

Smoke Hazards and Mitigation

Line Personnel

- Direct attack, line holding, and mop up resources have the highest smoke exposures. Symptoms of over exposure start with headaches and visual impairment, then impaired decision-making, and possible death (from carbon monoxide). If needed, rotate resources in and out of smoky areas. Consider exposure when developing mop up standards.
- Use lookouts to monitor and communicate hazardous smoke conditions that may impact nearby roads. Make appropriate supervisory and/or safety notifications.

ICP/Spike Camps

- Ensure adequate rest and recovery from on-shift exposure to smoke. Avoid locating fire camps in drainages, valleys, or low-lying areas where smoke can concentrate at night or under inversion conditions. If camps can't be moved, provide appropriate mitigation to ensure adequate rest and recovery from smoke exposure (e.g., clean-air sleeping trailer or hotel rooms).

Public

- Identify possible smoke sensitive areas (roads, communities, schools, hospitals, etc.) that may be impacted by smoke. Monitor smoke impacts. When heavy smoke is expected or present, notify authorities such as the air regulatory agency, health department, or public safety, either directly or through dispatch.