054	0.051	0.051	0.048
South Phoenix	0.066	0.061	0.063	0.073	0.065	0.063	0.065	0.067	0.058	0.059	0.055	0.061	0.049	0.047	0.054
South Scottsdale	0.065	0.063	0.066	0.064	0.059	0.060	0.059	0.070	0.053	0.063	0.056	0.058	0.055	0.049	0.054
Tonto Nat. Monument	0.065	0.057	0.068	0.064	0.063	0.069	0.067	0.079	0.054						
West Chandler	0.064	0.063	0.066	0.072	0.062	0.067	0.063	0.069	0.057	0.061	0.063	0.062	0.057	0.052	0.057
West Phoenix	0.066	0.063	0.064	0.071	0.066	0.066	0.064	0.067	0.052	0.062	0.058	0.060	0.050	0.048	0.055

(Monitoring Data Notes: The Tonto National Monument monitor is located less than 2 miles outside of the eastern boundary of the Maricopa nonattainment area in Gila County. While not included in this demonstration, three ozone monitors in the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community exceeded on June 20, 2015 as a result of the Lake Fire, as well as an exceedance at the Yuma monitor on June 19, 2015. The Tempe monitor was not operational during this event.)

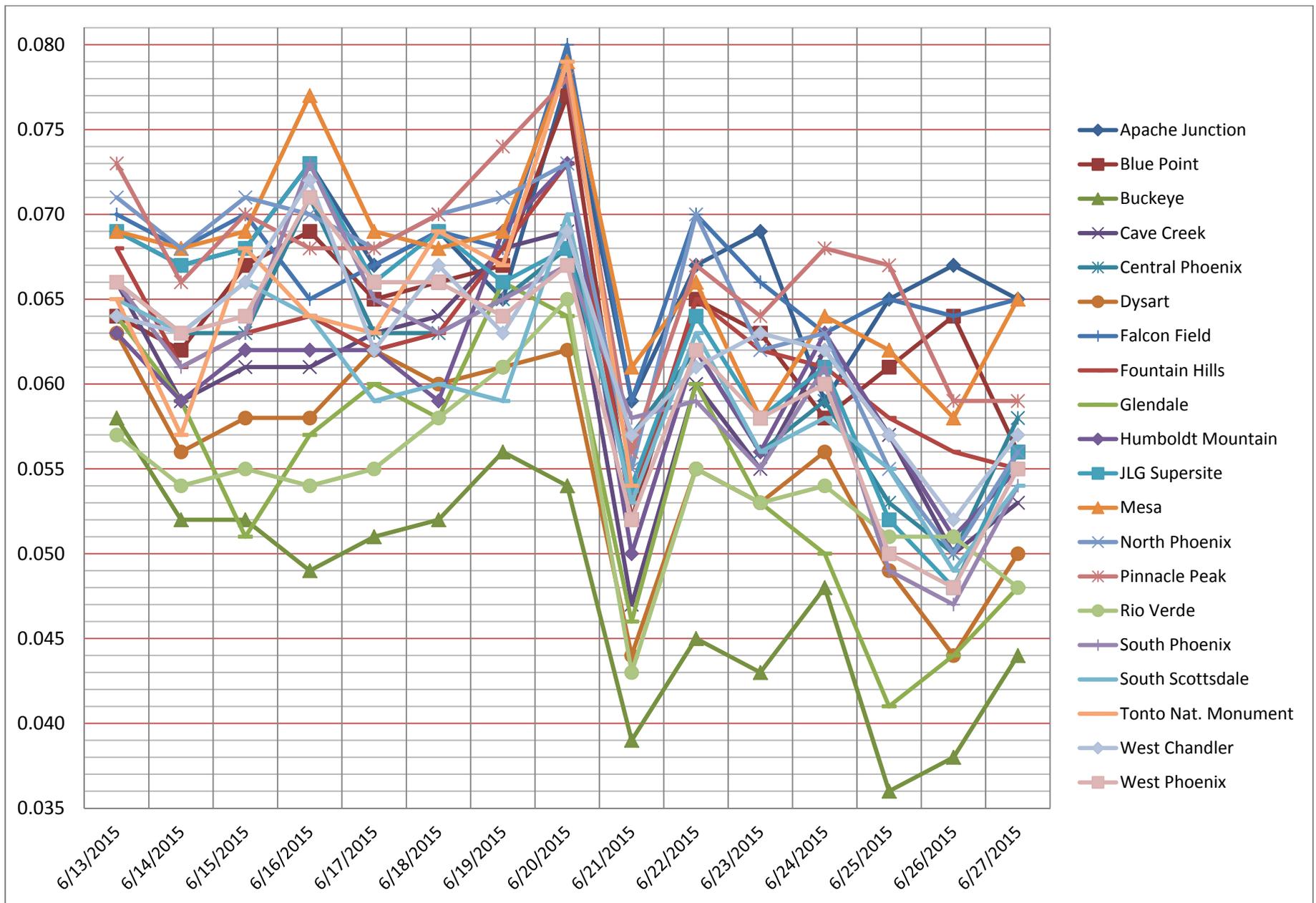


Figure 2-9. Maximum daily eight-hour ozone concentrations (ppm) at the nonattainment area monitors on June 13-27, 2015.

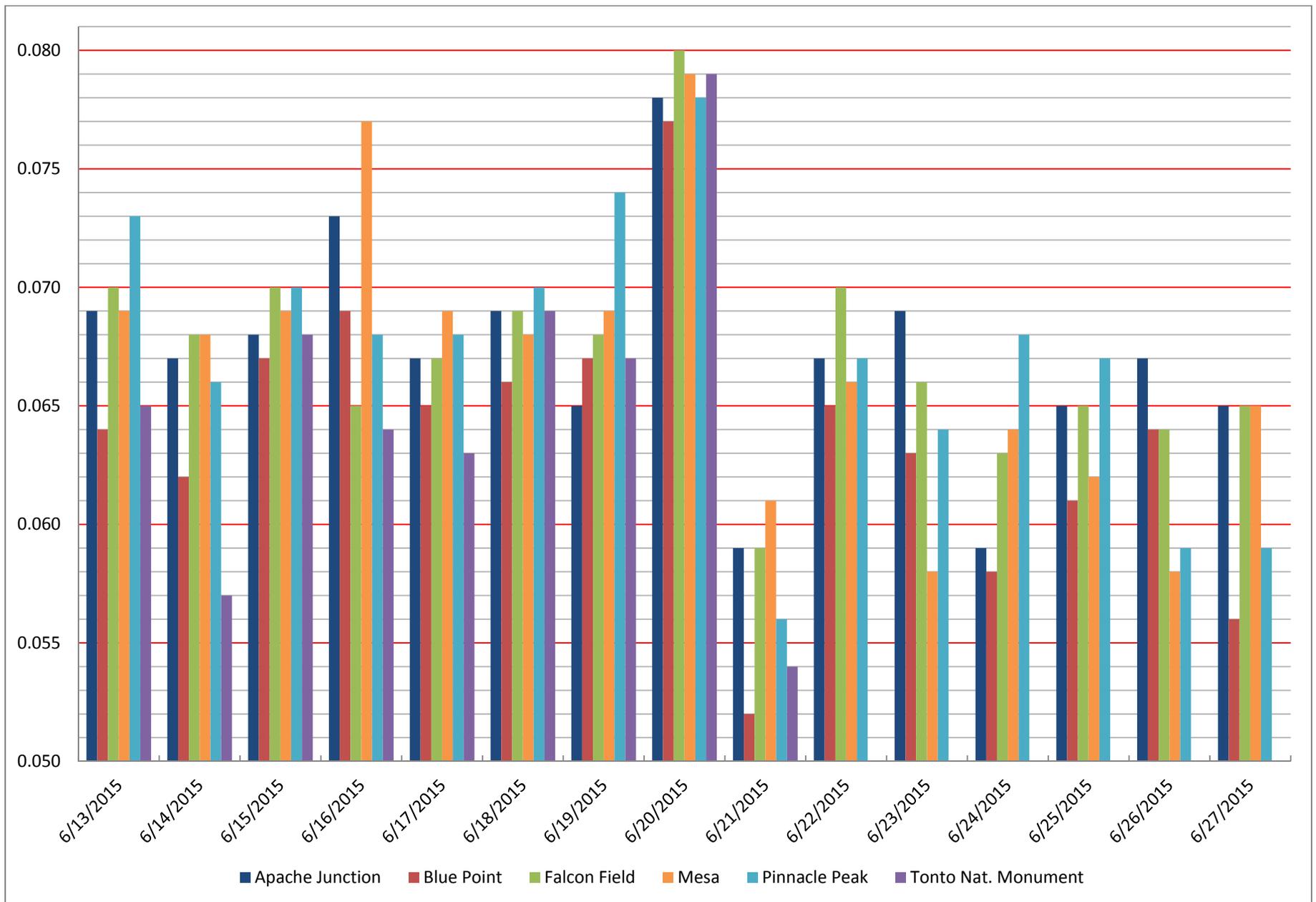


Figure 2-10. Maximum daily eight-hour ozone concentrations (ppm) at the exceeding monitors on June 13-27, 2015.

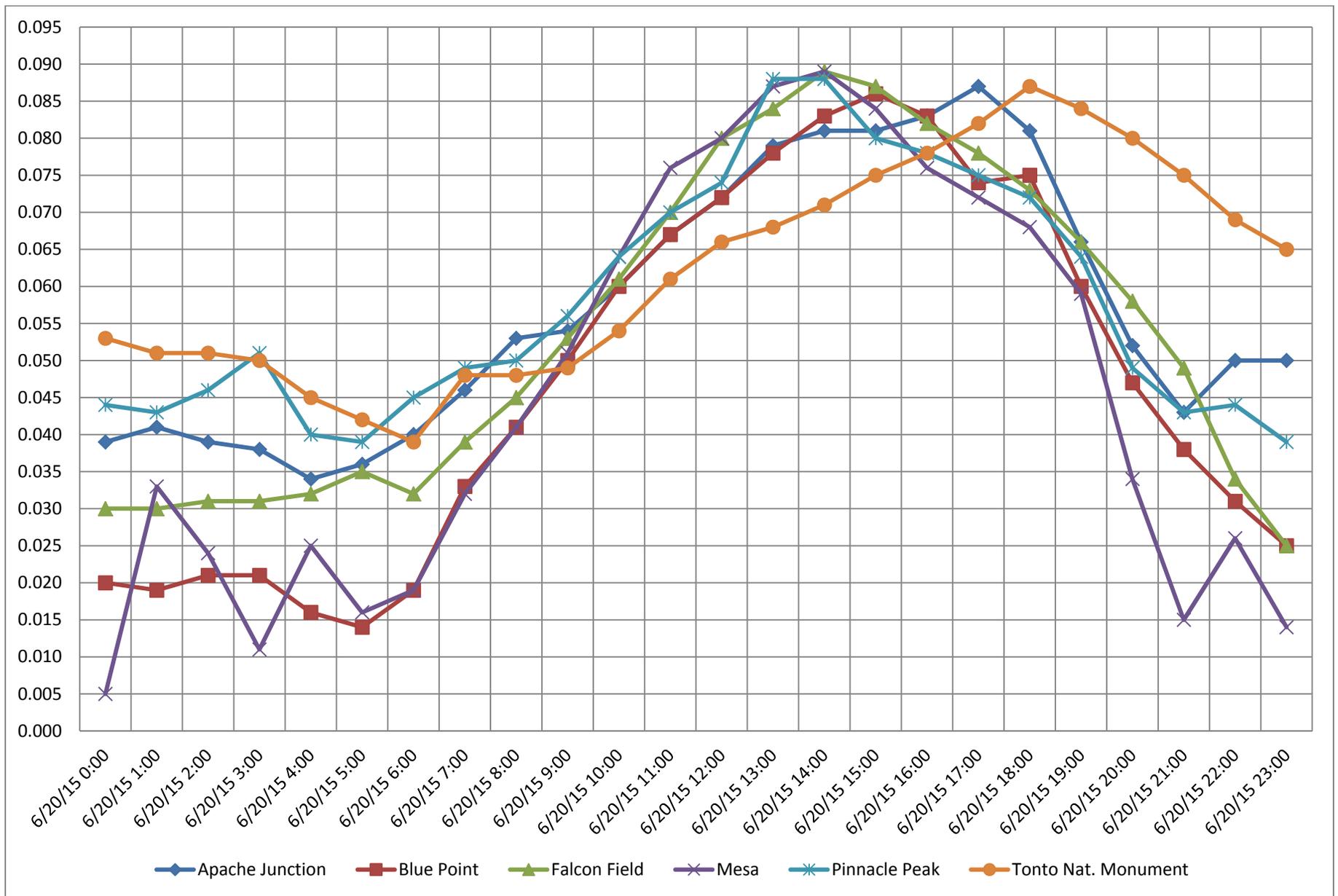


Figure 2-11. Diurnal profile of exceeding monitors on June 20, 2015.

III. CLEAR CAUSAL RELATIONSHIP

Introduction

This section of the documentation demonstrates provides several pieces of evidence that the wildfire affected air quality in such a way that a clear causal relationship between the wildfire and the monitored exceedances is apparent. EPA's November 2015 draft *Guidance on the Preparation of Exceptional Events Demonstrations for Wildfire Events that May Influence Ozone Concentrations* (Wildfire Guidance) states that "Air agencies should support the clear causal relationship with a comparison of the O₃ data requested for exclusion with historical concentrations at the monitor. In addition...a clear causal relationship is generally established by demonstrating that the fire's emissions were transported to the monitor, the fire's emissions affected the monitor, and, in some cases, a quantification of the level of impact of the fire's emissions on the monitored O₃ concentration." Demonstrations covering all of the elements of a clear causal relationship stated by EPA are presented in the sections below.

Comparison of Event Concentrations with Historical Concentrations

As part of the demonstration that air quality was affected by the wildfire event, and to begin to establish the clear causal relationship between the event and the exceedances, a comparison of the exceeding ozone concentrations on June 20, 2015 is compared to the historical, non-event ozone season concentrations. One of the comparisons recommended by EPA in the Wildfire Guidance is a comparison of the event concentration at the exceeding monitor to the 5-year historical ozone season concentrations at the same monitor. As the examples in the Guidance include the months of April-October as representative of the ozone season, the graphs below include historical ozone concentration data from the months of April through October.

The graphs of the 5-year historical ozone season concentrations for each of the exceeding monitors are included in Figures 3-1 through 3-6. Exceedances of the 2008 ozone standard are represented as red dots in the figures. While there is a possibility that some of the historical exceedances may have been impacted by wildfires, no other historical exceedance has been flagged as an exceptional event due to a wildfire. The 99th percentile value for the 5-year, ozone season (April-October, 2011-2015) is also listed on each figure. All but one of the six exceeding monitors (Pinnacle Peak) had maximum daily eight-hour average ozone concentrations on June 20, 2015 that were at or above the 5-year, ozone season 99th percentile. For Pinnacle Peak, which had a concentration below the 99th percentile, the exceedance on June 20, 2015 was the third highest daily maximum 8-hour average ozone concentration recorded at Pinnacle Peak in 2015.

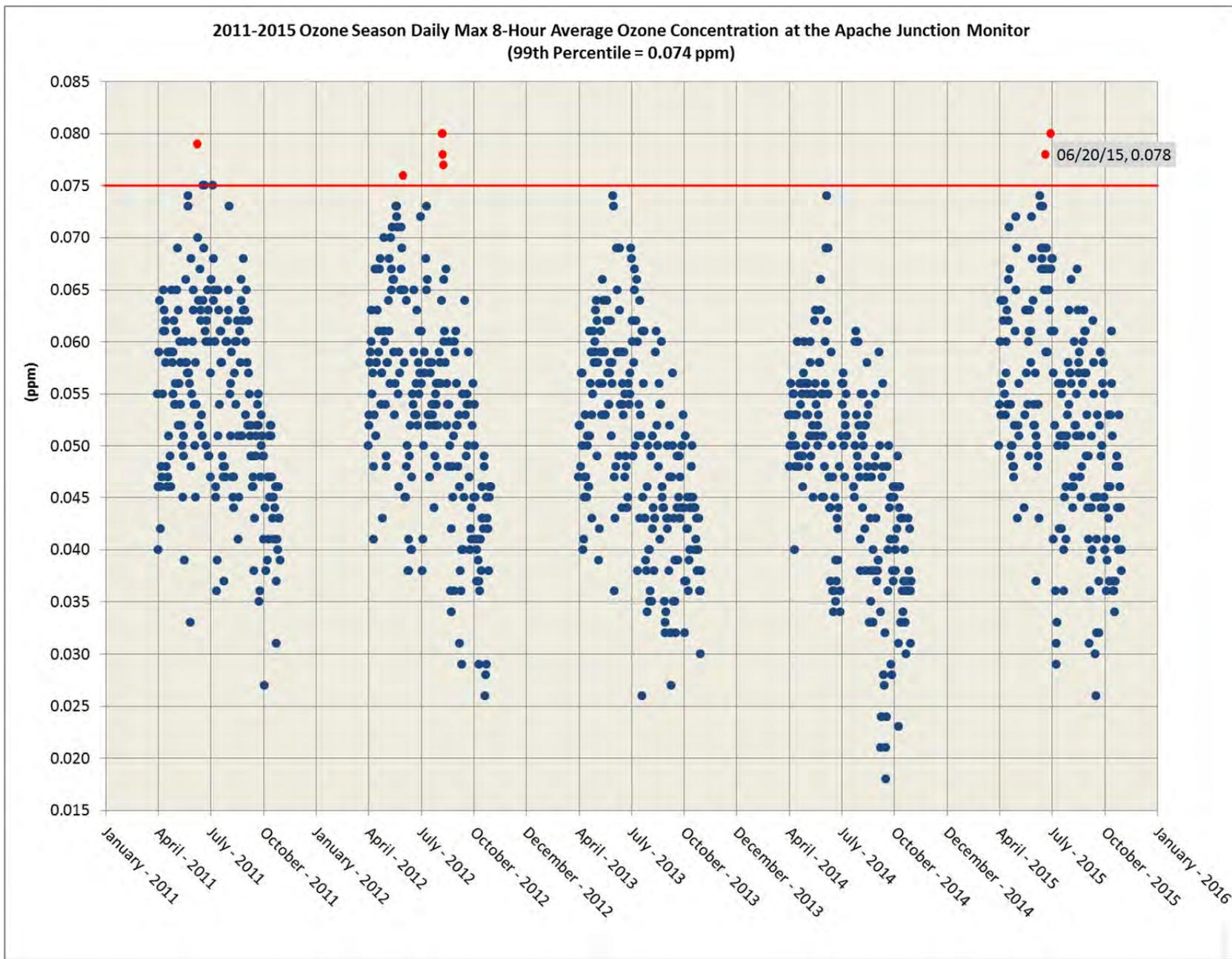


Figure 3-1. Plot of 5-year ozone season daily maximum 8-hour average concentrations at the Apache Junction monitor.

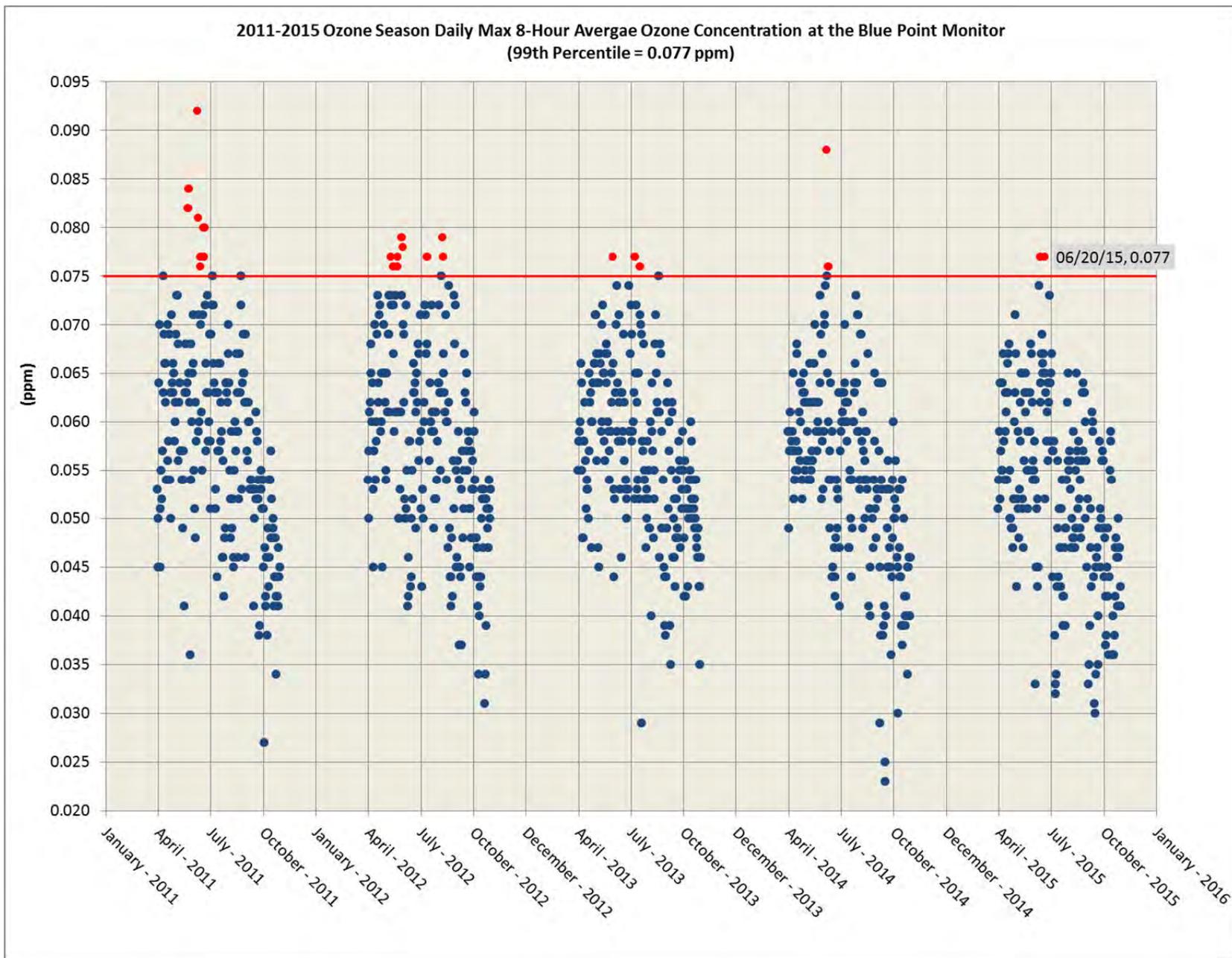


Figure 3-2. Plot of 5-year ozone season daily maximum 8-hour average concentrations at the Blue Point monitor.

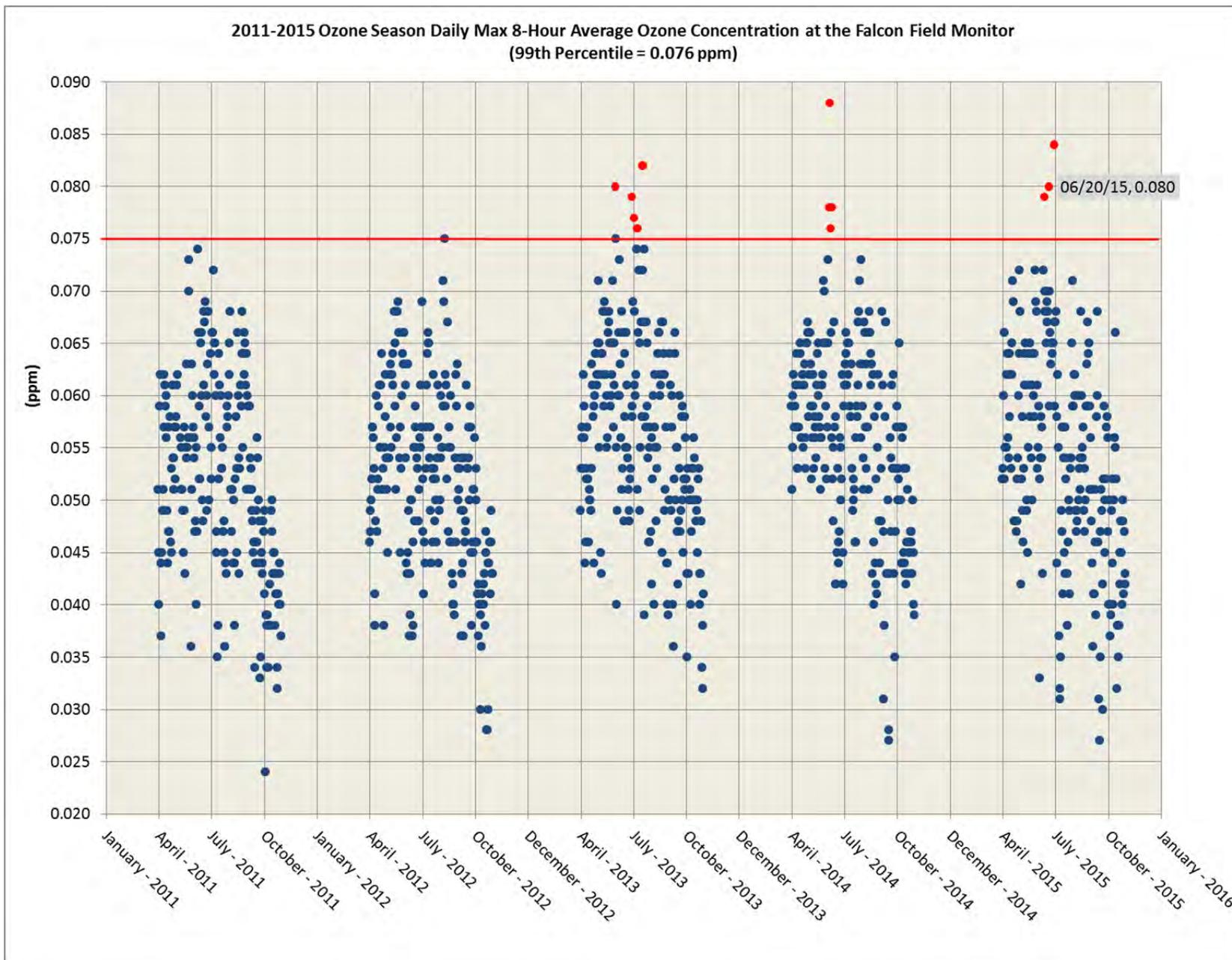


Figure 3-3. Plot of 5-year ozone season daily maximum 8-hour average concentrations at the Falcon Field monitor.

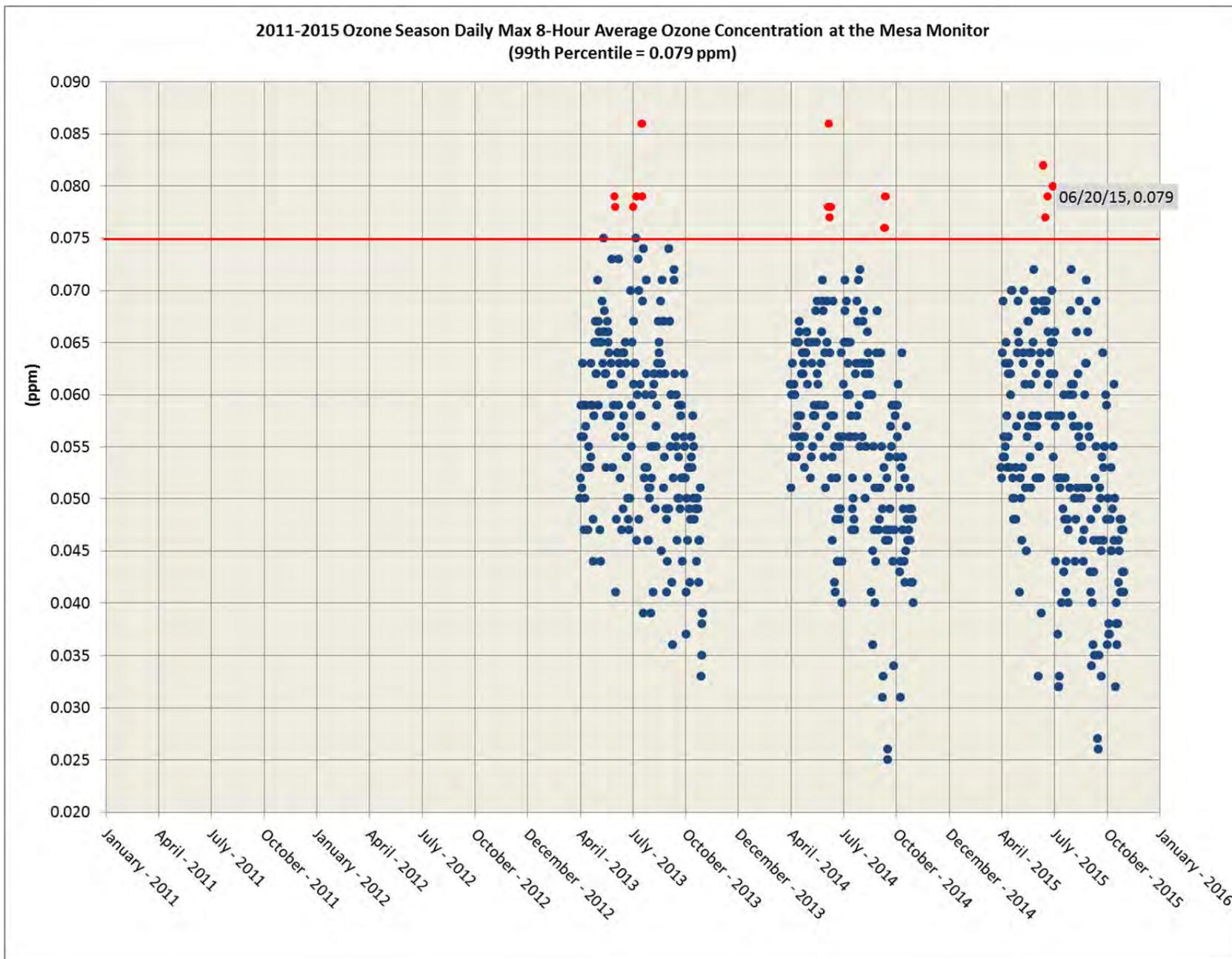


Figure 3-4. Plot of 5-year ozone season daily maximum 8-hour average concentrations at the Mesa monitor.

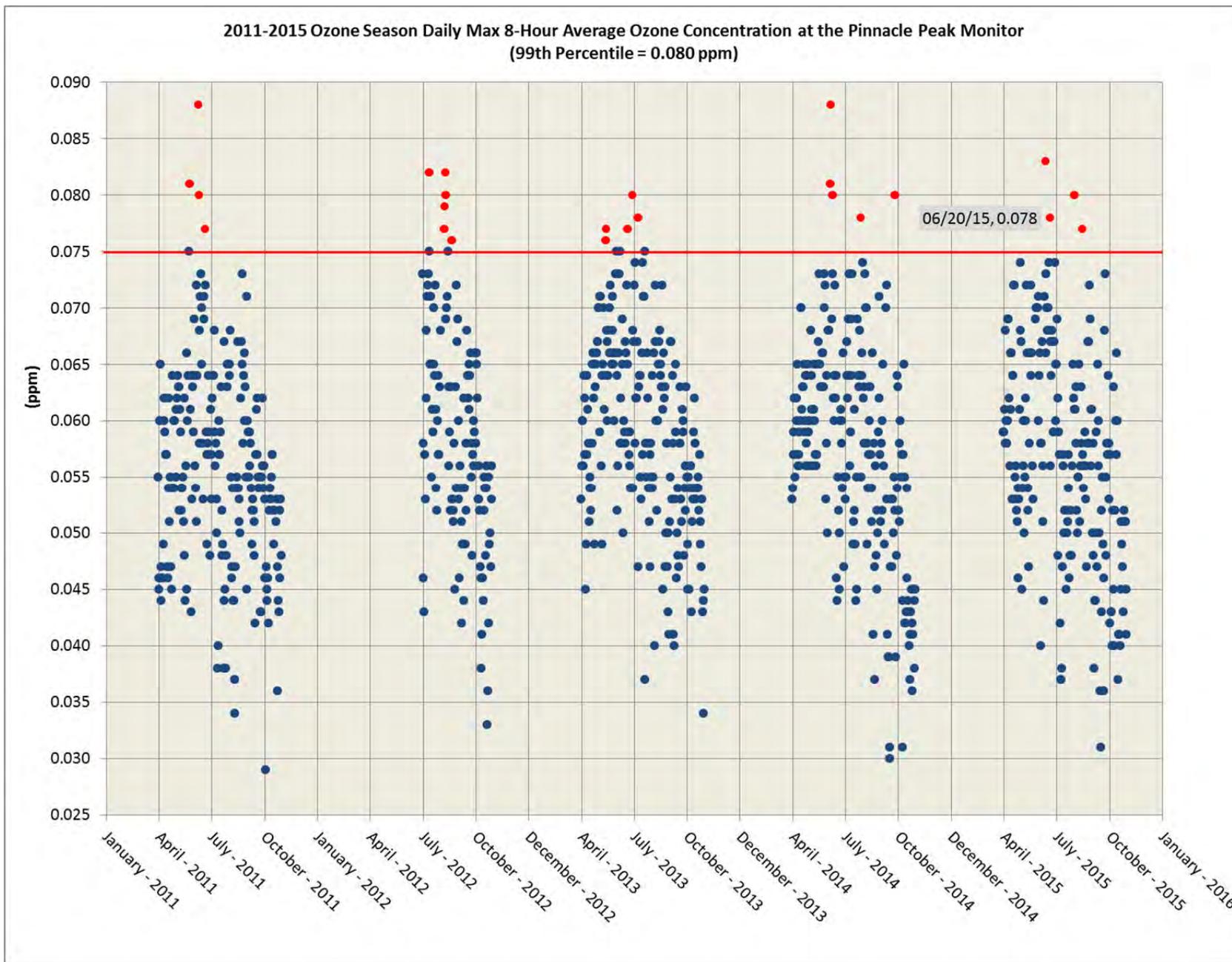


Figure 3-5. Plot of 5-year ozone season daily maximum 8-hour average concentrations at the Pinnacle Peak monitor.

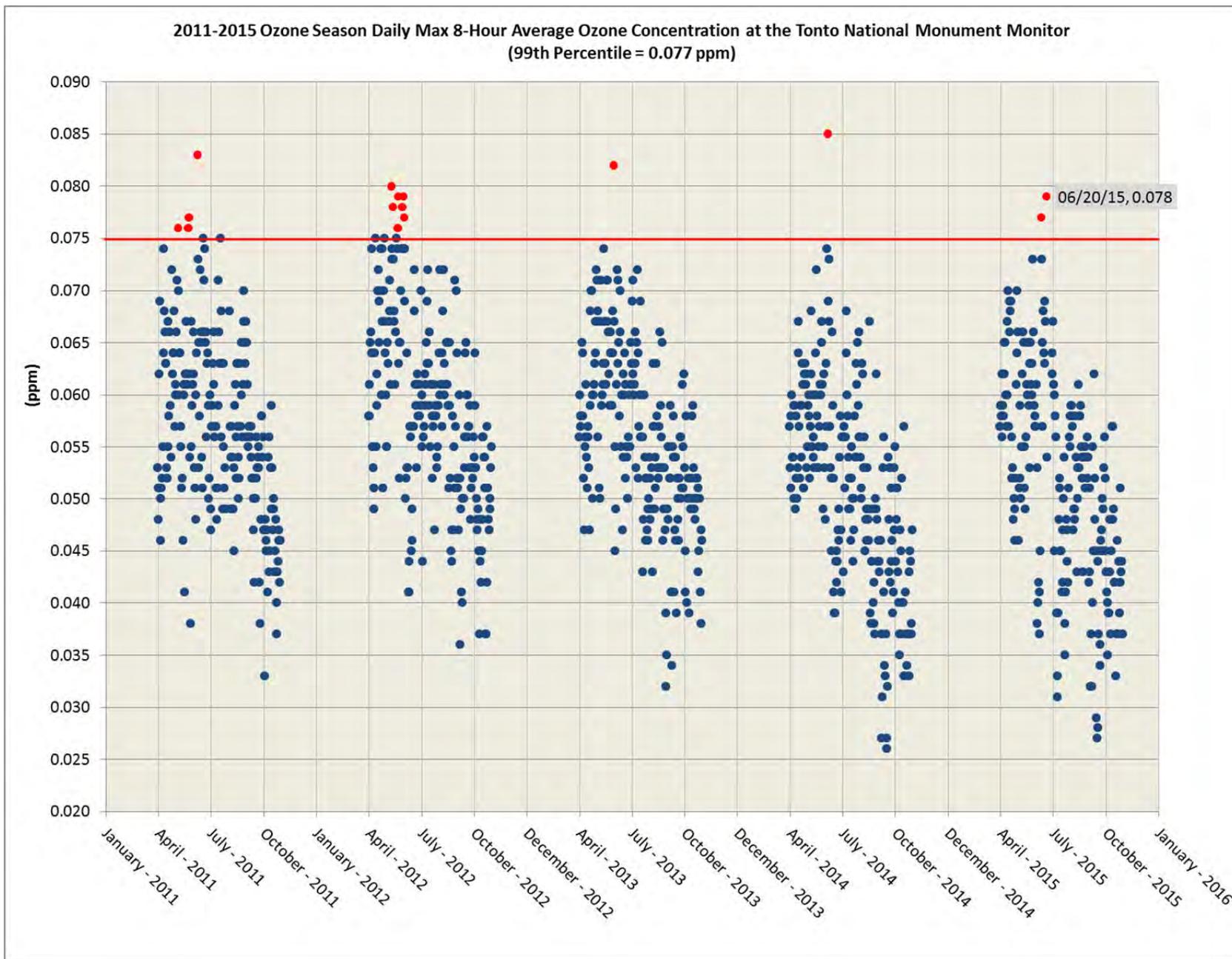


Figure 3-6. Plot of 5-year ozone season daily maximum 8-hour average concentrations at the Tonto National Monument monitor.

Tiered Approach

EPA's Wildfire Guidance establishes demonstration tiers for determining the level of evidence needed to document an exceptional event in conjunction with reviewing each demonstration on a case-by-case basis using a weight of the evidence approach. Three tiers are described in the Guidance:

- Tier 1 demonstrations are reserved for the clearest events, such as events where the wildfire is located in close proximity to a monitor or when the wildfire occurs during the time of year with typically low ozone concentrations. These demonstrations require the least amount of evidence and documentation.
- Tier 2 demonstrations are used when impacts from the wildfire are less clear, such as events when the concentrations are only a few parts per billion over the standard or events that occur during the ozone season when ozone concentrations may be high apart from the event contribution. Tier 2 demonstrations require more evidence than Tier 1 demonstrations.
- Tier 3 demonstrations are used when the relationship between the wildfire and the influenced ozone concentrations are the most complex. The level of documentation and evidence required is highest for Tier 3 demonstrations. The Guidance suggests discussing with EPA Regional Offices the appropriate level of evidence needed for a Tier 3 demonstration.

To help determine when a Tier 1, Tier 2, or Tier 3 demonstration is required, the Wildfire Guidance identified "key factors" that act as screening tool for selecting a suitable tier for a given event. According to the Guidance, the relationships of the event to the key factors identify which tier is most appropriate for the event and may help to inform the amount of information needed in higher tier demonstrations.

The key factor for a Tier 1 demonstration is the "[s]easonality and/or distinctive level of the monitored O₃ concentration". Tier 1 demonstrations are meant to apply to ozone exceedances that occur outside the ozone season or have concentrations that are at least 5-10 parts per billion higher than non-event related concentrations. Since the exceedances in this documentation occurred during the middle of the ozone season and were not significantly higher than non-event exceedances, the event will need either a Tier 2 or Tier 3 demonstration.

The Guidance lists two key factors for a Tier 2 demonstration: (1) "Fire emissions and distance of fire(s) to affected monitoring site location(s)"; and (2) "Comparison of the event related O₃ concentration with non-event related high O₃ concentrations". Key factor #1 includes a emissions/distance (Q/D) threshold of 100 tons per day/kilometer to compare against the emissions from the event. If the event Q/D ratio is greater than or equal to 100 tpd/km then a Tier 2 demonstration may be appropriate. For events with Q/D less than 100 tpd/km, the Guidance recommends preparing a Tier 3 demonstration. Key factor #2 recommends limiting Tier 2 demonstrations to events where the event concentration is in the 99th percentile of a 5-year record of ozone season concentrations, or if the event concentration is one of the four highest within the event year.

A detailed discussion of the key factors for a Tier 2 demonstration in relation to the event on June 20, 2015 is included below. In summary, for the event exceedances that occurred on June 20, 2015, the Tier 2 demonstration key factor #1 is not met, as the Q/D in this event is less than 100 tpd/km. However, key factor #2 is met for this event, as 5 of the 6 exceedances were at or above the 99th percentile and the sixth exceeding site had an ozone concentration that was the third highest in 2015. Given that only one of the two key factors was met for the event on June 20, 2015, this documentation includes evidence sufficient

to satisfy a Tier 3 demonstration. The appropriate level of evidence needed for the Tier 3 demonstration has been discussed with EPA Regional 9 staff prior to submittal of this documentation.

Tier 2 Key Factor #1

Key factor #1 for a Tier 2 demonstration requires the estimation of daily emissions of the wildfire to produce a daily ratio (Q/D) of total tons per day of NO_x and VOC divided by the distance of the wildfire to the affected ozone monitors. If the Q/D for the event is 100 tpd/km or greater, a Tier 2 demonstration is sufficient. If the Q/D is less than 100 tpd/km, a Tier 3 demonstration is recommended.

For the event on June 20, 2015 the U.S. Forest Service BlueSky Playground tool 2.0 beta (<http://www.airfire.org/data/playground/>) was used to estimate the emissions of NO_x and VOC emitted by the Lake Fire. The central coordinates for the Lake Fire were entered into the tool. Default fuels data for those coordinates was selected, as well as a moisture level of “dry”, given the area’s prolonged drought conditions. According to the tool, from June 17, 2015 to June 19, 2015 the Lake Fire emitted a total of 1,071.09 tons of NO_x and 23,784.43 tons of VOC, for a combined 3-day total of 24,855.52 tons of NO_x and VOC. The exceeding Mesa monitor is located near the center of the nonattainment area and sits approximately 460 km east-southeast from the Lake Fire. This produces a 3-day emissions/distance ratio (Q/D) of 54 tons of VOC and NO_x per km. Figure 3–7 includes a map showing the distance of the Lake Fire to the Mesa monitor.

Since the Lake Fire experienced rapid growth over the first three days, the majority of emissions occurred on June 18, 2015 and June 19, 2015. Using fire perimeter data for those days, a ratio of 21.6 tons/km is produced on June 18, 2015, with 32.1 tons/km produced on June 19, 2015. It is primarily the ozone and ozone precursor emissions from these two days that were transported to the nonattainment area and caused the exceedances on June 20, 2015. While the daily ratios are under the recommended 100 tpd/km threshold mentioned in the Guidance, the weight of evidence presented throughout this documentation clearly indicates ozone impacts throughout Arizona and the Maricopa nonattainment area from the Lake Fire emissions.

Additionally, while the Wildfire Guidance uses Q/D as a screening tool for the level of documentation needed in an event demonstration, it is important to point out that academic research¹ on the behavior of ozone production from a wildfire generally concludes that ozone production may increase with distance from the wildfire. This observed behavior is not represented accurately in the Q/D ratio and may run counter to the assumptions of a Q/D ratio in many cases. As such, more weight should be given to direct evidence that the wildfire emissions affected the monitors (i.e., observed levels, timing and spatial distribution of NO₂ and PM_{2.5}) than relying on the Q/D ratio to represent relative levels of ozone production as distance from the wildfire increases.

¹ Jaffe and Widger, 2012. Ozone production from wildfires: A critical review. *Atmospheric Environment* 51, 1-10.

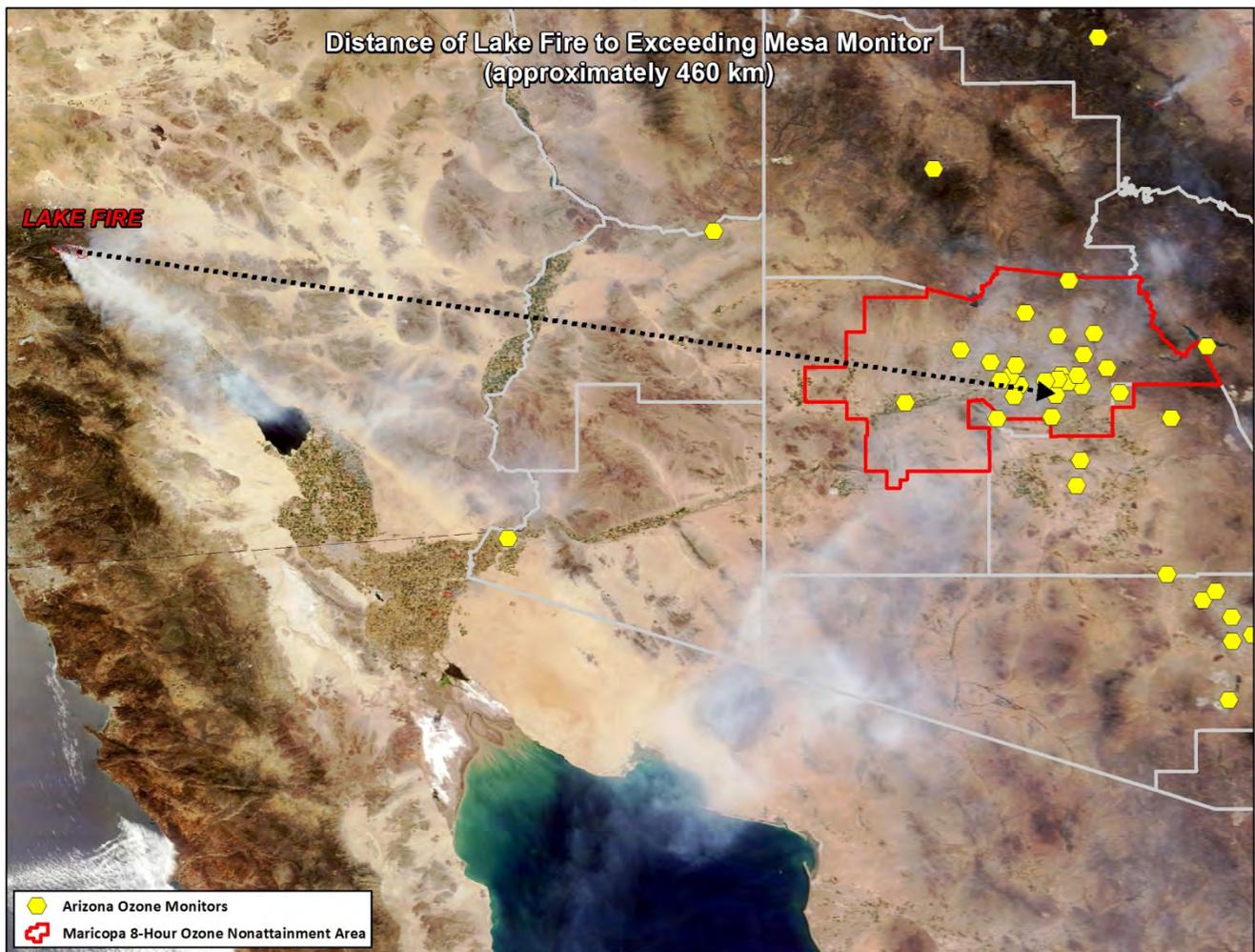


Figure 3-7. Map showing distance of Lake Fire to affected ozone monitors in the Maricopa nonattainment area (460 km).

Tier 2 Key Factor #2

The second key factor in a Tier 2 demonstration involves a comparison of the event concentration to the historical distribution of ozone concentrations at the affected monitor. This key factor is considered met when the event concentration is in the 99th or higher percentile of the 5-year distribution of ozone monitoring data, or is one of the four highest ozone concentrations within the exceedance year.

Plots showing this comparison at each of the six exceeding monitors have already been presented earlier in this section (see Figures 3–1 through 3–6). Those plots show that five of the six exceeding monitors had event concentrations that were at or above the 99th percentile of the 5-year historical ozone season concentrations. For the one exceeding monitor that had an event concentration below the 99th percentile (Pinnacle Peak), the event was the third highest ozone concentration recorded in 2015. Therefore, the event concentrations on June 20, 2015 meet the requirements of key factor #2.

