Interpret the Smoke Column

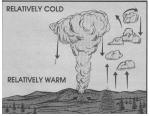
Stable Atmosphere: Trapping smoke under an inversion.



Limited vertical motion of smoke, steady winds, higher smoke exposure levels, visibility likely reduced, and lower fire behavior.

Watch Out: Smoke begins to boil through the inversion overcoming the stable layer. Expect lowering RH, possible wind shifts, and increasing flames, spread, and spotting.

Unstable Atmosphere: Smoke rising high, disperses.



Gusty winds, good visibility.

Watch Out: Active spread, intense burning, large fire growth.