

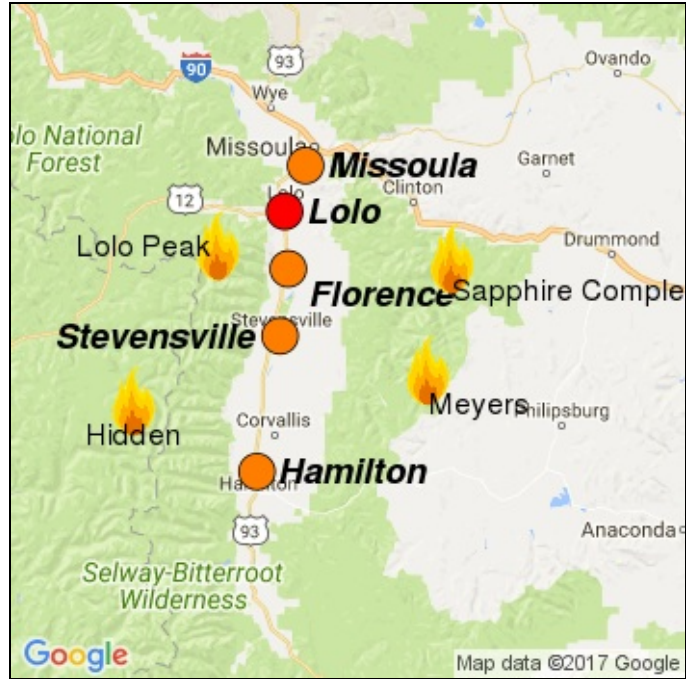
## Outlook for Bitterroot Valley south

**Smoke:** Smoky conditions will persist throughout the Bitterroot Valley today as smoke that pooled overnight stays trapped by stable atmosphere. This afternoon following inversion break, smoke should scour out of the valleys with an increase in instability and a switch to westerly winds. This evening, smoke pools into the Bitterroot Valley as a result of anticipated fire growth on the Lolo Peak, Hidden and other Idaho wildfires.

**Fire:** Wildfires will have the potential to become more active this afternoon following inversion break and an increase in instability. This will result in an increase in smoke output that will settle in the Bitterroot Valley overnight. A red flag warning for abundant lightning, low humidity and higher velocity winds may result in new wildfire starts and perimeter growth on current wildfires.

**Other:** Forecast atmospheric instability due to a passing cold front through the weekend should result in an improvement in air quality Sunday. Periods of heavy smoke on highway 12 corridor west of Lolo continue during the early morning hours.

## Daily AQI Forecast for Aug 12, 2017



Station	Yesterday hourly	Fri 8/11	Forecast Comment for Today -- Sat, Aug 12	Sat 8/12	Sun 8/13
Missoula Boyd Park		●	Smoke from wildfires surrounding Missoula will converge in the area resulting in a daily average "Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups" level throughout the day. Air quality worsens overnight as smoke pools in the valley.	●	●
Lolo-U.S. 93		●	Conditions improve following inversion break this afternoon, however smoke from the Lolo Peak wildfire will move down the highway 12 corridor into Lolo this afternoon. Air quality worsens overnight as smoke pools in the valley.	●	●
Florence-U.S. 93		●	Persistent "unhealthy for sensitive groups" expected during daylight hours. Air quality worsens overnight as smoke pools in the valley.	●	●
Stevensville	No hourly data	●	Persistent "unhealthy for sensitive groups" expected during daylight hours. Air quality worsens overnight as smoke pools in the valley.	●	●
Hamilton PS 46		●	Persistent "unhealthy for sensitive groups" expected during daylight hours. Smoke will pool in the valley overnight.	●	●

Issued Aug 12, 2017 by Tod Johnson and Chris Hall, Air Resource Advisors

Air Quality Index (AQI)	Actions to Protect Yourself
● Good	None
● Moderate	Unusually sensitive individuals should consider limiting prolonged or heavy exertion.
● USG	People within Sensitive Groups* should <b>reduce</b> prolonged or heavy outdoor exertion.
● Unhealthy	People within Sensitive Groups* should <b>avoid all</b> physical outdoor activity.
● Very Unhealthy	Everyone should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion.
● Hazardous	Everyone should avoid any outdoor activity.

**Disclaimer:** Forecasts may be wrong; use at own risk. Use caution as conditions can change quickly. See your health professional as needed. Smoke sensitive groups should take appropriate precautions.

### Additional Links

[Lolo Peak Fire info](#)  
[Missoula Public Health; Current Air Quality](#)

[EPA AirNow: How Smoke from Fires Can Affect Your Health](#)  
[Montana Dept. of Environmental Quality; Today's Air](#)