Additional Evidence of a Clear Causal Relationship

In addition to evaluating key factors, the Wildfire Guidance requires a clear causal relationship demonstration to provide evidence showing: (1) that the wildfire emissions were transported to the affected monitor; and (2) that the wildfire emissions affected the monitored ozone concentrations. The following subsections provide multiple pieces of evidence demonstrating that the emissions from the fire were both transported to the monitors and affected the ozone concentrations at the monitors in the Maricopa nonattainment area.

The Wildfire Guidance suggests that in the case of a Tier 3 demonstration, the inclusion of additional evidence that the wildfire caused the ozone exceedance may be required. The Guidance provides three additional sources of evidence that may be used in a Tier 3 demonstration: (1) Comparison of ozone concentrations on meteorologically similar days (“matching days” analysis); (2) Statistical regression modeling; and (3) Photochemical modeling. For this documentation, statistical regression modeling in the form of multiple variable regression analysis was used to provide the additional evidence sought in a Tier 3 demonstration. Additionally, as this documentation is being submitted prior to the adoption of the EPA proposed changes to the Exceptional Events Rule, the statistical regression modeling presented in this documentation also satisfies the current rule requirement in 40 CFR Section 50.14(c)(3)(iv) by providing a demonstration that “there would have been no exceedance or violation but for the event.” A detailed discussion on the statistical regression modeling is included following subsections and in Appendix D.

Evidence that the Wildfire Emissions were Transported to the Affected Monitors

HYSPLIT Back Trajectories

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) HYSPLIT model was run to produce back trajectories of air parcel movement at lower and upper altitudes (100 and 1500 meters) for each of the six exceeding ozone monitoring sites. The Wildfire Guidance recommends selecting heights no lower than 100 meters to avoid interference with the terrain and no higher than 1500 meters to confine the air parcel to within the mixing layer. The back trajectories are intended to represent the transport of air from areas near the Lake Fire and its associated smoke to the Maricopa nonattainment area on June 20, 2015. Figures 3–8 through 3–13 display the lower and upper back trajectories at each exceeding monitoring site on June 20, 2015, overlaid on a satellite photo of smoke from the Lake Fire on June 19, 2015. The back trajectories end at the hour with the highest ozone concentration on June 20, 2015 for each of the exceeding monitors. Each hour of the 36-hour back trajectory is represented by a dot on the Figures. The back trajectory hour at which the satellite photo on June 19, 2015 was taken (12:00 pm) is represented as a star on the Figures. In most cases the star is located either directly in visible smoke from the Lake Fire or very near visible smoke from the Lake Fire. The figures clearly show that the air from areas near or affected by, smoke, ozone and ozone precursor emissions from the Lake Fire, reached the exceeding Maricopa nonattainment area monitors. The output pdf files from the NOAA HYSPLIT model back trajectory runs are included in Appendix C.

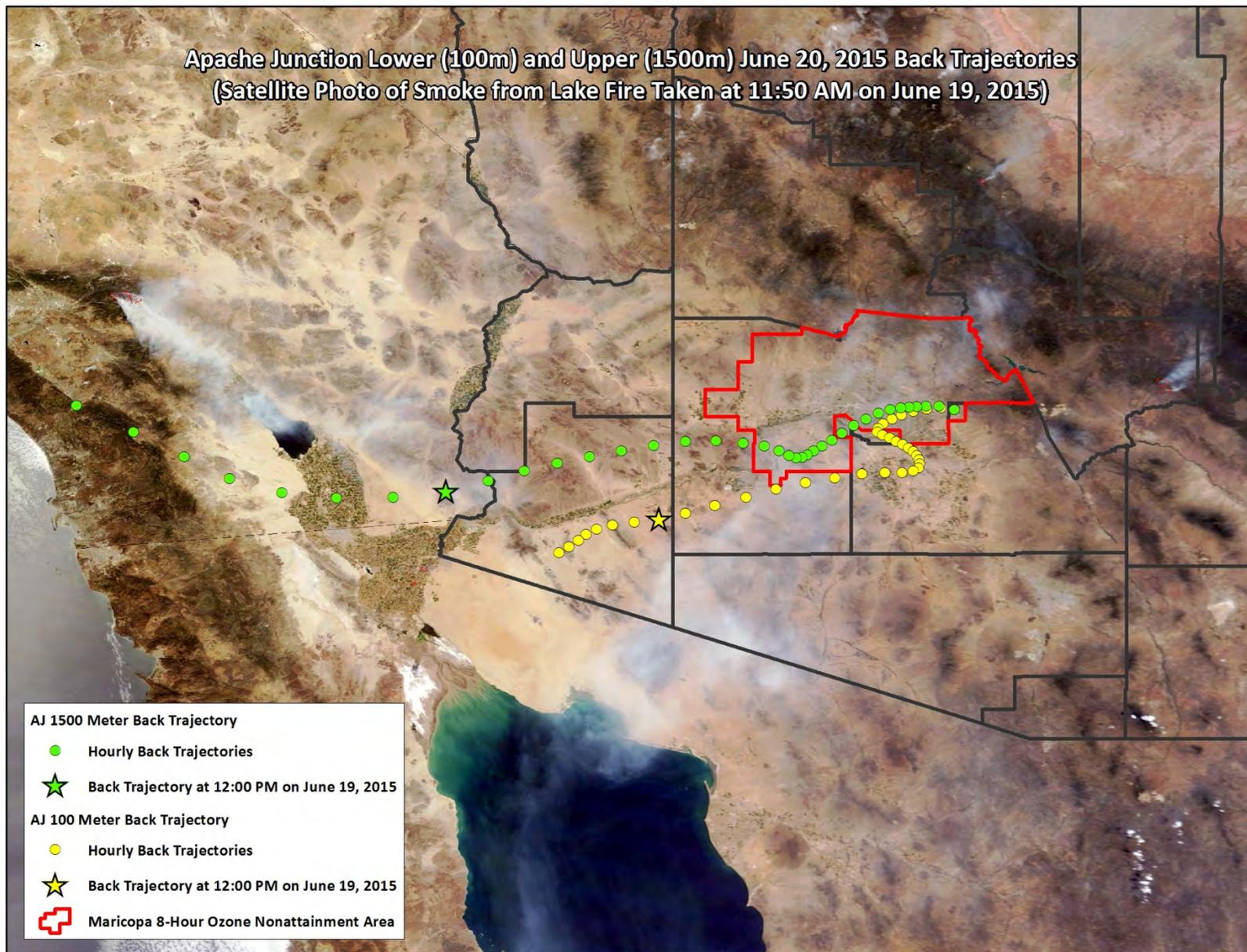


Figure 3-8. Lower (yellow) and upper (green) back trajectories for the Apache Junction monitor.

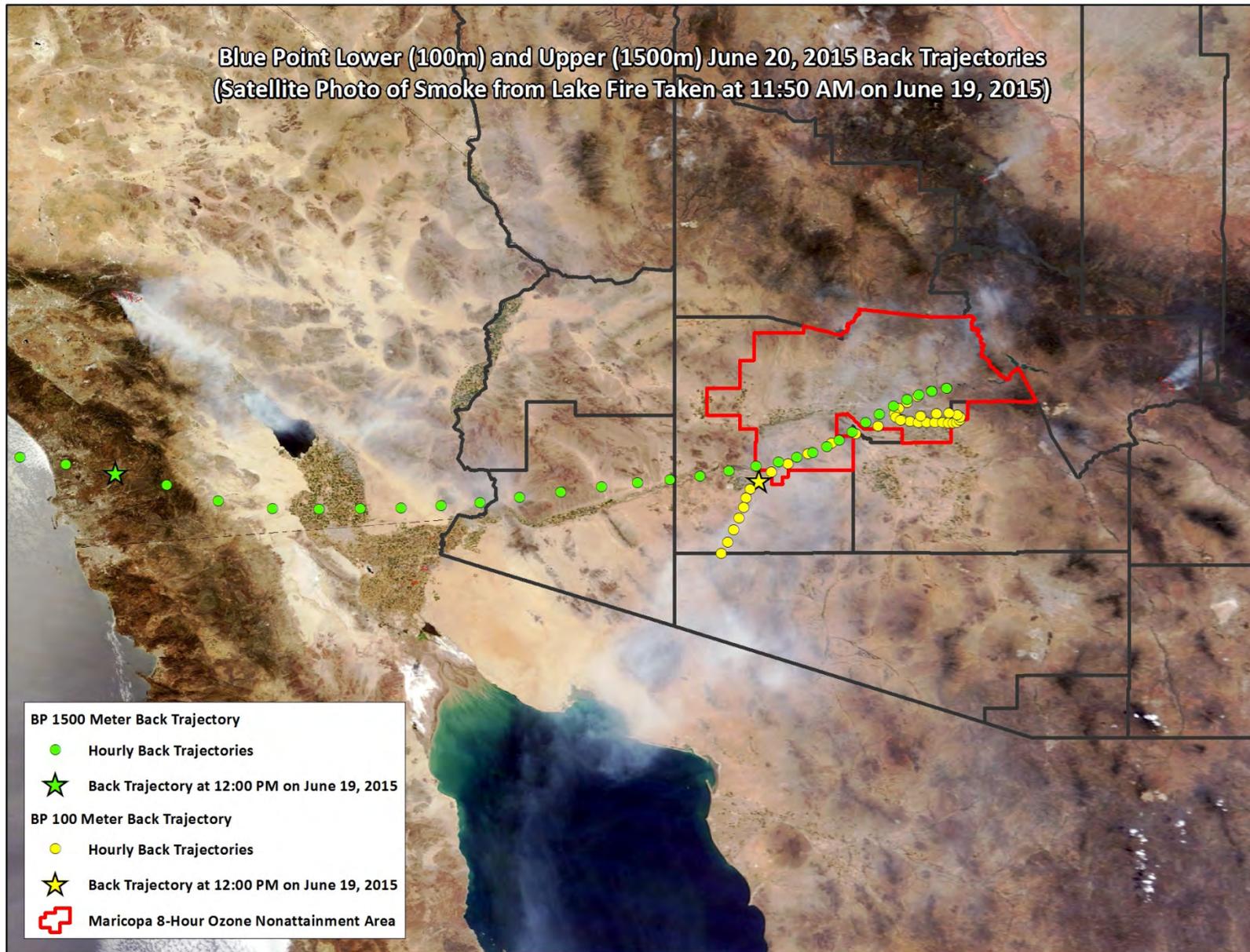


Figure 3-9. Lower (yellow) and upper (green) back trajectories for the Blue Point monitor.

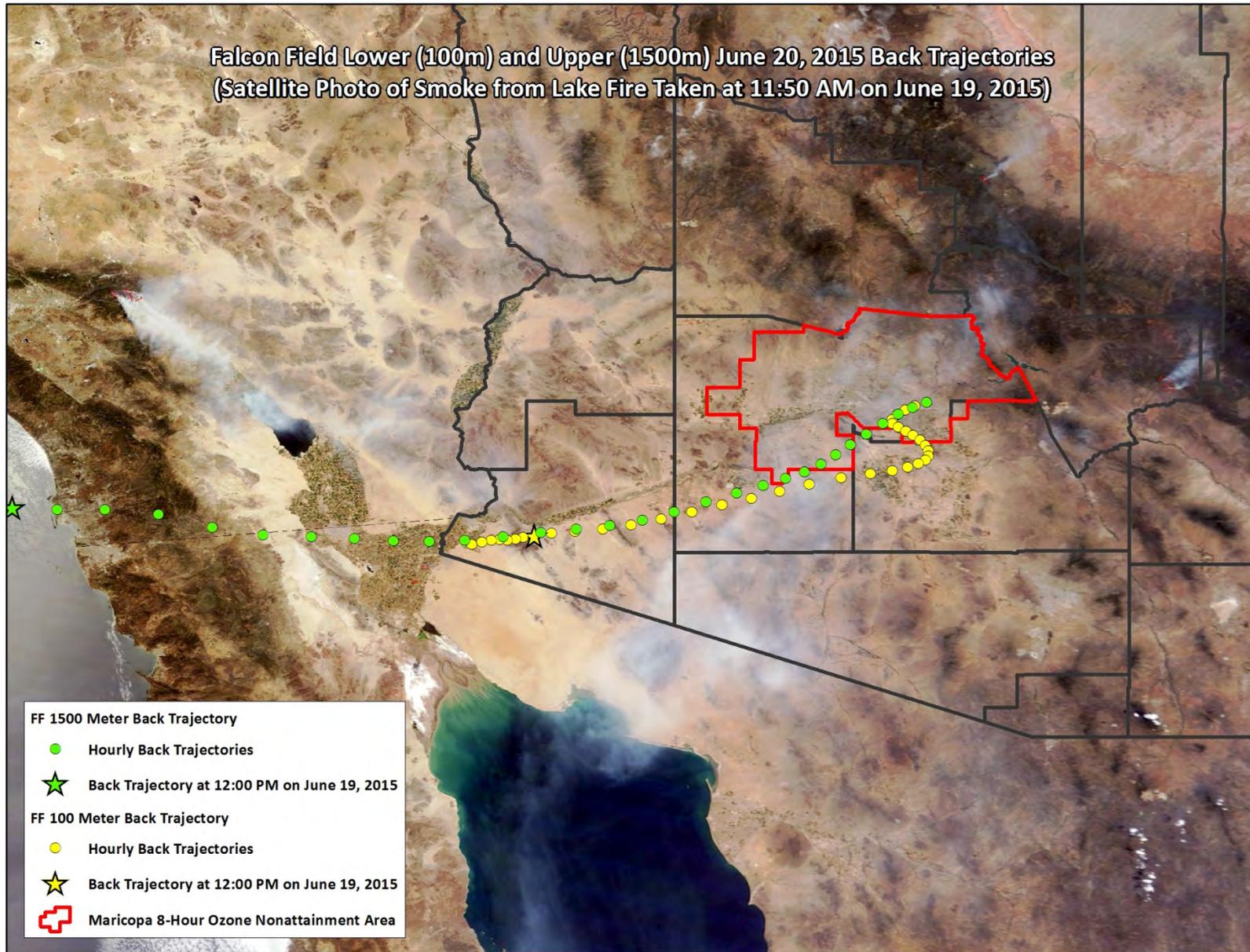


Figure 3-10. Lower (yellow) and upper (green) back trajectories for the Falcon Field monitor.

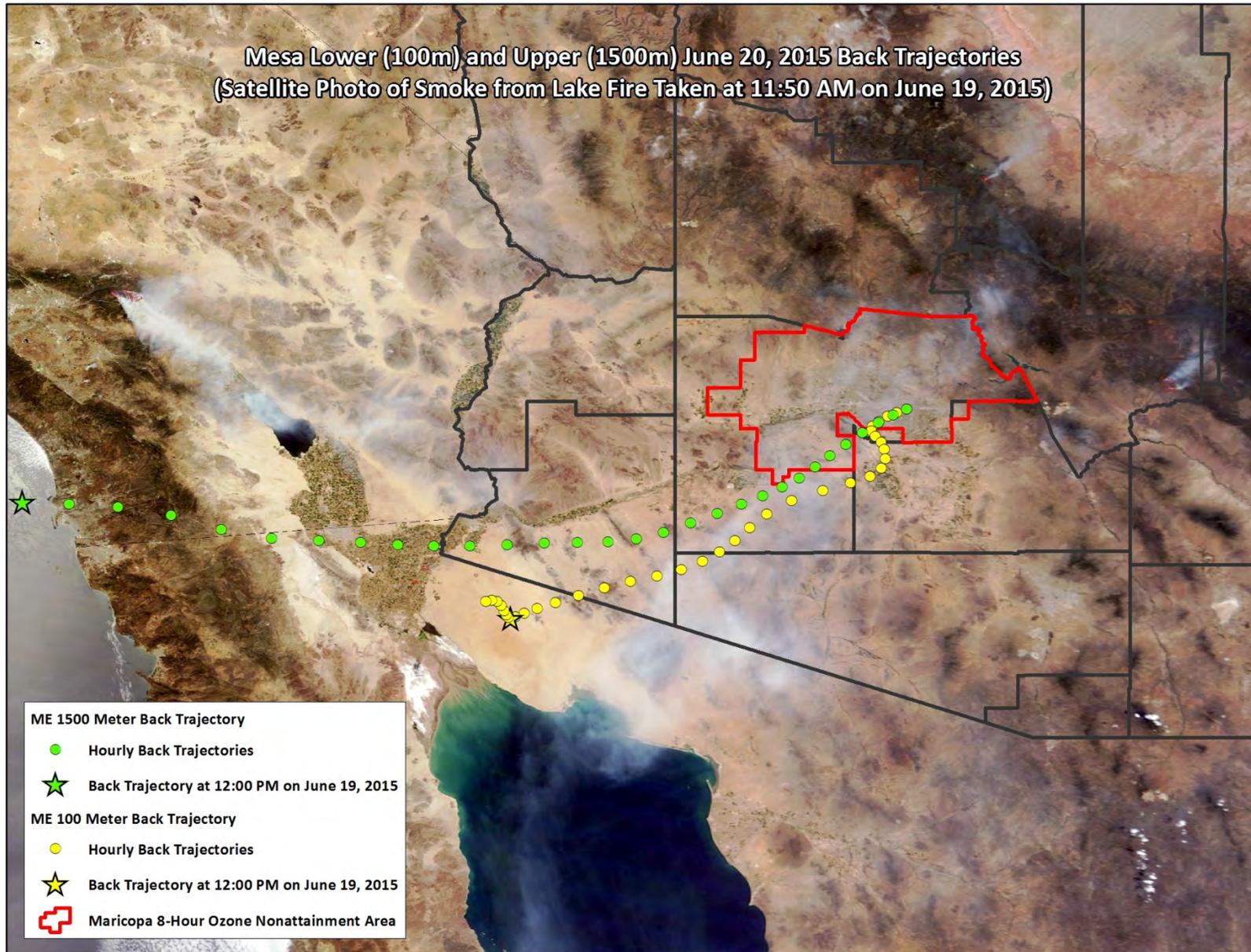


Figure 3-11. Lower (yellow) and upper (green) back trajectories for the Mesa monitor.

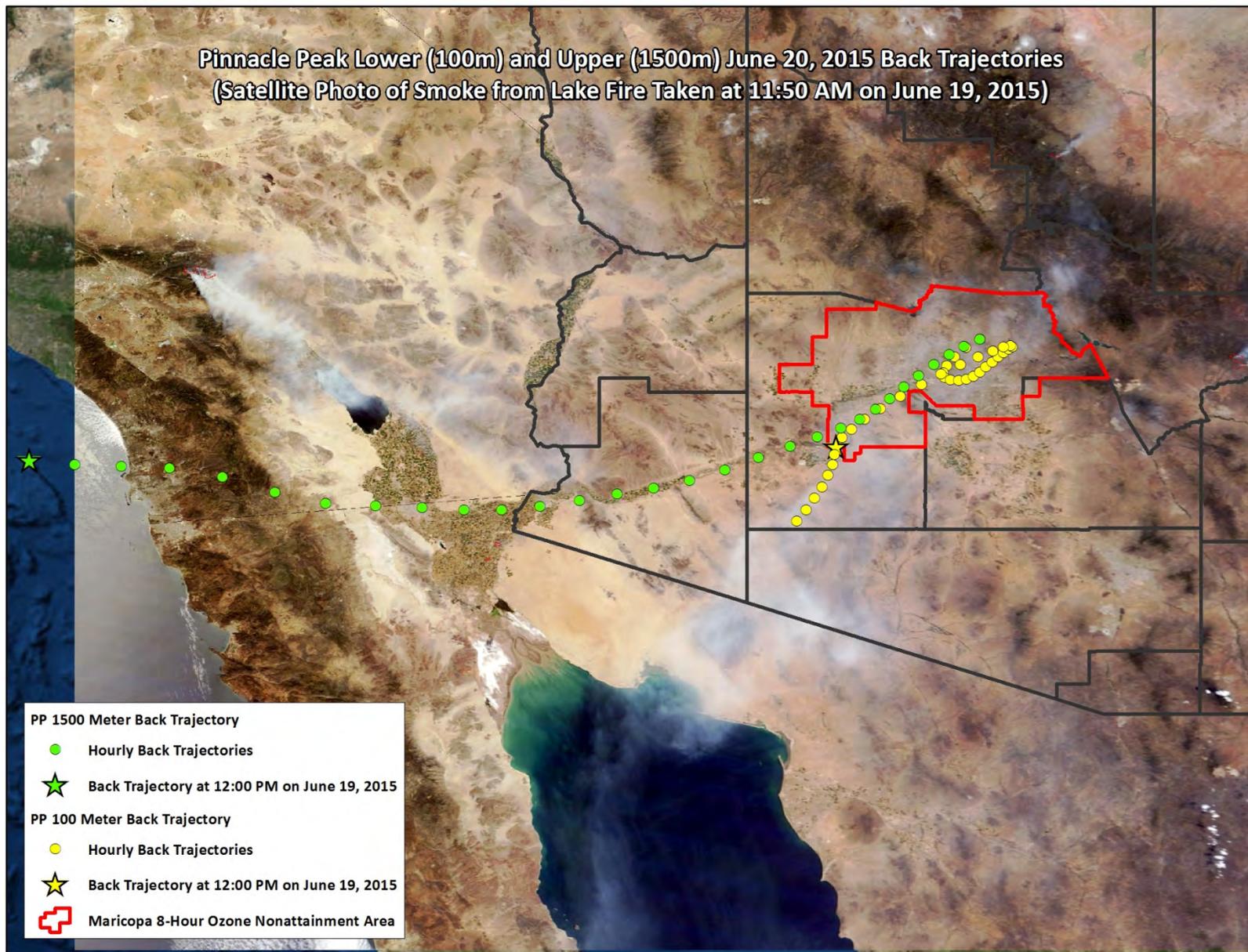


Figure 3-12. Lower (yellow) and upper (green) back trajectories for the Pinnacle Peak monitor.

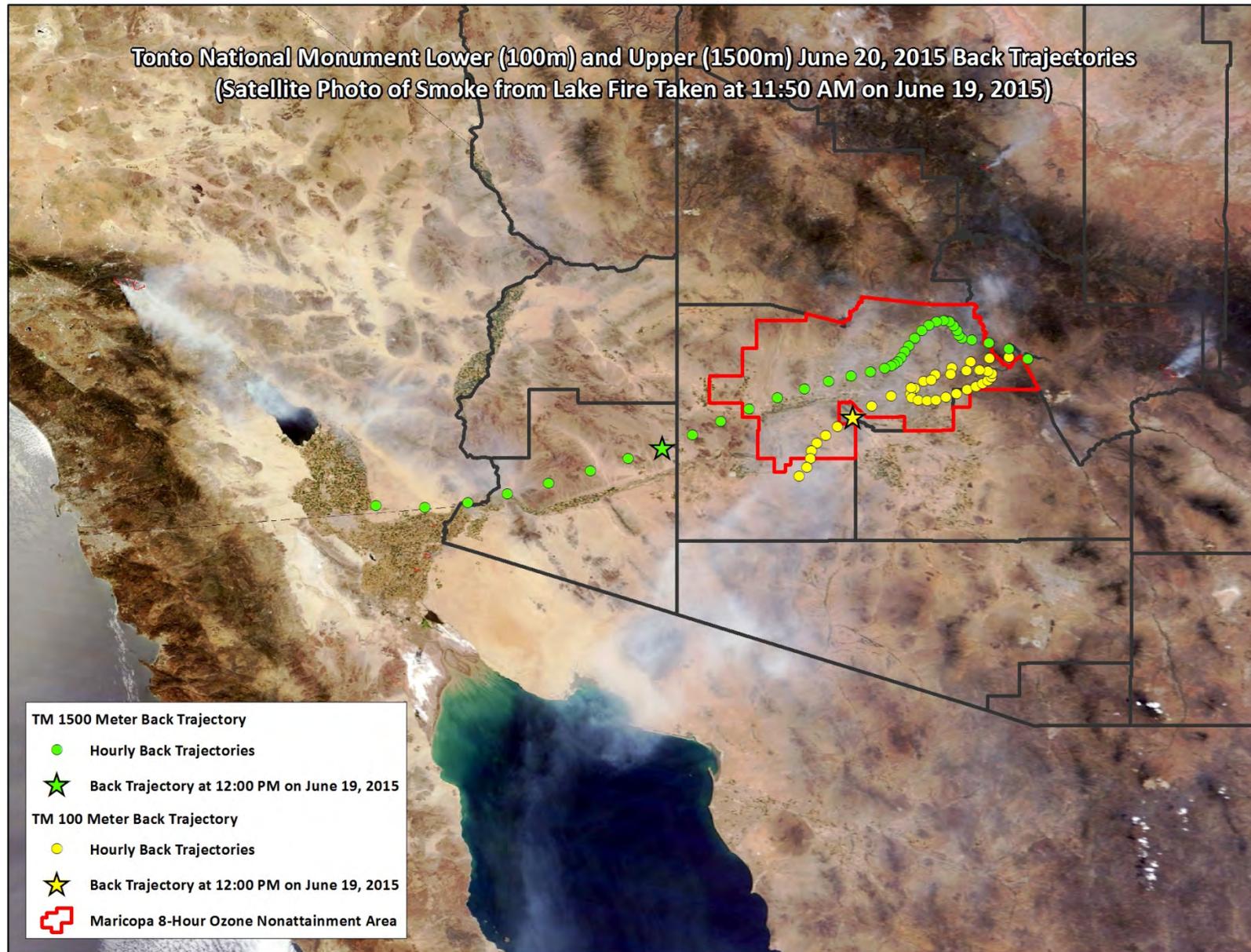


Figure 3-13. Lower (yellow) and upper (green) back trajectories for the Tonto National Monument monitor.

NOAA Smoke Maps

A second source of data showing that emissions and smoke from the Lake Fire reached the Maricopa nonattainment area is NOAA's Hazard Mapping System Fire and Smoke Product (HMS) which provides maps of smoke dispersion (see <http://www.ospo.noaa.gov/Products/land/hms.html>). Figures 3-14 through 3-17 show the dispersion of smoke across southeastern California, Arizona and northern Mexico on June 17-20, 2015. These maps clearly indicate that smoke from the Lake Fire and other smaller fires reached the Maricopa nonattainment area.

Regional and Local Meteorology

Examinations of the regional and local meteorological conditions on June 17 -20, 2015 also favor the transport of smoke, ozone and ozone precursor emissions from the Lake Fire to the Maricopa nonattainment area. Figure 3-18 displays the regional upper level winds on June 17-20, 2015, showing a general west to east flow over southeastern California and across Arizona. Local nonattainment area surface winds on June 17-20, 2015 are represented as wind roses in Figure 3-19 and reveal a dominant pattern of surface winds generally coming from the west and moving towards the east. Nonattainment area surface winds were calmest on June 20, 2015 at the exceeding monitors, allowing for the transported ozone and ozone precursor emissions from the wildfire to pool longer at the exceeding monitors. Upper and lower level wind speeds increased again on June 21, 2015, transporting ozone out of the Maricopa nonattainment area and lowering maximum daily ozone concentrations by up to 25 parts per billion. National Weather Service hourly meteorological data on June 17-21, 2015 at the Sky Harbor International Airport are included in Appendix B.

The combination of these data sources provide strong evidence that smoke, ozone, and ozone precursor emissions from the Lake Fire were transported to the exceeding monitors.

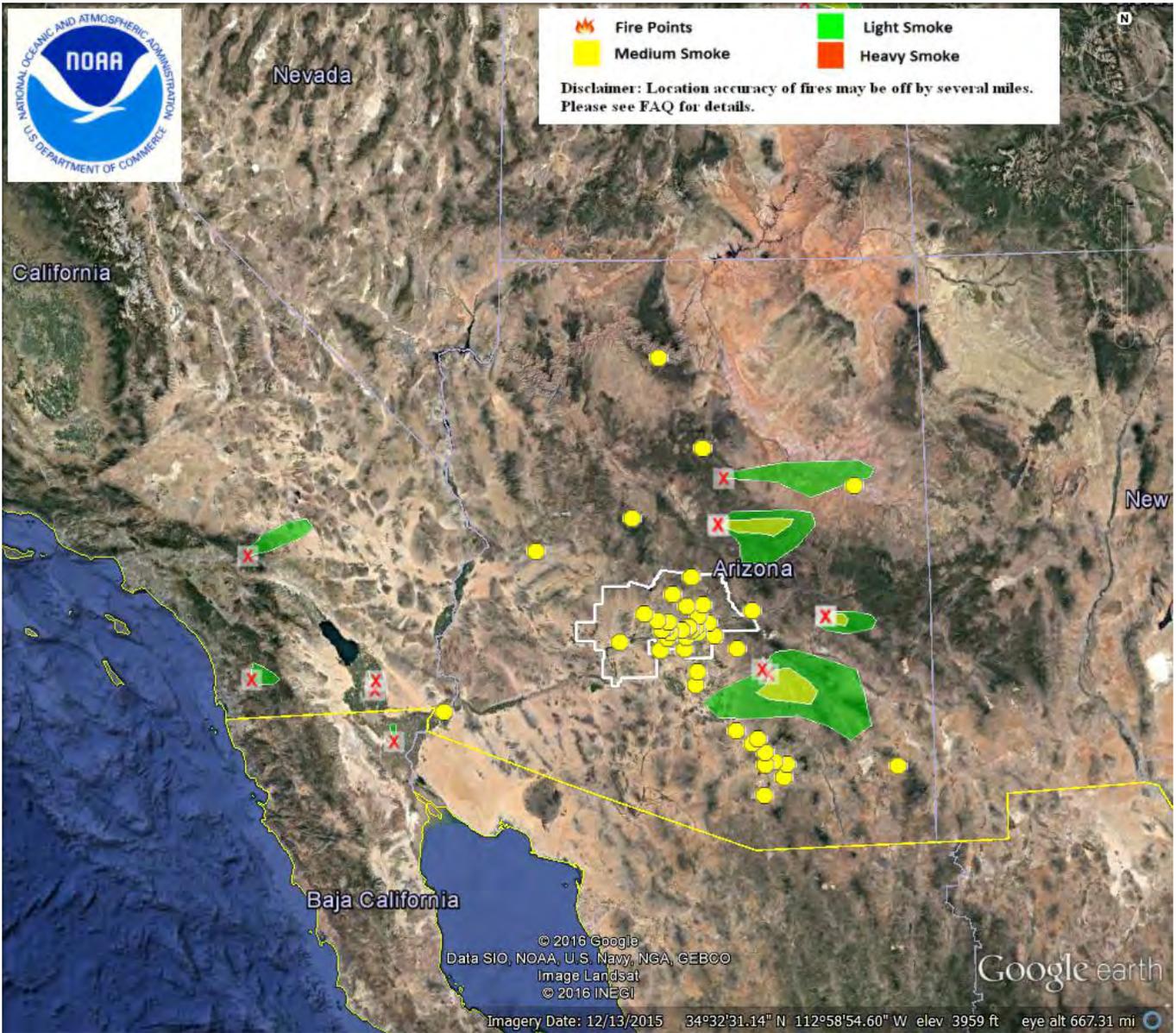


Figure 3-14. NOAA smoke map for June 17, 2015.

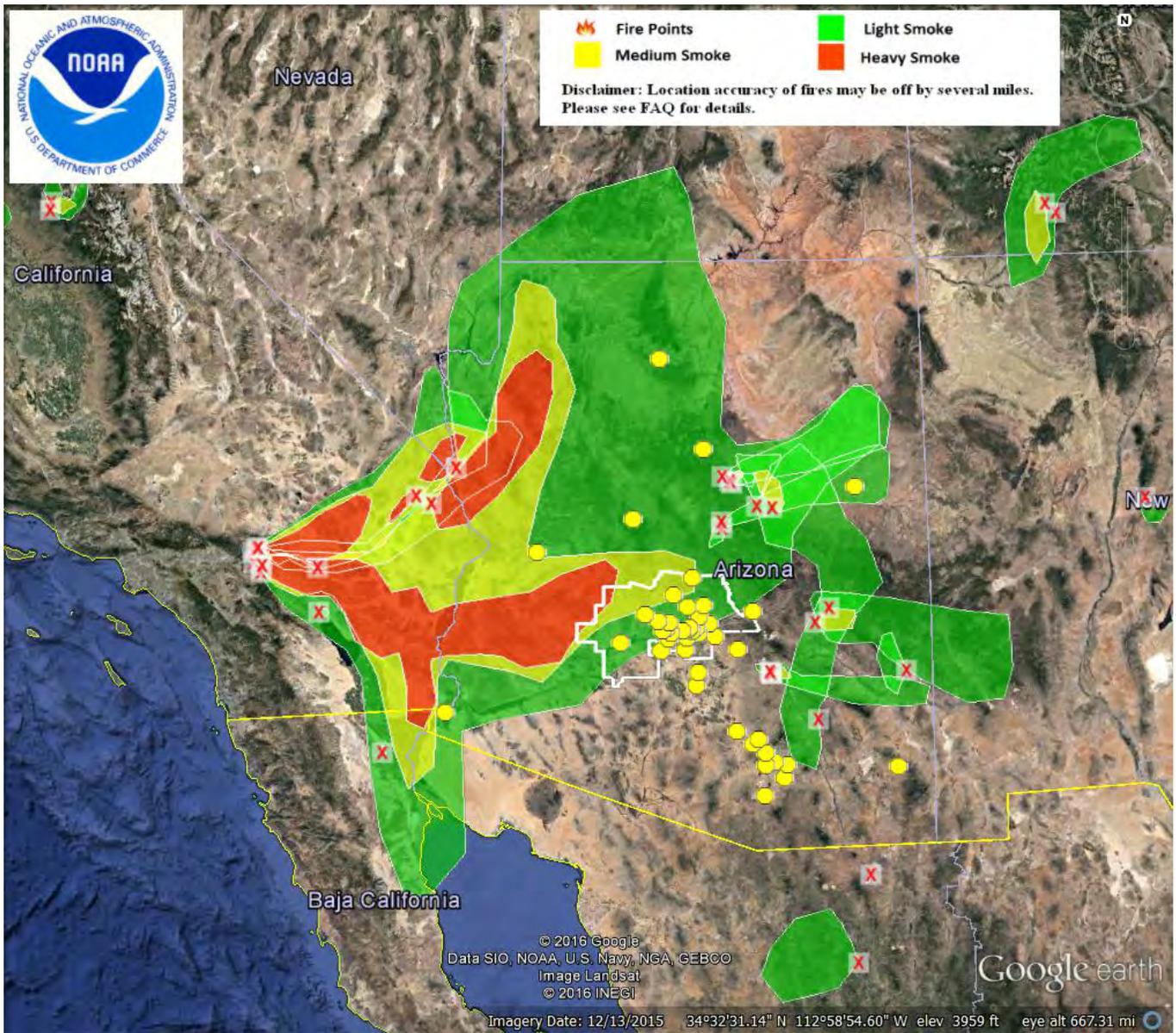


Figure 3-15. NOAA smoke map for June 18, 2015.

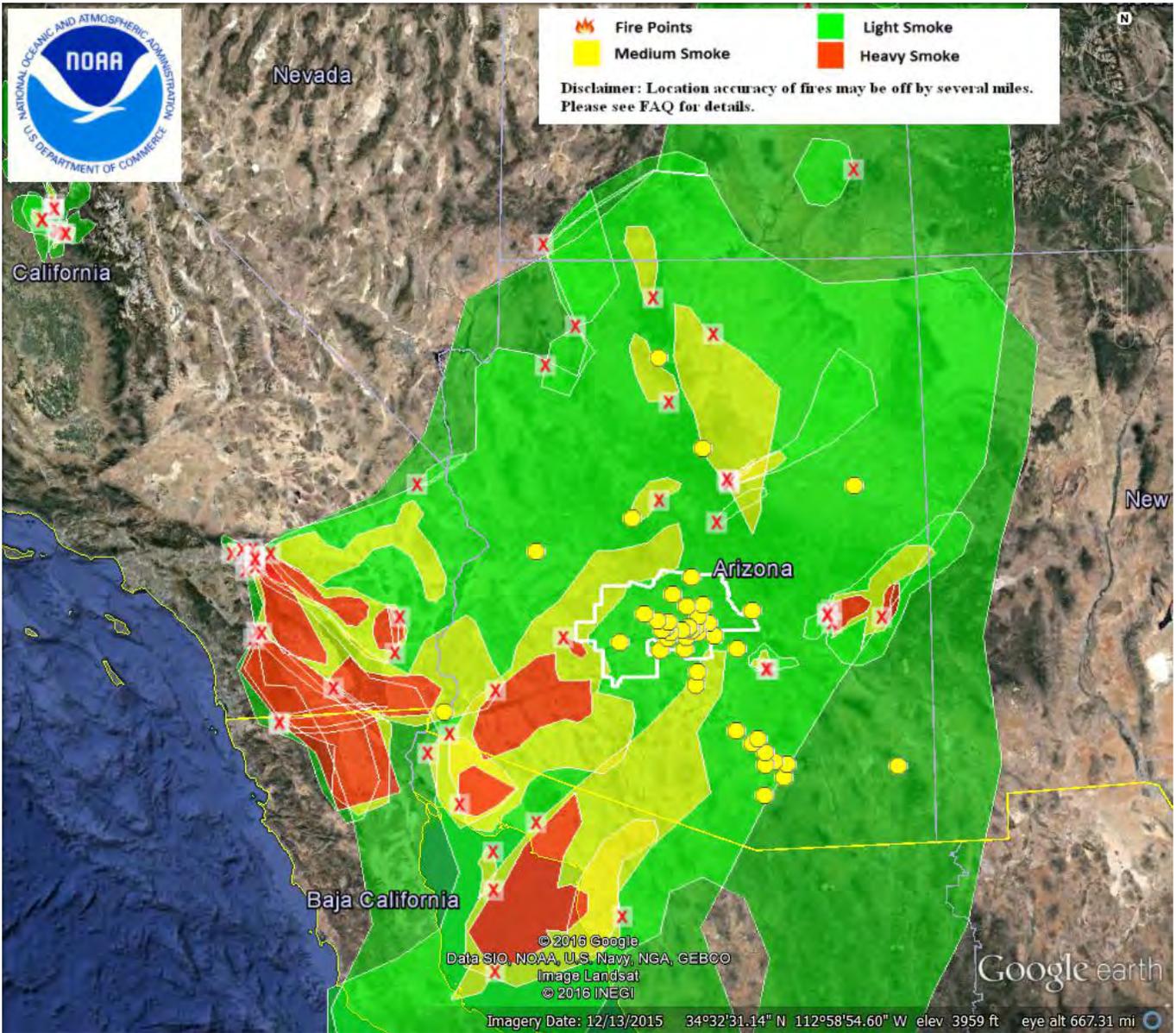


Figure 3-16. NOAA smoke map for June 19, 2015.

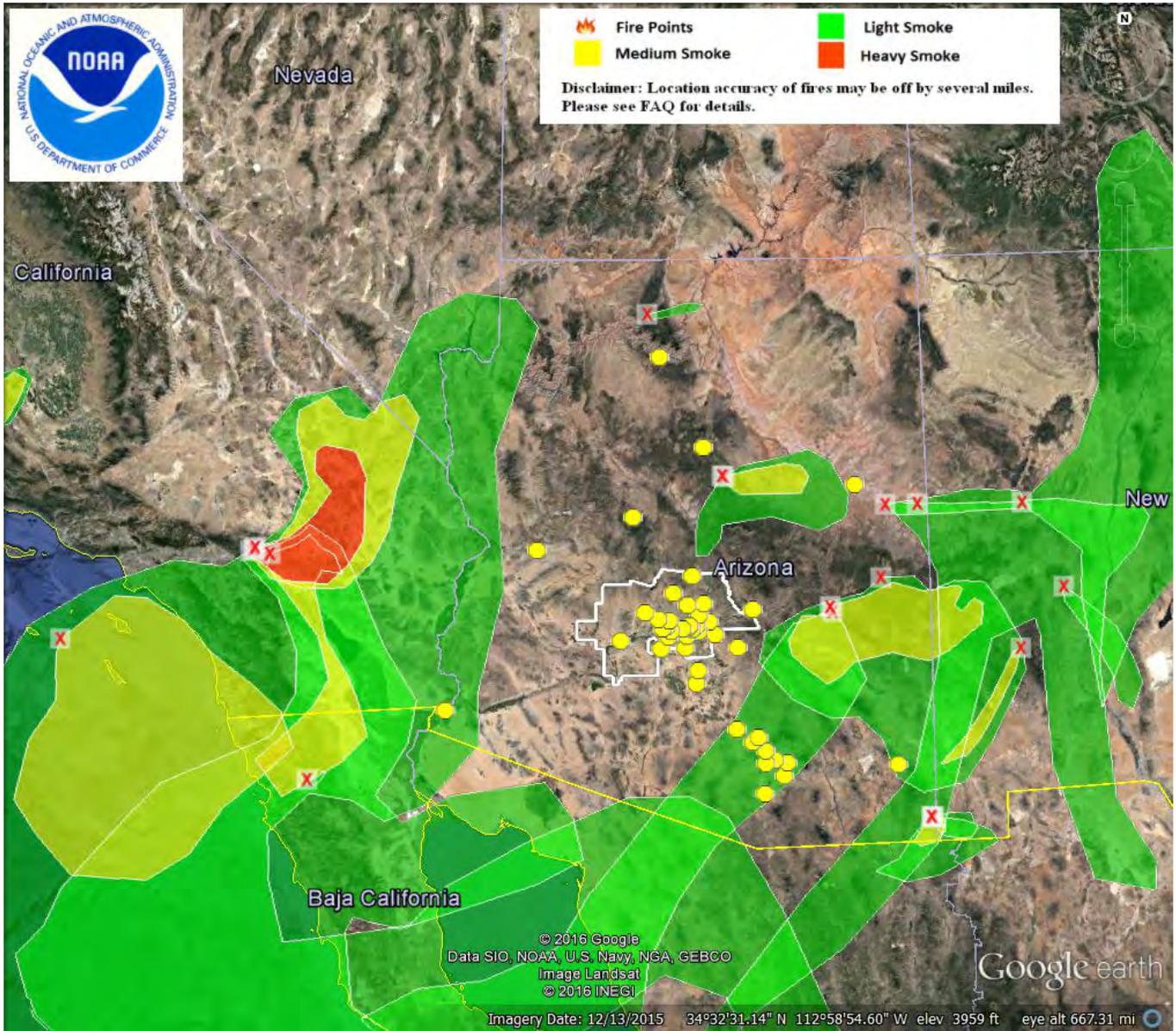


Figure 3-17. NOAA smoke map for June 20, 2015.

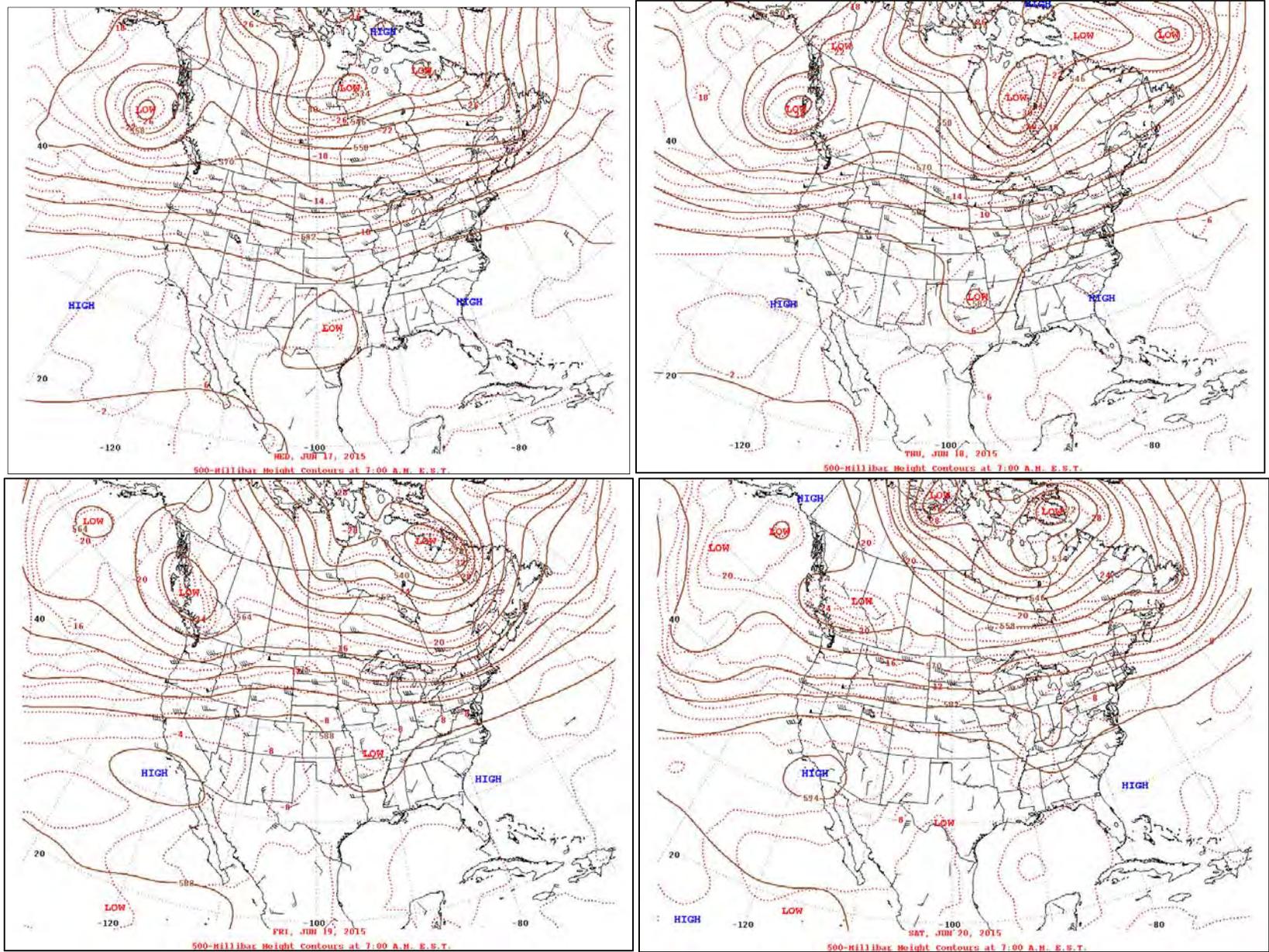


Figure 3-18. NWS upper level (500 mb) winds on June 17-20, 2015.

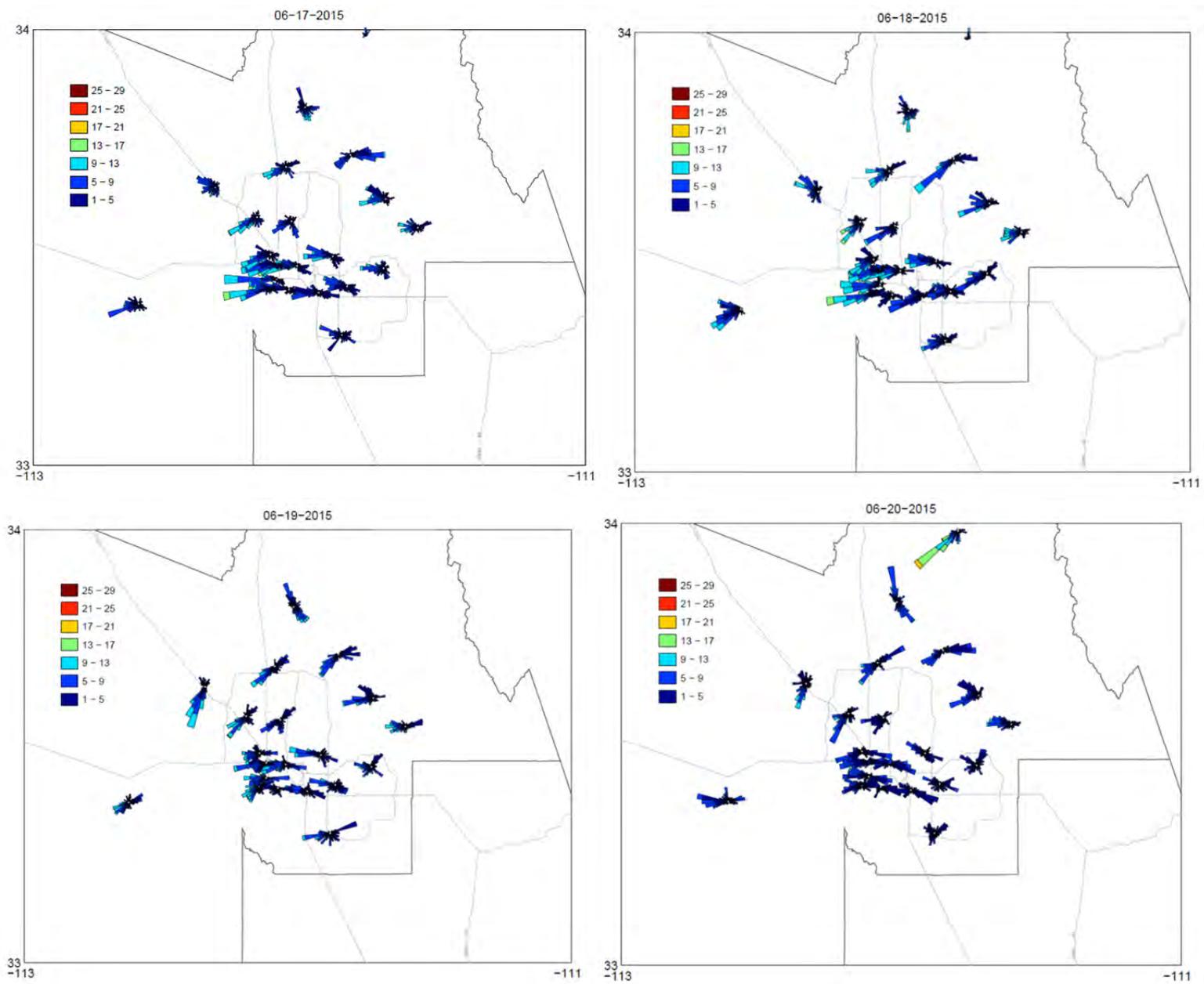


Figure 3-19. 24-Hour nonattainment area wind roses on June 17-20, 2015.

Evidence that the Wildfire Emissions Affected the Monitors

Concurrent Rise in Ozone Concentrations

As discussed above, satellite photos, back trajectories, smoke maps and prevailing meteorological conditions confirm the transport of smoke, ozone, and ozone precursor emissions from the Lake Fire to Arizona and the Maricopa nonattainment area. Concurrent with the arrival of smoke, ozone, and ozone precursor emissions, were corresponding rises in ozone concentrations across central and northern Arizona and the Maricopa nonattainment area. Rises in ozone concentrations at monitors in Yuma, Flagstaff and other rural locations in central and northern Arizona illustrate the widespread affect the Lake Fire had on influencing ozone concentrations throughout Arizona. Table 3-1 includes the rise in ozone concentrations at these monitoring sites over June 17-21, 2015, and Figures 3-20 through 3-24 display the rise in ozone concentrations at these sites in conjunction with satellite photos of the smoke moving west to east across Arizona on June 17-21, 2015.

Table 3-1. Change in Maximum Daily Eight-Hour Ozone Concentrations (ppm) at Alamo Lake, Flagstaff, Grand Canyon, Petrified Forest, Prescott and Yuma During June 17-21, 2015.

Monitor Location	June 17 (pre-fire)	June 18	June 19	June 20	June 21 (post-fire)	Largest ppm increase from June 17 (fire impact)
Alamo Lake	0.057	0.066	0.073	0.066	0.050	0.016, June 19
Flagstaff Middle School	0.063	0.065	0.070	0.067	0.055	0.007, June 19
Grand Canyon	0.061	0.070	0.073	0.069	0.058	0.012, June 19
Petrified Forest	0.057	0.060	0.059	0.070	0.060	0.013, June 20
Prescott College	0.059	0.064	0.068	0.067	0.049	0.009, June 19
Yuma	0.050	0.072	0.084	0.043	0.046	0.034, June 19

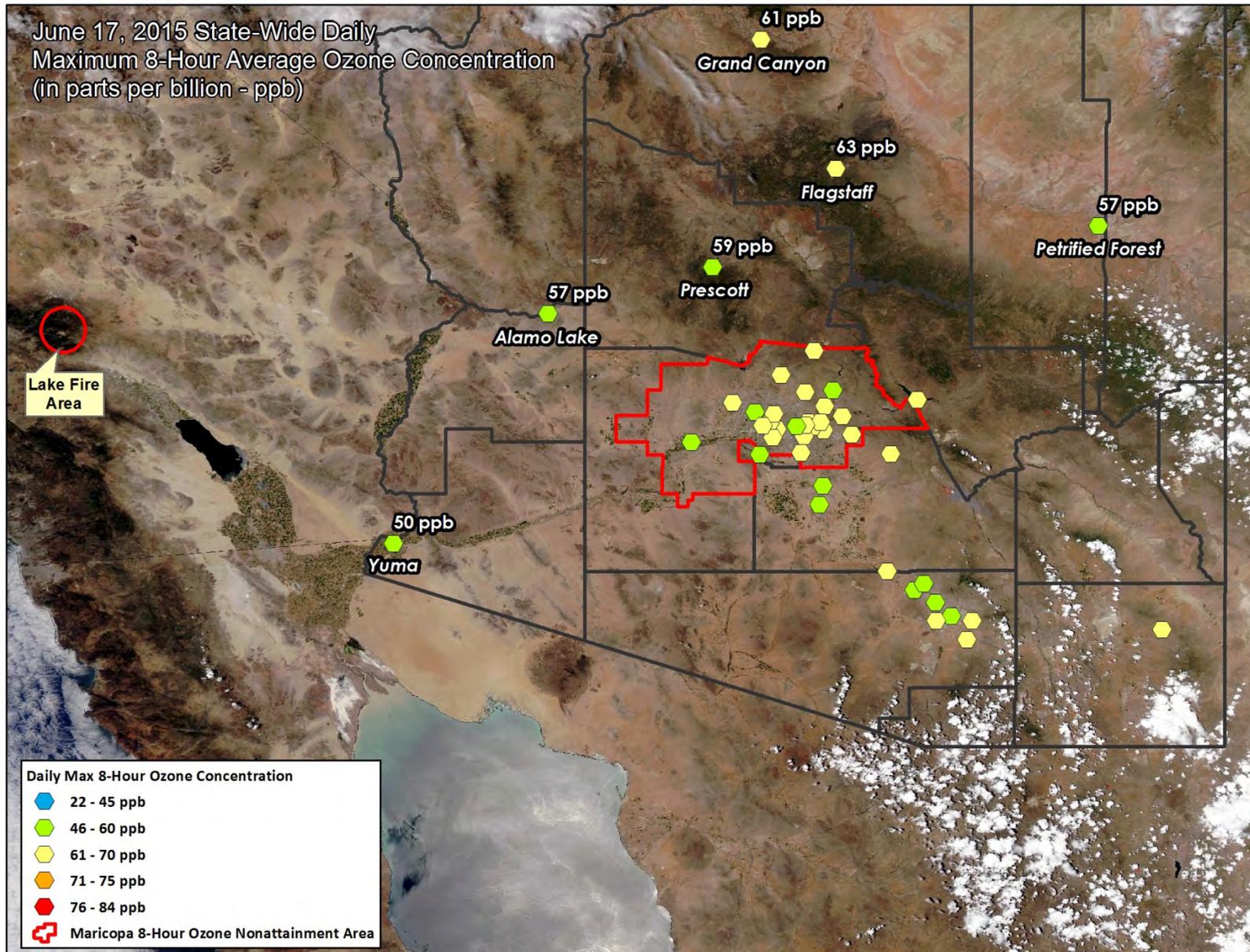


Figure 3-20. State-wide ozone concentrations on June 17, 2015.

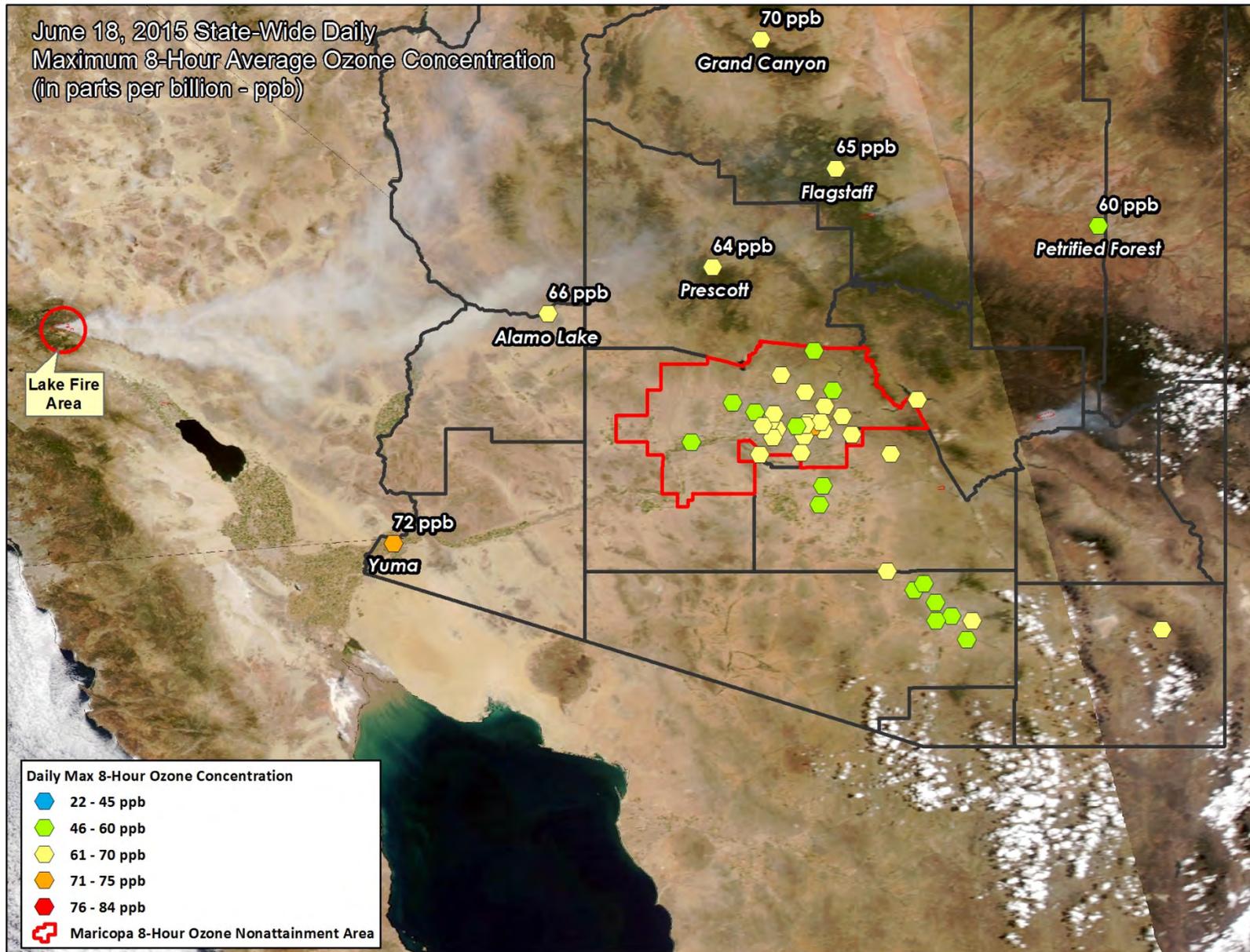


Figure 3-21. State-wide ozone concentrations on June 18, 2015.

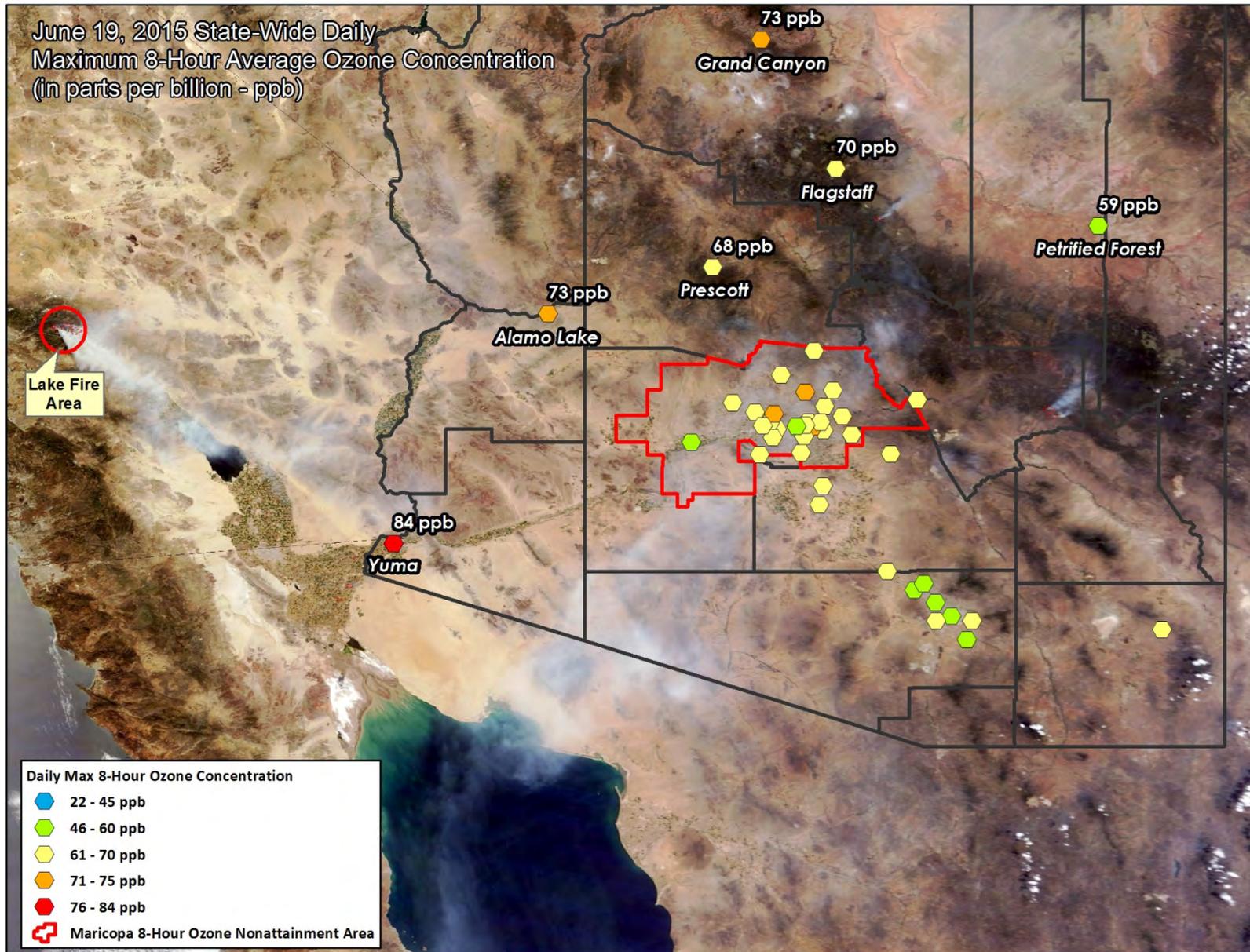


Figure 3-22. State-wide ozone concentrations on June 19, 2015.

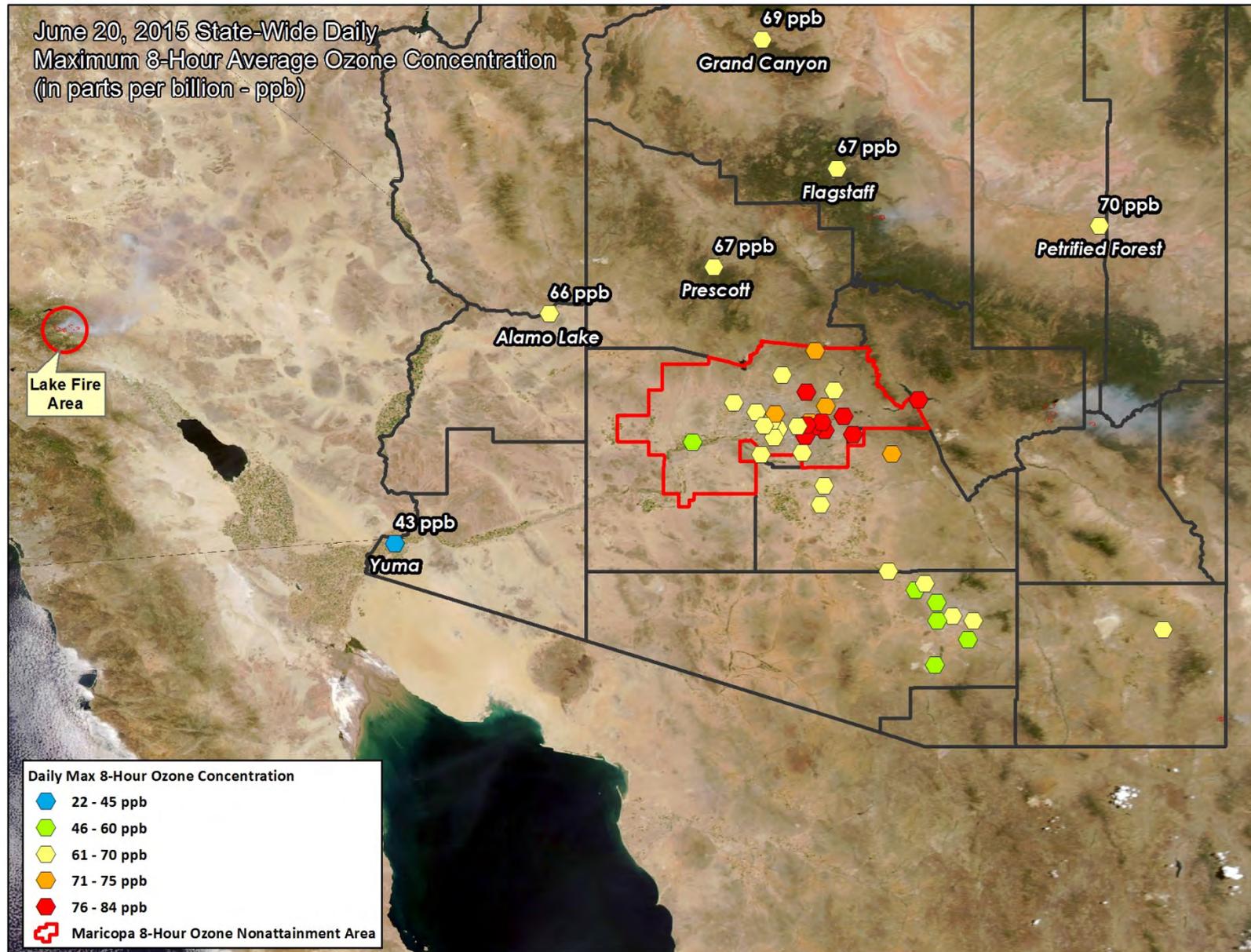


Figure 3-23. State-wide ozone concentrations on June 20, 2015.

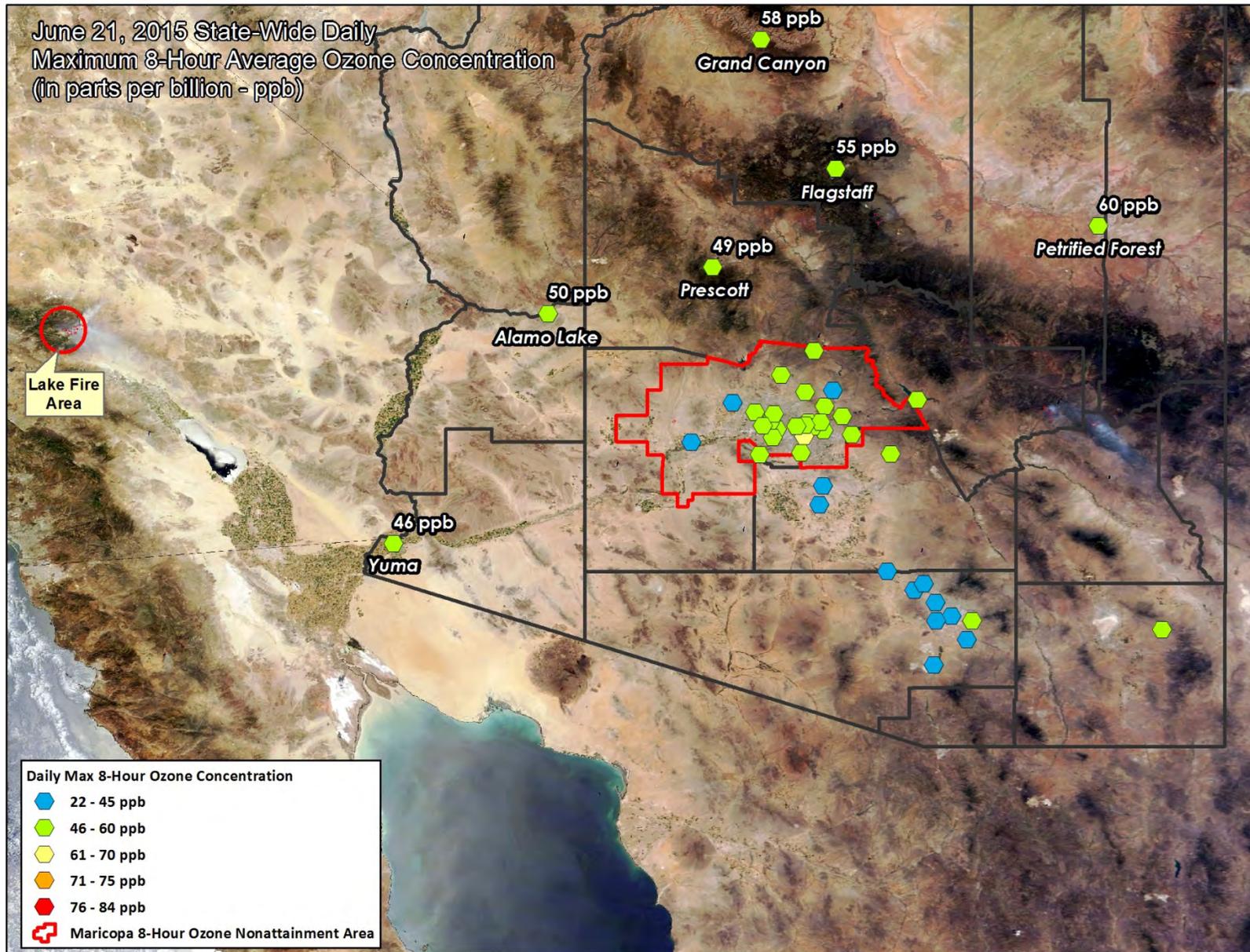


Figure 3-24. State-wide ozone concentrations on June 21, 2015.

Ozone concentrations in the Maricopa nonattainment area also show an abrupt rise on June 20, 2015, when wind speeds are less and the transported ozone and ozone precursor emissions from the Lake Fire mix with normal, seasonal nonattainment area emissions to produce ozone concentrations that resulted in exceedances of the ozone standard at six monitors. In general, the monitors that showed the highest increase in ozone due to the transported Lake Fire ozone and ozone precursor emissions were located in the eastern half of the nonattainment area. This is likely due to the prevailing surface winds that tend to flow from the west to the east in the afternoon when ozone production is at the highest. It is also likely that ozone production in these areas is more sensitive to increased NO_x (NO_x-limited area), than the urban core of the nonattainment area, which can at times be VOC-limited and not as sensitive to increases in NO_x. Increases in NO_x due to the interaction between the ozone and ozone precursor emissions from the Lake Fire are documented later in this section. Table 3–2 includes the rise in ozone concentrations at nonattainment area monitors over June 17-21, 2015, and Figures 3–25 through 3–29 display the nonattainment area ozone concentrations on June 17-21, 2015.

Table 3-2. Change in Maximum Daily Eight-Hour Ozone Concentrations (ppm) at Maricopa Nonattainment Area Monitors During June 17-21, 2015.

Monitor Location	June 17 (pre-fire)	June 18	June 19	June 20	June 21 (post-fire)	Increase from June 17 to June 20 (fire impact)
Apache Junction	0.067	0.069	0.065	0.078	0.059	0.011
Blue Point	0.065	0.066	0.067	0.077	0.052	0.012
Buckeye	0.051	0.052	0.056	0.054	0.039	0.003
Cave Creek	0.063	0.064	0.068	0.069	0.047	0.006
Central Phoenix	0.063	0.063	0.065	0.068	0.057	0.005
Dysart	0.062	0.060	0.061	0.062	0.044	0.000
Falcon Field	0.067	0.069	0.068	0.080	0.059	0.013
Fountain Hills	0.062	0.063	0.068	0.073	0.053	0.011
Glendale	0.060	0.058	0.066	0.064	0.046	0.004
Humboldt Mountain	0.062	0.059	0.069	0.073	0.050	0.011
JLG Supersite	0.066	0.069	0.066	0.068	0.054	0.002
Mesa	0.069	0.068	0.069	0.079	0.061	0.010
North Phoenix	0.068	0.070	0.071	0.073	0.055	0.005
Pinnacle Peak	0.068	0.070	0.074	0.078	0.056	0.010
Rio Verde	0.055	0.058	0.061	0.065	0.043	0.010
South Phoenix	0.065	0.063	0.065	0.067	0.058	0.002
South Scottsdale	0.059	0.060	0.059	0.070	0.053	0.011
Tonto Nat. Monument	0.063	0.069	0.067	0.079	0.054	0.016
West Chandler	0.062	0.067	0.063	0.069	0.057	0.007
West Phoenix	0.066	0.066	0.064	0.067	0.052	0.001

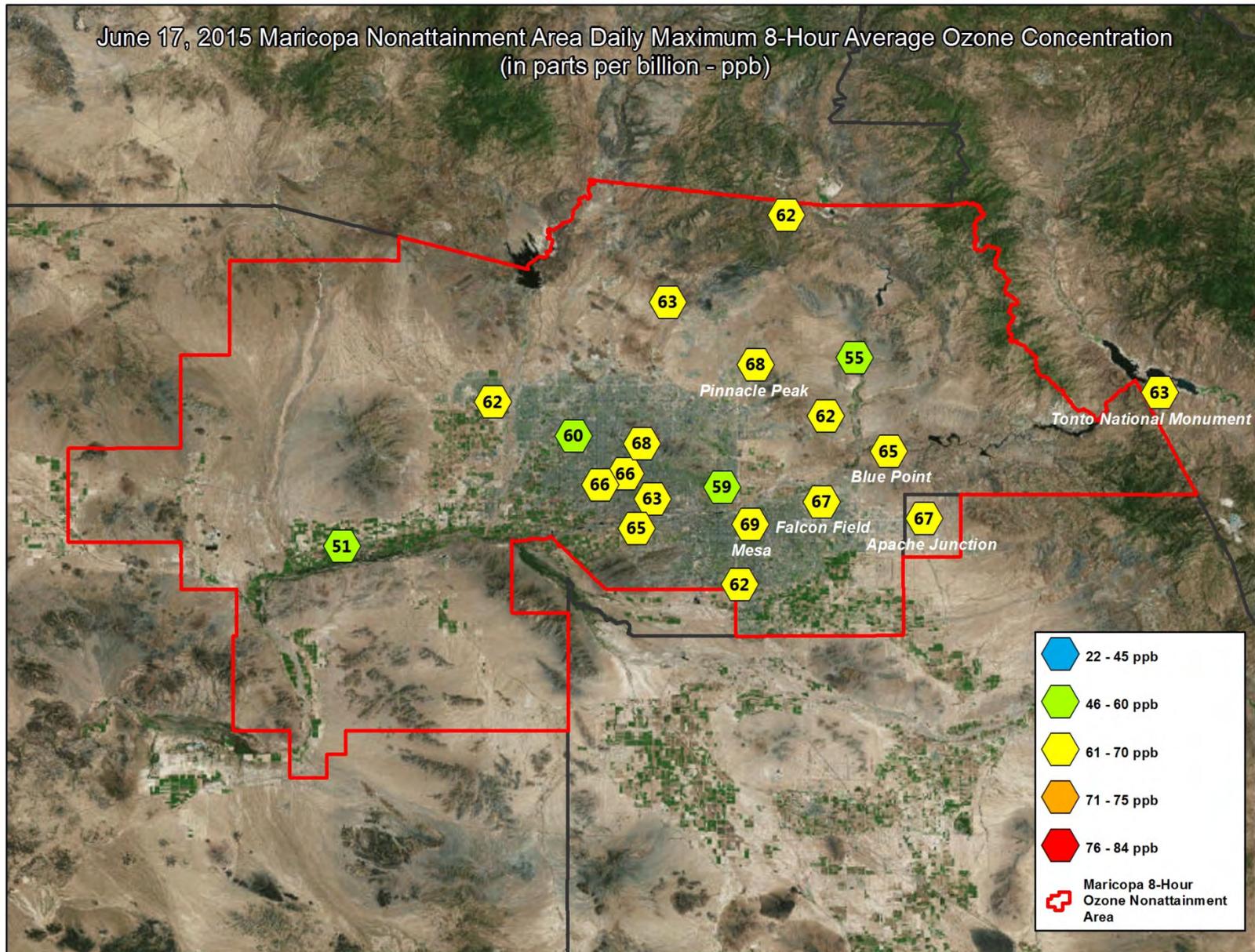


Figure 3-25. Maricopa nonattainment area ozone concentrations on June 17, 2015.

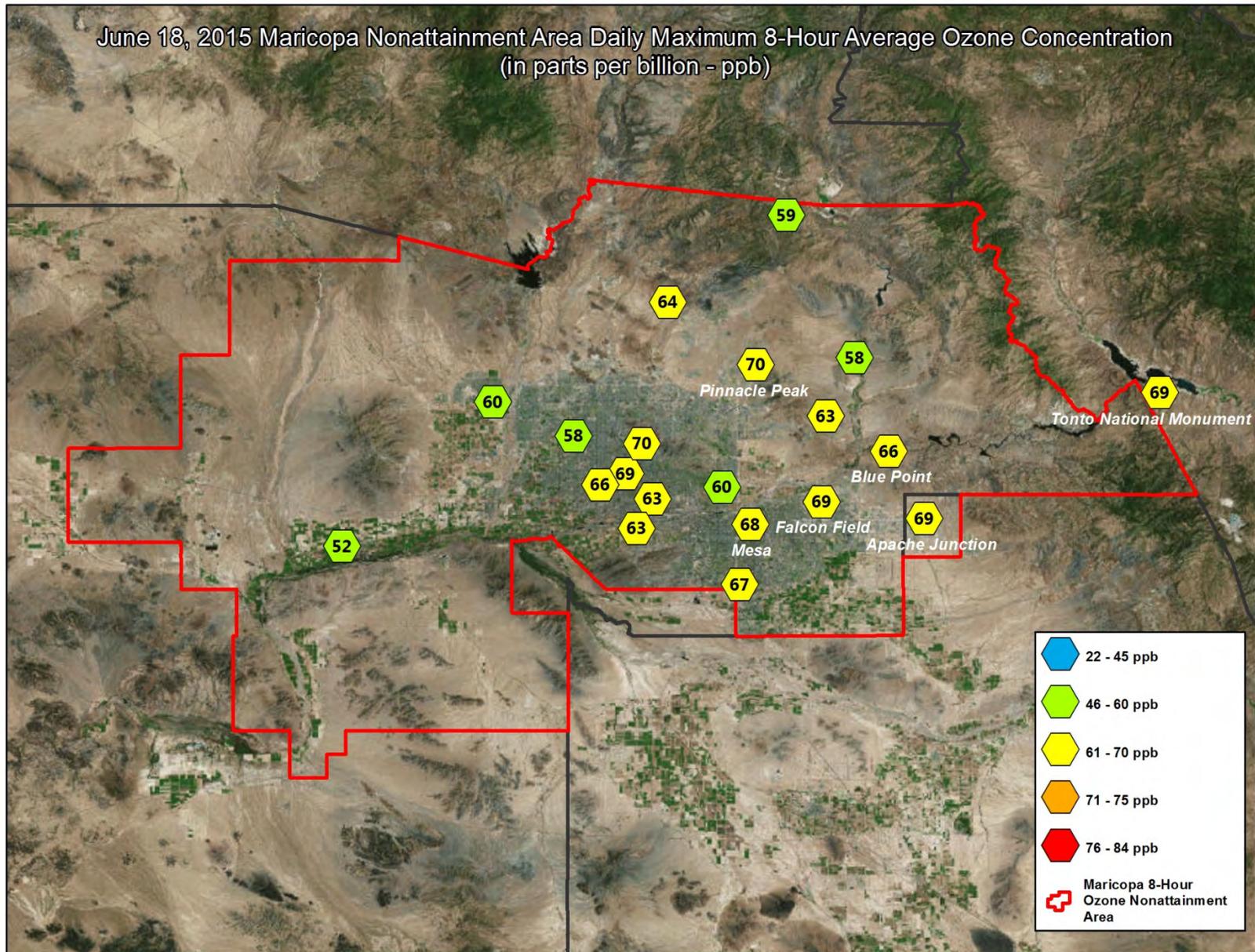


Figure 3-26. Maricopa nonattainment area ozone concentrations on June 18, 2015.

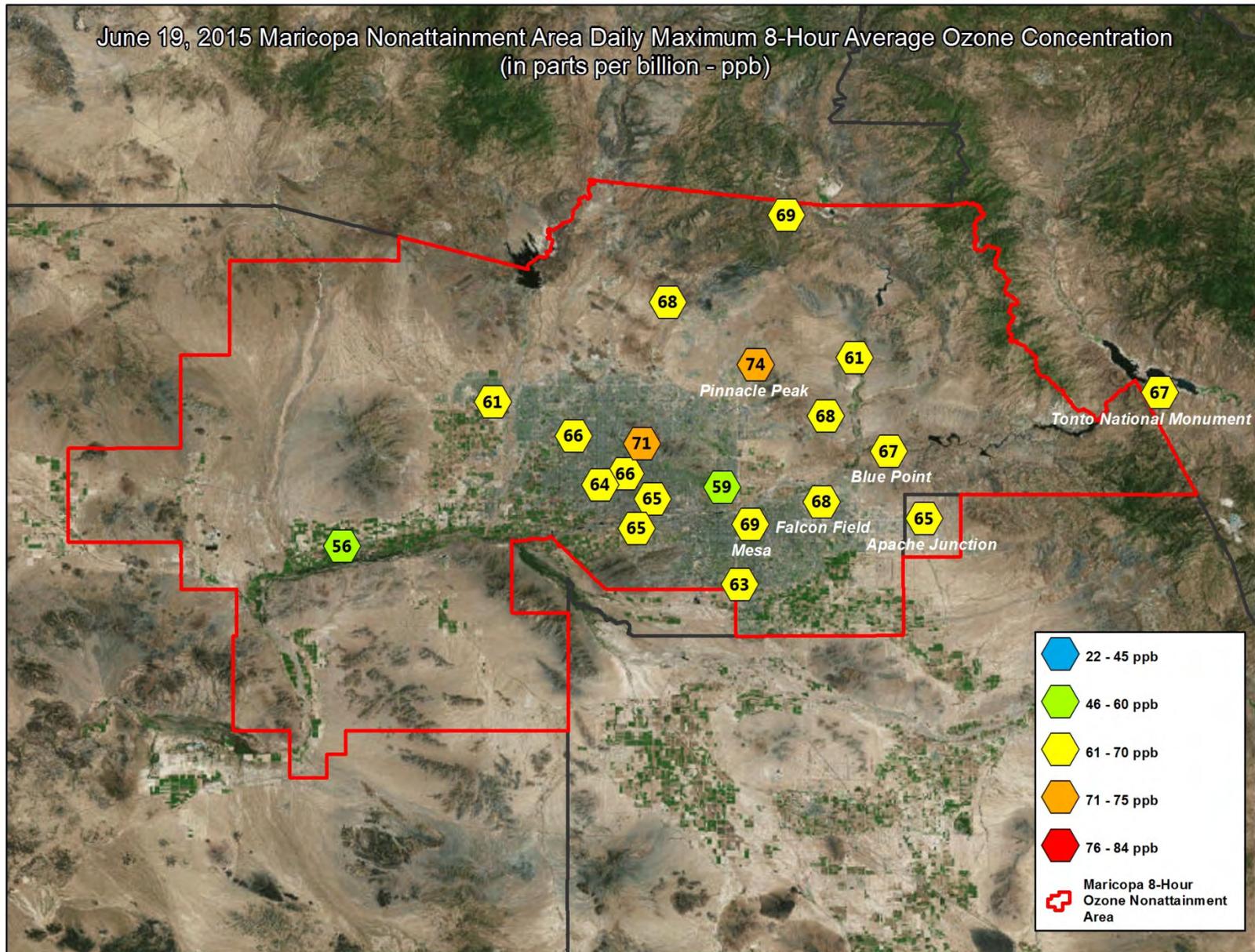


Figure 3-27. Maricopa nonattainment area ozone concentrations on June 19, 2015.

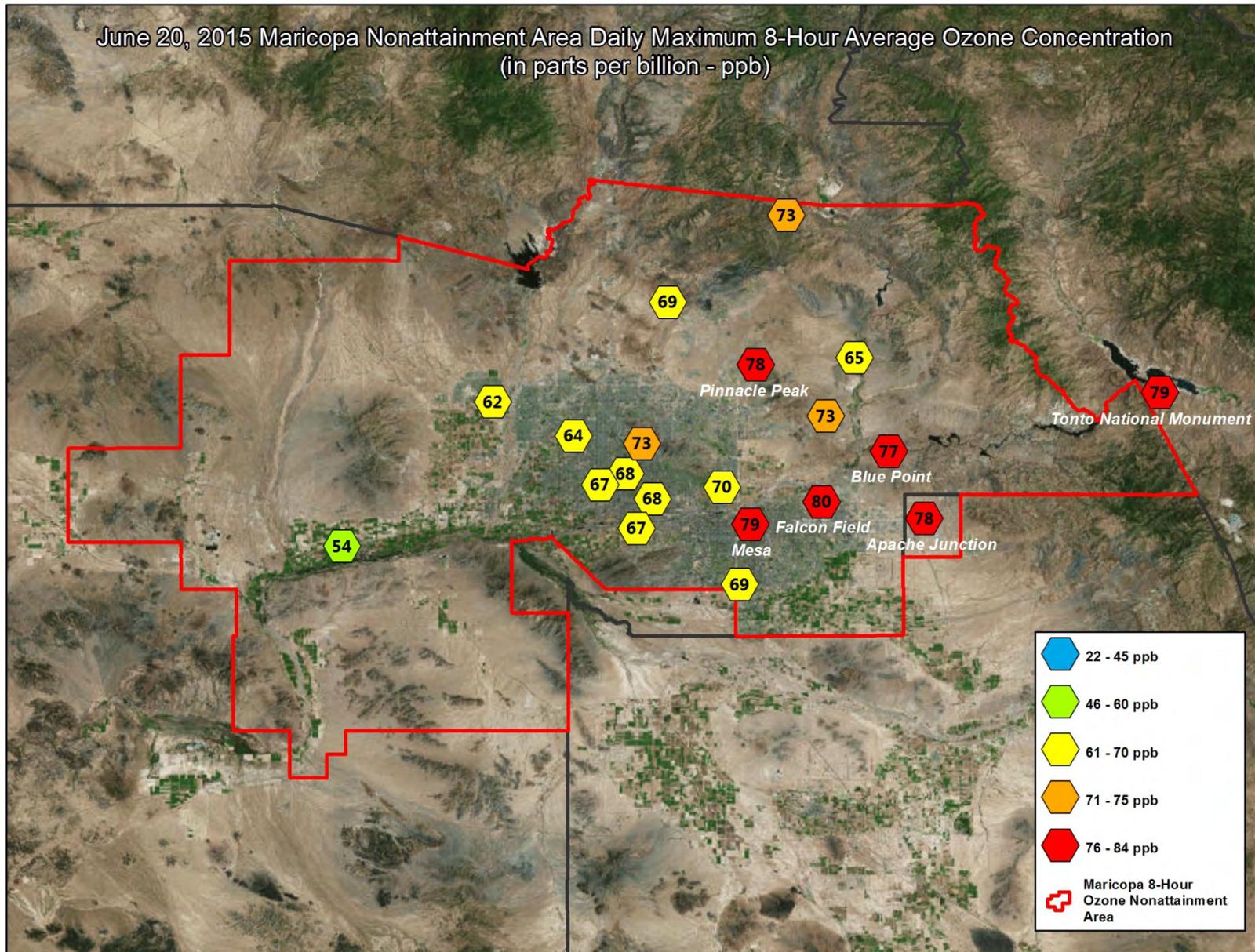


Figure 3-28. Maricopa nonattainment area ozone concentrations on June 20, 2015.

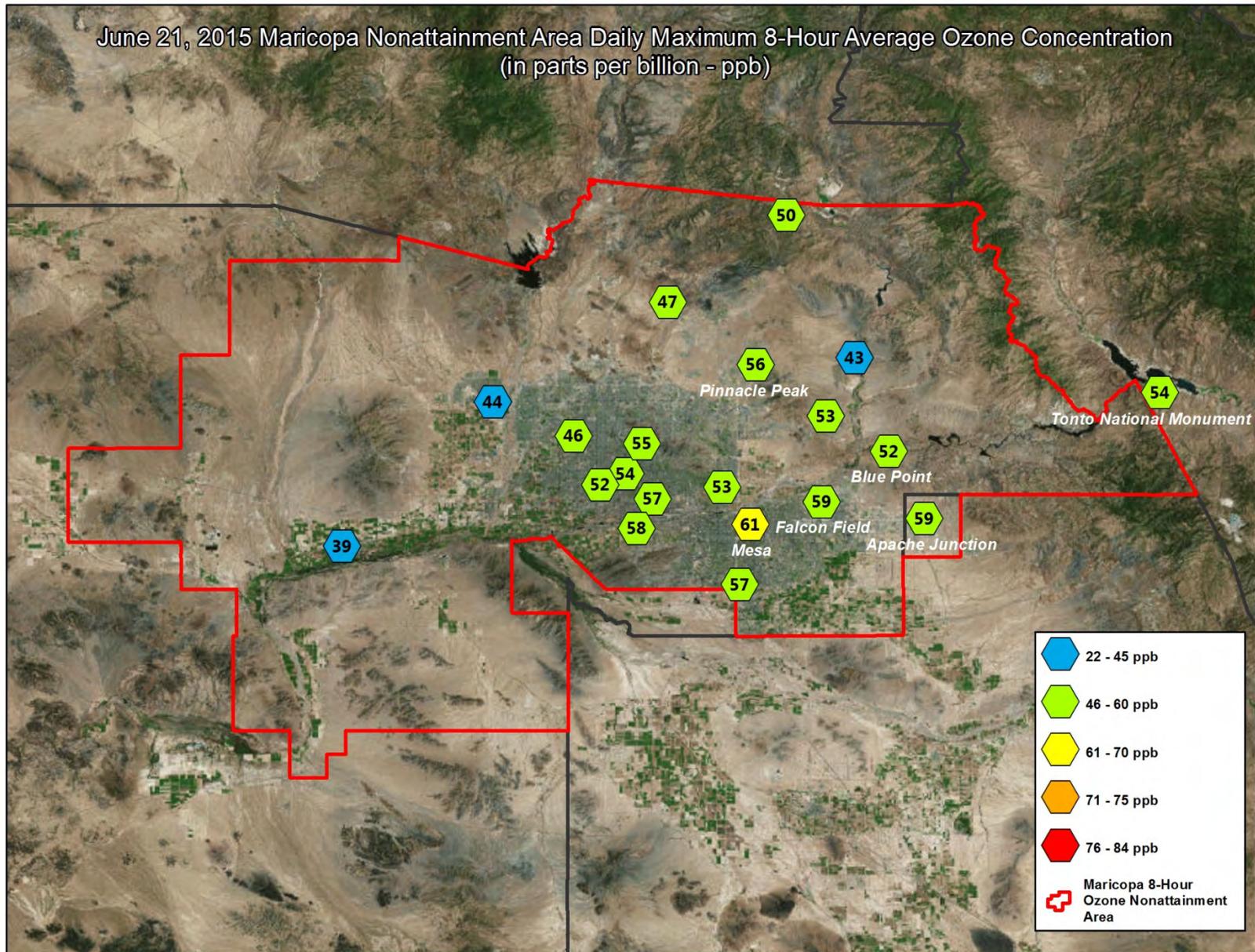


Figure 3-29. Maricopa nonattainment area ozone concentrations on June 21, 2015.

Altered Concentrations of PM_{2.5} and NO₂

In addition to the observed concurrent rise in ozone concentrations, changes to the quantity and timing of PM_{2.5} and NO₂ concentrations were observed in Arizona and the Maricopa nonattainment area. In regard to PM_{2.5}, 24-hour average and 1-hour average concentrations of PM_{2.5} were elevated above normal non-event concentrations at the western-most Yuma monitor and at the Alamo Lake monitor, indicating the smoke from the Lake Fire reached ground level at these monitors. Elevated average PM_{2.5} concentrations were not observed in the Maricopa nonattainment area; however speciated PM_{2.5} concentrations do show a higher percentage of organic and elemental carbon as a fraction of PM_{2.5} on June 20, 2015 in this nonattainment area. This indicates that on June 20, 2015, the products of combustion constituted a higher percentage of total PM_{2.5} than seen prior to, and after, the Lake Fire emissions were transported to the nonattainment area. The fact that overall average PM_{2.5} concentrations were not elevated in the nonattainment area is not unexpected given that wildfire researchers Jaffe and Widger² found that, “while particulate aerosol concentrations will decrease with distance from a fire, O₃ mixing ratios can increase”. This finding is corroborated in the PM_{2.5} concentrations from Yuma, Alamo Lake and the nonattainment area during June 18-20, 2015, which show a decrease in PM_{2.5} as emissions from the Lake Fire move west to east across Arizona.

Figure 3–30 displays the hourly average PM_{2.5} concentrations at Yuma and Alamo Lake on June 17-21, 2015, while Figure 3–31 displays the 24-hour average PM_{2.5} concentrations for Yuma and Alamo Lake during June 16-23, 2015. Figure 3–32 includes the speciated fraction of 24-hour PM_{2.5} that is organic and elemental carbon in the Maricopa nonattainment area on a three-day schedule during June 11-29, 2015.

With regard to NO₂, elevated NO₂ concentrations above typical non-event concentrations were recorded at Maricopa nonattainment area monitors, providing additional evidence to indicate that ozone or ozone precursor emissions were transported to the nonattainment area and affected the ozone concentrations seen on June 20, 2015. The normal weekday-weekend pattern in the nonattainment area, as displayed in Figure 3–33, indicates lower NO₂ on Saturdays and Sundays as compared to weekdays. June 20, 2015, was a Saturday, but recorded the highest hourly concentrations of NO₂ for the week. The Maricopa County Air Quality Department confirmed that there were no unusual spikes in anthropogenic sources of NO_x emissions during the period preceding, during, and after June 20, 2015, indicating that extra, non-normal concentrations of NO₂ or ozone were present in the nonattainment area.

Due to the complex diurnal chemical interactions between NO₂ and ozone, where ozone is simultaneously being both produced and consumed, elevated levels of NO₂ at night may indicate the presence of ozone, as opposed to the direct emission of NO₂. NO₂ concentrations were not uniquely elevated at the western Maricopa nonattainment area Buckeye site (rural/suburban site), nor at the rural Alamo Lake site in Western Arizona. As such, the observed high levels of NO₂ in the nonattainment area is likely indicative of ozone and ozone precursors from the Lake Fire reacting with the normal, seasonal emissions present in the Maricopa nonattainment area to form extra NO₂ in the evening (titration) and ozone in the day, as opposed to the direct transport of NO₂ from the Lake Fire to the nonattainment area. This aligns with the findings of Widger et al.,³ who found that when ozone and ozone precursor emissions from a wildfire interact with urban emissions, increased ozone can form: “Two of the identified wildfire plumes were likely mixed with urban emissions from the Seattle/Tacoma metropolitan area...both of these plumes had significantly higher ΔO₃/ΔCO₂ NER than the other plumes in the same distance category...Akagi et al.

² *Ibid.*

³ Widger et al., (2013). Ozone and particulate matter enhancements from regional wildfires observed at Mount Bachelor during 2004-2011. *Atmospheric Environment* 75, 24-31.

(2013) and Singh et al. (2012) also found significantly higher O₃ production in fire plumes mixed with urban emissions, which the studies attributed to higher mixing ratios of NO_x produced in urban areas.” Figure 3–34 displays the increased hourly NO₂ concentrations at the West Phoenix monitor during June 13-27, 2015 as compared to day-matched June 2010-2014 average historical concentrations.

The elevated levels of NO₂ seen during June 17-20, 2015 also differ from the pattern seen during a non-event ozone exceedance on June 12, 2015 (a Friday). On June 12, 2015, six central and eastern nonattainment area monitors exceeded the standard. Four of the six exceedances were at monitors that also exceeded on June 20, 2015 (Blue Point, Falcon Field, Mesa, and Pinnacle Peak). Hourly NO₂ levels from the West Phoenix monitor were compared on the exceedance day of each episode (June 12 and June 20, 2015), as well as the three days leading up to the episode (June 9-11 and June 17-19, 2015). The results of the comparison show that NO₂ levels on the exceedance day of each episode were similarly high, as would be expected on an exceedance day. However the NO₂ levels leading up to the episodes were much higher for the June 20, 2015 wildfire-event exceedance as opposed to the non-event exceedance on June 12, 2015. This data provides evidence that an additional source of NO₂ (or titrated ozone) was present on the days leading up to the June 20, 2015 exceedance as compared to the non-event exceedance episode on June 12, 2015. Figure 3–35 displays the hourly NO₂ levels on the exceedance day for each episode and the three days prior to the episode exceedance day.

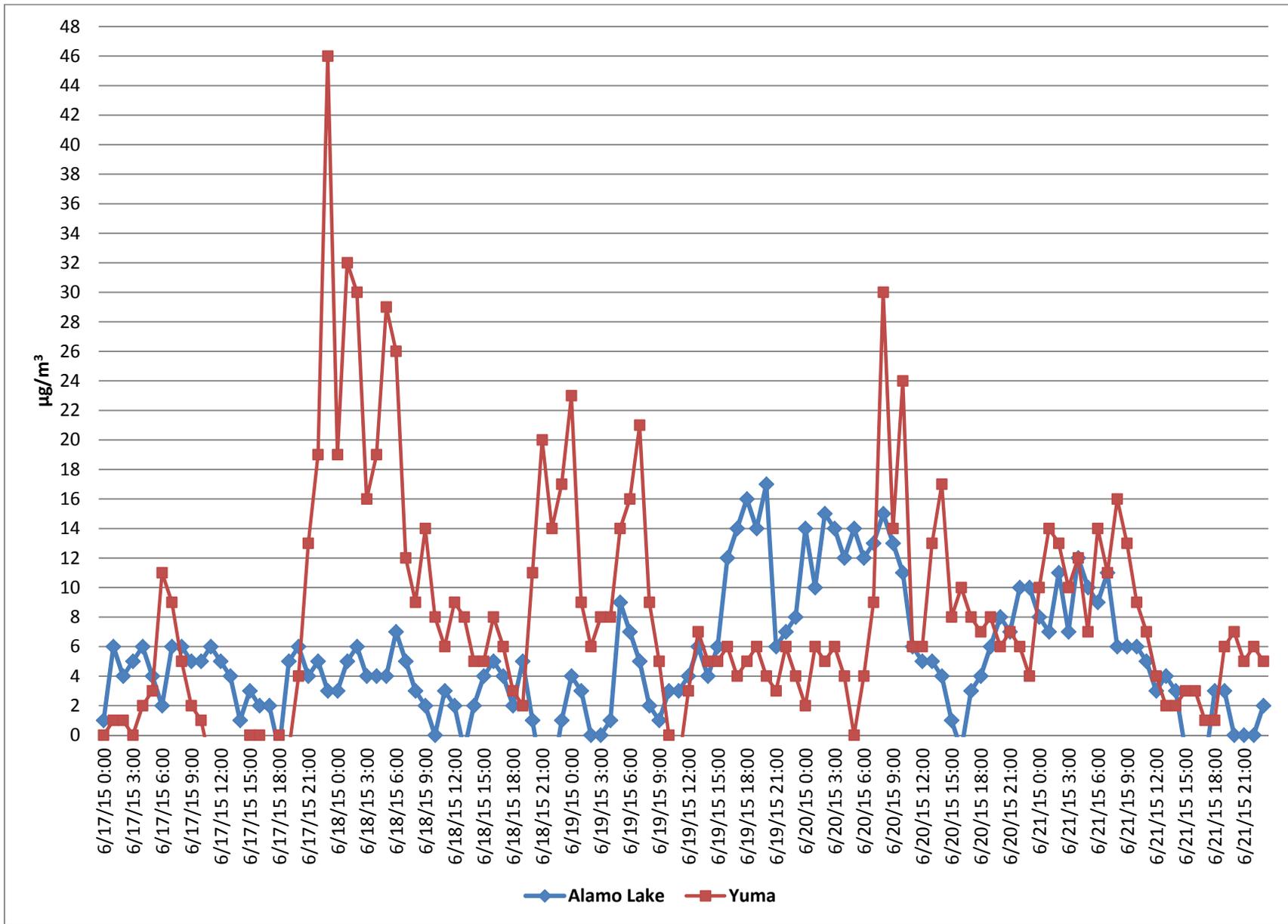


Figure 3-30. Hourly PM_{2.5} concentrations at Alamo Lake and Yuma during June 17-21, 2015.

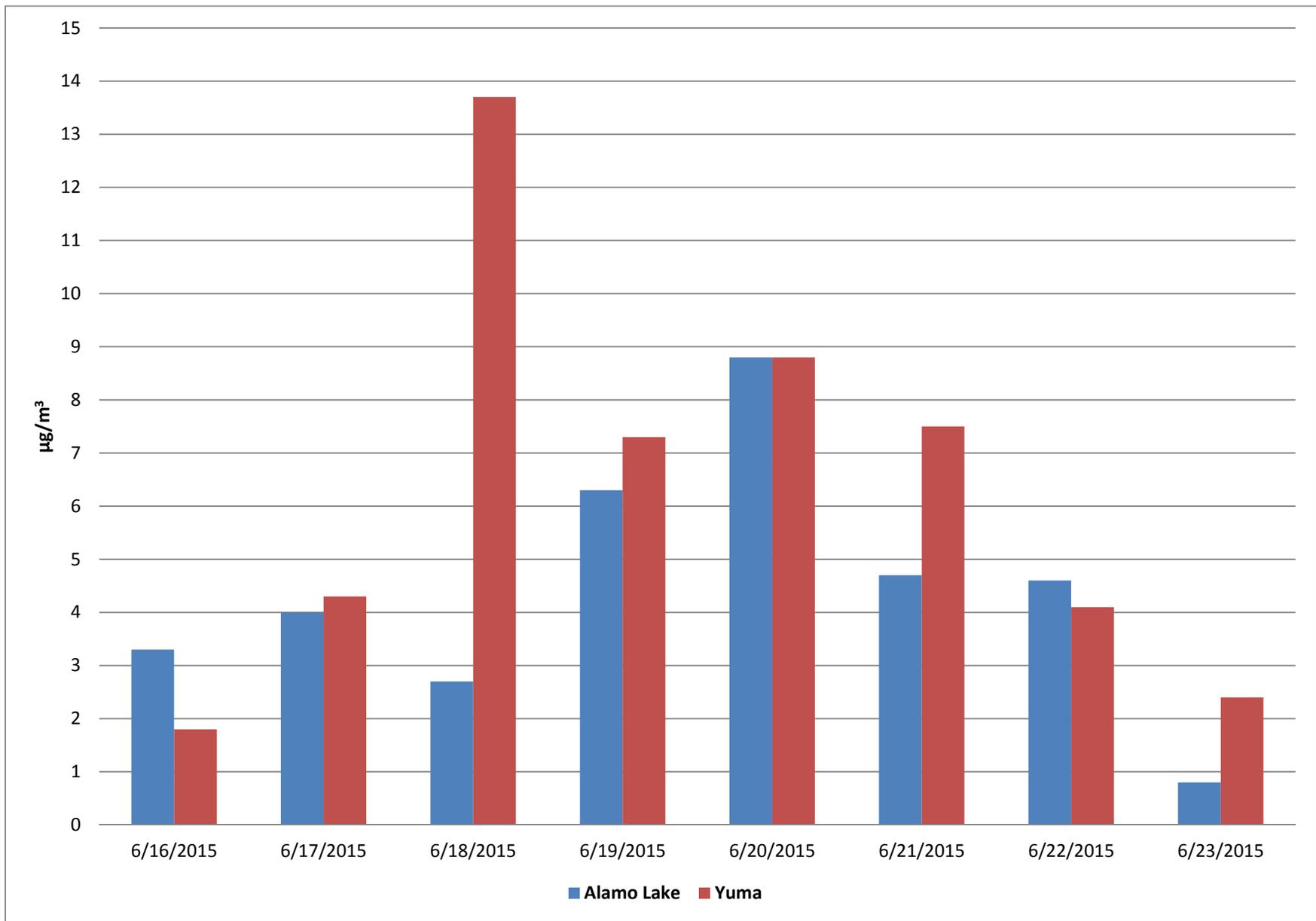


Figure 3-31. 24-Hour PM_{2.5} concentrations at Alamo Lake and Yuma during June 16-23, 2015.

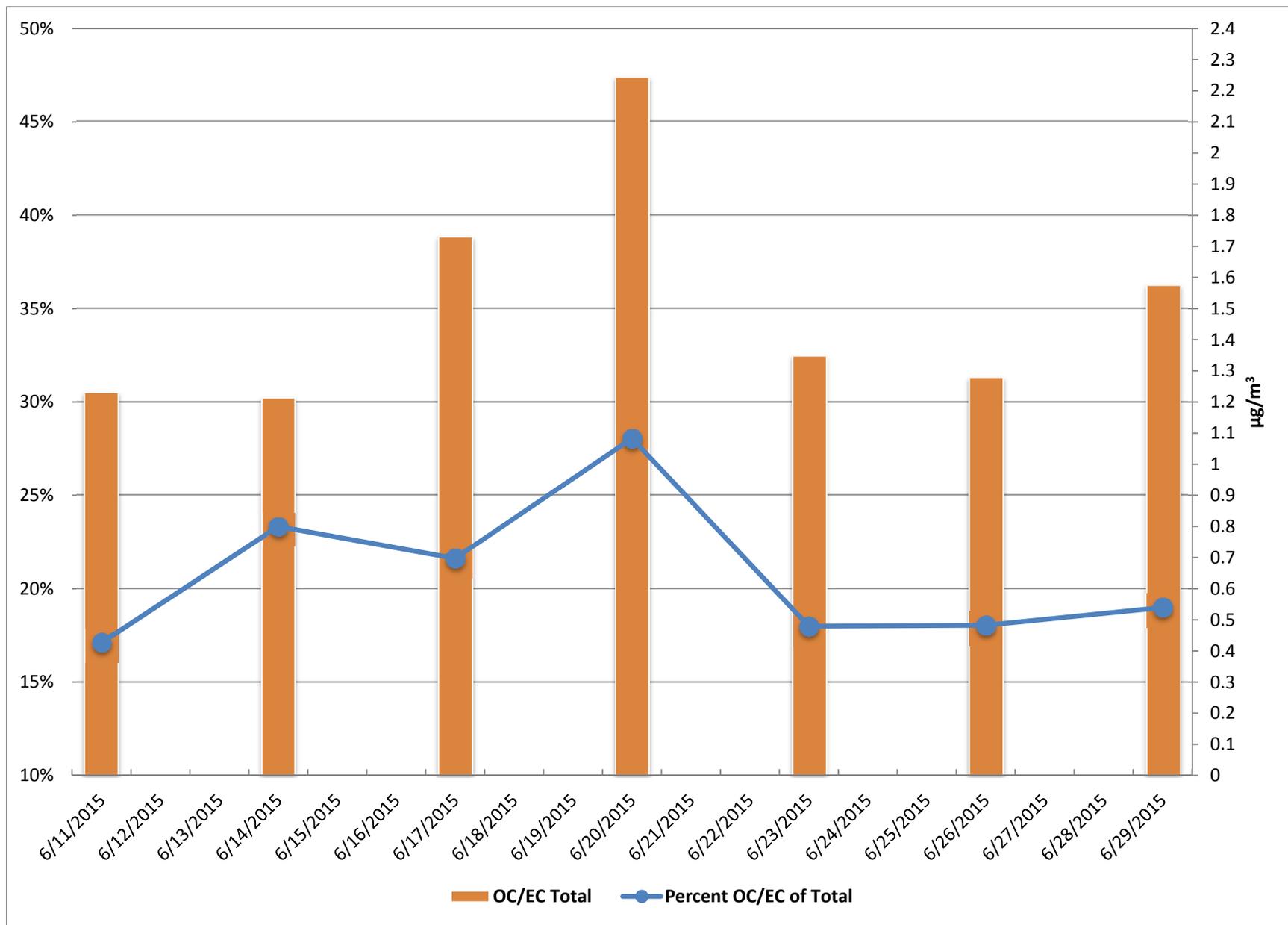


Figure 3-32. Total and percent of 24-hour PM_{2.5} that is organic and elemental carbon at the JLG Supersite monitor.

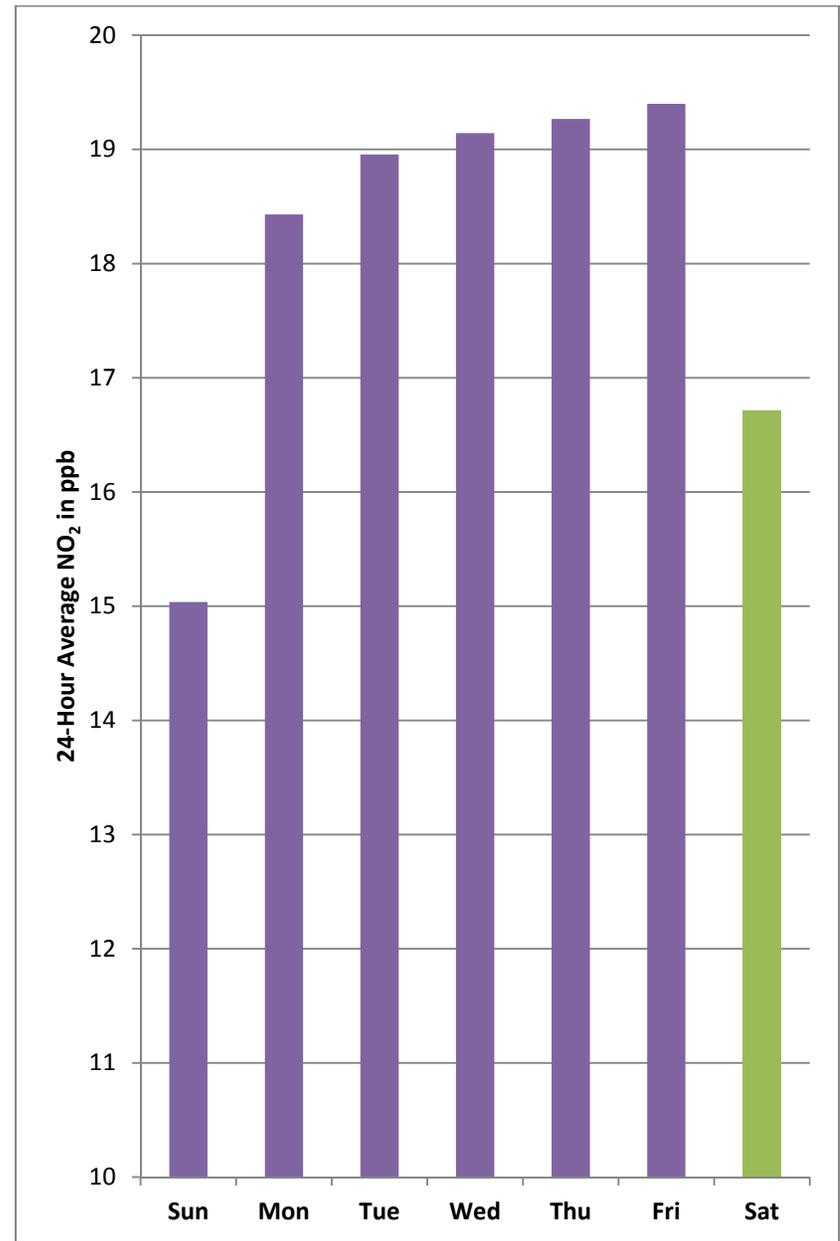
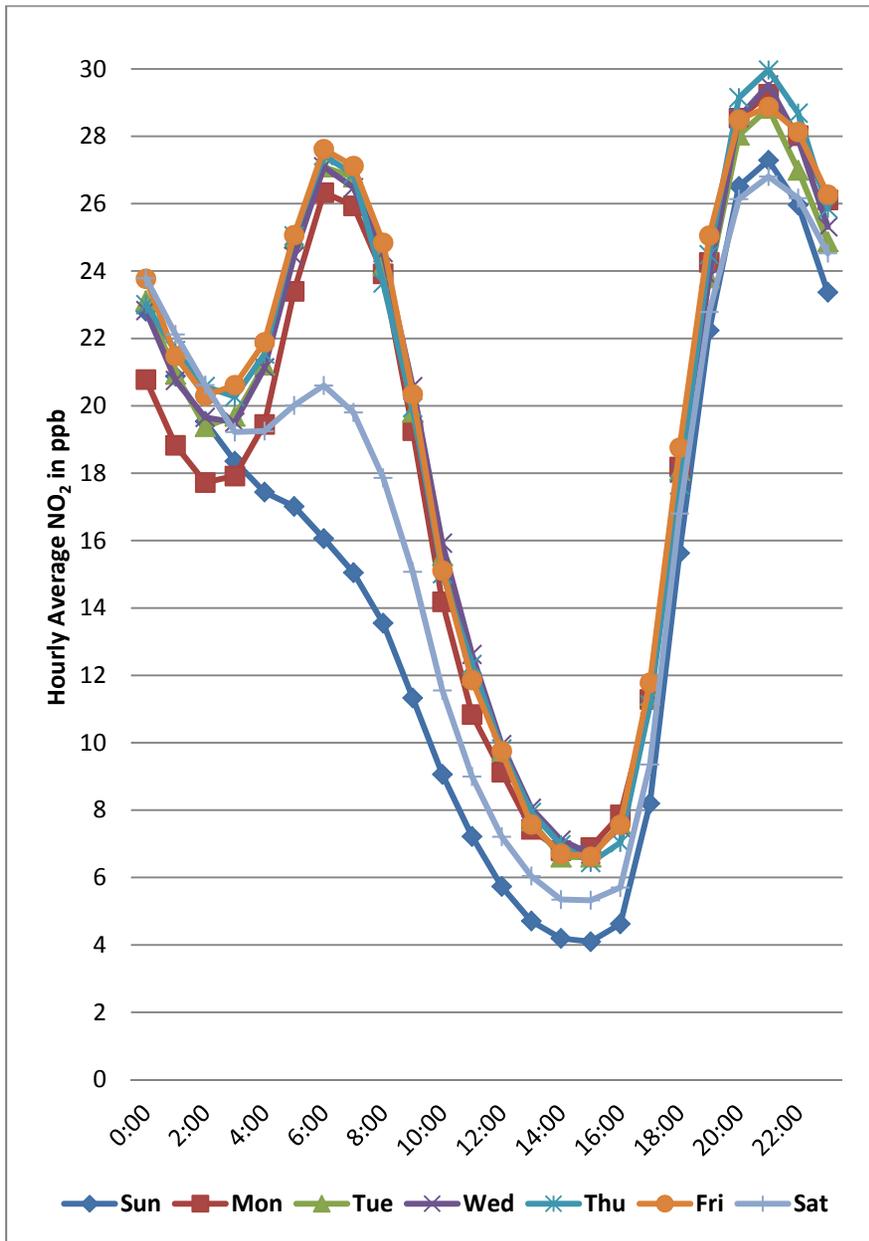


Figure 3-33. June 2010-2014 hourly average and 24-hour average NO₂ by day at the West Phoenix monitor.

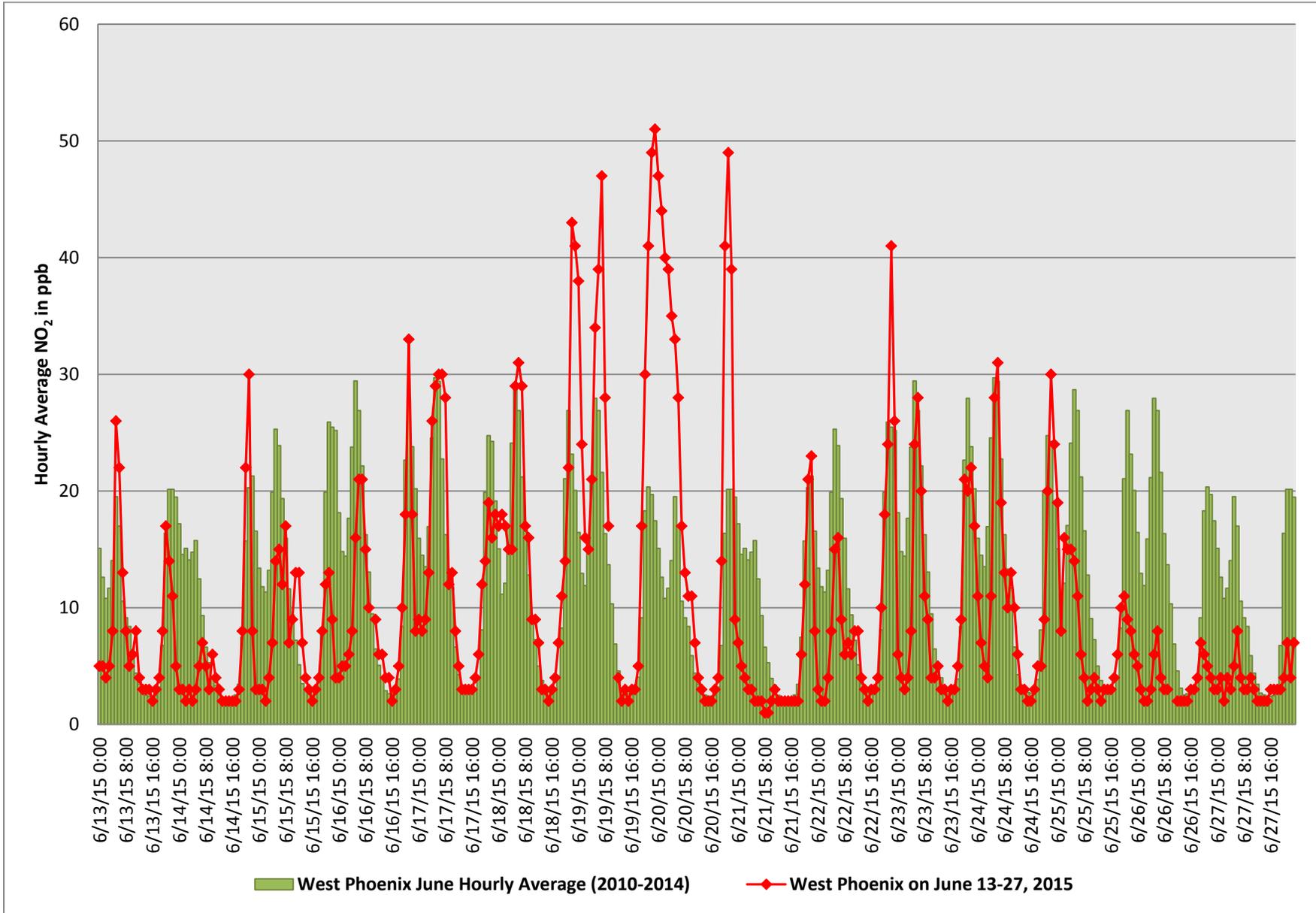


Figure 3-34. Comparison of hourly average NO₂ on June 13-27, 2015 with hourly average June 2010-2014 NO₂ at the West Phoenix monitor.

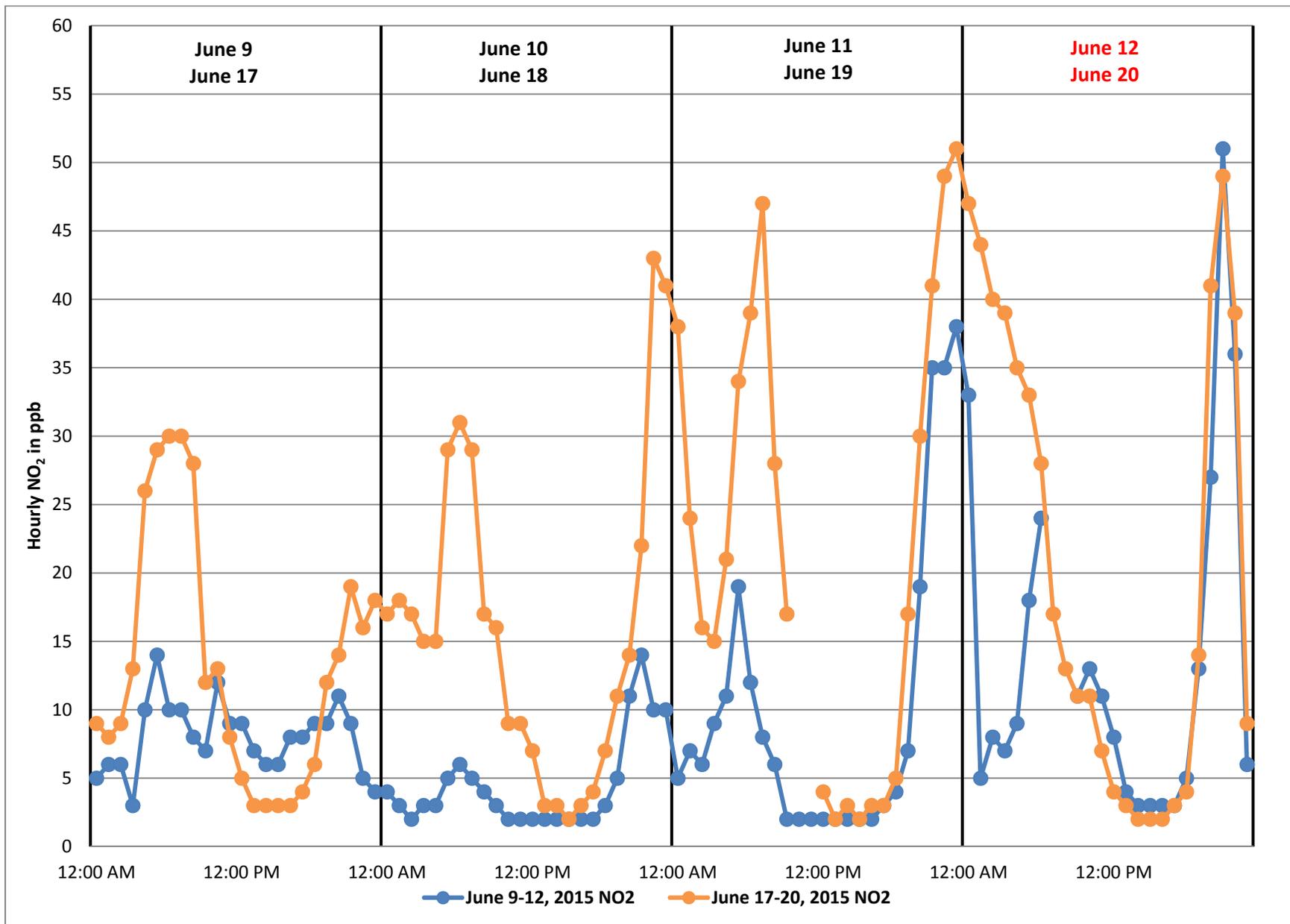


Figure 3-35. Hourly average NO₂ on June 9-12, 2015 and hourly average NO₂ on June 17-20, 2015 at the West Phoenix monitor.

Multiple Variable Regression Analysis (“But For” Demonstration)

In keeping with the Wildfire Guidance suggestion of including an additional source of evidence for Tier 3 demonstrations, multiple variable regression analyses were included in this documentation to add weight to the previously presented evidence of the clear causal connection between the Lake Fire emissions and the exceedances on June 20, 2015. Multiple variable regression analysis is a statistical method for defining and quantifying the relationship of multiple independent variables (e.g., temperature, humidity, and atmospheric pressure) to a dependent variable (ozone concentrations). Using a statistically significant data set (historical ozone concentrations and meteorological data), the results of the regression analysis produce an equation(s) that can then be used to predict the dependent variable (ozone concentrations) given a set of known independent variables (meteorological measurements). When the predicted value deviates substantially from the observed value, the assumption is the observed value is atypical and independent variables other than those already included in the regression analysis (e.g., unusual emissions from a wildfire) are likely responsible for the increase or decrease from the predicted value.

Regression Analysis Development and Performance

For this demonstration, the regression analysis equations used to predict maximum daily eight-hour ozone concentrations at each of the six exceeding monitors on June 20, 2015, were developed using observed meteorological and ozone concentration data in the month of June for the years 2010-2015. A detailed description of the development of the regression analysis is included in Appendix D. Historical data was limited to the month of June, instead of the entire ozone season (April-September), as the other months in the ozone season operate under different meteorological regimes. April and May are frequently influenced by advancing cold fronts that can produce high winds and may contain interstate/international transport of ozone and stratospheric intrusion of ozone. In the months of July-September, the nonattainment area is dominated by monsoon season meteorological conditions which can produce frequent thunderstorms, lightning NO_x and heavy precipitation. In contrast, June is characterized by relatively dry, hot, and low-wind meteorological conditions. For these reasons, historical data for the regression analysis was limited to the month of June.

Over 30 meteorological variables were initially evaluated as independent variables for the regression analysis. All surface meteorological variables (except solar radiation) are taken from measurements at the Sky Harbor International Airport and upper air variables are taken from weather balloons launched at the Tucson International Airport. To avoid including variables that are highly correlated with one another (e.g., maximum surface temperature and average surface temperature), Principal Component Analysis (PCA) was used to group the variables into statistically unique categories. PCA identified eight distinctive categories of meteorological variables. A maximum of two variables from each category were initially selected for the final regression analysis to avoid the statistical problems associated with multicollinearity. Nine variables were ultimately selected from the PCA for inclusion in the regression analysis. The nine selected variables correspond well with variables in other similar regression analyses performed by EPA and other researchers⁴. Table 3-3 includes the nine selected meteorological variables from the Principal Component Analysis.

⁴ California Air Resources Board, (2011). Exceptional Events Demonstration for 1-Hour Ozone Exceedances in the Sacramento Regional Nonattainment Area Due to 2008 Wildfires. Camalier et al., (2007). The effects of meteorology on ozone in urban areas and their use in assessing ozone trends. Atmospheric Environment 41, 7127-7137.

In addition to the nine meteorological variables identified in the PCA, categorical variables were also included as independent variables in the regression analysis. The categorical variables include: (1) the wind direction measurements (e.g., west-northwest, east-southeast, etc.) which correspond to the selected wind speed measurements in Table 3–3 to account for air flow direction; and (2) the day of the week (e.g., Monday) to account for differences in emissions between weekdays and weekends. Lastly, one additional scalar independent variable, the prior-day maximum eight-hour average ozone concentration as measured at each exceeding monitor, was also included to account for the effects from the sequential accumulation of ozone in the Maricopa nonattainment area. These variables and their abbreviations are also included in Table 3–3.

Table 3-3. Independent Variables in the Regression Analysis.

Independent Variable Abbreviation	Description
MaxTemp*	Maximum Daily Surface Temperature
UpTemp*	5 am Upper Air (500 mb) Temperature
DiffTemp*	Difference in 5 am Temperature Between Surface and Upper Air (850 mb)
DewPoint*	Average Daily Dew Point
Pressure*	Average Daily Sea-Level Pressure
MornWind*	Average of Morning Hours (6 am to 12 pm) Surface Wind Speed
AftWind*	Average of Afternoon Hours (12 pm to 6 pm) Surface Wind Speed
UpWind*	5 pm Upper Air (850 mb) Wind Speed
Cloud*	Average of Daylight Hours (8 am to 6 pm) Cloud Cover
MornDir	Average of Morning Hours (6 am to 12 pm) Surface Wind Direction
AftDir	Average of Afternoon Hours (12 pm to 6 pm) Surface Wind Direction
UpDir	5 pm Upper Air (850 mb) Wind Direction
Day	Day of the Week
Prior	Prior-Day Maximum Eight-Hour Average Ozone Concentration

*Variable selected from Principal Component Analysis (PCA)

Using the 14 independent variables listed above and the monitor-specific daily maximum eight-hour average ozone concentration dependent variable, the regression analysis was run for each of the six monitors that exceeded on June 20, 2015. This produces a unique regression equation for each of the exceeding monitoring sites that can be used to predict ozone concentrations with the set of known independent variables. The regression analysis was run to select the best subset of multiple forward stepwise selection runs, based upon the adjusted R^2 criterion in IBM SPSS statistical software, version 21. The adjusted R^2 criterion is based on the fit of the training set, and is adjusted to penalize overly complex models.

Some basic performance statistics of the resulting regression analysis are included in Table 3–4. The overall measure of how well the regression analysis model is able to explain the observed ozone concentration is listed as the adjusted R^2 value. The adjusted R^2 values range from 0.498 to 0.584 and are comparable to adjusted R^2 values seen in other similar analyses using observed meteorological data⁵. The F -statistics for all of the models are statistically significant (p value less than 0.05), indicating that the independent variables can be relied upon to predict the dependent variable (ozone concentrations). A detailed description of the performance of the regression analysis models is included in Appendix D.

⁵ California Air Resources Board, (2011). Exceptional Events Demonstration for 1-Hour Ozone Exceedances in the Sacramento Regional Nonattainment Area Due to 2008 Wildfires. Jaffe et al., (2013). Impact of Wildfires on Ozone Exceptional Events in the Western U.S. Environmental Science & Technology 47, 11065-11072.

Table 3-4. Regression Analysis Basic Performance Statistics.

Monitor	Adjusted. R²	F	Significance (p)
Apache Junction – Model Summary	0.559	25.632	0.000
Blue Point – Model Summary	0.508	18.966	0.000
Falcon Field – Model Summary	0.493	16.379	0.000
Mesa – Model Summary	0.562	10.213	0.000
Pinnacle Peak – Model Summary	0.498	14.054	0.000
Tonto Nat. Monument – Model Summary	0.584	19.052	0.000

A list of the coefficient, importance, *t*-statistic, *p* value, and standard error of the independent variables for each of the six exceeding monitors' regression analysis models is included in Table D–6 of Appendix D. The independent variables that are included in each monitoring site's regression analysis are not identical in each model. This is not unexpected given that the monitoring sites are situated in disparate locations including dense-urban areas (Mesa), suburban areas (Pinnacle Peak) and rural locations (Tonto National Monument), which allow for different interactions between meteorology and the NO_x and VOC precursor emissions that lead to ozone formation. Despite some variation, all monitoring sites were significantly influenced by the prior day ozone concentration, atmospheric stability and/or pressure measurements, and multiple wind speed and direction measurements.

Regression Analysis Results

The results of the regression analysis for each of the monitoring sites predict maximum daily eight-hour ozone values on June 20, 2015 between 0.065 and 0.070 ppm (values truncated to three decimal points in keeping with the form of the standard), well below the 2008 ozone standard of 0.075 ppm. The results confirm the assumption that under the meteorological conditions that existed on June 20, 2015, the monitors would normally not have exceeded the 2008 ozone standard, and suggests that an out-of-the-norm variable (e.g., increased emissions from the wildfire) influenced the ozone concentrations on June 20, 2015. The difference between the observed and predicted ozone concentrations can be used to infer the amount of additional ozone created by the wildfire emissions. Using this as a metric, the wildfire is estimated to have contributed additional ozone concentrations of between 0.008 ppm to 0.013 ppm on June 20, 2015. These results provide evidence to support the assertion that the exceedances on June 20, 2015 would not have occurred “but for” the additional ozone and ozone precursor emissions created by the Lake Fire.

The robustness of this result can also be investigated by comparing the differences between all of the observed ozone concentrations and all of the predicted ozone concentrations in the regression analyses datasets. This provides a method to evaluate how much of a departure the exceeding (observed) concentrations are as compared to the expected (predicted) concentrations (i.e., statistically identifying how rare the observed concentrations are). The positive difference (when the model predicts a concentration that is less than the observed concentration) between the observed and predicted ozone concentration on June 20, 2015 can be compared to all of the recorded positive differences in the regression analysis data set (2010-2015) by assigning a percentile rank to the June 20, 2015 positive difference. Since we are not interested in those days when the model predicts a concentration that is higher than the observed concentration, days with negative differences are not included in the percentile rankings.

The percentile rank of the positive differences between the observed and predicted ozone concentrations for each of the exceeding six monitors on June 20, 2015 range from the 83rd to the 92nd percentile. This means that on average, the regression analysis indicates there is only a 8 to 17 percent chance that the

positive difference between the observed and predicted ozone concentrations recorded at the six exceeding monitors would be produced under the meteorological conditions that existed on June 20, 2015. As such, the regression analysis results provide another piece of evidence, when viewed in context of the whole body of evidence, which points to the significant contribution of the Lake Fire emissions to the ozone concentrations at the exceeding monitors in the Maricopa nonattainment area on June 20, 2015. Table 3-5 contains the observed and predicted ozone concentrations for June 20, 2015, the difference between the observed and the predicted concentrations, and the percentile ranking of the difference for each of the exceeding monitors. Additional information and examination of the regression analysis results are included in Appendix D.

Table 3-5. Regression Analysis Results.

Monitor	Observed Ozone Concentration on June 20, 2015	Predicted Ozone Concentration on June 20, 2015	Difference Between Observed and Predicted Ozone Concentrations	Percentile Rank of Positive Difference
Apache Junction	0.078 ppm	0.065 ppm	0.013 ppm	92nd
Blue Point	0.077 ppm	0.065 ppm	0.012 ppm	91st
Falcon Field	0.080 ppm	0.068 ppm	0.012 ppm	89th
Mesa	0.079 ppm	0.069 ppm	0.010 ppm	84th
Pinnacle Peak	0.078 ppm	0.070 ppm	0.008 ppm	83rd
Tonto Nat. Monument	0.079 ppm	0.070 ppm	0.009 ppm	84th

IV. NATURAL EVENT AND NOT REASONABLY CONTROLLABLE OR PREVENTABLE CRITERIA

Natural Event

Clean Air Act Section 319(b)(1)(A)(iii) defines an exceptional event as “an event caused by human activity that is unlikely to recur at a particular location or a natural event”. The current exceptional events rule at 40 CFR Section 50.14(c)(3)(iv)(A) requires that evidence be provided in an exceptional event demonstration that this definition has been met. EPA’s proposed revisions to the exceptional events rule defines a wildfire as “any fire started by an unplanned ignition caused by lightning; volcanoes; other acts of nature; unauthorized activity; or accidental, human-caused actions, or a prescribed fire that has been declared to be a wildfire. A wildfire that predominantly occurs on wildland is a natural event.” The proposed revisions define wildland as “an area in which human activity and development is essentially non-existent, except for roads, railroads, power lines, and similar transportation facilities. Structures, if any, are widely scattered.” Lastly, in the Wildfire Guidance, EPA states that “the EPA believes that treating all wildfires on wildland as natural events is consistent with the CAA and the EER.”

Based on the documentation provided in Section II of this submittal, the event meets the definition of a wildfire, as the Lake Fire was caused by unauthorized human activity in the wildland areas of the San Bernardino National Forest. As EPA considers all wildfires to be natural events, the event that caused the ozone exceedances in the Maricopa nonattainment area on June 20, 2015 therefore qualifies as a natural event.

Not Reasonably Controllable or Preventable

Clean Air Act Section 319(b)(1)(A)(ii) requires that an exceptional event be “not reasonably controllable or preventable”. The current exceptional events rule at 40 CFR Section 50.14(c)(3)(iv)(A) also requires that evidence be provided in an exceptional event demonstration that the event was not reasonably controllable or preventable. This criterion applies to both natural events and events caused by human activity unlikely to recur.

The proposed revisions to the exceptional events rule clarify that the documentation of the event must demonstrate that the event was both not reasonably controllable and not reasonably preventable. Both the Wildfire Guidance and the proposed revisions to the exceptional events rule presume that wildfires on wildlands satisfy both of these factors. Since the Lake Fire has been shown to be a wildfire on wildland in prior sections of this submittal, the exceedances on June 20, 2015 are therefore neither reasonably controllable nor preventable. Additionally since the wildfire occurred on wildland outside of the state of Arizona (southeastern California), the state of Arizona has no means to prevent the wildfire from occurring or to prevent the transport of ozone and ozone precursor emissions from the fire which caused the exceedances on June 20, 2015 in the Maricopa nonattainment area.

V. SUMMARY CONCLUSION

The documentation presented above provides ample weight of evidence that the six exceedances of the 2008 ozone standard on June 20, 2015 in (or very near) the Maricopa eight-hour ozone nonattainment area were caused by transported ozone and ozone precursor emissions from the southern California Lake Fire, qualifying these exceedances for exclusion under the exceptional events rule. A bulleted summary of the documentation is provided below:

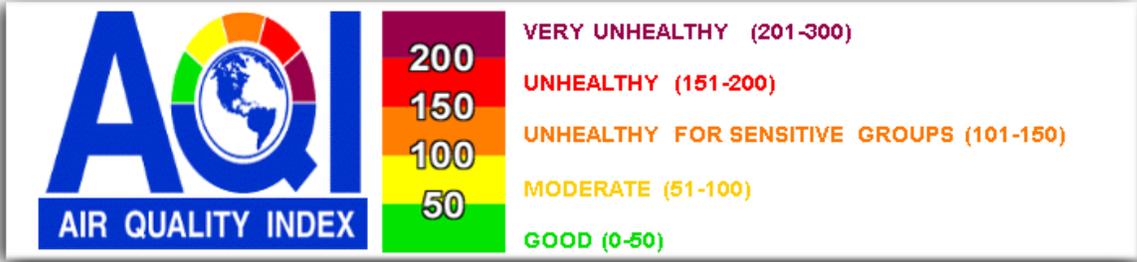
- The event affected air quality at the exceeding monitors as evidenced by a historical comparison of the ozone concentrations at the exceeding monitors. This comparison indicated that the exceedances on June 20, 2015 were either at or above the 99th percentile, or the exceedance was one of the top three highest concentrations recorded in 2015. Evidence presented in support of a clear causal relationship between the June 20, 2015 exceedances and the transported ozone and ozone precursor emissions from the Lake Fire forms a link between the affected air quality at the exceeding monitors and the Lake Fire emissions.
- The conceptual model discussion of how the Lake Fire emissions affected ozone concentrations in the Maricopa nonattainment area and the clear causal relationship between the six exceedances in the Maricopa nonattainment area and the transported ozone and ozone precursor emissions from the Lake Fire is established through:
 - (1) Maps and documentation showing the location and extent of the Lake Fire during June 17-June 20, 2015;
 - (2) A discussion of the rapid growth of the Lake Fire on June 18, 2015 and June 19, 2015 showing that the majority of the emissions from the Lake Fire that affected Arizona and the nonattainment area were emitted on June 18, 2015 and June 19, 2015;
 - (3) Satellite photos of transported smoke across Arizona preceding the exceedances;
 - (4) Daily upper and lower level wind maps detailing the prevailing transport of air from the Lake Fire to the Maricopa nonattainment area;
 - (5) Calculation of the daily VOC and NO_x emissions from the Lake Fire and the daily Q/D ratios on June 17-19, 2015;
 - (6) Hysplit back trajectories confirming air movement from the Lake Fire area to the nonattainment area at lower and upper altitudes;
 - (7) NOAA smoke maps showing the dispersion of smoke across Arizona on June 17-20, 2015;
 - (8) Coinciding rise in ozone concentrations across northern and central Arizona and the Maricopa nonattainment area as ozone and ozone precursor emissions from the Lake Fire transported from California to Arizona and the nonattainment area;
 - (9) Elevated concentrations of PM_{2.5} in the western Arizona areas of Yuma and Alamo Lake coinciding with transport from the Lake Fire;
 - (10) A Higher percentage of organic and elemental carbon as a portion of PM_{2.5} concentrations in the Maricopa nonattainment area;
 - (11) Unusually high concentrations of NO₂ on June 20, 2015 (a Saturday) in the nonattainment that differ from the standard weekday-weekend pattern observed in June, indicating the presence of an additional source of ozone or ozone precursors emissions;
 - (12) Increased levels of NO₂ on the days preceding the June 20, 2015 exceedances as compared to the days preceding a non-event exceedance on June 12, 2015; and

(13) A regression analysis providing evidence that the ozone concentrations recorded on June 20, 2015 were statistically likely to be produced on average only 8 to 17 percent of the time under the meteorological conditions that were present in the nonattainment area on June 20, 2015. The regression analysis predicted ozone concentrations without the influence of the Lake Fire emissions at 0.065 to .070 ppm, well below the 2008 ozone standard of 0.075 ppm, providing evidence that the exceedances were unlikely to occur “but for” the additional transported ozone and ozone precursor emissions created by the Lake Fire.

- The event is a natural event. Wildfires on wildlands (whether caused by human activity or natural activity) are acknowledged as natural events in the Wildfire Guidance and the proposed revisions to the exceptional events rule.
- The event was neither reasonably controllable nor preventable, as the State of Arizona cannot control or prevent the ignition of a wildfire and the subsequent transport of ozone and ozone precursor emissions into Arizona and the nonattainment area from a wildfire in southeastern California.

APPENDIX A

ADEQ FORECAST PRODUCTS FOR GREATER PHORNIX AREA



AIR QUALITY FORECAST FOR Saturday, June 20, 2015

This report is updated by 1:00 p.m. Sunday thru Friday and is valid for areas within and bordering Maricopa County in Arizona

FORECAST DATE	YESTERDAY <u>Thu 06/18/2015</u>	TODAY <u>Fri 06/19/2015</u>	TOMORROW <u>Sat 06/20/2015</u>	EXTENDED <u>Sun 06/21/2015</u>
NOTICES (*SEE BELOW FOR DETAILS)	Ozone Health Watch			
AIR POLLUTANT	Highest AQI Reading/Site (*Preliminary data only*)			
O3*	84 North Phoenix & Pinnacle Peak	87 <i>Moderate</i>	84 <i>Moderate</i>	84 <i>Moderate</i>
CO*	8 Greenwood	6 <i>Good</i>	5 <i>Good</i>	5 <i>Good</i>
PM-10*	62 Buckeye	40 <i>Good</i>	42 <i>Good</i>	40 <i>Good</i>
PM-2.5*	43 Durango	52 <i>Moderate</i>	51 <i>Moderate</i>	47 <i>Good</i>

* O3 = Ozone CO = Carbon Monoxide PM-10 = Particles 10 microns & smaller PM-2.5 = Particles smaller than 2.5 microns
 **"Ozone Health Watch" means that the highest concentration of OZONE may approach the federal health standard.
 "PM-10 or PM-2.5 Health Watch" means that the highest concentration of PM-10 or PM-2.5 may approach the federal health standard.
 "High Pollution Advisory" means that the highest concentration of OZONE, PM-10, or PM-2.5 may exceed the federal health standard.
 "DUST" means that short periods of high PM-10 concentrations caused by outflow from thunderstorms are possible.

Health Statements	
Friday, 06/19/2015	Unusually sensitive people should consider reducing prolonged or heavy exertion outdoors.
Saturday, 06/20/2015	Unusually sensitive people should consider reducing prolonged or heavy exertion outdoors.

SYNOPSIS AND DISCUSSION

The high temperature yesterday reached a record matching 115°F! Similar temperatures will continue through the weekend and into next week. The National Weather Service has an Excessive Heat Warning in effect through Monday. Looking at air quality, there are a few interesting situations to discuss. First of all, ozone continues to be elevated due to the mostly clear skies and less than ideal ventilation. We do not have an Ozone Health Watch issued anymore, but concentrations will continue to approach Health Watch criteria. Secondly, Buckeye PM-10 concentrations were again in the Moderate levels. This is due to unknown local activity and continues to be an outlier compared to the rest of the monitor network. Therefore, I will continue to forecast PM-10 concentrations in the Good range as that is what the rest of the forecast area is expected to be. Lastly, and perhaps most interesting, is PM-2.5. You may have noticed the smoke while driving into work this morning. There are a few little fires around the state; however, the large Lake Fire in Southern California is the primary culprit. Fortunately, the vast majority of the smoke is staying aloft with only a slight increase in PM-2.5 concentrations near the surface. Satellite imagery of the large smoke plume reaching into Arizona makes it look worse than it is. Afternoon heating and winds should create enough dispersion to prevent concentrations from reaching unhealthy levels.

Check back on Sunday for a look ahead at next week's weather and air quality. Until then, have a great weekend! -R.Nicoll

MONITORING SITE MAPS	
INTERACTIVE MAPS	http://alert.fcd.maricopa.gov/alert/Google/v3/air.html http://www.airnow.gov/

POLLUTION MONITOR READINGS FOR Thursday, June 18, 2015

O3 (OZONE)

SITE NAME	MAX 8-HR VALUE (PPB)	MAX AQI	AQI COLOR CODE
Alamo Lake	66	71	
Apache Junction	69	80	
Blue Point	66	71	
Buckeye	51	43	
Casa Grande	60	51	
Cave Creek	64	64	
Central Phoenix	63	61	
Dysart	60	51	
Falcon Field	69	80	
Fountain Hills	63	61	
Glendale	58	49	
Humboldt Mountain	59	50	
Phoenix Supersite	69	80	
Mesa	68	77	
North Phoenix	70	84	
Pinal Air Park	62	58	
Pinnacle Peak	70	84	
Queen Valley	69	80	

Rio Verde	58	49	
South Phoenix	63	61	
South Scottsdale	60	51	
Tempe	NOT AVBL	NOT AVBL	NOT AVBL
Tonto Nat'l Mon.	69	80	
West Chandler	67	74	
West Phoenix	66	71	
Yuma	72	90	

CO (CARBON MONOXIDE)

SITE NAME	MAX 8-HR VALUE (PPM)	MAX AQI	AQI COLOR CODE
Central Phoenix	0.5	6	
Greenwood	0.7	8	
Phoenix Supersite	0.5	6	
West Phoenix	0.5	6	

PM-10 (PARTICLES)

SITE NAME	MAX 24-HR VALUE (µg/m3)	MAX AQI	AQI COLOR CODE
Buckeye	77.4	62	
Central Phoenix	39.7	37	
Combs School (Pinal County)	50.5	47	
Durango	41.2	38	
Dysart	32.4	30	
Glendale	22.4	21	
Greenwood	40.2	37	
Higley	NOT AVBL	NOT AVBL	NOT AVBL
Maricopa (Pinal County)	48.7	45	
Phoenix Supersite	28.6	26	
Mesa	22.9	21	
North Phoenix	25.5	24	
South Phoenix	32.2	30	
South Scottsdale	54.3	50	
Tempe	NOT AVBL	NOT AVBL	NOT AVBL
West Chandler	35.0	32	
West Forty Third	62.1	55	
West Phoenix	22.6	21	
Zuni Hills	25.7	24	

PM-2.5 (PARTICLES)

SITE NAME	MAX 24-HR VALUE (µg/m3)	MAX AQI	AQI COLOR CODE
Diablo	8.2	34	
Durango	10.3	43	
Glendale	6.3	26	
Phoenix Supersite	5.5	23	
Mesa	7.7	32	
North Phoenix	7.3	30	
South Phoenix	7.8	33	
Tempe	NOT AVBL	NOT AVBL	NOT AVBL
West Phoenix	7.0	29	

DESCRIPTION OF LOCAL AIR POLLUTANTS IN DETAIL



O3 (OZONE):

Description –

This is a secondary pollutant that is formed by the reaction of other primary pollutants (precursors) such as VOCs (volatile organic compounds) and NOx (Nitrogen Oxides) in the presence of heat and sunlight.

Sources – VOCs are emitted from motor vehicles, chemical plants, refineries, factories, and other industrial sources. NOx is emitted from motor vehicles, power plants, and other sources of combustion.

Potential health impacts – Exposure to ozone can make people more susceptible to respiratory infection, result in lung inflammation, and aggravate pre-existing respiratory diseases such as asthma. Other effects include decrease in lung function, chest pain, and cough.

Unit of measurement – Parts per billion (ppb).

Averaging interval – Highest eight-hour period within a 24-hour period (midnight to midnight)

Reduction tips – Curtail daytime driving, refuel cars and use gasoline-powered equipment as late in the day as possible.

CO (CARBON MONOXIDE):

Description – A colorless, odorless, poisonous gas formed when carbon in fuels is not burned completely.

Sources – In cities, as much as 95 percent of all CO emissions emanate from automobile exhaust. Other sources include industrial processes, non-transportation fuel combustion, and natural sources such as wildfires. Peak concentrations occur in colder winter months.

Potential health impacts – Reduces oxygen delivery to the body's organs and tissues. The health threat is most serious for those who suffer from cardiovascular disease.

Unit of measurement – Parts per million (ppm).

Averaging interval – Highest eight-hour period within a 24-hour period (midnight to midnight)

Reduction tips – Keep motor vehicle tuned properly and minimize nighttime driving.

PM-10 & PM-2.5 (PARTICLES):

Description – The term “particulate matter” (PM) includes both solid particles and liquid droplets found in air. Many manmade and natural sources emit PM directly or emit other pollutants that react in the atmosphere to form PM. Particles less than 10 micrometers in diameter tend to pose the greatest health concern because they can be inhaled into and accumulate in the respiratory system. Particles less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter are referred to as “fine” particles and are responsible for many visibility degradations such as the “Valley Brown Cloud” (see <http://www.phoenixvis.net/>). Particles with diameters between 2.5 and 10 micrometers are referred to as “coarse”.

Sources – Fine = All types of combustion (motor vehicles, power plants, wood burning, etc.) and some industrial processes. Coarse = crushing or grinding operations and dust from paved or unpaved roads.

Potential health impacts – PM can increase susceptibility to respiratory infections and can aggravate existing respiratory diseases, such as asthma and chronic bronchitis.

Units of measurement – Micrograms per cubic meter (ug/m3)

Averaging interval – 24 hours (midnight to midnight).

Reduction tips – Stabilize loose soils, slow down on dirt roads, carpool, and use public transit.

{Updated 12/19/2011}



AIR QUALITY FORECAST FOR Monday, June 22, 2015

This report is updated by 1:00 p.m. Sunday thru Friday and is valid for areas within and bordering Maricopa County in Arizona

FORECAST DATE	YESTERDAY <u>Sat 06/20/2015</u>	TODAY <u>Sun 06/21/2015</u>	TOMORROW <u>Mon 06/22/2015</u>	EXTENDED <u>Tue 06/23/2015</u>
NOTICES (*SEE BELOW FOR DETAILS)		Same Day Ozone Health Watch	Ozone Health Watch	
AIR POLLUTANT	Highest AQI Reading/Site (*Preliminary data only*)			
O3*	111 Falcon Field	98 <i>Moderate</i>	92 <i>Moderate</i>	88 <i>Moderate</i>
CO*	8 Greenwood	5 <i>Good</i>	6 <i>Good</i>	5 <i>Good</i>
PM-10*	51 Buckeye	40 <i>Good</i>	42 <i>Good</i>	46 <i>Good</i>
PM-2.5*	33 South Phoenix	47 <i>Good</i>	34 <i>Good</i>	38 <i>Good</i>

* O3 = Ozone CO = Carbon Monoxide PM-10 = Particles 10 microns & smaller PM-2.5 = Particles smaller than 2.5 microns
 **"Ozone Health Watch" means that the highest concentration of OZONE may approach the federal health standard.
 "PM-10 or PM-2.5 Health Watch" means that the highest concentration of PM-10 or PM-2.5 may approach the federal health standard.
 "High Pollution Advisory" means that the highest concentration of OZONE, PM-10, or PM-2.5 may exceed the federal health standard.
 "DUST" means that short periods of high PM-10 concentrations caused by outflow from thunderstorms are possible.

Health Statements	
Sunday, 06/21/2015	Unusually sensitive people should consider reducing prolonged or heavy exertion outdoors.
Monday, 06/22/2015	Unusually sensitive people should consider reducing prolonged or heavy exertion outdoors.

SYNOPSIS AND DISCUSSION

Several monitors in the eastern part of the Valley reported an ozone exceedance. This pool of ozone originally began near the southwestern part of the state and moved eastward through Yuma. Lake Fire in Southern California burned through quite a lot of vegetation and released vast amounts of VOCs into the atmosphere. This is a major precursor of ozone. Thus, Yuma reported very high concentrations of this pollutant on Friday and around 24 hours later, it hit the Valley.

Looking ahead, it seems like ozone will likely be an issue for the next couple of days. Therefore, a same day Ozone Health Watch is warranted. The high pressure system overhead will continue its influence over the Southwest. Surface winds are expected to be fairly breezy with hot temperatures during the day. The atmosphere overhead is very dry, and it will continue to remain this way for the next couple of days. Once this surface high moves eastward, a moisture surge from the Gulf of Mexico will take place. This mid-level moisture surge has a strong potential to bring us our first monsoonal rains. However, it will probably occur towards the end of this work week. So, in the meantime, expect very hot temperatures with elevated ozone and low PM-10 concentrations.

Check back tomorrow for more. Until then, have a good day! -P.Patel

MONITORING SITE MAPS	
INTERACTIVE MAPS	http://alert.fcd.maricopa.gov/alert/Google/v3/air.html http://www.airnow.gov/

POLLUTION MONITOR READINGS FOR Saturday, June 20, 2015

O3 (OZONE)

SITE NAME	MAX 8-HR VALUE (PPB)	MAX AQI	AQI COLOR CODE
Alamo Lake	60	51	
Apache Junction	78	106	
Blue Point	77	104	
Buckeye	54	46	
Casa Grande	63	61	
Cave Creek	69	80	
Central Phoenix	68	77	
Dysart	62	58	
Falcon Field	80	111	
Fountain Hills	73	93	
Glendale	64	64	
Humboldt Mountain	73	93	
Phoenix Supersite	68	77	
Mesa	79	109	
North Phoenix	73	93	
Pinal Air Park	61	54	
Pinnacle Peak	78	106	
Queen Valley	73	93	
Rio Verde	65	67	
South Phoenix	67	74	
South Scottsdale	70	84	

Tempe	NOT AVBL	NOT AVBL	NOT AVBL
Tonto Nat'l Mon.	79	109	
West Chandler	69	80	
West Phoenix	67	74	
Yuma	43	36	

CO (CARBON MONOXIDE)

SITE NAME	MAX 8-HR VALUE (PPM)	MAX AQI	AQI COLOR CODE
Central Phoenix	0.4	5	
Greenwood	0.7	8	
Phoenix Supersite	0.5	6	
West Phoenix	0.5	6	

PM-10 (PARTICLES)

SITE NAME	MAX 24-HR VALUE (µg/m3)	MAX AQI	AQI COLOR CODE
Buckeye	54.9	51	
Central Phoenix	34.1	32	
Combs School (Pinal County)	44.4	41	
Durango	23.0	21	
Dysart	27.5	25	
Glendale	22.5	21	
Greenwood	34.8	32	
Higley	NOT AVBL	NOT AVBL	NOT AVBL
Maricopa (Pinal County)	65.3	56	
Phoenix Supersite	29.5	27	
Mesa	18.8	17	
North Phoenix	25.3	23	
South Phoenix	27.4	25	
South Scottsdale	34.1	32	
Tempe	NOT AVBL	NOT AVBL	NOT AVBL
West Chandler	31.2	29	
West Forty Third	40.1	37	
West Phoenix	27.5	25	
Zuni Hills	27.0	25	

PM-2.5 (PARTICLES)

SITE NAME	MAX 24-HR VALUE (µg/m3)	MAX AQI	AQI COLOR CODE
Diablo	7.7	32	
Durango	7.7	32	
Glendale	7.0	29	
Phoenix Supersite	6.3	26	
Mesa	7.0	29	
North Phoenix	7.2	30	
South Phoenix	7.9	33	
Tempe	NOT AVBL	NOT AVBL	NOT AVBL
West Phoenix	7.6	32	

DESCRIPTION OF LOCAL AIR POLLUTANTS IN DETAIL



O3 (OZONE):

Description –

This is a secondary pollutant that is formed by the reaction of other primary pollutants (precursors) such as VOCs (volatile organic compounds) and NOx (Nitrogen Oxides) in the presence of heat and sunlight.

Sources – VOCs are emitted from motor vehicles, chemical plants, refineries, factories, and other industrial sources. NOx is emitted from motor vehicles, power plants, and other sources of combustion.

Potential health impacts – Exposure to ozone can make people more susceptible to respiratory infection, result in lung inflammation, and aggravate pre-existing respiratory diseases such as asthma. Other effects include decrease in lung function, chest pain, and cough.

Unit of measurement – Parts per billion (ppb).

Averaging interval – Highest eight-hour period within a 24-hour period (midnight to midnight)

Reduction tips – Curtail daytime driving, refuel cars and use gasoline-powered equipment as late in the day as possible.

CO (CARBON MONOXIDE):

Description – A colorless, odorless, poisonous gas formed when carbon in fuels is not burned completely.

Sources – In cities, as much as 95 percent of all CO emissions emanate from automobile exhaust. Other sources include industrial processes, non-transportation fuel combustion, and natural sources such as wildfires. Peak concentrations occur in colder winter months.

Potential health impacts – Reduces oxygen delivery to the body's organs and tissues. The health threat is most serious for those who suffer from cardiovascular disease.

Unit of measurement – Parts per million (ppm).

Averaging interval – Highest eight-hour period within a 24-hour period (midnight to midnight)

Reduction tips – Keep motor vehicle tuned properly and minimize nighttime driving.

PM-10 & PM-2.5 (PARTICLES):

Description – The term “particulate matter” (PM) includes both solid particles and liquid droplets found in air. Many manmade and natural sources emit PM directly or emit other pollutants that react in the atmosphere to form PM. Particles less than 10 micrometers in diameter tend to pose the greatest health concern because they can be inhaled into and accumulate in the respiratory system. Particles less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter are referred to as “fine” particles and are responsible for many visibility degradations such as the “Valley Brown Cloud” (see <http://www.phoenixvis.net/>). Particles with diameters between 2.5 and 10 micrometers are referred to as “coarse”.

Sources – Fine = All types of combustion (motor vehicles, power plants, wood burning, etc.) and some industrial processes. Coarse = crushing or grinding operations and dust from paved or unpaved roads.

Potential health impacts – PM can increase susceptibility to respiratory infections and can aggravate existing respiratory diseases, such as asthma and chronic bronchitis.

Units of measurement – Micrograms per cubic meter (ug/m3)

Averaging interval – 24 hours (midnight to midnight).

Reduction tips – Stabilize loose soils, slow down on dirt roads, carpool, and use public transit.

{Updated 12/19/2011}

APPENDIX B

NWS METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT PHOENIX SKY HARBOR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration

National Climatic Data Center
Federal Building
151 Patton Avenue
Asheville, North Carolina 28801

**QUALITY CONTROLLED LOCAL
CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA
(final)
HOURLY OBSERVATIONS TABLE
PHOENIX SKY HARBOR INTL AIRPORT (23183)
PHOENIX, AZ
(06/2015)**

Elevation: 1107 ft. above sea level
Latitude: 33.427
Longitude: -112.003
Data Version: VER3

Date	Time (LST)	Station Type	Sky Conditions	Visibility (SM)	Weather Type	Dry Bulb Temp		Wet Bulb Temp		Dew Point Temp		Rel Humd %	Wind Speed (MPH)	Wind Dir	Wind Gusts (MPH)	Station Pressure (in. hg)	Press Tend	Net 3-hr Chg (mb)	Sea Level Pressure (in. hg)	Report Type	Precip. Total (in)	Alti-meter (in. hg)
						(F)	(C)	(F)	(C)	(F)	(C)											
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
17	0051	11	CLR	10.00		98	36.7	65	18.4	42	5.6	15	15	270		28.60			29.70	AA		29.77
17	0151	11	CLR	10.00		92	33.3	64	17.7	44	6.7	19	7	250		28.61			29.71	AA		29.78
17	0251	11	CLR	10.00		91	32.8	64	17.5	44	6.7	20	0	000		28.62			29.72	AA		29.79
17	0351	11	CLR	10.00		90	32.2	64	17.8	46	7.8	22	5	140		28.63			29.73	AA		29.80
17	0451	11	FEW130	10.00		90	32.2	64	17.6	45	7.2	21	0	000		28.63			29.72	AA		29.80
17	0551	11	FEW150	10.00		86	30.0	64	18.0	50	10.0	29	9	090		28.64			29.75	AA		29.81
17	0651	11	CLR	10.00		88	31.1	64	17.9	48	8.9	25	8	110		28.66			29.76	AA		29.83
17	0751	11	FEW180	10.00		93	33.9	65	18.3	46	7.8	20	8	120		28.68			29.78	AA		29.85
17	0851	11	FEW180	10.00		98	36.7	67	19.2	46	7.8	17	5	150		28.68			29.78	AA		29.85
17	0951	11	FEW180	10.00		100	37.8	67	19.3	45	7.2	15	9	090		28.68			29.78	AA		29.85
17	1051	11	FEW120	10.00		103	39.4	68	20.0	46	7.8	14	7	140		28.68			29.78	AA		29.85
17	1151	11	FEW120	10.00		107	41.7	69	20.5	45	7.2	12	7	VR		28.66			29.76	AA		29.83
17	1251	11	FEW120	10.00		110	43.3	68	20.0	39	3.9	9	0	000		28.64			29.74	AA		29.81
17	1351	11	FEW120	10.00		111	43.9	67	19.2	32	0.0	6	11	330		28.62			29.72	AA		29.79
17	1451	11	FEW120 FEW250	10.00		112	44.4	67	19.4	33	0.6	7	10	270		28.59			29.68	AA		29.76
17	1551	11	FEW120 FEW250	10.00		113	45.0	68	19.9	35	1.7	7	16	270	24	28.56			29.66	AA		29.73
17	1651	11	FEW120 FEW250	10.00		112	44.4	68	19.8	36	2.2	7	11	270	21	28.54			29.64	AA		29.71
17	1751	11	FEW120 FEW250	10.00		111	43.9	67	19.5	35	1.7	7	16	280		28.53			29.62	AA		29.70
17	1851	11	FEW120 SCT250	10.00		111	43.9	67	19.5	35	1.7	7	16	260		28.53			29.63	AA		29.70
17	1951	11	FEW120 SCT210 BKN250	10.00		107	41.7	67	19.1	37	2.8	9	13	260		28.54			29.63	AA		29.71
17	2051	11	FEW120 FEW210 BKN250	10.00		104	40.0	66	18.9	39	3.9	11	6	250		28.56			29.65	AA		29.73
17	2151	11	FEW250	10.00		105	40.6	66	18.9	38	3.3	10	9	290		28.58			29.67	AA		29.75
17	2251	11	CLR	10.00		104	40.0	66	18.6	37	2.8	10	13	290		28.58			29.67	AA		29.75
17	2351	11	CLR	10.00		98	36.7	65	18.0	40	4.4	13	9	260		28.58			29.68	AA		29.75

Dynamically generated Wed May 25 12:46:37 EDT 2016 via <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/qclcd/QCLCD>

U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration

National Climatic Data Center
Federal Building
151 Patton Avenue
Asheville, North Carolina 28801

**QUALITY CONTROLLED LOCAL
CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA
(final)
HOURLY OBSERVATIONS TABLE
PHOENIX SKY HARBOR INTL AIRPORT (23183)
PHOENIX, AZ
(06/2015)**

Elevation: 1107 ft. above sea level
Latitude: 33.427
Longitude: -112.003
Data Version: VER3

Date	Time (LST)	Station Type	Sky Conditions	Visibility (SM)	Weather Type	Dry Bulb Temp		Wet Bulb Temp		Dew Point Temp		Rel Humd %	Wind Speed (MPH)	Wind Dir	Wind Gusts (MPH)	Station Pressure (in. hg)	Press Tend	Net 3-hr Chg (mb)	Sea Level Pressure (in. hg)	Report Type	Precip. Total (in)	Alti-meter (in. hg)
						(F)	(C)	(F)	(C)	(F)	(C)											
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
18	0051	11	CLR	10.00		99	37.2	65	18.0	39	3.9	12	9	310		28.59		29.68	AA		29.76	
18	0151	11	CLR	10.00		97	36.1	64	17.9	40	4.4	14	9	320		28.59		29.68	AA		29.76	
18	0251	11	CLR	10.00		96	35.6	63	17.3	38	3.3	13	6	270		28.59		29.69	AA		29.76	
18	0351	11	CLR	10.00		89	31.7	63	17.2	44	6.7	21	3	250		28.60		29.70	AA		29.77	
18	0451	11	FEW150	10.00		88	31.1	63	17.2	45	7.2	22	5	110		28.61		29.71	AA		29.78	
18	0551	11	CLR	10.00		88	31.1	62	16.6	42	5.6	20	6	090		28.64		29.74	AA		29.81	
18	0651	11	CLR	10.00		90	32.2	63	16.9	42	5.6	19	8	080		28.66		29.76	AA		29.83	
18	0751	11	CLR	10.00		93	33.9	64	17.7	43	6.1	18	5	100		28.66		29.77	AA		29.84	
18	0851	11	CLR	10.00		98	36.7	65	18.2	41	5.0	14	3	VR		28.68		29.78	AA		29.85	
18	0951	11	CLR	10.00		102	38.9	66	18.9	41	5.0	12	5	100		28.68		29.77	AA		29.85	
18	1051	11	CLR	10.00		106	41.1	67	19.3	39	3.9	10	0	000		28.68		29.77	AA		29.85	
18	1151	11	CLR	10.00		109	42.8	67	19.3	36	2.2	8	3	VR		28.66		29.75	AA		29.83	
18	1251	11	FEW120	10.00		112	44.4	67	19.6	34	1.1	7	5	270		28.64		29.73	AA		29.81	
18	1351	11	FEW120	10.00		111	43.9	67	19.3	33	0.6	7	6	260	20	28.61		29.70	AA		29.78	
18	1451	11	FEW120	10.00		114	45.6	68	19.8	33	0.6	6	13	280	18	28.58		29.68	AA		29.75	
18	1551	11	FEW120	10.00		114	45.6	67	19.7	32	0.0	6	13	240	21	28.56		29.66	AA		29.73	
18	1651	11	FEW120 FEW210	10.00		114	45.6	68	19.8	33	0.6	6	14	250	21	28.54		29.64	AA		29.71	
18	1751	11	FEW210	10.00		113	45.0	67	19.6	33	0.6	6	16	260	22	28.53		29.62	AA		29.70	
18	1851	11	SCT210	10.00		110	43.3	67	19.5	36	2.2	8	13	240		28.53		29.63	AA		29.70	
18	1951	11	SCT110 BKN210 BKN250	10.00		108	42.2	67	19.1	36	2.2	8	9	250		28.54		29.64	AA		29.71	
18	2051	11	SCT110 SCT210 BKN250	10.00		103	39.4	65	18.3	36	2.2	10	9	230		28.56		29.66	AA		29.73	
18	2151	11	FEW250	10.00		101	38.3	64	17.5	33	0.6	9	8	250		28.58		29.67	AA		29.75	
18	2251	11	FEW250	10.00		100	37.8	63	17.0	31	-0.6	9	7	270		28.58		29.68	AA		29.75	
18	2351	11	FEW250	10.00		99	37.2	63	16.9	32	0.0	9	9	270		28.58		29.68	AA		29.75	

Dynamically generated Wed May 25 12:47:36 EDT 2016 via <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/qclcd/QCLCD>

U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration

National Climatic Data Center
Federal Building
151 Patton Avenue
Asheville, North Carolina 28801

**QUALITY CONTROLLED LOCAL
CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA
(final)
HOURLY OBSERVATIONS TABLE
PHOENIX SKY HARBOR INTL AIRPORT (23183)
PHOENIX, AZ
(06/2015)**

Elevation: 1107 ft. above sea level
Latitude: 33.427
Longitude: -112.003
Data Version: VER3

Date	Time (LST)	Station Type	Sky Conditions	Visibility (SM)	Weather Type	Dry Bulb Temp		Wet Bulb Temp		Dew Point Temp		Rel Humd %	Wind Speed (MPH)	Wind Dir	Wind Gusts (MPH)	Station Pressure (in. hg)	Press Tend	Net 3-hr Chg (mb)	Sea Level Pressure (in. hg)	Report Type	Precip. Total (in)	Alti-meter (in. hg)
						(F)	(C)	(F)	(C)	(F)	(C)											
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
19	0051	11	FEW250	10.00		96	35.6	63	17.0	36	2.2	12	0	000		28.57			29.67	AA		29.74
19	0151	11	CLR	10.00		97	36.1	63	17.2	36	2.2	12	7	340		28.57			29.67	AA		29.74
19	0251	11	CLR	10.00		94	34.4	62	16.4	35	1.7	12	0	000		28.57			29.67	AA		29.74
19	0351	11	CLR	10.00		90	32.2	62	16.4	39	3.9	17	0	000		28.58			29.68	AA		29.75
19	0451	11	SCT250	10.00		87	30.6	62	16.6	43	6.1	21	3	180		28.59			29.70	AA		29.76
19	0551	11	SCT110 BKN200 BKN250	10.00		86	30.0	63	17.2	47	8.3	26	5	110		28.61			29.71	AA		29.78
19	0651	11	BKN220 BKN250	10.00		88	31.1	63	17.0	44	6.7	22	8	110		28.62			29.72	AA		29.79
19	0751	11	BKN220 BKN250	10.00		92	33.3	64	17.9	45	7.2	20	8	090		28.63			29.73	AA		29.80
19	0851	11	BKN250	10.00		97	36.1	65	18.4	43	6.1	16	8	100		28.64			29.74	AA		29.81
19	0951	11	BKN250	10.00		101	38.3	67	19.3	44	6.7	14	9	160	21	28.64			29.73	AA		29.81
19	1051	11	BKN250	10.00		105	40.6	65	18.5	35	1.7	9	7	120		28.63			29.72	AA		29.80
19	1151	11	BKN250	10.00		107	41.7	65	18.4	32	0.0	7	3	VR		28.61			29.71	AA		29.78
19	1251	11	BKN250	10.00		109	42.8	66	18.9	33	0.6	7	0	000		28.59			29.69	AA		29.76
19	1351	11	BKN250	10.00		111	43.9	65	18.5	26	-3.3	5	11	230	17	28.57			29.67	AA		29.74
19	1451	11	FEW210 BKN250	10.00		114	45.6	66	18.8	24	-4.4	4	18	270	28	28.56			29.65	AA		29.73
19	1528	11	CLR	10.00		112	44.4	65	18.1	20	-6.7	4	15	260		28.55			M	SP		29.72
19	1551	11	FEW210 BKN250	10.00		112	44.4	64	17.9	16	-8.9	3	11	250		28.54			29.63	AA		29.71
19	1651	11	FEW210 SCT250	10.00		111	43.9	64	17.5	13	-10.6	3	14	230	22	28.52			29.62	AA		29.69
19	1751	11	FEW210 SCT250	10.00		110	43.3	63	17.1	10	-12.2	3	13	270	20	28.51			29.61	AA		29.68
19	1851	11	CLR	10.00		109	42.8	62	16.8	5	-15.0	2	13	280		28.51			29.61	AA		29.68
19	1951	11	FEW250	10.00		105	40.6	61	16.0	7	-13.9	3	8	250		28.52			29.62	AA		29.69
19	2051	11	FEW250	10.00		100	37.8	59	15.0	9	-12.8	3	6	230		28.53			29.63	AA		29.70
19	2151	11	FEW250	10.00		98	36.7	58	14.6	10	-12.2	4	0	000		28.55			29.65	AA		29.72
19	2251	11	CLR	10.00		100	37.8	59	14.8	6	-14.4	3	0	000		28.56			29.65	AA		29.73
19	2351	11	CLR	10.00		90	32.2	58	14.6	28	-2.2	11	8	090		28.55			29.65	AA		29.72

Dynamically generated Wed May 25 12:48:04 EDT 2016 via <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/qclcd/QCLCD>

U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration

**QUALITY CONTROLLED LOCAL
CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA
(final)
HOURLY OBSERVATIONS TABLE
PHOENIX SKY HARBOR INTL AIRPORT
(23183)
PHOENIX, AZ
(06/2015)**

National Climatic Data Center
Federal Building
151 Patton Avenue
Asheville, North Carolina 28801

Elevation: 1107 ft. above sea level

Latitude: 33.427

Longitude: -112.003

Data Version: VER3

Date	Time (LST)	Station Type	Sky Conditions	Visibility (SM)	Weather Type	Dry Bulb Temp		Wet Bulb Temp		Dew Point Temp		Rel Humd %	Wind Speed (MPH)	Wind Dir	Wind Gusts (MPH)	Station Pressure (in. hg)	Press Tend	Net 3-hr Chg (mb)	Sea Level Pressure (in. hg)	Report Type	Precip. Total (in)	Alti-meter (in. hg)
						(F)	(C)	(F)	(C)	(F)	(C)											
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
20	0051	11	CLR	10.00		88	31.1	58	14.4	30	-1.1	12	5	090		28.55			29.65	AA		29.72
20	0151	11	CLR	10.00		85	29.4	57	14.1	32	0.0	15	5	120		28.55			29.65	AA		29.72
20	0251	11	CLR	10.00		85	29.4	58	14.1	32	0.0	15	3	110		28.56			29.66	AA		29.73
20	0351	11	CLR	10.00		82	27.8	55	12.6	26	-3.3	13	3	VR		28.57			29.67	AA		29.74
20	0451	11	CLR	10.00		82	27.8	56	13.2	30	-1.1	15	3	130		28.59			29.69	AA		29.76
20	0551	11	FEW210	10.00		81	27.2	55	12.9	30	-1.1	16	6	100		28.61			29.71	AA		29.78
20	0651	11	CLR	10.00		84	28.9	57	13.6	30	-1.1	14	11	110		28.62			29.72	AA		29.79
20	0751	11	CLR	10.00		89	31.7	58	14.7	30	-1.1	12	8	110		28.65			29.75	AA		29.82
20	0851	11	CLR	10.00		92	33.3	59	15.0	28	-2.2	10	6	110		28.66			29.76	AA		29.83
20	0951	11	CLR	10.00		98	36.7	61	16.2	28	-2.2	8	5	VR		28.66			29.76	AA		29.83
20	1051	11	CLR	10.00		102	38.9	63	17.0	28	-2.2	7	6	VR		28.66			29.75	AA		29.83
20	1151	11	CLR	10.00		104	40.0	63	17.2	26	-3.3	6	7	320		28.65			29.75	AA		29.82
20	1251	11	CLR	10.00		107	41.7	64	18.0	28	-2.2	6	6	VR		28.63			29.73	AA		29.80
20	1351	11	CLR	10.00		108	42.2	65	18.0	27	-2.8	6	8	240		28.60			29.70	AA		29.77
20	1451	11	CLR	10.00		111	43.9	65	18.3	24	-4.4	5	13	290		28.58			29.69	AA		29.75
20	1551	11	CLR	10.00		110	43.3	64	17.7	20	-6.7	4	6	280		28.56			29.66	AA		29.73
20	1651	11	CLR	10.00		111	43.9	65	18.2	23	-5.0	4	5	VR		28.53			29.63	AA		29.70
20	1751	11	CLR	10.00		111	43.9	64	17.9	20	-6.7	4	10	300		28.52			29.62	AA		29.69
20	1851	11	CLR	10.00		109	42.8	64	17.7	22	-5.6	5	8	280		28.53			29.63	AA		29.70
20	1951	11	CLR	10.00		107	41.7	63	17.1	20	-6.7	4	5	260		28.53			29.63	AA		29.70
20	2051	11	CLR	10.00		102	38.9	62	16.7	26	-3.3	7	3	220		28.53			29.64	AA		29.70
20	2151	11	CLR	10.00		100	37.8	63	17.3	33	0.6	10	5	250		28.54			29.64	AA		29.71
20	2251	11	CLR	10.00		97	36.1	63	17.3	37	2.8	12	6	240		28.56			29.66	AA		29.73
20	2351	11	CLR	10.00		97	36.1	65	18.0	41	5.0	14	8	270		28.57			29.67	AA		29.74

Dynamically generated Wed May 25 12:48:27 EDT 2016 via <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/qclcd/QCLCD>

U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration

**QUALITY CONTROLLED LOCAL
CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA
(final)
HOURLY OBSERVATIONS TABLE
PHOENIX SKY HARBOR INTL AIRPORT
(23183)
PHOENIX, AZ
(06/2015)**

National Climatic Data Center
Federal Building
151 Patton Avenue
Asheville, North Carolina 28801

Elevation: 1107 ft. above sea level

Latitude: 33.427

Longitude: -112.003

Data Version: VER3

Date	Time (LST)	Station Type	Sky Conditions	Visibility (SM)	Weather Type	Dry Bulb Temp		Wet Bulb Temp		Dew Point Temp		Rel Humd %	Wind Speed (MPH)	Wind Dir	Wind Gusts (MPH)	Station Pressure (in. hg)	Press Tend	Net 3-hr Chg (mb)	Sea Level Pressure (in. hg)	Report Type	Precip. Total (in)	Alti-meter (in. hg)
						(F)	(C)	(F)	(C)	(F)	(C)											
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
21	0051	11	CLR	10.00		96	35.6	66	18.8	46	7.8	18	7	330		28.59			29.68	AA		29.76
21	0151	11	CLR	10.00		94	34.4	69	20.3	54	12.2	26	10	320		28.60			29.70	AA		29.77
21	0251	11	CLR	10.00		91	32.8	69	20.3	56	13.3	31	5	160		28.62			29.72	AA		29.79
21	0351	11	CLR	10.00		89	31.7	66	18.7	51	10.6	27	10	150		28.65			29.75	AA		29.82
21	0451	11	CLR	10.00		89	31.7	67	19.2	53	11.7	29	5	020		28.66			29.76	AA		29.83
21	0551	11	CLR	10.00		88	31.1	67	19.6	55	12.8	33	7	280		28.69			29.80	AA		29.87
21	0651	11	CLR	10.00		89	31.7	67	19.2	53	11.7	29	9	300		28.71			29.82	AA		29.89
21	0751	11	CLR	10.00		90	32.2	67	19.2	52	11.1	27	6	300		28.73			29.84	AA		29.91
21	0851	11	CLR	10.00		92	33.3	67	19.5	52	11.1	26	0	000		28.74			29.85	AA		29.92
21	0951	11	CLR	10.00		94	34.4	68	19.9	52	11.1	24	0	000		28.73			29.85	AA		29.91
21	1051	11	CLR	10.00		97	36.1	69	20.6	53	11.7	23	7	010		28.73			29.84	AA		29.91
21	1151	11	CLR	10.00		100	37.8	70	20.8	52	11.1	20	3	VR		28.71			29.82	AA		29.89
21	1251	11	CLR	10.00		102	38.9	69	20.7	50	10.0	17	0	000		28.69			29.79	AA		29.86
21	1351	11	CLR	10.00		104	40.0	70	20.8	49	9.4	16	6	240		28.66			29.77	AA		29.84
21	1451	11	CLR	10.00		107	41.7	71	21.5	50	10.0	15	6	270		28.64			29.74	AA		29.81
21	1551	11	CLR	10.00		107	41.7	71	21.5	50	10.0	15	11	250		28.62			29.72	AA		29.79
21	1651	11	CLR	10.00		107	41.7	70	21.3	49	9.4	14	9	250		28.61			29.71	AA		29.78
21	1751	11	CLR	10.00		107	41.7	69	20.7	46	7.8	13	7	300		28.59			29.69	AA		29.76
21	1851	11	CLR	10.00		107	41.7	68	20.1	43	6.1	11	10	280		28.59			29.69	AA		29.76
21	1951	11	CLR	10.00		105	40.6	68	20.2	45	7.2	13	11	290		28.58			29.68	AA		29.75
21	2051	11	CLR	10.00		102	38.9	67	19.5	44	6.7	14	7	240		28.60			29.70	AA		29.77
21	2151	11	CLR	10.00		98	36.7	67	19.2	46	7.8	17	5	230		28.62			29.72	AA		29.79
21	2251	11	CLR	10.00		98	36.7	66	19.0	45	7.2	16	8	260		28.62			29.72	AA		29.79
21	2351	11	CLR	10.00		96	35.6	68	19.7	50	10.0	21	9	270		28.63			29.73	AA		29.80

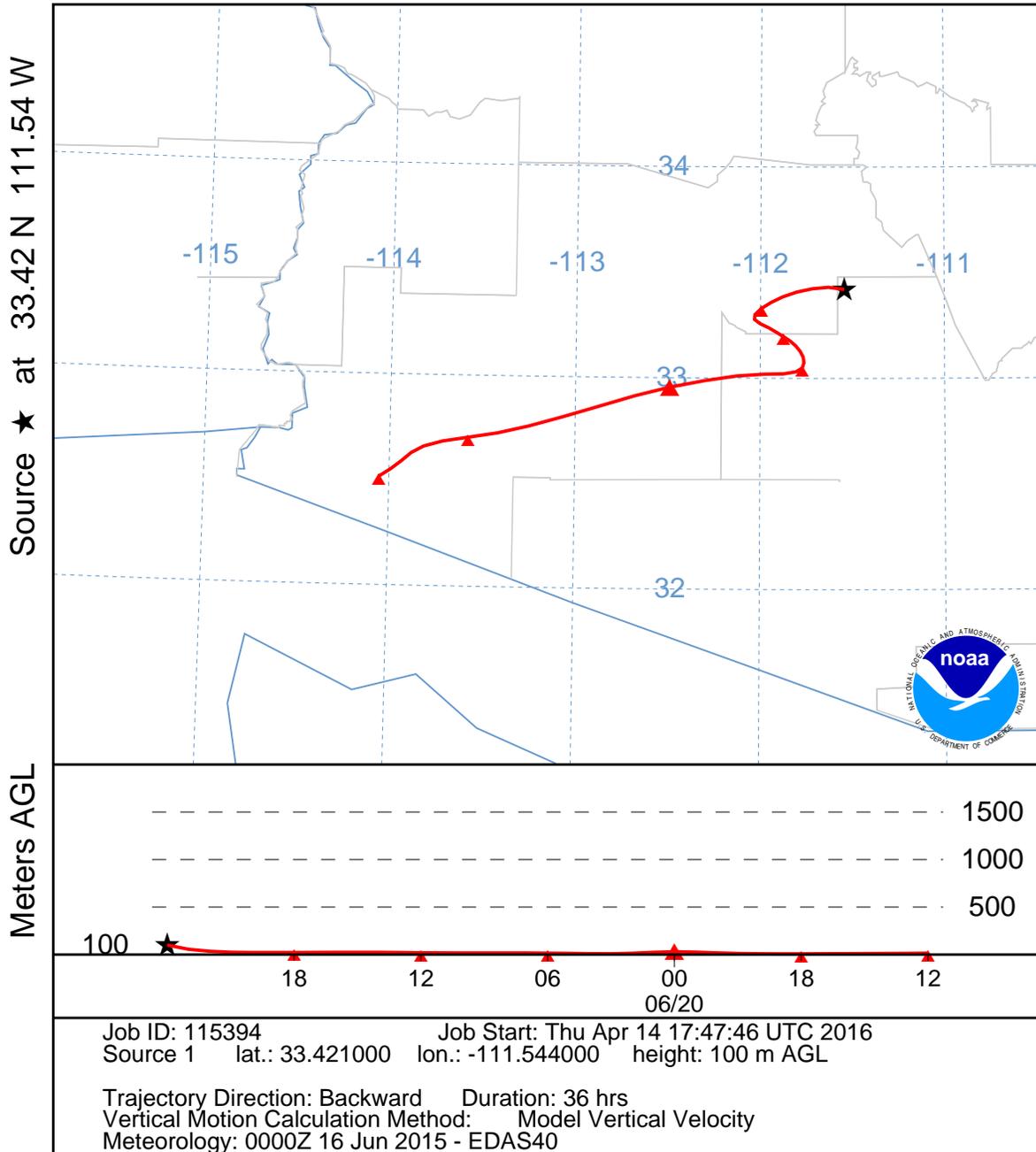
Dynamically generated Wed May 25 12:48:58 EDT 2016 via <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/qclcd/QCLCD>

APPENDIX C

NOAA HYSPLIT MODEL OUTPUT FILES

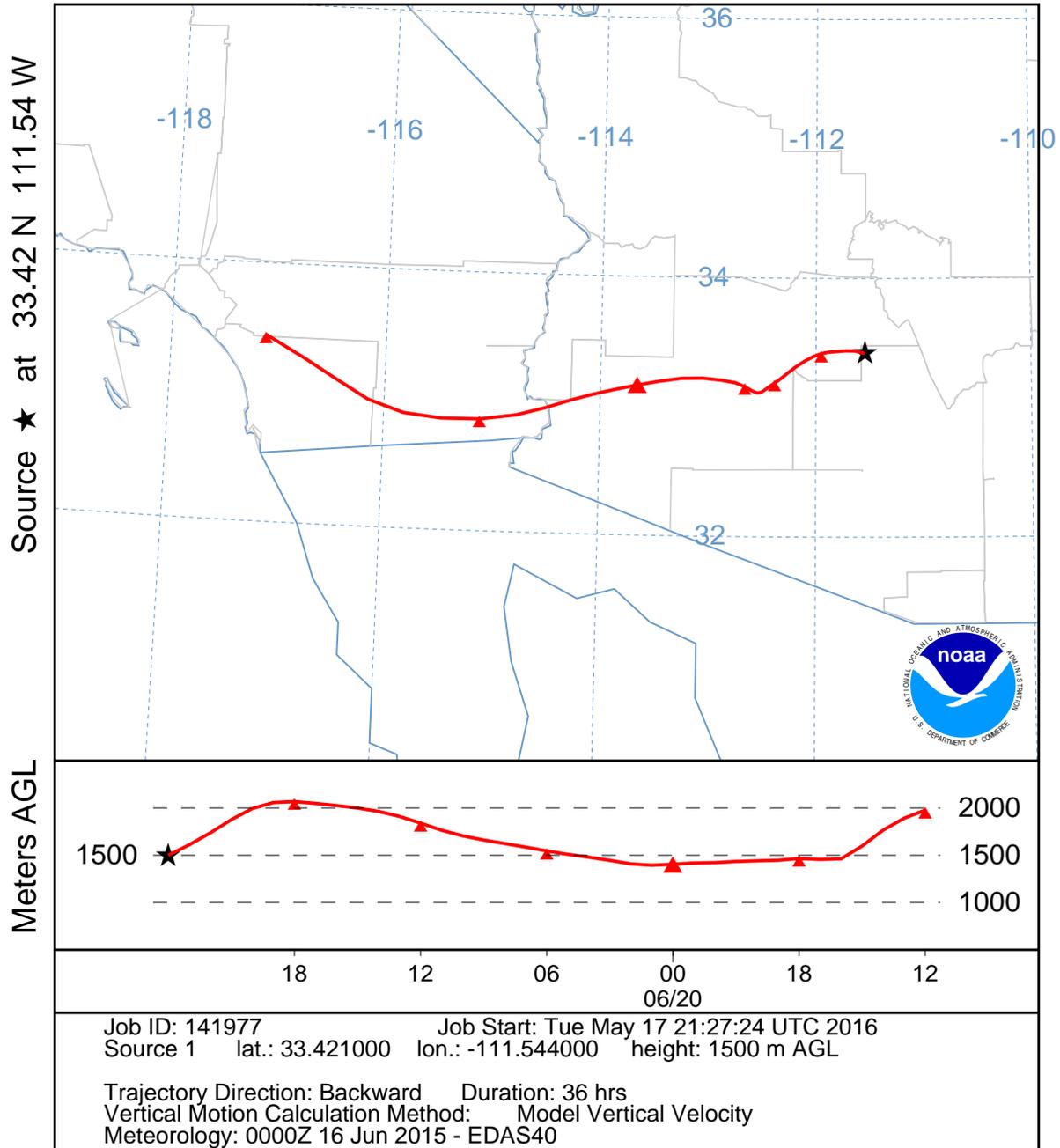
Apache Junction - 100 meters

NOAA HYSPLIT MODEL
Backward trajectory ending at 0000 UTC 21 Jun 15
EDAS Meteorological Data



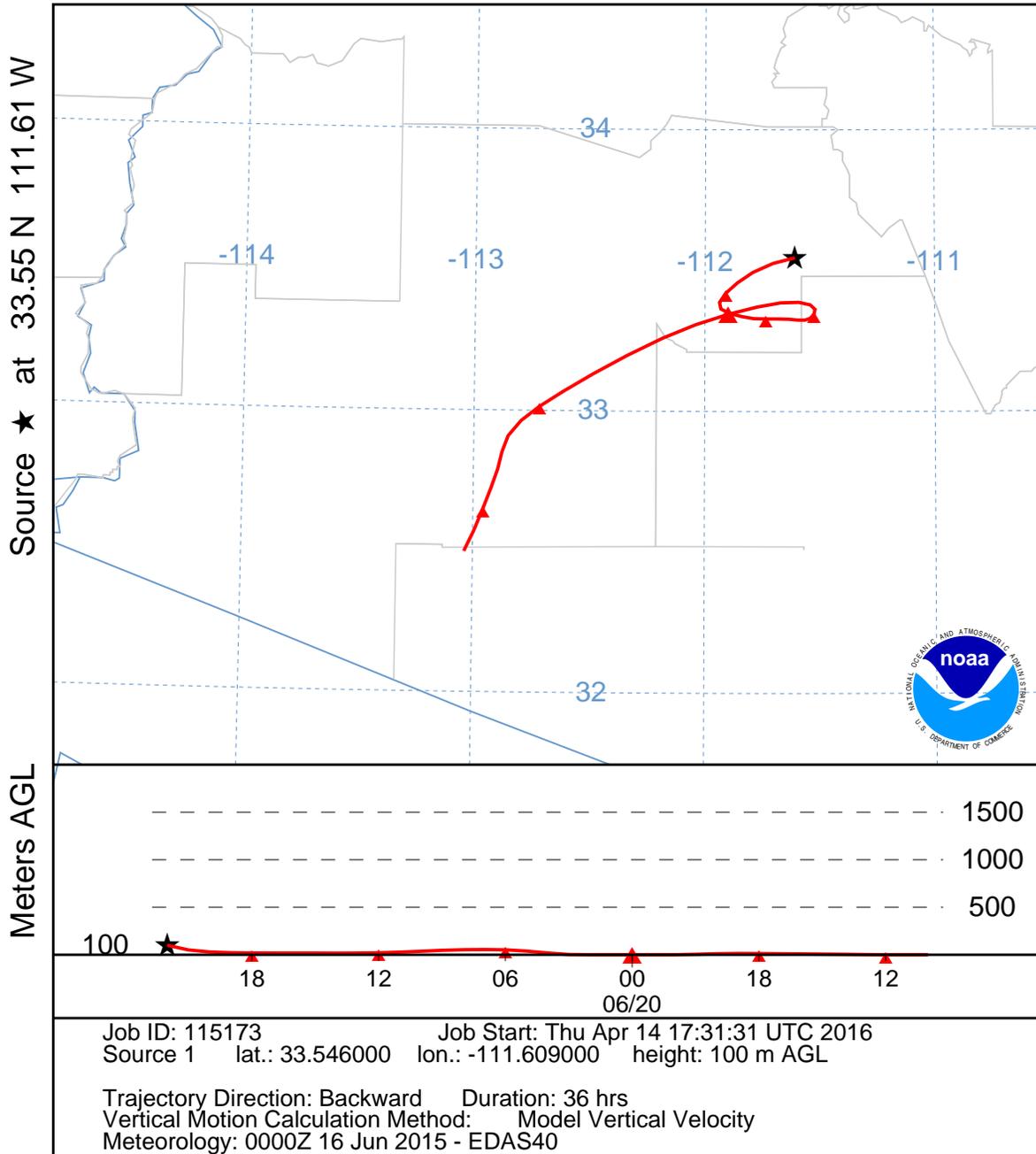
Apache Junction - 1500 meters

NOAA HYSPLIT MODEL
Backward trajectory ending at 0000 UTC 21 Jun 15
EDAS Meteorological Data



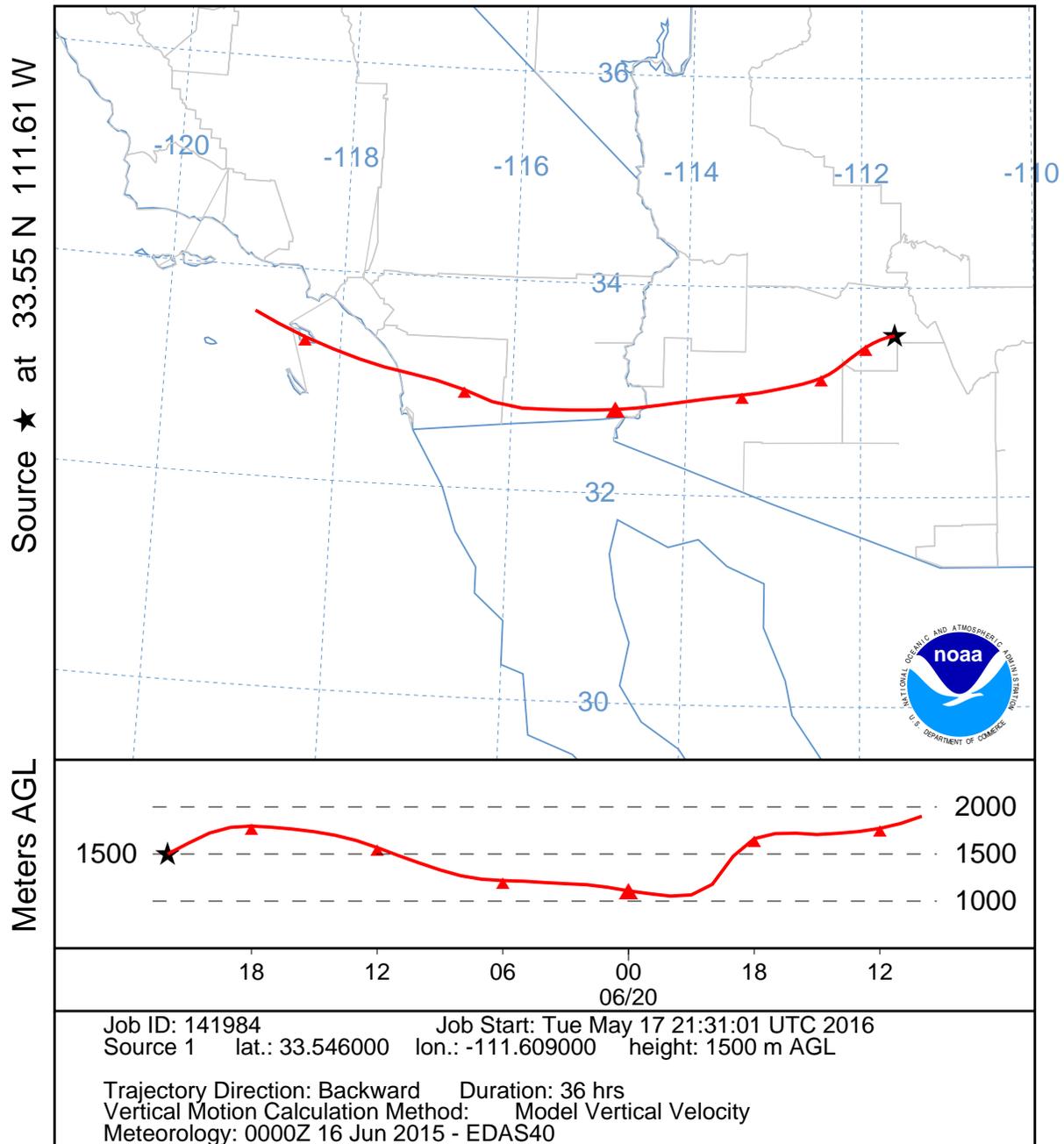
Blue Point - 100 meters

NOAA HYSPLIT MODEL
Backward trajectory ending at 2200 UTC 20 Jun 15
EDAS Meteorological Data



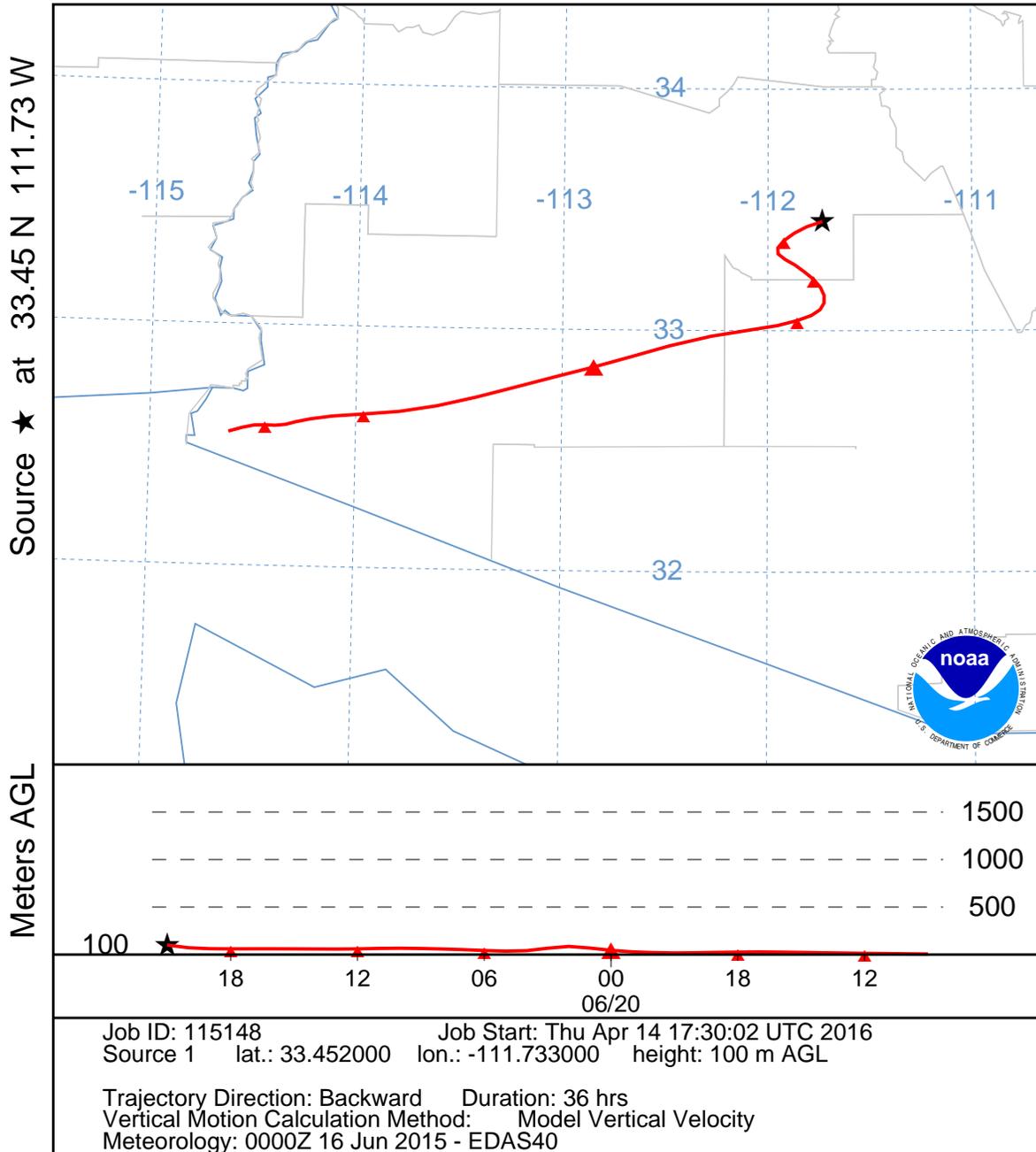
Blue Point - 1500 meters

NOAA HYSPLIT MODEL
Backward trajectory ending at 2200 UTC 20 Jun 15
EDAS Meteorological Data



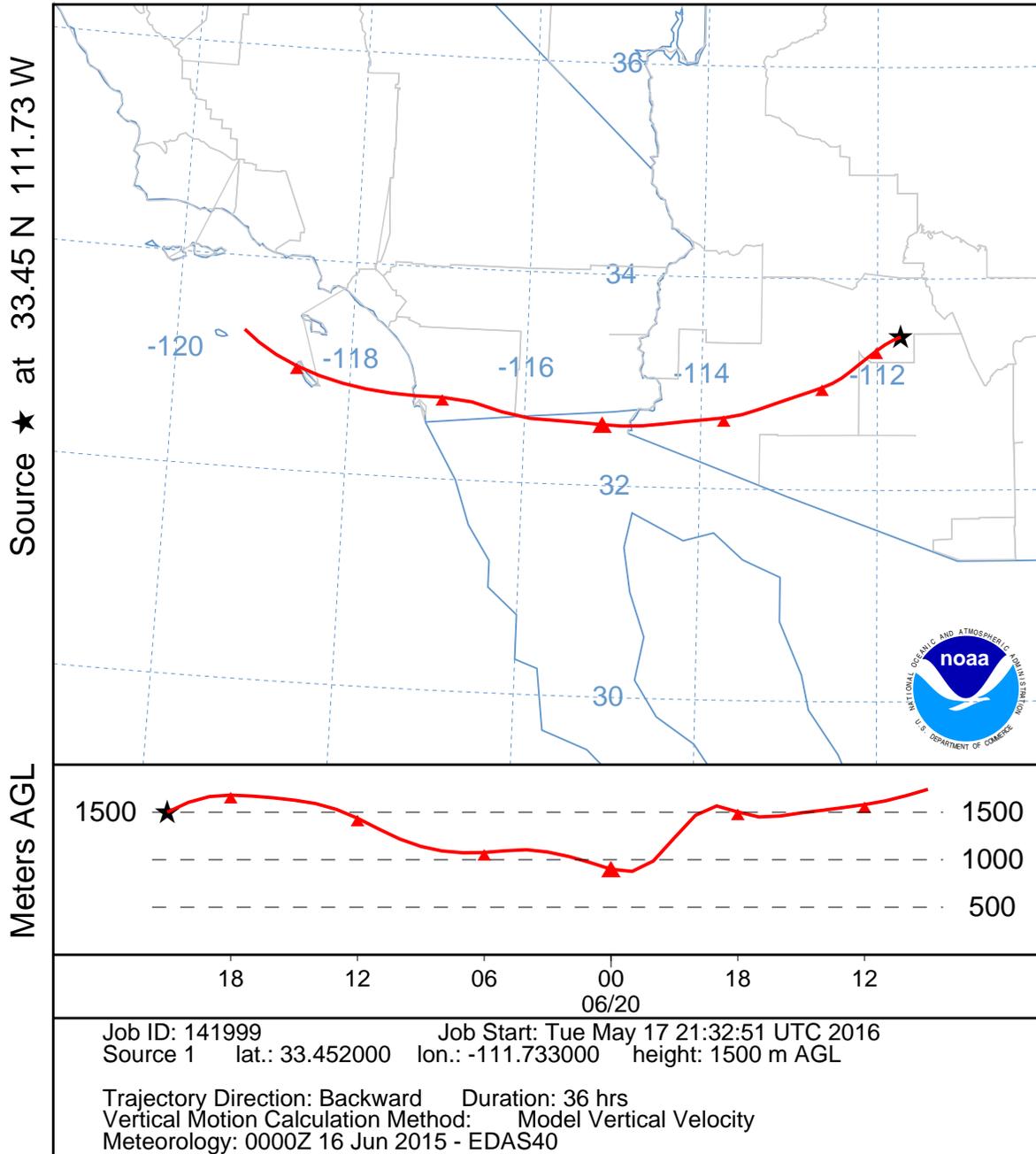
Falcon Field - 100 meters

NOAA HYSPLIT MODEL
Backward trajectory ending at 2100 UTC 20 Jun 15
EDAS Meteorological Data



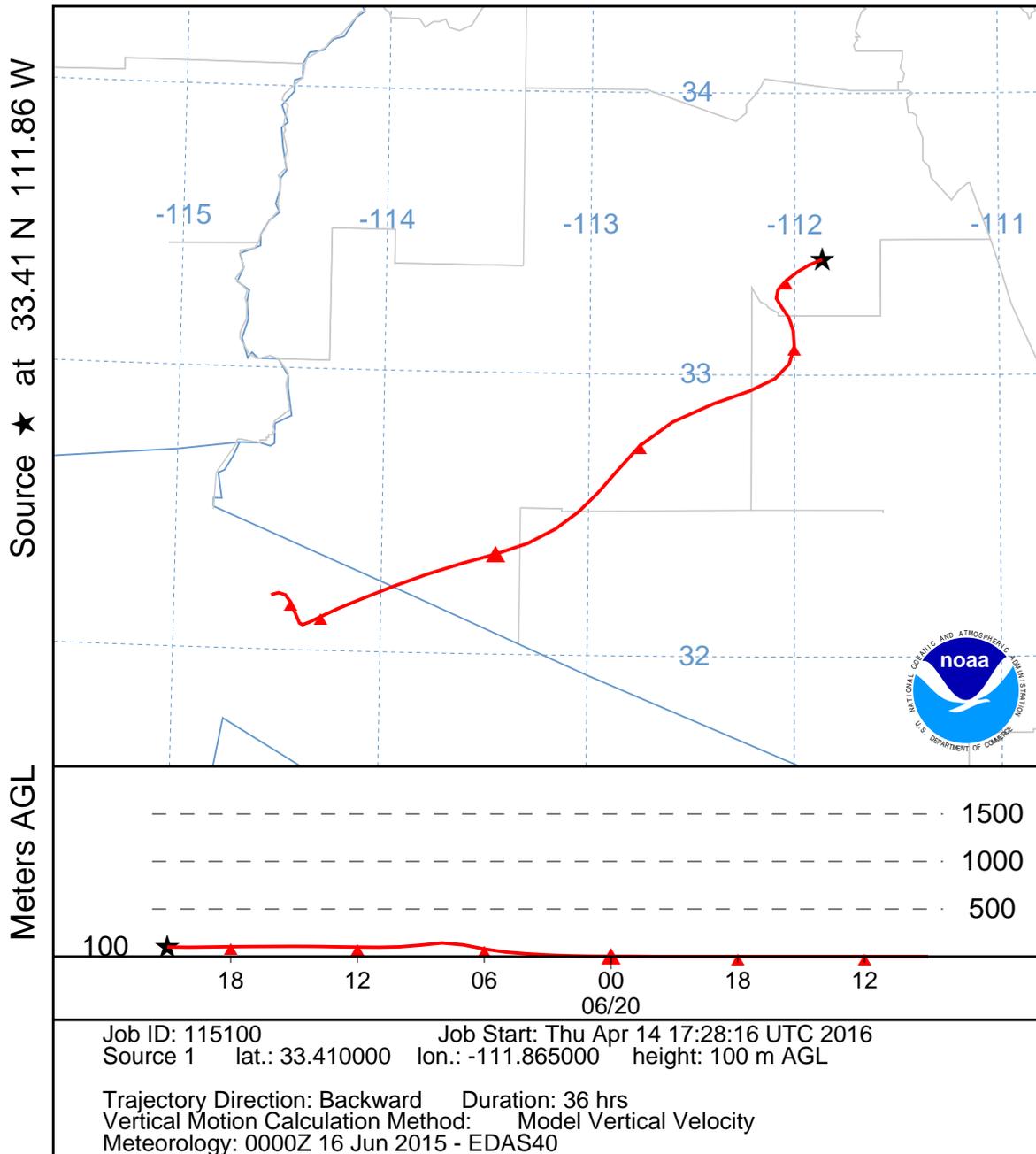
Falcon Field - 1500 meters

NOAA HYSPLIT MODEL
Backward trajectory ending at 2100 UTC 20 Jun 15
EDAS Meteorological Data



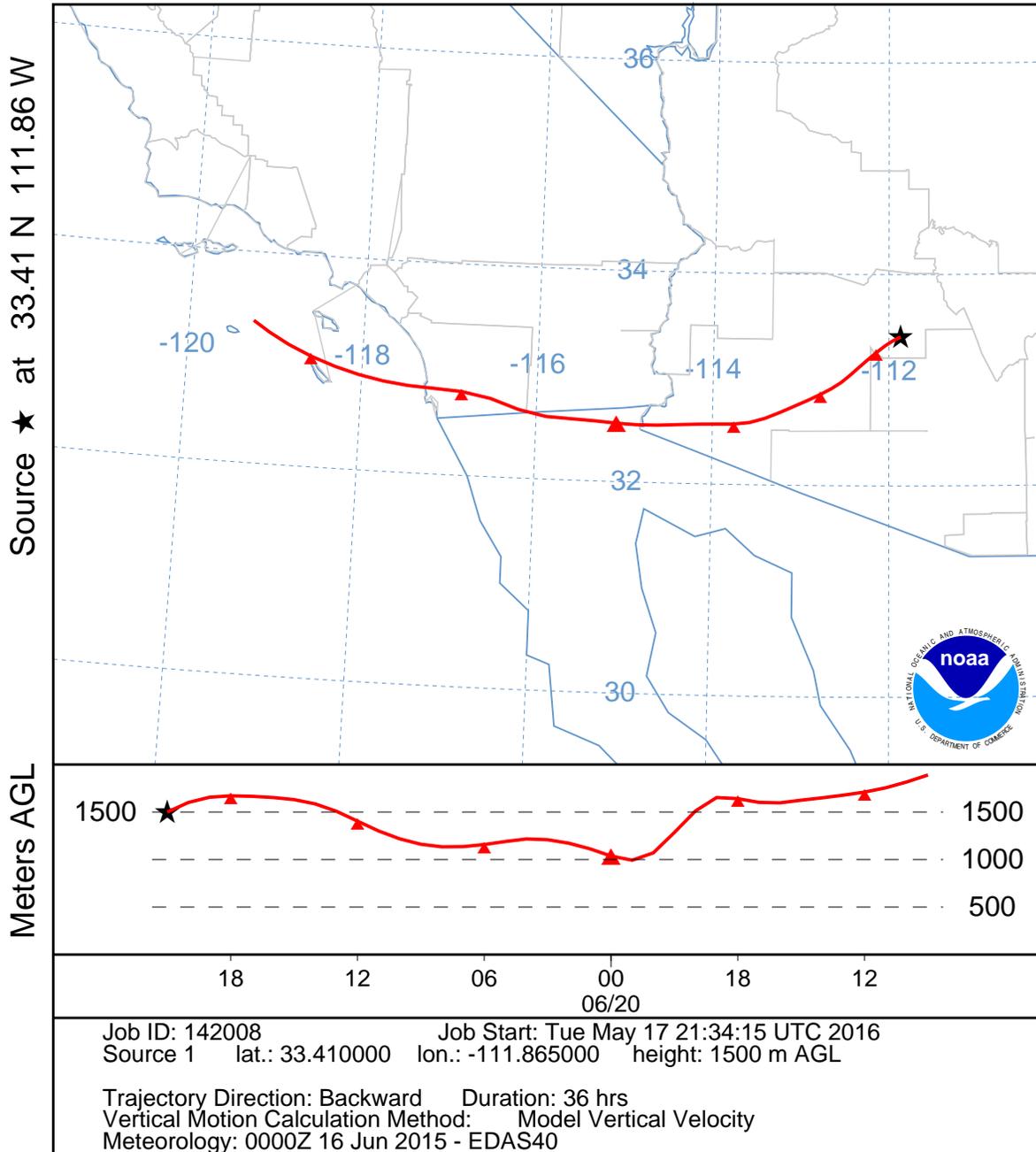
Mesa - 100 meters

NOAA HYSPLIT MODEL
Backward trajectory ending at 2100 UTC 20 Jun 15
EDAS Meteorological Data



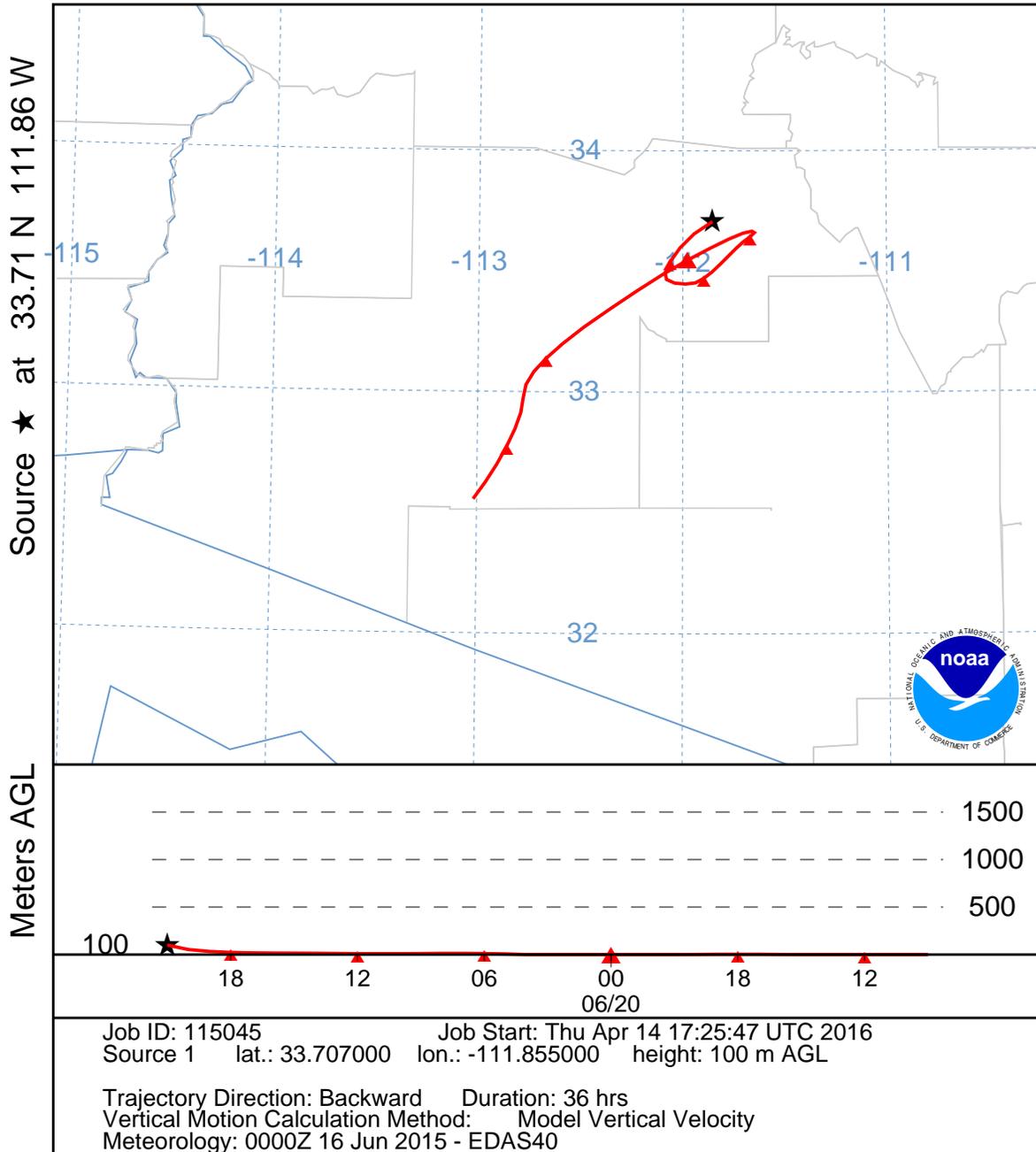
Mesa - 1500 meters

NOAA HYSPLIT MODEL
Backward trajectory ending at 2100 UTC 20 Jun 15
EDAS Meteorological Data



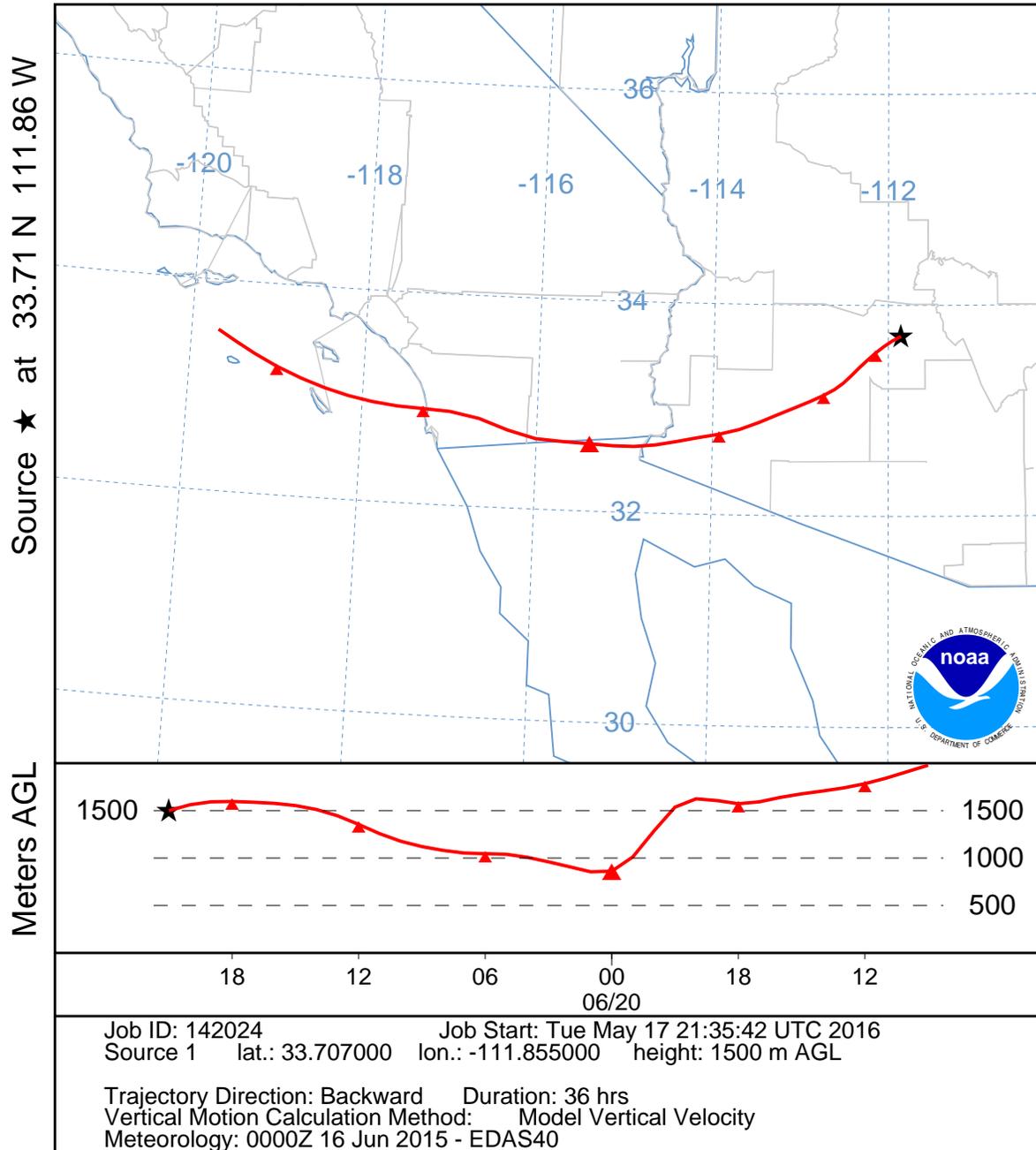
Pinnacle Peak - 100 meters

NOAA HYSPLIT MODEL
Backward trajectory ending at 2100 UTC 20 Jun 15
EDAS Meteorological Data



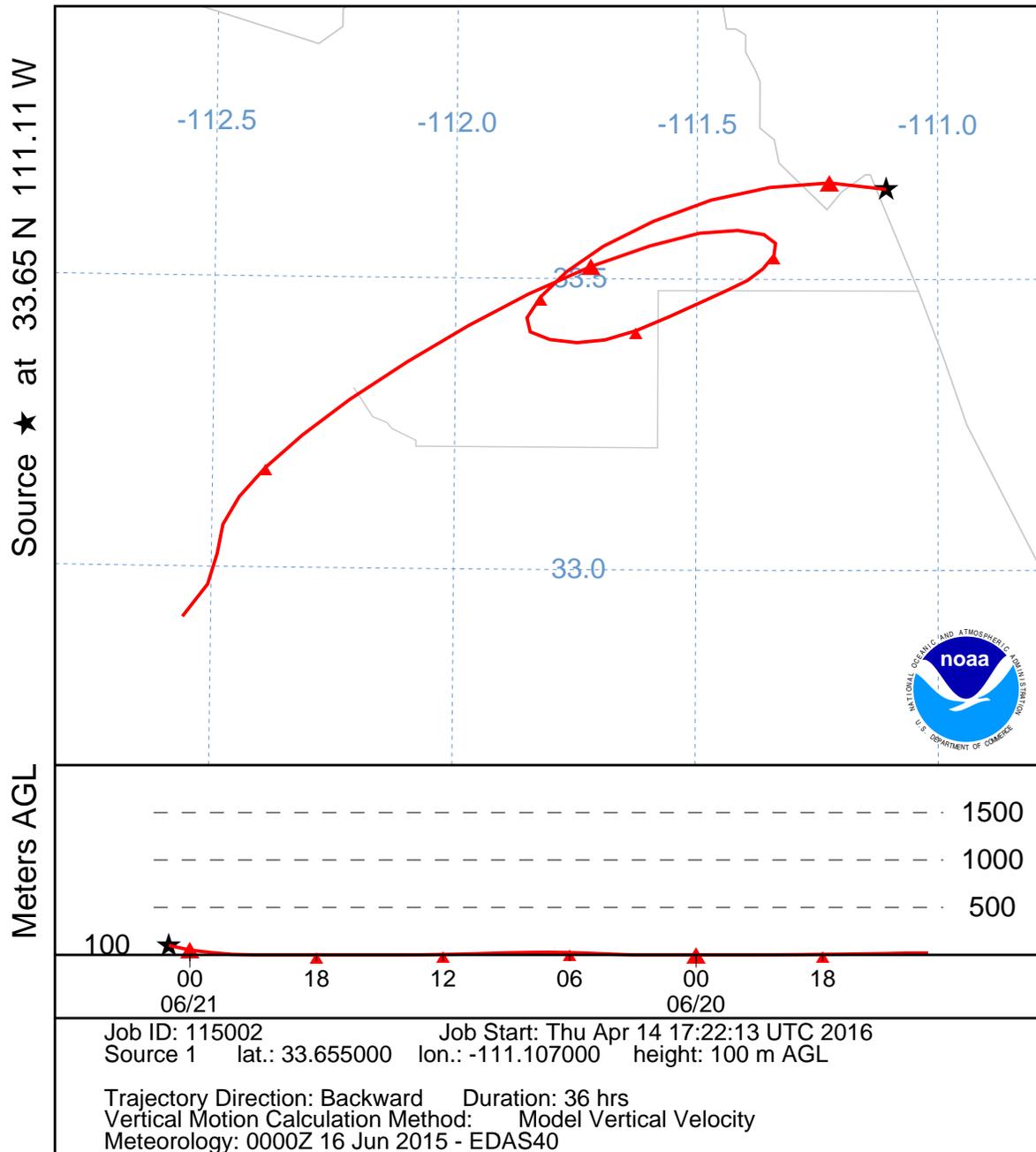
Pinnacle Peak - 1500 meters

NOAA HYSPLIT MODEL
Backward trajectory ending at 2100 UTC 20 Jun 15
EDAS Meteorological Data



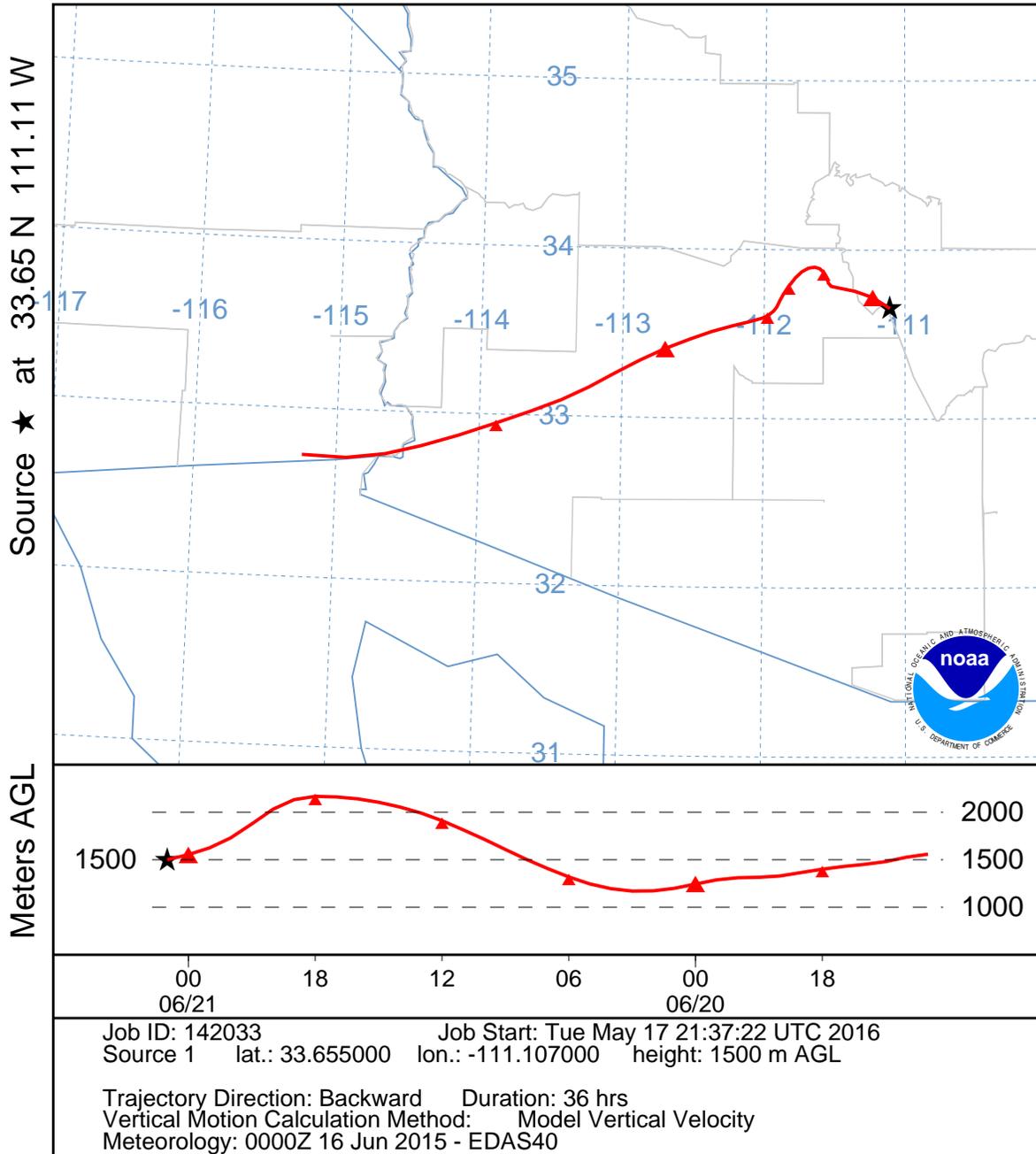
Tonto National Monument - 100 meters

NOAA HYSPLIT MODEL
Backward trajectory ending at 0100 UTC 21 Jun 15
EDAS Meteorological Data



Tonto National Monument - 1500 meters

NOAA HYSPLIT MODEL
Backward trajectory ending at 0100 UTC 21 Jun 15
EDAS Meteorological Data



APPENDIX D

REGRESSION ANALYSIS

Introduction

EPA's draft Wildfire Guidance recommends using multiple variable regression analysis as one tool that can provide additional evidence that ozone and ozone precursor emissions from a wildfire caused or significantly contributed to an ozone exceedance. Multiple variable regression analysis was utilized in this documentation as a statistical method to quantitatively predict the impact the Lake Fire had on six monitors in (or very near) the Maricopa nonattainment area which exceeded the 2008 ozone NAAQS on June 20, 2015.

Multiple variable regression analysis is a statistical method for defining and quantifying the relationship of multiple independent variables (e.g., temperature, humidity, and atmospheric pressure) to a dependent variable (ozone concentrations). Using a statistically significant data set (historical ozone concentrations and meteorological data), the results of the regression analysis produce an equation that can then be used to predict the dependent variable (ozone concentrations) given a set of known independent variables (meteorological measurements). When the predicted value deviates substantially from the observed value, the assumption is the observed value is atypical and independent variables other than those already included in the regression analysis (e.g., unusual emissions from a wildfire) are likely responsible for the increase or decrease from the predicted value.

This Appendix provides details on the development, performance and results of the regression analysis models used to predict typical ozone concentrations at the exceeding monitors on June 20, 2015 in the Maricopa nonattainment area. A summary overview of this information is included in the main body of this report.

Regression Analysis Development

Variable Selection

For this demonstration, the regression analysis equations used to predict maximum daily eight-hour ozone concentrations at each of the six exceeding monitors on June 20, 2015, was developed using observed meteorological and ozone concentration data in the month of June for the years 2010-2015. Monitors located at the Apache Junction, Blue Point, Falcon Field, and Tonto National Monument sites have a full data record of ozone concentrations for June 2010-2015, minus a few days when the monitor was down for maintenance or repair. The Pinnacle Peak monitor was not operational in June 2012 and has no ozone data for that period. The Mesa monitor did not begin monitoring until 2013 and therefore only has ozone data for the period of June 2013-2015.

Historical data was limited to the month of June, instead of the entire ozone season (April-September), as the other months in the ozone season operate under different meteorological regimes. April and May are frequently influenced by advancing cold fronts that can produce high winds and may contain interstate/international transport of ozone and stratospheric intrusion of ozone. In the months of July-September, the nonattainment area is dominated by monsoon season meteorological conditions which can produce frequent thunderstorms, lightning NO_x and heavy precipitation. In contrast, June is characterized by relatively dry, hot, and low-wind meteorological conditions. For these reasons, historical data for the regression analysis was limited to the month of June.

Over 30 meteorological variables were initially evaluated as independent variables for the regression analysis. Meteorological variables that showed no correlation (positive or negative) with ozone concentrations were eliminated early in the process (e.g., precipitation totals) and were not included for

further evaluation. All surface meteorological variables (except solar radiation) are taken from measurements at the Sky Harbor International Airport and upper air variables are taken from weather balloons launched at the Tucson International Airport. Table D–1 lists the meteorological variables considered as possible independent variables for the statistical analysis.

Table D–1. Meteorological Variables Considered for Inclusion as Independent Variables in the Regression Analysis.

INDEPENDENT METEOROLOGICAL VARIABLES BY GENERAL CATEGORIES					
Temperature	Wind Speed/Dir.	Humidity	Pressure	Solar	Stability
Maximum Daily Surface Temp.	Avg. Daily Surface Wind	Avg. Daily Wet Bulb	Avg. Daily Sea-Level Pressure	Avg. Daily Solar Radiation	Difference in Temp. from Surface and 850mb at 0500 Hours
Avg. Daily Surface Temp.	Daily Resultant Surface Wind	Avg. Daily Dew Point	850mb Height at 0500 Hours	Avg. Cloud Cover (0800-1800 Hours)	Difference in Temp. from Surface and 850mb at 1700 Hours
Departure of Surface Temp. from Normal	Avg. Surface Wind from 0651-1151 Hours		850mb Height at 1700 Hours		
Surface Temp. at 0500 Hours	Avg. Surface Wind from 1151-1751 Hours		500mb Height at 0500 Hours		
Surface Temp. at 1700 Hours	Avg. Surface Wind from 0651-1651 Hours		500mb Height at 1700 Hours		
850mb Temp. at 0500 Hours	Avg. Surface Wind from 0651-1951 Hours				
850mb Temp. at 1700 Hours	Surface Wind at 0500 Hours				
500mb Temp. at 0500 Hours	Surface Wind at 1700 Hours				
500mb Temp. at 1700 Hours	850mb Wind at 0500 Hours				
	850mb Wind at 1700 Hours				
	500mb Wind at 0500 Hours				
	500mb Wind at 1700 Hours				

Principal Component Analysis

To avoid including variables that are highly correlated with one another (e.g., maximum surface temperature and average surface temperature), Principal Component Analysis (PCA) (otherwise known as factor analysis) was used to group the variables into statistically unique categories and reduce the complexity in the dataset. Using an eigenvalue of 1 or more, the PCA identified eight distinctive categories of meteorological variables. A maximum of two variables from each category were initially selected for the final regression analysis to avoid the statistical problems associated with multicollinearity, for a total of ten variables. Table D–2 shows the resulting eight categories identified by the PCA and the factor loadings for each of the meteorological variables shown in Table D–1. A high factor loading (close

to a value of 1) indicates a strong relationship among the variables in the meteorological category. In general, any variable with an absolute factor loading greater than 0.5 (highlighted in Table D–2) was considered to be a variable that was highly correlated to other variables in the category (large negative values still indicate correlation, but in the opposite direction of high positive values, e.g., solar radiation and cloud cover). Variables chosen for inclusion in the regression analysis from the PCA are represented in red italics in Table D–2.

Table D–2. Principal Component Analysis.

Meteorological Variable from Table D-1	Meteorological Category Factor Loadings							
	Surface Temp. (8.298)*	Afternoon Wind Speed (4.830)*	Humidity / Stability (3.493)*	Pressure (3.166)*	Upper Air Temp. (1.962)*	Cloud Cover (1.925)*	Morning Wind Speed (1.750)*	Upper Air Wind Speed (1.261)*
<i>Avg. Daily Sea-Level Pressure</i>	-.287	-.105	.047	<i>.925</i>	-.063	.032	-.010	-.113
500mb Height at 0500	<i>.764</i>	.002	.060	.406	.346	.177	-.080	-.044
850mb Height at 0500	.258	.020	.142	<i>.892</i>	.046	.094	-.014	-.082
500mb Height at 1700	<i>.753</i>	-.047	.058	.472	.375	.063	-.048	-.069
850mb Height at 1700	.153	-.055	.013	<i>.945</i>	-.007	-.034	-.006	-.060
<i>Avg. Daily Dew Point</i>	.183	.100	<i>.857</i>	.087	.019	.303	.012	-.017
Average Daily Wet Bulb	.488	.113	<i>.769</i>	.078	.066	.260	-.002	-.007
Average Daily Surface Temp.	<i>.903</i>	.077	.351	.016	.084	-.015	-.098	.047
<i>Max. Daily Surface Temp.</i>	<i>.965</i>	-.047	.069	.009	.048	-.126	-.075	.036
Depart. of Temp. from Normal	<i>.832</i>	.080	.199	-.068	-.013	.025	-.165	-.031
Surface Temp. at 0500	<i>.702</i>	.217	<i>.585</i>	.002	.110	.100	-.091	.019
<i>500mb Temp. at 0500</i>	.143	-.125	.030	-.084	<i>.901</i>	-.015	-.074	-.014
850mb Temp. at 0500	<i>.932</i>	.149	-.160	-.056	.060	.105	-.075	.005
<i>Diff. in Temp. at 0500</i>	-.080	.121	<i>.906</i>	.060	.076	.017	-.037	.019
Surface Temp. at 1700	<i>.954</i>	-.045	.071	.025	.057	-.166	-.112	.048
500mb Temp. at 1700	.262	-.106	.095	.085	<i>.856</i>	-.067	-.078	-.020
850mb Temp. at 1700	<i>.907</i>	-.016	-.216	-.101	.128	.047	.009	-.063
Difference in Temp. at 1700	.491	-.058	.419	.182	-.071	-.362	-.214	.172
<i>Avg. Cloud Cover</i>	-.008	.018	.135	.115	-.100	<i>.799</i>	-.045	.170
Avg. Daily Solar Radiation	.090	-.108	-.363	.000	-.046	<i>-.816</i>	-.082	.138
Avg. Daily Surface Wind Speed	.055	<i>.834</i>	.203	-.029	-.111	.050	.349	.096
Daily Resultant Surface Wind Speed	.050	<i>.716</i>	.433	-.019	-.064	.097	-.084	.058
Surface Wind Speed at 0500	-.202	.002	-.161	.031	-.102	.048	<i>.691</i>	.130
<i>Avg. Surface Wind Speed 0651-1151</i>	-.234	.442	.096	-.093	-.059	-.011	<i>.731</i>	-.017
Surface Wind Speed at 1700	.100	<i>.769</i>	-.072	-.007	.048	.082	-.401	.058
<i>Avg. Surface Wind Speed 1151-1751</i>	.053	<i>.952</i>	-.010	-.038	-.037	.029	-.131	.118
Avg. Surface Wind Speed 0651-1651	-.108	<i>.870</i>	.051	-.041	-.059	.005	.410	.059
Avg. Surface Wind Speed 0651-1951	-.015	<i>.922</i>	.037	-.056	-.115	-.010	.261	.107
500mb Wind Speed at 0500	<i>-.544</i>	.154	-.248	-.166	-.048	.266	.052	.218
<i>850mb Wind Speed at 0500</i>	.082	.115	.090	-.177	.039	-.086	.198	<i>.759</i>
500mb Wind Speed at 1700	<i>-.600</i>	.152	-.217	-.243	-.130	.277	.024	.238
<i>850mb Wind Speed at 1700</i>	-.202	.283	-.064	-.061	-.086	.185	-.079	<i>.631</i>

*Eigenvalue of category.

Note: Wind direction variables are not included in the PCA, as wind direction is represented as a categorical variable and not a scalar variable. Only scalar variables can be quantitatively evaluated in the PCA.

The ten variables identified in the PCA were subsequently correlated against the maximum daily eight-hour average ozone concentrations at each exceeding monitor as a second check on the appropriateness of including the variables in the final regression analysis. All but one of the ten variables had statistically significant relationships (significance value of 0.05 or less) with at least half of the ozone concentrations at the six exceeding monitors. As a result of this analysis, it was determined that the variable “850mb

Wind Speed at 0500 Hours” should not be included in the regression analysis, as this variable had no statistically significant relationship with any of the ozone concentrations at the exceeding monitors. Table D–3 displays the bi-variate correlation results each of the ten variables has with the ozone concentrations at the six exceeding monitors. The nine variables selected correspond well with variables selected in other similar regression analyses performed by EPA and other researchers¹.

Table D–3. Correlation of Variables from the PCA with the Ozone Concentrations at the Six Exceeding Monitors.

Correlation with Maximum Daily Eight-Hour Average Ozone Concentrations at Each Monitor							
Meteorological Variable	Statistics	Apache Junction	Blue Point	Falcon Field	Mesa	Pinnacle Peak	Tonto Nat. Monument
Avg. Daily Sea-Level Pressure	Pearson Correlation	-.086	-.260	-.194	-.359	-.264	-.222
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.253	.000	.009	.001	.001	.003
	N	180	179	179	90	150	172
Avg. Daily Dew Point	Pearson Correlation	-.037	-.212	-.061	-.149	-.310	-.244
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.624	.004	.420	.161	.000	.001
	N	180	179	179	90	150	172
Max. Daily Surface Temp.	Pearson Correlation	.214	.233	.343	.388	.216	.210
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.004	.002	.000	.000	.008	.006
	N	180	179	179	90	150	172
500mb Temp. at 0500	Pearson Correlation	.092	.197	.164	.040	.036	.197
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.222	.009	.030	.713	.666	.010
	N	177	176	176	87	147	169
Diff. in Temp. at 0500	Pearson Correlation	-.186	-.283	-.214	-.272	-.349	-.311
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.013	.000	.004	.011	.000	.000
	N	177	176	176	87	147	169
Avg. Cloud Cover	Pearson Correlation	-.045	-.139	-.005	-.149	-.212	-.187
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.549	.064	.942	.160	.009	.014
	N	180	179	179	90	150	172
Avg. Surface Wind Speed 0651-1151	Pearson Correlation	-.262	-.317	-.265	-.400	-.188	-.187
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000	.000	.021	.014
	N	180	179	179	90	150	172
Avg. Surface Wind Speed 1151-1751	Pearson Correlation	-.106	-.171	-.200	-.316	-.336	-.097
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.157	.022	.007	.002	.000	.204
	N	180	179	179	90	150	172
850mb Wind Speed at 0500 (not selected)	Pearson Correlation	-.045	-.080	-.059	-.062	-.097	.003
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.557	.292	.437	.568	.243	.973
	N	176	175	175	86	146	168
850mb Wind Speed at 1700	Pearson Correlation	-.181	-.173	-.261	-.308	-.275	-.187
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.016	.021	.000	.003	.001	.015
	N	177	176	176	88	148	169

Final Variable Selections

In addition to the nine meteorological variables identified in the PCA, categorical variables were also included as independent variables in the regression analysis. The categorical variables include: (1) the wind direction measurements that correspond to the selected wind speed measurements in Table D–3 to

¹ California Air Resources Board, (2011). Exceptional Events Demonstration for 1-Hour Ozone Exceedances in the Sacramento Regional Nonattainment Area Due to 2008 Wildfires. Camalier et al., (2007). The effects of meteorology on ozone in urban areas and their use in assessing ozone trends. Atmospheric Environment 41, 7127-7137.

account for air flow direction, and (2) the day of the week (e.g., Monday) to account for differences in emissions between weekdays and weekends. Because wind direction is a circular measurement, the variable must undergo significant transformations if wind speed is to be represented as a scalar variable in the regression analysis (i.e., wind direction as measured in degrees would need to be transformed by taking the sine and cosine of the degree measurement). To avoid the issues associated with transformations of wind direction measurements, the wind direction was represented as one of eight categorical variables (e.g., north-northwest, east-southeast, etc.).

One additional scalar independent variable, the prior-day maximum eight-hour average ozone concentration as measured at each exceeding monitor, was included in the final regression analysis models. The inclusion of this variable not only improves the performance of the regression analysis, but also is an important predictor of future ozone concentrations as ozone concentrations can build from one day to the next under the typical stagnant meteorological conditions seen in June in the Maricopa nonattainment area. The final 14 independent variables included in the regression analysis models are listed in Table D-4.

Table D-4. Independent Variables in the Regression Analysis.

Independent Variable Abbreviation	Description
MaxTemp*	Maximum Daily Surface Temperature
UpTemp*	Upper Air (500 mb) Temperature at 0500 Hours
DiffTemp*	Difference in Temperature Between Surface and Upper Air (850 mb) at 0500 Hours
DewPoint*	Average Daily Dew Point
Pressure*	Average Daily Sea-Level Pressure
MornWind*	Average of Morning Hours (0651-1151 Hours) Surface Wind Speed
AftWind*	Average of Afternoon Hours (1151-1751 Hours) Surface Wind Speed
UpWind*	Upper Air (850 mb) Wind Speed at 1700 Hours
Cloud*	Average of Daylight Hours (0800-1800 Hours) Cloud Cover
MornDir	Average of Morning Hours (0651-1151 Hours) Surface Wind Direction
AftDir	Average of Afternoon Hours (1151-1751 Hours) Surface Wind Direction
UpDir	Upper Air (850 mb) Wind Direction at 1700 Hours
Day	Day of the Week
Prior	Prior-Day Maximum Eight-Hour Average Ozone Concentration

*Variable selected from Principal Component Analysis (PCA)

Normality of Selected Variables

Before the regression analysis was run in the statistical software, the selected variables (independent and dependent) were analyzed for normality. Some independent variables such as wind speed and cloud cover exhibited a moderate positive skew in their distribution, while maximum temperature exhibited a negative skew in its distribution. Maximum daily eight-hour average ozone concentrations (dependent variable) also exhibit a positive skew in some cases and are often transformed in other studies using a log function to make the distribution of the data more normal. Figure D-1 includes sample histograms of the positive and negative skew of some of the variables included in the regression analysis.

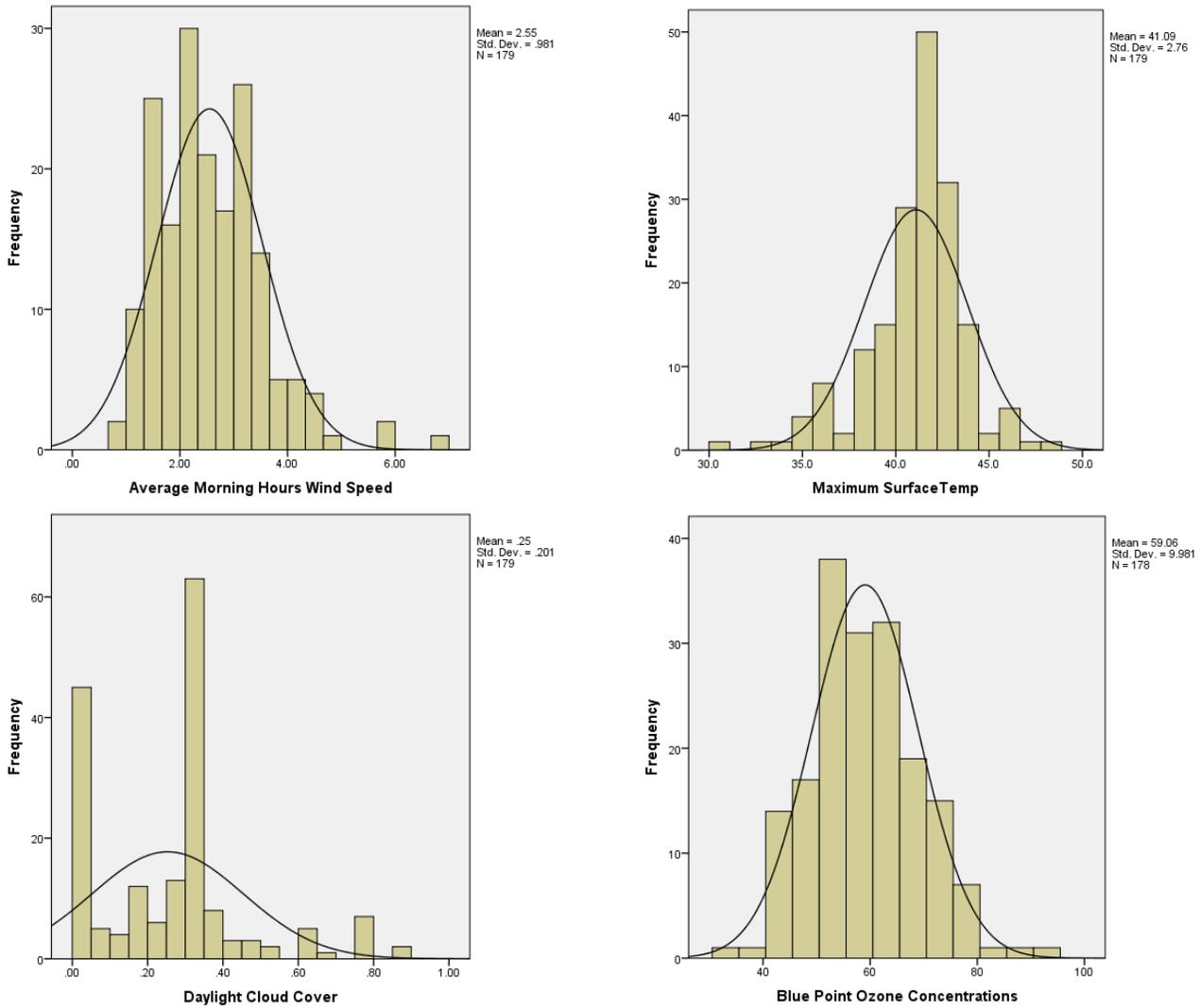


Figure D-1. Positive and negative skew of sample regression analysis variables.

During regression analysis model testing, the variables that did exhibit statistically significant skews were tested as transformed variables using a log or power function. Comparison of regression analysis results found no significant improvement in model performance or prediction using variables that had been transformed; with some cases showing diminished performance. This is likely due to the fact that while some of the data did exhibit some skew, the moderateness of the skew was not affecting model performance significantly. As such, the original form of all variables was used in the final regression analysis models.

Regression Analysis Performance

Regression Analysis Specifications

Using the independent variables listed in Table D–4 and the monitor-specific daily maximum eight-hour average ozone concentration dependent variable, the regression analysis was run for each of the six monitors that exceeded on June 20, 2015. This produced a unique regression equation for each of the exceeding monitoring sites that can be used to predict ozone concentrations with the set of known independent variables. The regression analysis was run using IBM SPSS statistical software. Several options for running the regression analysis were considered and tested, including controlling criteria such as the *F*-statistic, AIC Criterion, and the Over-Fit Prevention Criterion, which sets aside a random portion of the data set that is not used to train the regression model equations. All of these options produced relatively similar ozone concentration predictions, generally within 2 ppb of each other. The following bullets list the parameters that were ultimately selected for use in running the regression analysis models:

- The independent variables were processed using the SPSS automatic data preparation tool. This tool improves the accuracy and reliability of the regression model by trimming outlying values (to a maximum of three standard deviations) and merges categorical variables that have similar associations with the dependent variable (ozone concentration).
- The regression analysis models were processed using the best subset of multiple forward stepwise selections. Stepwise selection starts with no effects (independent variables) in the model and then adds and removes effects one step at a time until no more can be added or removed according to the stepwise criteria.
- The criterion used to control the stepwise selection is based upon the adjusted R^2 criterion. The adjusted R^2 criterion is based on the fit of the training set, and is adjusted to penalize overly complex models.
- At each step, the effect that corresponds to the greatest positive increase in the criterion is added to the model. Any effects in the model that correspond to a decrease in the criterion are removed.
- No variables were forced to remain in the regression analysis model.

Performance

The performance of each of the regression analysis models is shown in Table D–5. The table includes the adjusted R^2 value, *F*-statistic and significance (*p*) of each of the regression analysis models. The overall measure of how well the regression analysis is able to explain the observed ozone concentration is listed as the adjusted R^2 value. The adjusted R^2 values range between 0.498 to 0.584 and are comparable to adjusted R^2 values seen in other similar analyses using observed meteorological data². The *F*-statistics for all of the models are statistically significant (*p* value less than 0.05), indicating that the independent variables can be relied upon to predict the dependent variable (ozone concentrations).

A visual analysis of the performance of the regression analysis models is included in the scatterplots of the predicted versus observed ozone concentrations in Figure D–2. The scatterplots for each of the six exceeding monitoring sites indicate that the regression models show the expected positive correlation between predicted and observed ozone concentrations. The scatterplots are generally clustered around the

² California Air Resources Board, (2011). Exceptional Events Demonstration for 1-Hour Ozone Exceedances in the Sacramento Regional Nonattainment Area Due to 2008 Wildfires. Jaffe et al., (2013). Impact of Wildfires on Ozone Exceptional Events in the Western U.S. Environmental Science & Technology 47, 11065-11072.

trend line, with some outlying points, and are typical for the adjusted R^2 values produced by the regression equation models.

Table D-5. Regression Analysis Performance Statistics.

Monitor	Adjusted. R^2	F	Significance (p)
Apache Junction – Model Summary	0.559	25.632	0.000
Blue Point – Model Summary	0.508	18.966	0.000
Falcon Field – Model Summary	0.493	16.379	0.000
Mesa – Model Summary	0.562	10.213	0.000
Pinnacle Peak – Model Summary	0.498	14.054	0.000
Tonto Nat. Monument – Model Summary	0.584	19.052	0.000

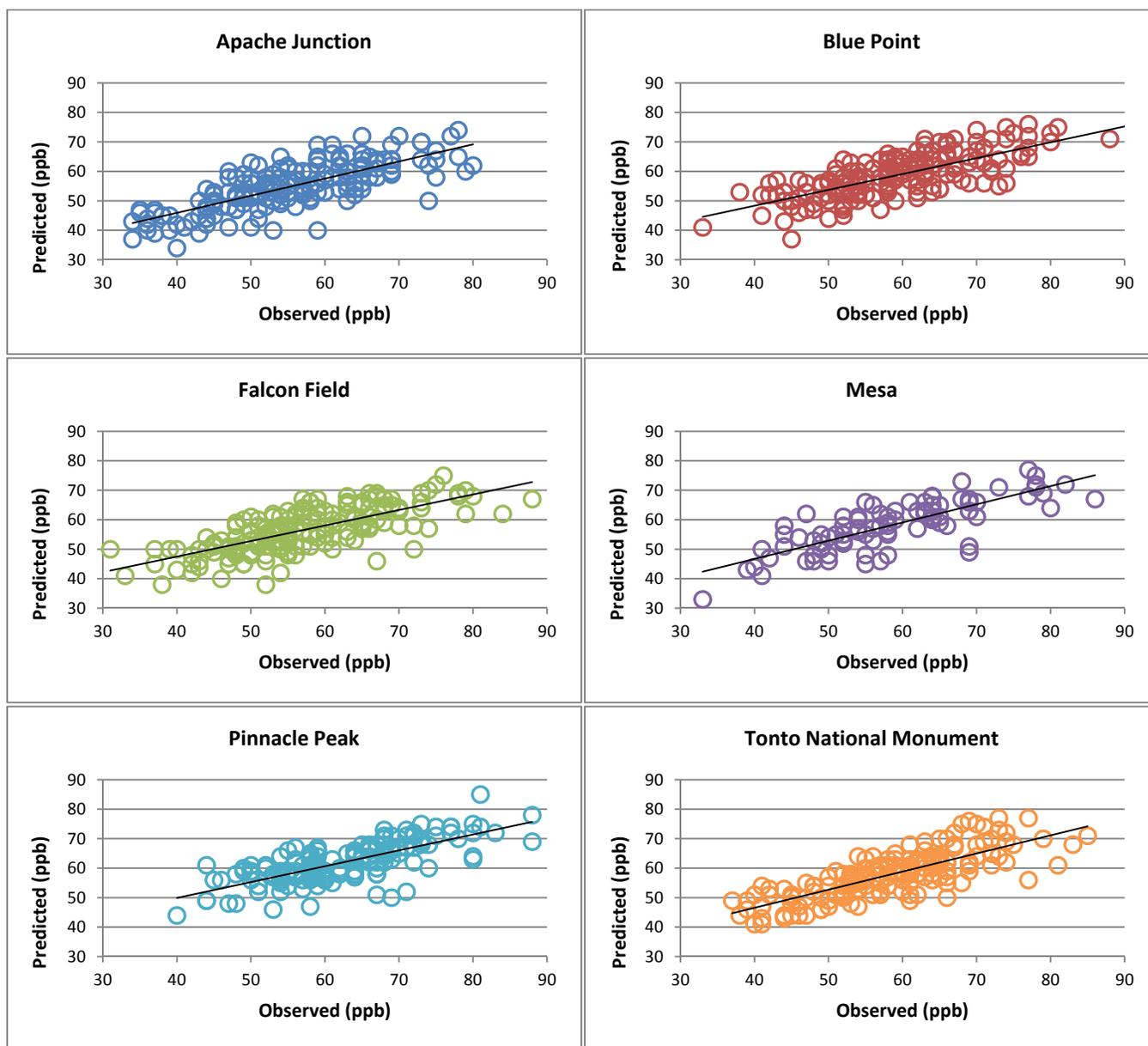


Figure D-2. Scatterplots of predicted and observed ozone concentrations.

Table D–6 lists the coefficient, importance, *t*-statistic, *p* value, and standard error of the independent variables for each of the six exceeding monitors' regression analysis models. The abbreviations of the independent variables in Table D–6 correspond to the abbreviations listed in Table D–4. The *t*-statistic measures the size of the difference relative to the variation in the data and the standard error shows how much the average of the variable deviates from the expected mean of that variable. A *p* value less than 0.05 normally indicates that the independent variable is statistically significant. While minimally important, the regression models have chosen to include some independent variables with *p* values greater than 0.05 since they contribute to overall model performance, reliability or accuracy. All categories in a categorical variable are included, even if only one of the categories is statistically significant (i.e., the wind direction NNW is statistically significant, but the other seven are not).

The independent variables in Table D–6 that are included in each monitoring site's regression analysis are not identical in each model. This is not unexpected given that the monitoring sites are situated in disparate locations including dense-urban (Mesa), suburban (Pinnacle Peak) and rural locations (Tonto Nat. Monument), which allow for different interactions between meteorology and the NO_x and VOC precursor emissions that lead to ozone formation. Despite some variation, all monitoring sites were significantly influenced by the prior day ozone concentration, atmospheric stability and/or pressure measurements, and multiple wind speed and direction measurements.

An examination of the resulting coefficients in Table D–6 shows that the coefficients are generally reflective of common knowledge regarding the production of ozone. As an example, the sign of the coefficients for all wind speeds is negative, meaning as wind speed increases, ozone production decreases. One variable that has a counter-intuitive coefficient in Table D–6 is the maximum daily surface temperature variable (MaxTemp). The sign of the coefficient is negative for the Apache Junction and Tonto National Monument monitors (MaxTemp is not statistically important enough to be included in the other four monitoring site's regression analyses) which suggest that as temperature increases, ozone decreases at these monitoring sites. An examination of the scatterplots of MaxTemp and the maximum daily eight-hour ozone concentration at these two monitoring sites (Figure D–3) do reveal an extremely weak, but positive, linear correlation between MaxTemp and ozone (R^2 values of 0.039 to 0.041) that seems to contradict a negative sign for the MaxTemp coefficient. However, given the heavy scatter and extremely weak linear correlation between temperature and ozone in the scatterplots, outlier values may heavily influence and easily shift the sign of the coefficient. As the data was processed to trim outlier values greater than three standard deviations, it is also possible that this process helped to produce a negative correlation between MaxTemp and ozone. In reality, it is also probable that an increase in temperature (e.g., 108°F to 112°F) may have little, to no impact on ozone production since extreme high temperatures typically are present for all days in the month of June.

Table D-6. Coefficient, Importance, *t*-statistic, *p*-value and Standard Error for each Regression Model.

Monitoring Site	Model Variables	Coefficient	Importance	<i>t</i>	<i>p</i>	Std. Error
Apache Junction	Prior	0.508	0.635	9.422	0.000	0.054
Apache Junction	UpDir = NNE, WSW	-5.736	0.141	-4.291	0.000	1.337
Apache Junction	UpDir = ESE, SSW	-6.961	0.141	-2.703	0.008	2.576
Apache Junction	UpDir = ENE, NNW, SSE, WNW	0.000	0.141			
Apache Junction	MornDir = SSE	-4.274	0.092	-3.075	0.002	1.390
Apache Junction	MornDir = ENE, NNW	1.791	0.092	1.216	0.226	1.472
Apache Junction	MornDir = ESE, NNE, SSW, WNW, WSW	0.000	0.092			
Apache Junction	DiffTemp	-0.733	0.070	-3.120	0.002	0.235
Apache Junction	AftDir = ENE, NNE, SSE, SSW	-3.230	0.027	-1.944	0.054	1.661
Apache Junction	AftDir = ESE, NNW, WNW, WSW	0.000	0.027			
Apache Junction	MaxTemp	-0.406	0.021	-1.700	0.091	0.239
Apache Junction	MornWind	-0.978	0.015	-1.445	0.150	0.677
Apache Junction	Intercept	52.414		5.046	0.000	10.386
Blue Point	Prior	0.392	0.432	6.774	0.000	0.058
Blue Point	Updir = ESE, SSW	-6.269	0.141	-2.519	0.013	2.488
Blue Point	UpDir = ENE, WSW	-4.577	0.141	-3.567	0.000	1.283
Blue Point	UpDir = NNE, NNW, SSE, WNW	0.000	0.141			
Blue Point	DewPoint	-0.207	0.134	-3.767	0.000	0.055
Blue Point	MornDir = SSE	-3.976	0.079	-2.904	0.004	1.369
Blue Point	MornDir = ENE, ESE, NNE, NNW, SSW, WNW,	0.000	0.079			
Blue Point	Day = TUES, WED, THUR, FRI	2.947	0.068	2.683	0.008	1.098
Blue Point	Day = MON, SAT, SUN	0.000	0.068			
Blue Point	Pressure	-23.802	0.060	-2.514	0.013	9.467
Blue Point	AftDir = ENE, SSE, SSW	-3.674	0.040	-2.050	0.042	1.792
Blue Point	AftDir = ESE, NNE, NNW, WNW, WSW	0.000	0.040			
Blue Point	AftWind	-0.845	0.029	-1.751	0.082	0.483
Blue Point	MornWind	-0.972	0.018	-1.391	0.166	0.699
Blue Point	Intercept	757.381		2.681	0.008	282.482
Falcon Field	Prior	0.355	0.402	5.885	0.000	0.060
Falcon Field	UpDir = WNW	5.333	0.258	3.874	0.000	1.377
Falcon Field	UpDir = ESE, SSW	-0.892	0.258	-0.365	0.716	2.444
Falcon Field	UpDir = ENE, NNW	6.814	0.258	3.967	0.000	1.717
Falcon Field	UpDir = NNE, SSE, WSW	0.000	0.258			
Falcon Field	AftDir = ESE, NNW	8.607	0.087	2.320	0.022	3.709
Falcon Field	AftDir = NNE, WNW, WSW	4.157	0.087	2.272	0.024	1.829
Falcon Field	AftDir = ENE, SSE, SSW	0.000	0.087			
Falcon Field	DiffTemp	-0.638	0.076	-2.565	0.011	0.249
Falcon Field	MornDir = ENE, ESE, NNE, NNW, WSW	3.038	0.060	2.275	0.024	1.335
Falcon Field	MornDir = SSE, SSW, WNW	0.000	0.060			
Falcon Field	Pressure	-21.559	0.060	-2.267	0.025	9.508
Falcon Field	AftWind	-0.943	0.039	-1.841	0.068	0.512
Falcon Field	MornWind	-0.852	0.017	-1.222	0.223	0.697
Falcon Field	Intercept	675.749		2.384	0.018	283.500
Mesa	UpDir = WNW	5.804	0.299	2.912	0.005	1.993
Mesa	UpDir = ENE, ESE, NNE, NNW, SSE	8.974	0.299	3.672	0.000	2.444
Mesa	UpDir = SSW, WSW	0.000	0.299			
Mesa	MornDir = ENE, ESE, NNE, NNW, WSW	5.774	0.169	2.891	0.005	1.997
Mesa	MornDir = SSE, SSW, WNW	0.000	0.169			
Mesa	Pressure	-43.377	0.128	-2.516	0.014	17.243
Mesa	AftWind	-1.671	0.106	-2.291	0.025	0.730
Mesa	AftDir = ENE, ESE	-12.736	0.102	-1.528	0.131	8.336
Mesa	AftDir = NNW	9.912	0.102	1.215	0.228	8.156
Mesa	AftDir = NNE, WNW, WSW	2.435	0.102	0.878	0.383	2.775
Mesa	AftDir = SSE, SSW	0.000	0.102			
Mesa	Prior	0.190	0.099	2.220	0.030	0.086

Monitoring Site	Model Variables	Coefficient	Importance	t	p	Std. Error
Mesa	DiffTemp	-0.517	0.040	-1.405	0.164	0.368
Mesa	UpTemp	-0.619	0.035	-1.313	0.193	0.471
Mesa	MornWind	-1.208	0.023	-1.064	0.291	1.135
Mesa	Intercept	1332.627		2.593	0.011	513.880
Pinnacle Peak	Prior	0.338	0.331	5.212	0.000	0.065
Pinnacle Peak	Day = SUN	-5.561	0.145	-3.443	0.001	1.615
Pinnacle Peak	Day = MON, TUES, WED, THUR, FRI, SAT	0.000	0.145			
Pinnacle Peak	DewPoint	-0.180	0.132	-3.293	0.001	0.055
Pinnacle Peak	Pressure	-27.286	0.100	-2.858	0.005	9.546
Pinnacle Peak	AftWind	-1.451	0.089	-2.698	0.008	0.538
Pinnacle Peak	MornDir = SSE, SSW, WNW	-3.655	0.086	-2.659	0.009	1.375
Pinnacle Peak	MornDir = ENE, ESE, NNE, NNW, WSW	0.000	0.086			
Pinnacle Peak	UpWind	-0.507	0.037	-1.731	0.086	0.293
Pinnacle Peak	AftDir = NNW	4.084	0.035	0.842	0.401	4.852
Pinnacle Peak	AftDir = ENE, SSE, SSW	-2.692	0.035	-1.449	0.150	1.858
Pinnacle Peak	AftDir = ENE, NNE, WNW, WSW	0.000	0.035			
Pinnacle Peak	UpDir = ESE, NNE, SSE, SSW	-3.877	0.028	-1.526	0.129	2.541
Pinnacle Peak	UpDir = ENE, NNW, WNW, WSW	0.000	0.028			
Pinnacle Peak	MornWind	-0.801	0.017	-1.176	0.242	0.681
Pinnacle Peak	Intercept	871.362		3.057	0.003	285.056
Tonto Nat. Monument	Prior	0.468	0.504	8.369	0.000	0.056
Tonto Nat. Monument	UpDir = WSW	-6.187	0.179	-4.885	0.000	1.267
Tonto Nat. Monument	UpDir = ESE, SSW	-6.406	0.179	-2.759	0.007	2.322
Tonto Nat. Monument	UpDir = ENE, NNE, NNW, SSE, WNW	0.000	0.179			
Tonto Nat. Monument	MornDir = SSE	-5.236	0.099	-3.148	0.002	1.663
Tonto Nat. Monument	MornDir = ENE, ESE, NNW	-1.165	0.099	-0.758	0.450	1.536
Tonto Nat. Monument	MornDir = NNE, SSW, WNW, WSW	0.000	0.099			
Tonto Nat. Monument	Day = MON, SUN	-3.198	0.061	-2.917	0.004	1.096
Tonto Nat. Monument	Day = TUES, WED, THUR, FRI, SAT	0.000	0.061			
Tonto Nat. Monument	DewPoint	-0.189	0.043	-2.449	0.015	0.077
Tonto Nat. Monument	Pressure	-19.635	0.034	-2.178	0.031	9.014
Tonto Nat. Monument	MaxTemp	-0.42	0.023	-1.778	0.077	0.236
Tonto Nat. Monument	AftDir = ENE, NNE, SSE, SSW	-2.476	0.018	-1.598	0.112	1.549
Tonto Nat. Monument	AftDir = ESE, NNW, WNW, WSW	0.000	0.018			
Tonto Nat. Monument	Cloud	-3.789	0.014	-1.386	0.168	2.734
Tonto Nat. Monument	UpTemp	0.359	0.013	1.350	0.179	0.266
Tonto Nat. Monument	DiffTemp	-0.408	0.011	-1.241	0.216	0.329
Tonto Nat. Monument	Intercept	648.285		2.389	0.018	271.308

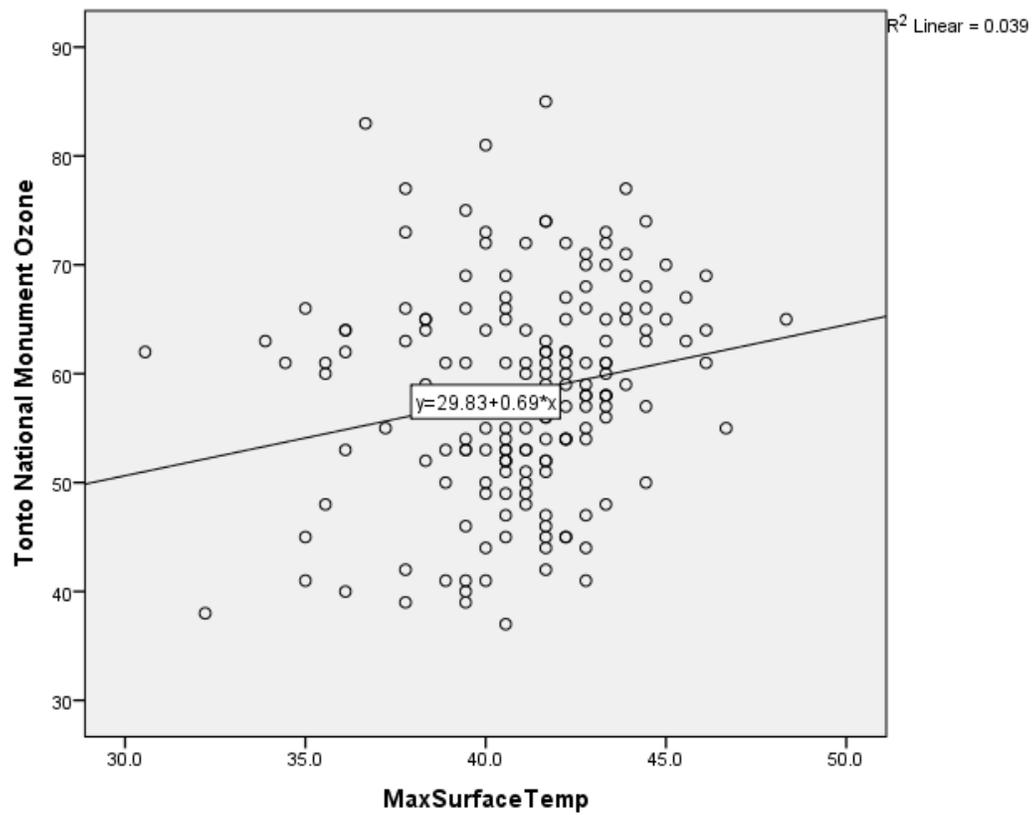
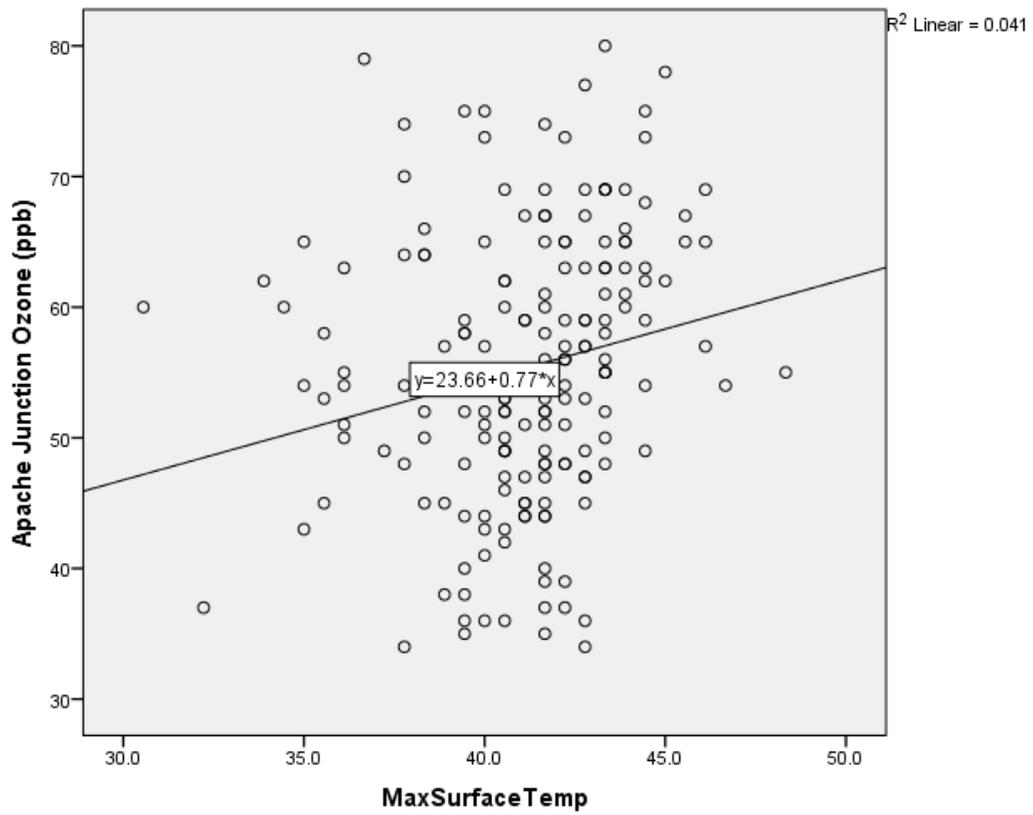


Figure D-3. Scatterplots of MaxTemp and ozone concentrations at two exceeding monitors.

Sample Regression Analysis Equation

The coefficients of the variables in Table D–6 are the values used in combination with observed data to predict ozone concentrations. The predicted ozone concentration is derived by summing the product of the observed meteorological variable by the listed coefficient for that variable (for a categorical variable, the value is either 1 if the variable exists or 0 if the variable does not exist). As an example, the equation below shows the predicted ozone concentration at the Apache Junction monitor on June 20, 2015:

June 20, 2015 meteorological values included in regression analysis model for Apache Junction:

Prior = 65 ppb; UpDir = NNW; MornDir = ESE; DiffTemp = -1.022°C; AftDir = WNW; MaxTemp = 44.444°C; MornWind = 3.129 m/s

Regression analysis equation:

*Predicted = (Prior*0.508) + (UpDir for NNW = 0) + (MornDir for ESE = 0) + (DiffTemp*-0.733)*
Ozone (ppb) + (AftDir for WNW = 0) + (MaxTemp-0.406) + (MornWind*-0.978) + (Intercept = 52.414)*

*= (65*0.508) + (0) + (0) + (-1.022*-0.733) + (0) + (44.444*-0.406) + (3.129*-0.978) + (52.414)*

65.1 ppb = (33.020) + (0) + (0) + (.749) + (0) + (-18.044) + (-3.060) + (52.414)

Distribution of Errors

In order to make sure that the regression models are not biased to systematically predict higher or lower ozone concentrations than the observed concentrations, the distribution of the regression analysis model errors (difference between observed and predicted ozone concentrations) can be examined for high or low bias. If the errors are distributed normally around a mean of zero, the models are not biased to systematically predict high or low ozone concentrations. Histograms of the distribution of errors for the regression analysis models for all six exceeding monitors are included in Figure D–4. The histograms reveal a normal distribution with a slight positive skew. The positive skew is largely the result of truncating ozone concentrations to conform to the ozone NAAQS and is reflected in the mean of errors in a value of approximately 0.5 (instead of zero as would be expected in a completely normal distribution). This bias is very slight and results on average in under predictions of ozone concentrations by 0.0005 parts per million (or 0.5 ppb). A bias this small does not materially affect the regression results.

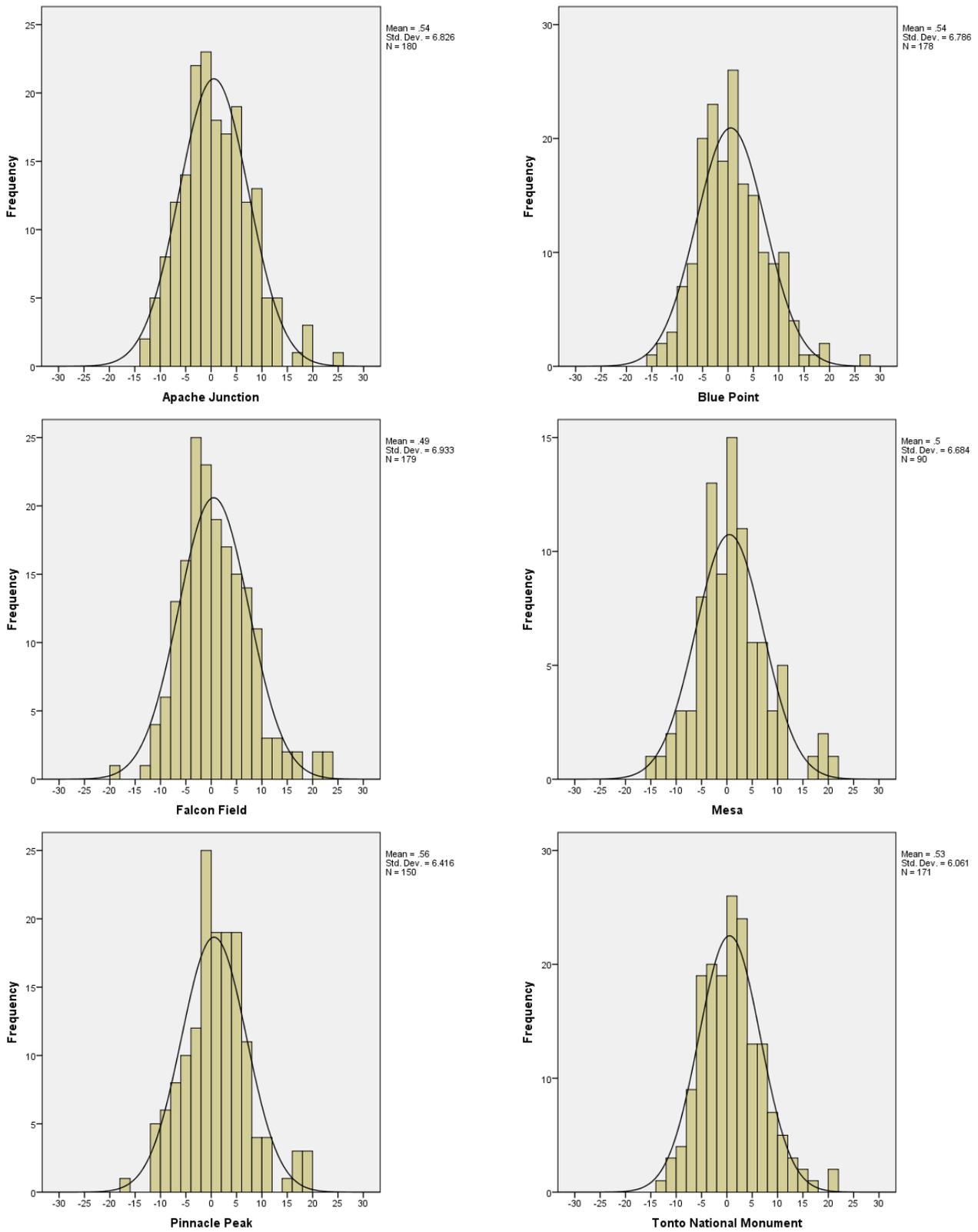


Figure D-4. Histograms of regression analysis model errors (observed - predicted ozone concentrations) at each monitoring site.

Regression Analysis Results

Using the equations developed by the regression analysis models for each of the six exceeding monitoring sites, predicted ozone concentrations are developed for the entire period of June 2010-2015 at each site, excluding days when there were no observed ozone concentrations during this period at the monitoring sites. As shown in the histograms in Figure D-4, the regression equations produce predicted ozone concentrations that are both less than, and greater than, the observed concentrations in a relatively normal distribution (approximately half of the predictions are less than observed, and half are greater than observed). Figure D-5 includes plots of the predicted and observed ozone concentrations in June 2015 at the six monitoring sites.

June 20, 2015 Predictions Results

The results of the regression analysis for each of the monitoring sites predict maximum daily eight-hour ozone values on June 20, 2015 between 0.065 and 0.070 ppm (values truncated to three decimal points in keeping with the form of the standard), well below the 2008 ozone standard of 0.075 ppm. The results confirm the assumption that under the meteorological conditions that existed on June 20, 2015, the monitors would normally not have exceeded the 2008 ozone standard, and suggests that an out-of-the-norm variable (e.g., increased emissions from the wildfire) influenced the ozone concentrations on June 20, 2015. The difference between the observed and predicted ozone concentrations can be used to infer the amount of additional ozone created by the wildfire emissions. Using this as a metric, the wildfire is estimated to have contributed additional ozone concentrations of between 0.008 ppm to 0.013 ppm on June 20, 2015. These results provide evidence to support the assertion that the exceedances on June 20, 2015 would not have occurred “but for” the additional ozone and ozone precursor emissions created by the Lake Fire.

The robustness of this result can also be investigated by comparing the differences between all of the observed ozone concentrations and all of the predicted ozone concentrations in the regression analyses datasets. This provides a method to evaluate how much of a departure the exceeding (observed) concentrations are as compared to the expected (predicted) concentrations (i.e., statistically identifying how rare the observed concentrations are). The positive difference (when the model predicts a concentration that is less than the observed concentration) between the observed and predicted ozone concentration on June 20, 2015 can be compared to all of the recorded positive differences in the regression analysis data set (2010-2015) by assigning a percentile rank to the June 20, 2015 positive difference. Since we are not interested in those days when the model predicts a concentration that is higher than the observed concentration, days with negative differences are not included in the percentile rankings.

The percentile rank of the positive difference between the observed and predicted ozone concentrations for each of the exceeding six monitors on June 20, 2015 range from the 83rd to the 92nd percentile. This means that on average, the regression analysis indicates there is only a 8 to 17 percent chance that the positive difference between the observed and predicted ozone concentrations recorded at the six exceeding monitors would be produced under the meteorological conditions that existed on June 20, 2015. Table D-7 contains the observed and predicted ozone concentrations for June 20, 2015, the difference between the observed and the predicted concentrations, and the percentile ranking of the difference for each of the exceeding monitors.

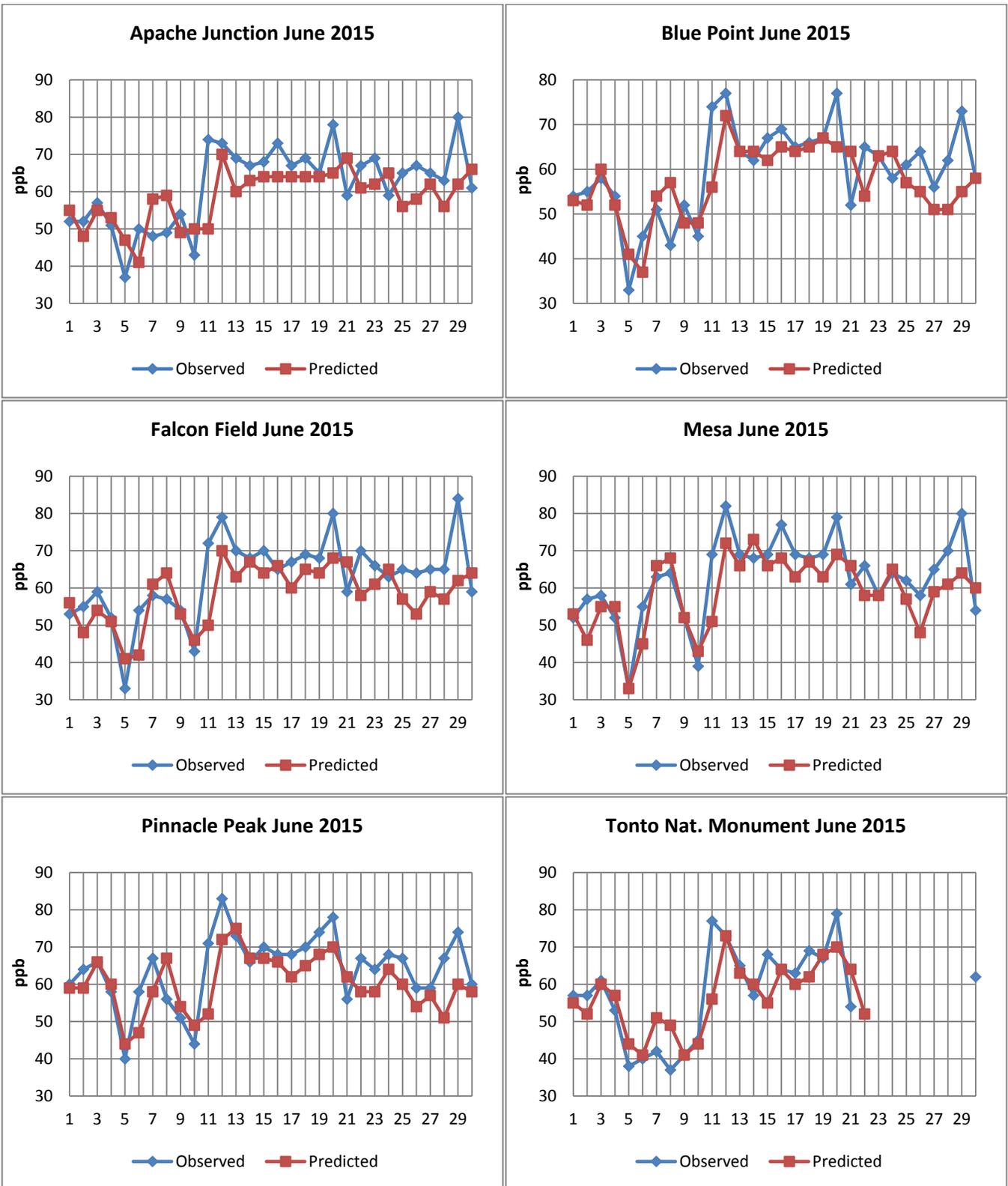


Figure D-5. Observed and predicted ozone concentrations at the six exceeding monitoring sites in June 2015.

Table D-7. Regression Analysis Results.

Monitor	Observed Ozone Concentration on June 20, 2015	Predicted Ozone Concentration on June 20, 2015	Difference Between Observed and Predicted Ozone Concentrations	Percentile Rank of Difference
Apache Junction	0.078 ppm	0.065 ppm	0.013 ppm	92nd
Blue Point	0.077 ppm	0.065 ppm	0.012 ppm	91st
Falcon Field	0.080 ppm	0.068 ppm	0.012 ppm	89th
Mesa	0.079 ppm	0.069 ppm	0.010 ppm	84th
Pinnacle Peak	0.078 ppm	0.070 ppm	0.008 ppm	83rd
Tonto Nat. Monument	0.079 ppm	0.070 ppm	0.009 ppm	84th

The Wildfire Guidance recommends employing an additional step to estimate the ozone contribution from the wildfire when comparing the difference between the observed and predicted ozone concentrations. The Guidance states that the 95th percentile of the positive differences should be identified and then added to the predicted concentration. If the sum of the predicted concentration and the 95th percentile positive difference is still less than the observed concentration, the Guidance suggests that the difference between the observed concentration and the sum of the predicted concentration and the 95th percentile difference would be an estimate of the wildfire impact (e.g., If the predicted ozone concentration for a wildfire event day is 60 ppb and the 95th percentile positive difference is 18 ppb, then the sum of these values is 78 ppb. If the observed ozone concentration on the wildfire event day was 83 ppb, then 5 ppb (83-78) can be attributed to the wildfire). Put another way, the positive difference between the observed and predicted ozone concentration on the wildfire event day(s) would have to be greater than the 95th percentile positive difference for there to be any assumed impact on ozone concentrations from the wildfire under the Wildfire Guidance methodology. Essentially this method is designed to identify statistical outliers.

As seen in Table D-7, none of the positive differences exceed the 95th percentile value for the June 20, 2015 wildfire event day. Under the Wildfire Guidance, there would be no assumed impact on ozone concentrations on June 20, 2015 from the wildfire. However, there are several important issues with this methodology that need to be explored. First, the 95th percentile of the positive differences is a very high, conservative and rare value to compare against. Because the regression models both under predict and over predict ozone concentrations in relation to observed concentrations, the 95th percentile of positive differences is also the 97th or 98th percentile of all the recorded differences (positive and negative). As such, a positive difference above the 95th percentile for the period of June 2010-2015 on which the regression analysis is based occurs only five times at the Apache Junction, Blue Point and Tonto monitors; occurs only four times at the Pinnacle Peak and Falcon Field monitors; and occurs only three times at the Mesa monitor.

Second, the days when the 95th percentile positive difference is surpassed in the June 2010-2015 period include both non-exceedance days and non-event exceedance days. In general these large positive differences are the result of two main factors: (1) since non-event exceedance days are relatively rare to begin with, the days with the highest ozone concentrations are already statistical outliers, making these days the most likely candidates to have the largest positive differences; and (2) on the non-exceedance days, the days have either a non-standard response to meteorological variables (i.e., high ozone on high wind days) or the prior day ozone concentration was significantly lower than the observed value (usually 20-30 ppb lower), making the jump to a significantly higher ozone concentration unexpected and non-normal.

Lastly, while the regression analysis can help to identify days that are non-normal, there are inherent limits to a regression analysis for ozone production, given the vast complexities involved in the production of ozone that cannot be simply captured by meteorological variables. As shown in Table D–5, the regression analysis models are able to explain about 50% of the correlation between predicted and observed concentrations, which is typical of the results seen in other regression analysis studies. That leaves 50% of the correlation as an unknown, likely explained by a combination of emissions and meteorological variables not already included in the models. These limitations are highlighted in a study performed by Sonoma Technology Incorporated (STI)³, where the methodology suggested by the Wildfire Guidance was used to analyze ozone concentrations on days in Los Angeles (2007–2011) that may have been affected by wildfires. Despite the study identifying a large number of days (27) that were impacted by smoke from wildfires using NOAA smoke maps and satellite imagery, none of these days had positive differences above the 95th percentile, therefore finding that the identified wildfires had no impact on ozone concentrations under the Wildfire Guidance methodology. While the STI study points out that the regression models used in the study may need to be modified to perform better, the results of the STI study do call into question the validity of using a 95th percentile threshold for identifying wildfire impacts given the intrinsic performance ceiling of the regression analysis models.

With the limitations of regression analysis and the strict standard set by a 95th percentile bar, it is not surprising that none of the monitors on June 20, 2015 exceeded the 95th percentile of positive differences. While not exceeding the 95th percentile, the positive differences shown in Table D–7 (83rd-92nd percentiles) are significant and do lend substantial weight to the assumption that the concentrations seen on June 20, 2015 would not have normally occurred but for the influence of an unaccounted for variable. Given the totality of the other evidence presented in this documentation that smoke, ozone and ozone emissions from the Lake Fire did impact ozone concentrations on June 20, 2015, it is reasonable to conclude that the “unaccounted for variable” that contributed to the exceedances was the Lake Fire emissions. The regression analysis results are therefore another piece of evidence, when viewed in context of the whole body of evidence, which points to the significant contribution of the Lake Fire emissions to the ozone concentrations at the exceeding monitors in the Maricopa nonattainment area on June 20, 2015.

³ STI, 2014. Documentation of Data Portal and Case Study to Support Analysis of Fire Impacts on Ground-Level Ozone Concentrations. Technical Memorandum prepared for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. STI-910507-6062.

APPENDIX E

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

APPENDIX F

EXCEPTIONAL EVENT INITIAL NOTIFICATION FORM

EE Initial Notification Summary Information for June 20, 2015 Ozone in Maricopa County

Submitting Agency: **Arizona Department of Environmental Quality**

Agency Contact: **Brad Busby (602) 771-7676 or Jonny Malloy (602) 771-6815**

Date Submitted: **July 8, 2016**

Applicable NAAQS: **0.075 ppm (73 FR 16483 Mar 27, 2008) & 0.070 ppm (80 FR 65292 Oct 26, 2015)**

Affected Regulatory Decision¹: **Attainment Determination (2008) and Designation (2015)**

(for classification decisions, specify level of the classification with/without EE concurrence)

Area Name/Designation Status: **Maricopa County Ozone Nonattainment Area / Moderate Nonattainment**

Design Value Period (list three year period): **2014-2016 (preliminary through July 7, 2016)**

A) Information specific to each flagged site day that may be submitted to EPA in support of the affected regulatory decision listed above

Date of Event	Type of Event	AQS Flag	Site AQS ID	Site Name	Exceedance Concentration	Notes (e.g. event name, links to other events)
6/20/15	Wildfire	RT	04-021-3001	Apache Junction	0.078 ppm	Linked to smoke/precursor transport from the Lake Fire in SE California
6/20/15	Wildfire	RT	04-013-9702	Blue Point	0.077 ppm	Linked to smoke/precursor transport from the Lake Fire in SE California
6/20/15	Wildfire	RT	04-013-1010	Falcon Field	0.080 ppm	Linked to smoke/precursor transport from the Lake Fire in SE California
6/20/15	Wildfire	RT	04-013-1003	Mesa	0.079 ppm	Linked to smoke/precursor transport from the Lake Fire in SE California
6/20/15	Wildfire	RT	04-013-2005	Pinnacle Peak	0.078 ppm	Linked to smoke/precursor transport from the Lake Fire in SE California
6/20/15	Wildfire	RT	04-007-0010	Tonto NM	0.079 ppm	Linked to smoke/precursor transport from the Lake Fire in SE California

B) Violating Sites Information

Site/monitor (AQS ID and POC)	Design Value (<u>without</u> EPA concurrence on any of the events listed in table A above)	Design Value (<u>with</u> EPA concurrence on all events listed in table A above)
Mesa / 04-013-1003	0.076	0.074
Pinnacle Peak / 04-013-2005	0.076	0.075
Tonto National Monument / 04-007-0010	0.071	0.070

Notes:

- All monitors in the Maricopa nonattainment area currently meet the 2008 ozone standard (0.075) using preliminary 2014-2016 values when the June 20, 2015 wildfire event is excluded as of July 7, 2016.
- The Tonto National Monument monitor in rural Gila County, Arizona is currently not a part of an ozone nonattainment area. Exclusion of the June 20, 2015 ozone wildfire exceptional event is necessary to ensure that the area around the Tonto monitor is not needlessly included in a future nonattainment area for the 2015 ozone standard.
- The final rule promulgating the 2015 ozone standard requires that for exceptional events which occurred in 2015 and affect initial area designations for the 2015 standard, documentation of these events must be submitted to EPA by October 1, 2016 (see Table 6 at 80 FR 65415). As such, even though the design value for the 2014-2016 period will still be preliminary for the Tonto National Monument monitor on October 1, 2016, the EPA rule requires that documentation for the June 20, 2015 ozone wildfire exceptional event be submitted by October 1, 2016.

¹ designation, classification, attainment determination, attainment date extension, or finding of SIP inadequacy leading to SIP call

² Provide additional information for types of event described as "other"

C) Summary of Maximum Design Value (DV) Site Information (Effect of EPA Concurrence on Maximum Design Value Site Determination)

In reference to the 2008 ozone standard for the Maricopa 2008 eight-hour ozone nonattainment area:

Maximum DV site (AQS ID) without EPA concurrence on any of the events listed in table A above	Design Value 0.076	Design Value Site Pinnacle Peak - 04-013-2005	Comment
Maximum DV site (AQS ID) with EPA concurrence on all events listed in table A above	Design Value 0.075	Design Value Site Pinnacle Peak - 04-013-2005	Comment

In reference to the 2015 ozone standard for the Gila County Tonto National Monument monitor currently located outside of the Maricopa nonattainment area:

Maximum DV site (AQS ID) without EPA concurrence on any of the events listed in table A above	Design Value 0.071	Design Value Site Tonto National Monument - 04-007-0010	Comment
Maximum DV site (AQS ID) with EPA concurrence on all events listed in table A above	Design Value 0.070	Design Value Site Tonto National Monument - 04-007-0010	Comment

D) List of any sites (AQS ID) within planning area with invalid design values (e.g., due to data incompleteness)

N/A

APPENDIX G

SUPPLEMENTARY ANALYSIS OF THE EXCEEDANCE AT THE TONTO NATIONAL MONUMENT MONITOR IN RELATION TO THE 2015 OZONE STANDARD

Introduction

The weight of evidence presented in this report is primarily included to demonstrate that transport of ozone and ozone precursor emissions from the Lake Fire in southeastern California caused exceedances of the 2008 ozone standard (0.075 ppm) on June 20, 2015 at six monitors in or very near the Maricopa nonattainment area. The exclusion of the June 20, 2015 exceedances as an exceptional event is necessary for the Maricopa nonattainment area to attain the 2008 ozone standard in 2016 (using data from the 2014-2016 ozone seasons).

Exclusion of the June 20, 2015 exceedances as an ozone wildfire exceptional event by the EPA prevents the exceedance data from being used in calculation of the ozone design value. Since the data is completely excluded from use once an exceptional event is approved (i.e., no substitute eight-hour ozone concentrations are created for the exceptional event exceedances), the data by default is excluded from use in calculation of the ozone design value for both the 2008 and 2015 eight-hour ozone standards (0.075 and 0.070 ppm, respectively).

Because exclusion of the June 20, 2015 data as an exceptional event exceedance of the 2008 standard will have the practical effect of excluding the data for use in calculation of the ozone design value for the 2015 ozone standard, EPA Region IX has asked for additional analysis of the June 20, 2015 exceedance at the Tonto National Monument monitor in relation to the 2015 ozone standard of 0.070 ppm. The Tonto National Monument monitor currently meets the 2008 ozone standard, but does not meet the 2015 ozone standard with a design value calculated using 2013-2015 ozone season data. If the June 20, 2015 exceedance at the Tonto monitor is excluded as an exceptional event, it is possible that the Tonto monitor may meet the 2015 ozone standard using data from the 2015 ozone season (i.e., the design value based upon 2015-2017 data). As the Tonto monitor is currently not included in an ozone nonattainment area, exclusion of the June 20, 2015 exceedance as an exceptional event is regulatory significant for the Tonto monitor, as it may prevent the area from unnecessarily being designated by the EPA as part of a nonattainment area for the 2015 ozone standard.

The additional analysis presented in this Appendix concludes that the June 20, 2015 exceedance of the ozone standard at the Tonto National Monument monitor would qualify as an exceptional event for both the 2008 and 2015 ozone standards. The data and analysis presented below, in conjunction with the data and analysis already presented in the other sections of this report, show that without the influence of the Lake Fire, the Tonto National Monument monitor would not have exceeded either the 2008 or the 2015 ozone standard (i.e., the eight-hour ozone concentration would have been 0.070 ppm or less).

Ozone Trend Data at the Tonto National Monument Monitor

The Tonto National Monument monitor is operated by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality and is located in the middle of the Tonto National Forest in Gila County, Arizona. Since beginning operation in 2002, the ozone concentrations at the Tonto National Monument monitor have shown a steady downward trend. Figure G-1 displays the annual number of days the Tonto monitor has exceeded 0.070 ppm, and the annual fourth high eight-hour ozone concentration for years 2002-2016 (data for 2016 is preliminary through August 9, 2016). Both statistics show substantial decreases over time, and indicate that exceedances of the 2015 ozone standard are becoming rarer with each passing year, particularly in the last three-year period of 2014-2016. The rarity of recent exceedances as seen in Figure G-1 lends additional weight of evidence to the conclusion that the concentration seen on June 20, 2015 (0.079 ppm) was not normal or expected.

Trend data during the days before and after the event also show that a concentration over 0.070 ppm was unexpected at the Tonto Monitor, as no other days during this time period recorded actual eight-hour concentrations higher than 0.069 ppm (see note in Table G–1). As pointed out in the main document, June 20, 2015 is a Saturday, a day when average ozone-forming anthropogenic emissions are lower than the weekdays, making it less likely that a spike in anthropogenic emissions contributed to the exceedance on June 20, 2015. There are no significant anthropogenic sources of ozone precursors near the Tonto monitor, as the Tonto monitor is located in the middle of the Tonto National Forest and is primarily influenced by background ozone concentrations. Table G–1 displays the maximum daily eight-hour ozone concentrations before and after the June 20, 2015 exceedance at the Tonto National Monument monitor.

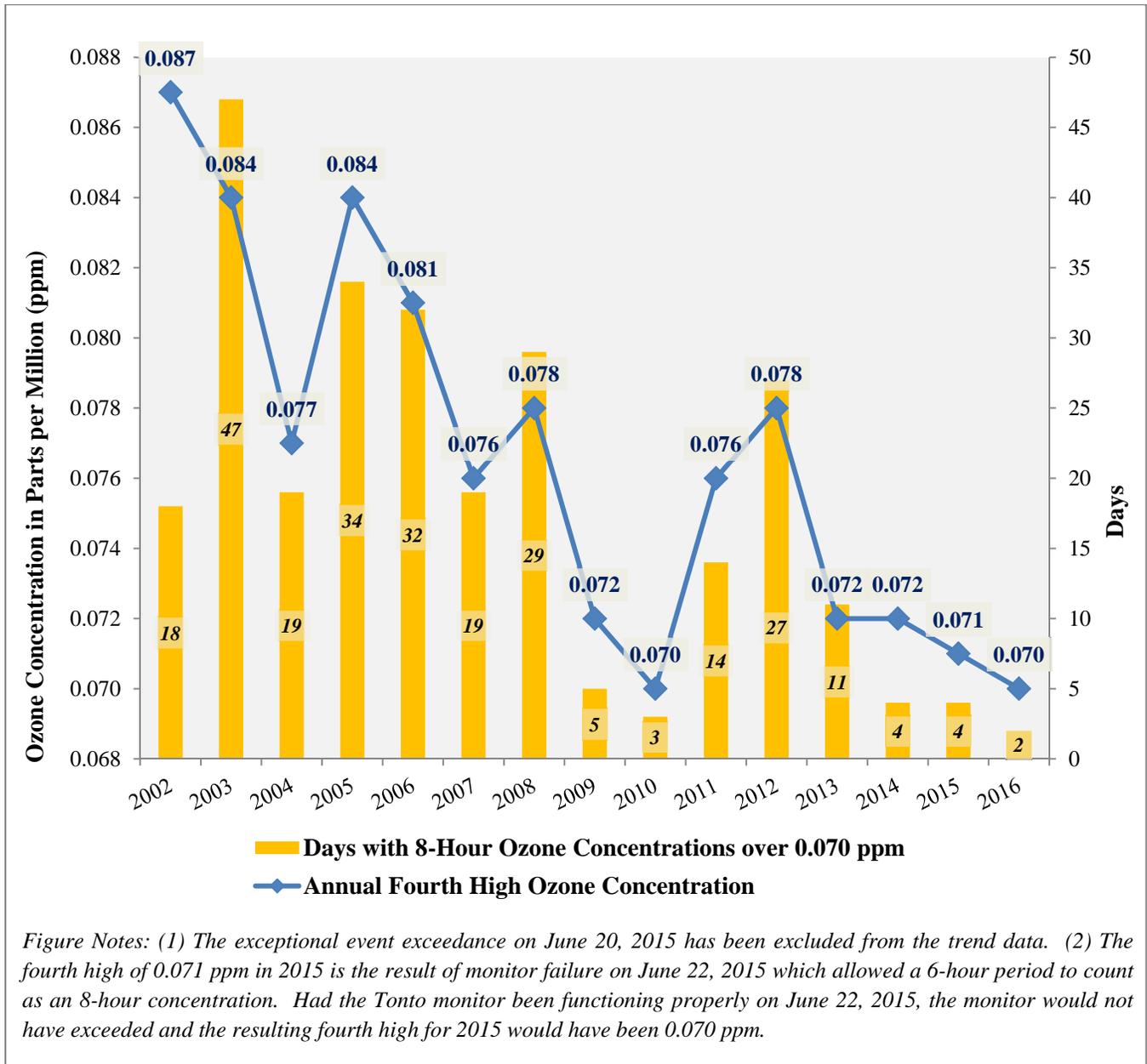


Figure G–1. Downward trends in ozone concentrations at the Tonto National Monument monitor.

Table G–1. Maximum Daily Eight-Hour Ozone Concentrations (ppm) at the Tonto National Monument Monitor on June 13-27, 2015, as Compared to the 2015 Ozone Standard.

June 13	June 14	June 15	June 16	June 17	June 18	June 19	June 20	June 21	June 22	June 23	June 24	June 25	June 26	June 27
0.065	0.057	0.068	0.064	0.063	0.069	0.067	0.079	0.054	0.071*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

**Note: According to the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, the Tonto monitor stopped working at approximately 9 pm on June 22, 2015 due to an airflow pump failure. Because of this failure, a consecutive 6-hour period of hourly ozone concentration data is used in place of an actual 8-hour average under the technical calculations of Appendix U to 40 CFR Part 50. The hourly ozone concentrations were coming down when the monitor failure occurred. Had the monitor operated for the full day, the monitor would not have exceeded the 2015 ozone standard on June 22, 2015, even assuming ozone concentrations did not decline further (worst case conditions) from the last recorded hourly value on June 22, 2015. The highest actual 8-hour average concentration (i.e., a full consecutive eight hours) recorded on June 22, 2015 was 0.065 ppm.*

Additional HYSPLIT Analyses

Back trajectories were computed for the Tonto National Monument monitor at heights of 100 and 1500 meters above ground level. The back trajectories start at the hour with the highest ozone concentration at the Tonto monitor. 24-hour back trajectories were completed for June 18-21, 2015, and overlaid on smoke maps from NOAA, showing the approximate dispersion of smoke from the Lake Fire. The back trajectories cross over or very near the smoke from the Lake Fire primarily on June 19-20, 2015. This suggests that the ozone concentrations at the Tonto monitor were affected by the smoke, ozone and ozone precursor emissions from the Lake Fire on June 19-20, 2015, culminating with an exceedance of the 2008 and 2015 ozone standards on June 20, 2015. The back trajectories are shown in Figures G–2 through G–5 below. The back trajectory outputs from the HYSPLIT model are included at the end of this Appendix.

The back trajectories in Figures G–2 through G–5 are overlaid on smoke maps from the prior day, instead of the same day, as there is often a delay between the dispersion of smoke and emissions from a wildfire and corresponding impacts to ground-level ozone. As an example, it can take time for the fire emissions in the upper air to mix with the lower air and impact ground-level ozone monitors. Also, if the fire emissions occurred primarily at night, they would need the following day’s sunlight before ozone from the fire emissions would form. Lastly, this display in the figures allows the endpoint of the back trajectory to match up with the time period of the smoke maps, allowing for a visualization of the approximate area of the air parcel that eventually impacted the Tonto monitor 24-hours later.

As discussed in the main body of the report, nearly all of western and northern Arizona had ozone concentrations that were affected by the Lake Fire during June 18-20, 2015. While Figures G–2 through G–5 show the back trajectories in relation to smoke dispersion, the invisible ozone formed in western Arizona on June 18 and June 19, 2015 in response to the Lake Fire emissions was also transported to the Tonto monitor, causing the exceedance on June 20, 2015.

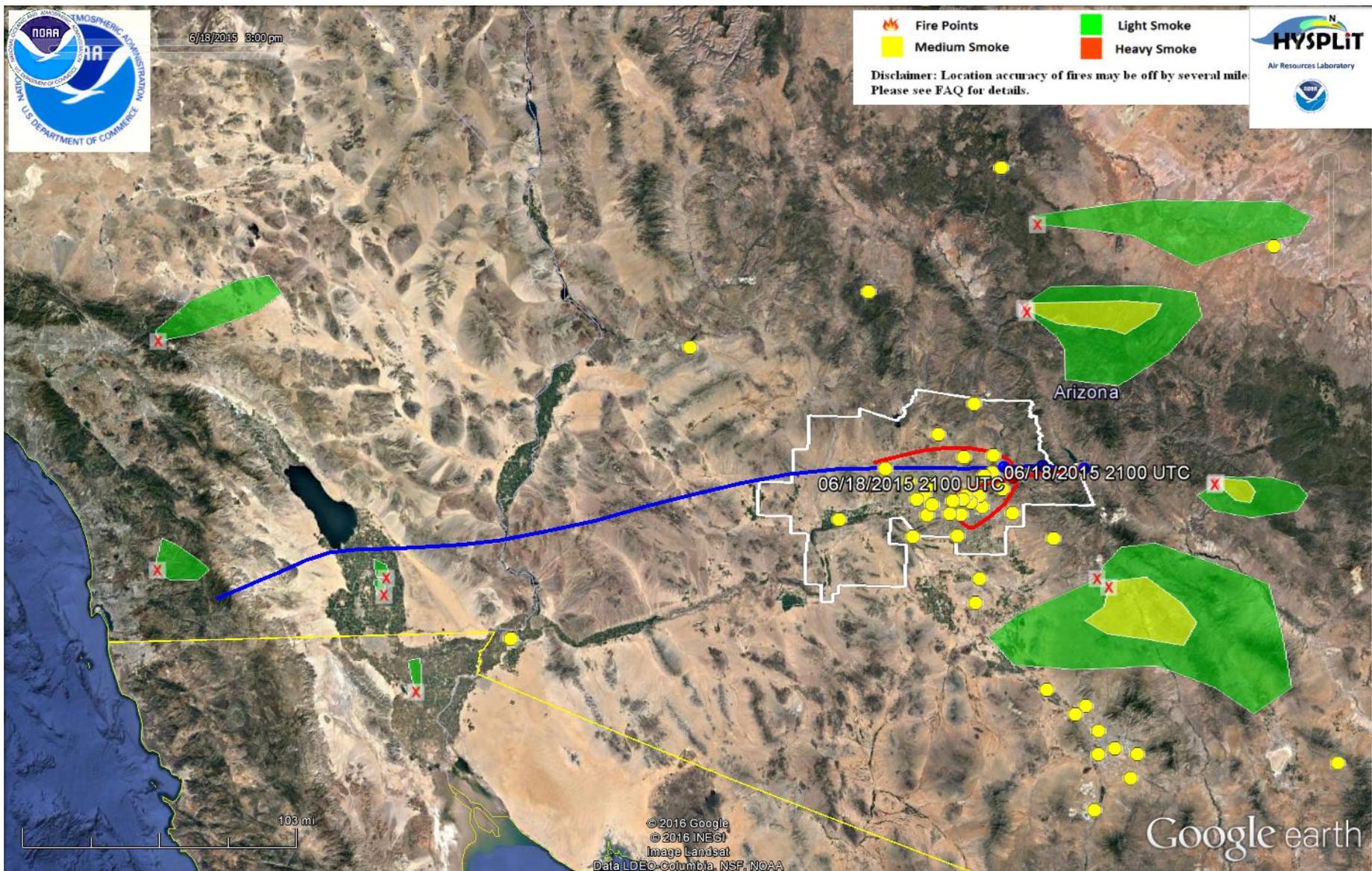


Figure G-2. June 18, 2015 back trajectory from the Tonto National Monument monitor at 100 (red) and 1500 (blue) meters overlaid on smoke dispersion map from June 17, 2015.

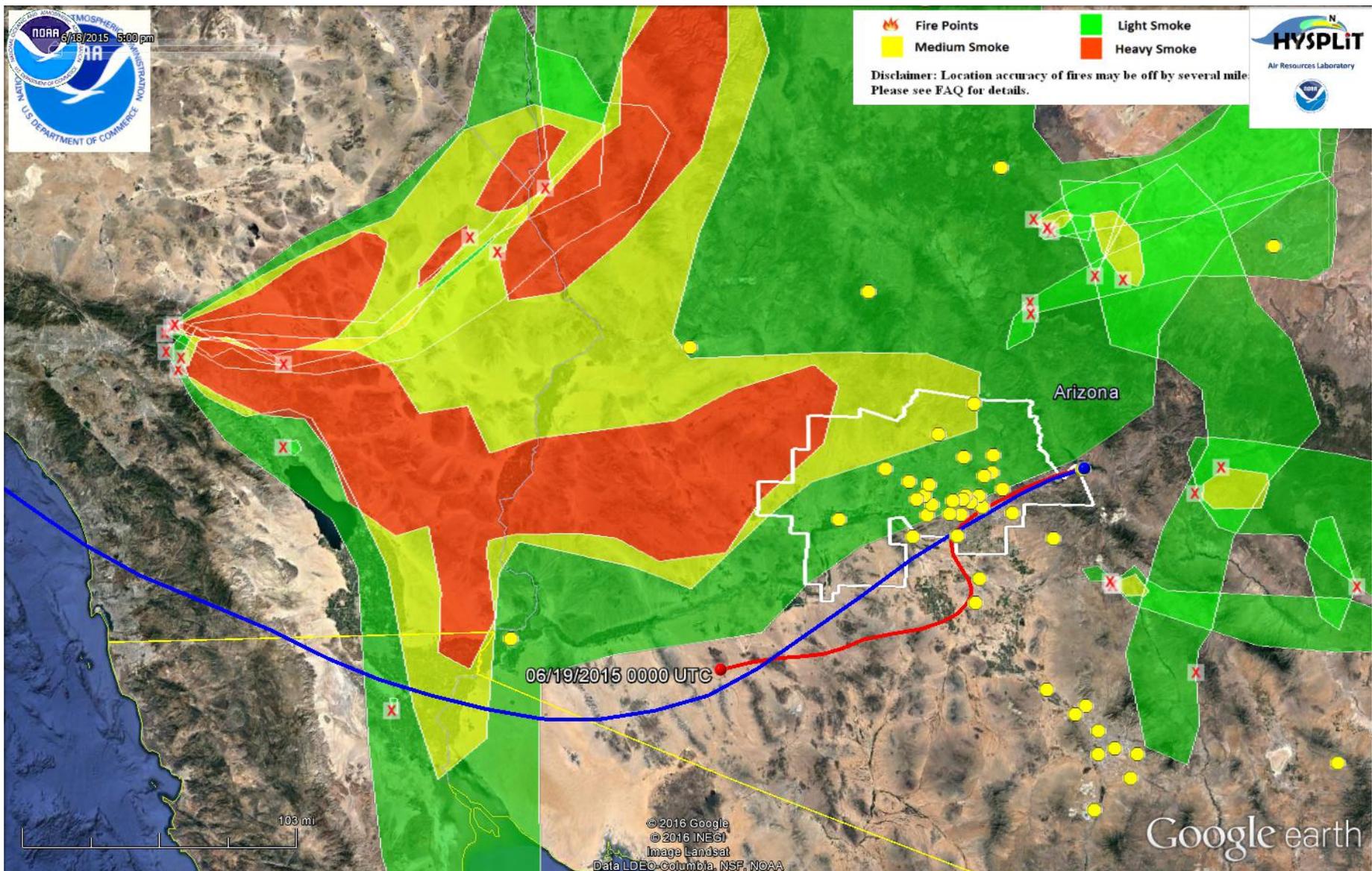


Figure G-3. June 19, 2015 back trajectory from the Tonto National Monument at 100 (red) and 1500 (blue) meters overlaid on smoke dispersion map from June 18, 2015.

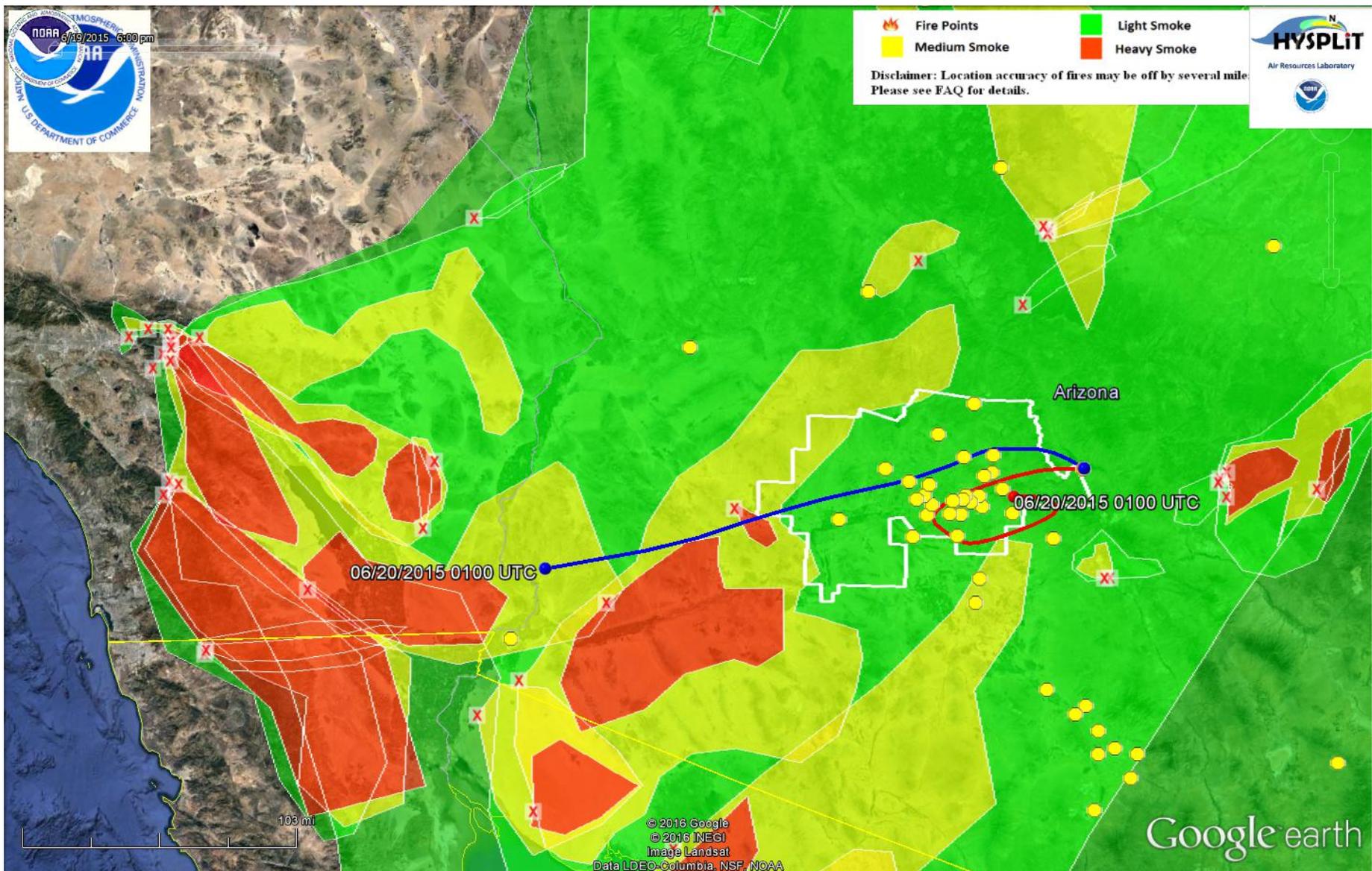


Figure G-4. June 20, 2015 back trajectory from the Tonto National Monument at 100 (red) and 1500 (blue) meters overlaid on smoke dispersion map from June 19, 2015.

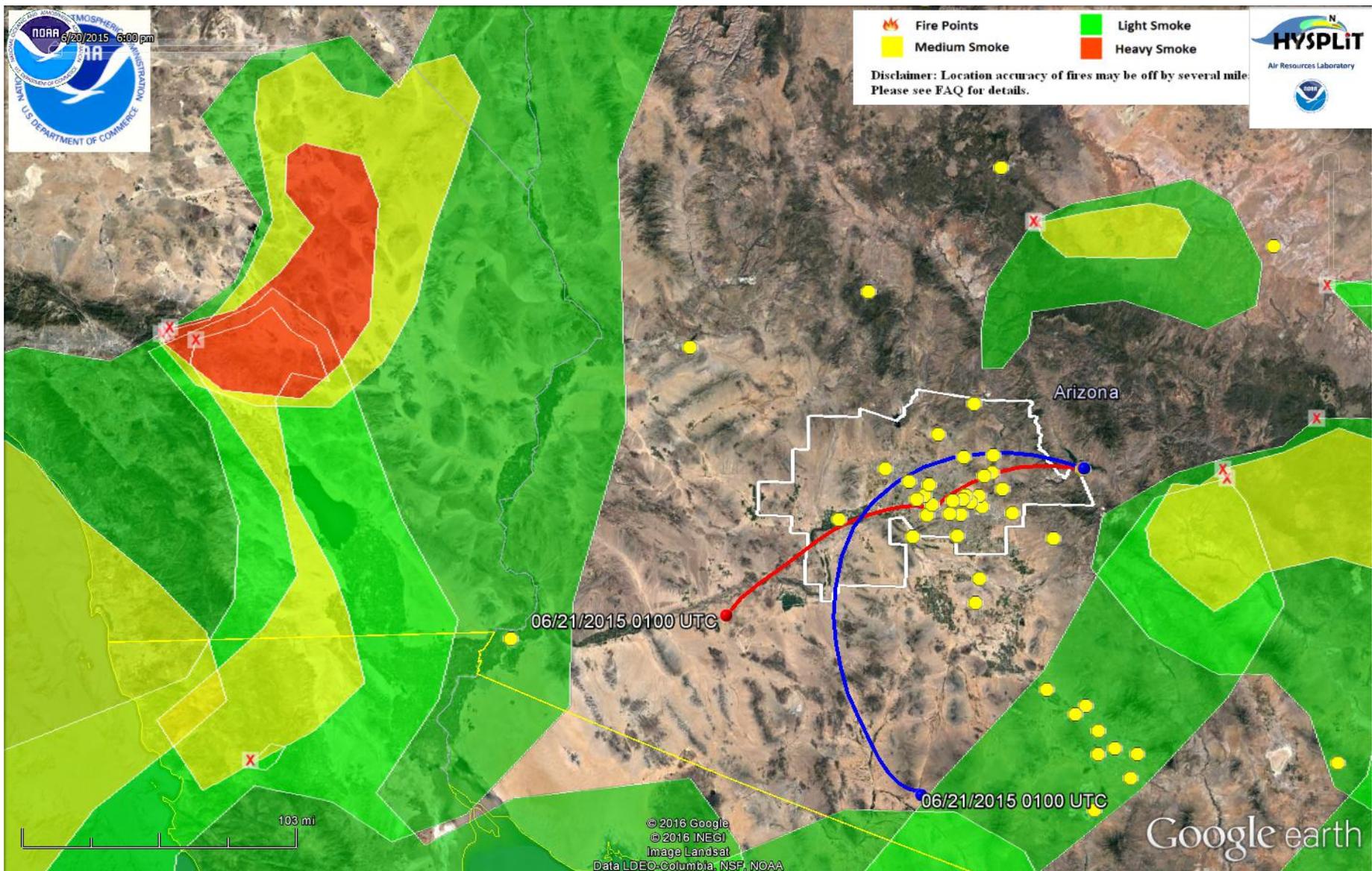


Figure G-5. June 21, 2015 back trajectory from the Tonto National Monument at 100 (red) and 1500 (blue) meters overlaid on smoke dispersion map from June 20, 2015.

Additional Regression Analysis Examination

Appendix D of this report provides a detailed explanation of the multi-variable regression analysis which was used to estimate and quantify the impact the Lake Fire had on June 20, 2015 ozone concentrations. That analysis estimated that without the transported ozone and ozone precursor emissions from the Lake Fire, the average ozone concentration at the Tonto National Monument monitor under the meteorological conditions that existed on June 20, 2015 would have been 0.070 ppm, instead of 0.079 ppm.

Since the predicted value of 0.070 ppm is right at the level of the 2015 ozone standard, additional regression analysis work was performed to improve the performance of the Tonto National Monument monitor regression analysis. This supplementary work provides additional evidence that the expected ozone concentration on June 20, 2015, without the impacts from the Lake Fire, would not cause an exceedance of the 2015 ozone standard.

The initial regression analysis in Appendix D utilized surface meteorology measurements from the Sky Harbor International Airport for all six exceeding monitoring sites in an effort to use quality assured and consistent meteorological data for the analysis. However, the Tonto National Monument monitor is located in a national forest, over 85 kilometers away from the Sky Harbor airport. As such, surface meteorology can vary significantly at times between the Tonto monitor and Sky Harbor airport. While there are no official National Weather Service stations located near the Tonto monitor, the United States Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management operate a Remote Automated Weather Station (RAWS) near the Tonto National Monument monitor (Station #TTBA3, see <http://www.raws.dri.edu/cgi-bin/rawMAIN.pl?azATON>). The RAWS station is located in the small Tonto National Forest community of Punkin Center, Arizona, approximately 30 kilometers from the Tonto National Monument monitor. Both the RAWS station and the Tonto monitor are located in the Tonto Basin with similar geography and elevation. This station has consistent, hourly recorded values of temperature, dew point, solar radiation and wind for the time period utilized in the regression analysis (the month of June for years 2010-2015). While not official NWS data, the data is maintained by government agencies and is more representative of surface meteorology at the Tonto monitor than the Sky Harbor data. Use of the local temperature, dew point, and wind data in place of Sky Harbor temperature, dew point and wind data in a re-run regression analysis improved the performance of the regression analysis (solar radiation data from the Punkin Center site had no effect on the regression analysis). The calendar year of the regression data was also found to improve the regression analysis, as this categorical variable serves as a surrogate for macro trends in the data that may change from year to year. All other regression variables remained the same as reported in Appendix D.

Using the new data and variable discussed above, the regression analysis performance improved from an adjusted R^2 value of 0.584 to a new value of 0.616. The predicted June 20, 2015 ozone concentration using the new regression analysis is 0.069 ppm. This value is 0.002 ppm below an exceedance of the 2015 ozone standard, and 0.007 ppm below an exceedance of the 2008 ozone standard. Tables G-2 and G-3 contain performance metrics for the new, re-run regression analysis.

Table G-2. Updated Regression Analysis Performance Statistics.

Monitor	Adjusted. R^2	<i>F</i>	Significance (<i>p</i>)
Tonto Nat. Monument – Model Summary	0.616	25.072	0.000

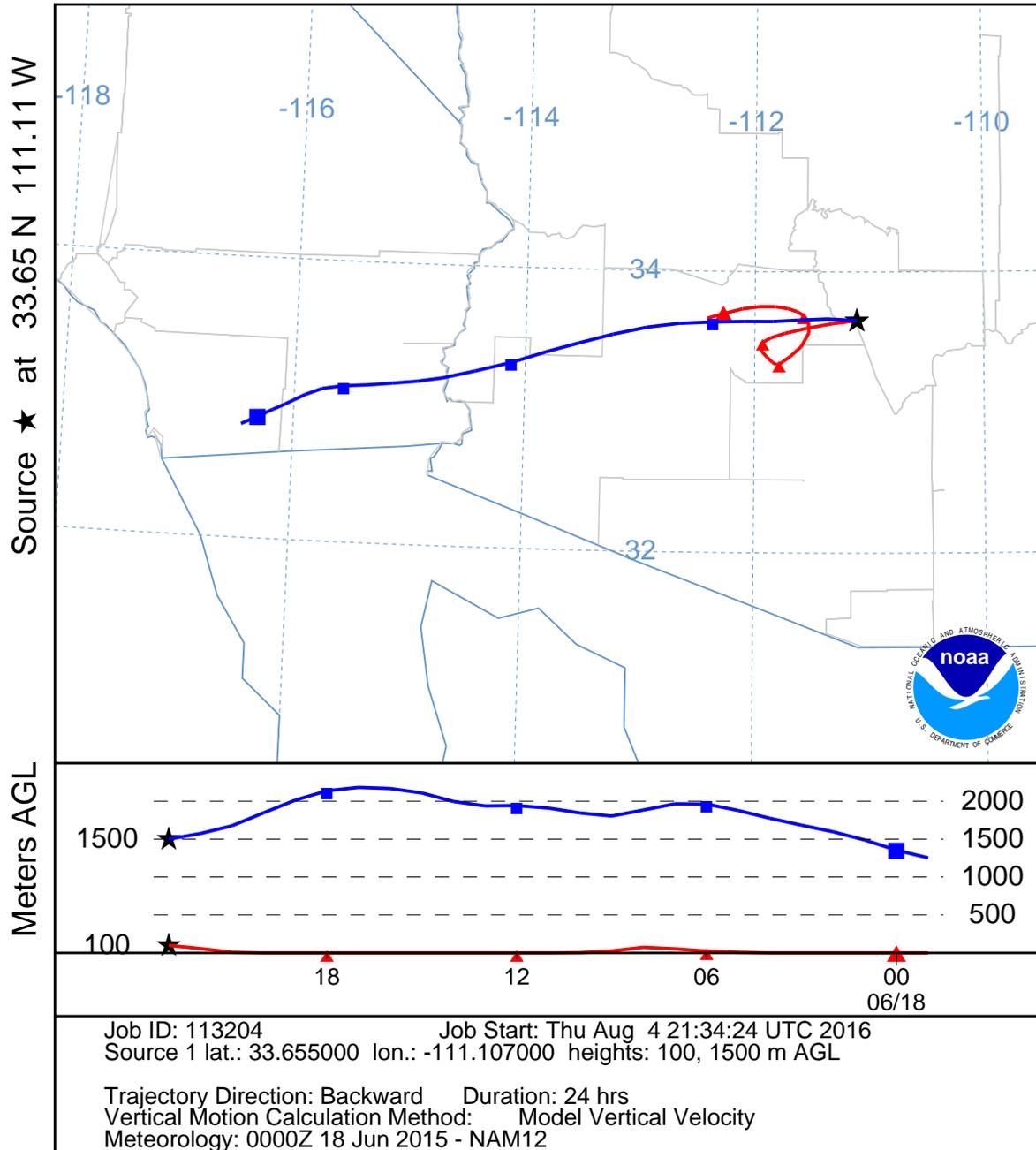
Table G–3. Coefficient, Importance, *t*-statistic, *p*-value and Standard Error for the Updated Regression Model.

Model Variables	Coefficient	Importance	<i>t</i>	<i>p</i>	Std. Error
Prior	0.435	0.361	7.892	0.000	0.055
UpDir = WSW	-6.329	0.164	-5.159	0.000	1.227
UpDir = ESE, SSW	-6.698	0.164	-3.080	0.002	2.175
UpDir = ENE, NNE, NNW, SSE, WNW	0	0.164			
TontoBasinAfternoonWindDir = WSW (new)	4.923	0.109	4.335	0.000	1.136
TontoBasinAfternoonWindDir = SSE, SSW, WNW (new)	0	0.109			
TontoBasinDewPoint (new)	-0.241	0.098	-4.116	0.000	0.059
Pressure	-32.596	0.080	-3.704	0.000	8.8
Year = 2014 (new)	-3.515	0.076	-2.545	0.012	1.381
Year = 2010, 2011 (new)	2.016	0.076	1.752	0.082	1.151
Year = 2012, 2013, 2015 (new)	0	0.076			
Day = MON, SUN	-3.206	0.054	-3.064	0.003	1.046
Day = TUES, WED, THUR, FRI, SAT	0	0.054			
TontoBasinAverageTemp (new)	-0.406	0.050	-2.940	0.004	0.138
UpTemp	0.297	0.007	1.134	0.259	0.262
Intercept	1047.151		3.948	0.000	265.226

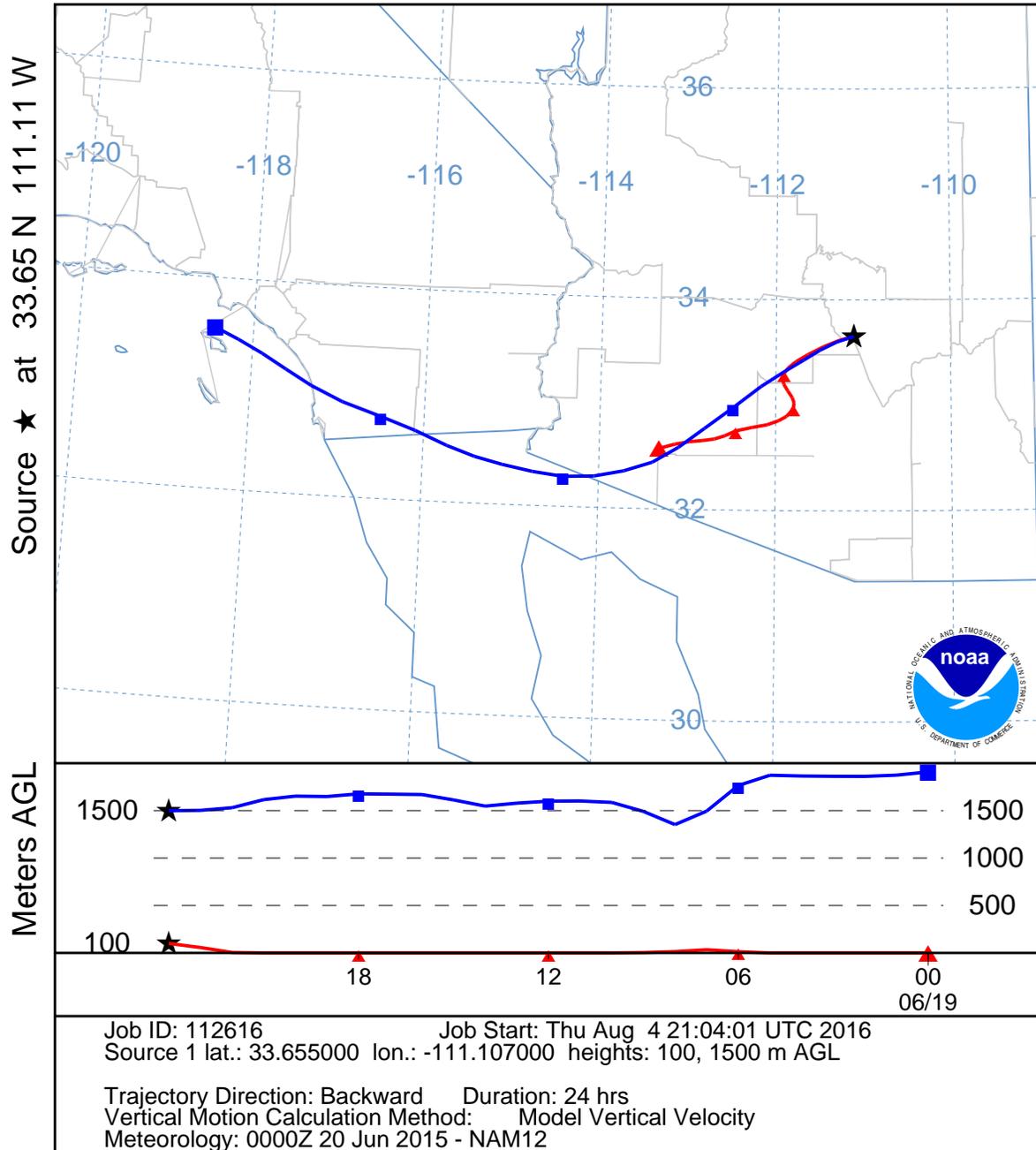
The June 20, 2015 ozone concentration prediction of 0.069 ppm in the re-run regression model provides additional evidence that the concentration of 0.079 ppm recorded on June 20, 2015 is out of the ordinary given the existing meteorological conditions on June 20, 2015. The re-run regression analysis also provides support to the initial regression analysis performed in Appendix D, as the re-run regression model produces similar results to the regression model in Appendix D, even with the improved local meteorological data.

In summary, the data presented in this Appendix provides further evidence, complimentary to and in support of evidence already presented throughout this report, that the June 20, 2015 exceedance at the Tonto National Monument monitor qualifies as an exceptional event under either the 2008 or 2015 ozone standard.

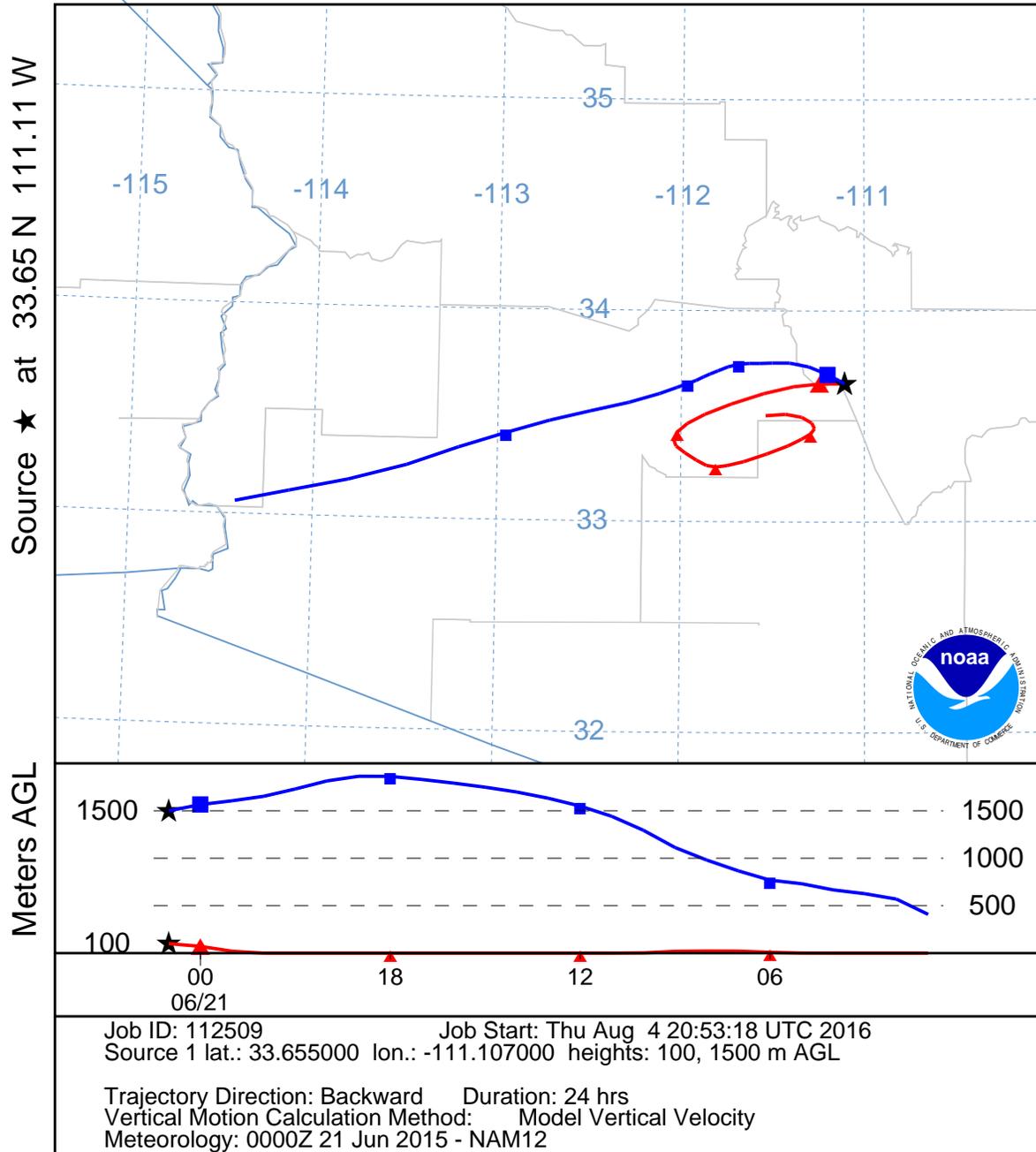
NOAA HYSPLIT MODEL
 Backward trajectories ending at 2300 UTC 18 Jun 15
 NAM Meteorological Data



NOAA HYSPLIT MODEL
 Backward trajectories ending at 0000 UTC 20 Jun 15
 NAM Meteorological Data



NOAA HYSPLIT MODEL
 Backward trajectories ending at 0100 UTC 21 Jun 15
 NAM Meteorological Data



NOAA HYSPLIT MODEL
 Backward trajectories ending at 0100 UTC 22 Jun 15
 NAM Meteorological Data

