

# Colorado Ozone Mitigation Plan

WESTAR Spring Business Meeting  
Bismarck, ND  
September 19, 2018

# Mitigation plans

- ▶ Mitigation plans for required to be developed for areas with historically documented or known seasonal events
  - ▶ A) Three events or event seasons for which a State submits a demonstration under the provisions of 40 CFR 50.14 in a 3-year period; or
  - ▶ (B) Three events or event seasons that are the subject of an initial notification of a potential exceptional event as defined in 40 CFR 50.14(c)(2) in a 3- year period regardless of whether the State submits a demonstration under the provisions of 40 CFR 50.14.

# Colorado mitigation plans

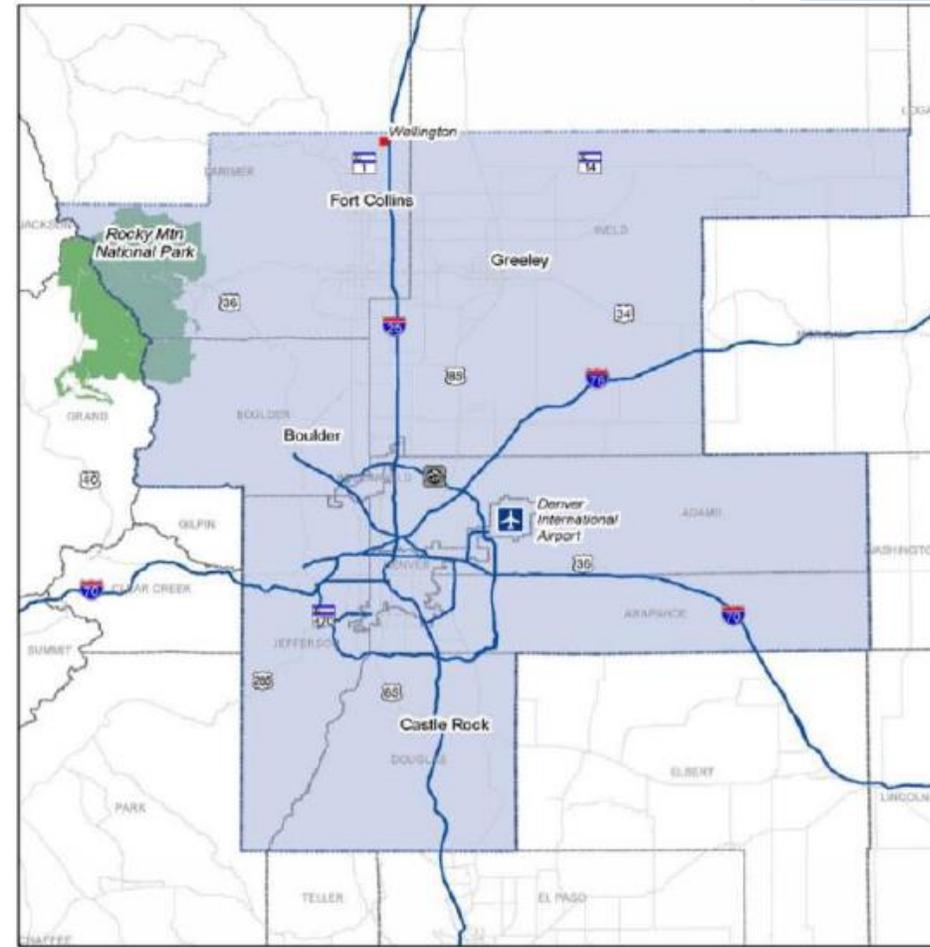
- ▶ The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment - Air Pollution Control Division was required to develop and submit mitigation plans for:
  - ▶ Prowers County high wind/blowing dust
    - ▶ Maintenance area
    - ▶ Many events submitted and approved
  - ▶ Alamosa County high wind/blowing dust
    - ▶ Attainment area
    - ▶ Many events submitted and approved
  - ▶ **Denver Metro/North Front Range stratospheric ozone intrusion and wildfire events**
    - ▶ Ozone non-attainment area

# Colorado ozone mitigation plan

- ▶ Stratospheric ozone intrusion and wildfire events involving ozone for the Denver Metro/North Front Range ozone nonattainment area
  - ▶ 2013 - 2015 data
  - ▶ Based on initial notification of potential exceptional events
  - ▶ Some events also flagged as informational only
  - ▶ No events actually submitted during this timeframe
  - ▶ 30-day comment period ended 9/14/18

# Flagged events (non-informational) for the Denver Metro/North Front Range ozone nonattainment area

- ▶ 2013
  - ▶ 1 = stratospheric intrusion
  - ▶ 8 = wildfire smoke-influenced
- ▶ 2014
  - ▶ 2 = stratospheric intrusion
  - ▶ 1 = wildfire smoke-influenced
- ▶ 2015
  - ▶ 5 = stratospheric intrusion
  - ▶ 5 = wildfire smoke-influenced



# Plan requirements

- ▶ Mitigation plans are to protect public health from exceedances of the NAAQS through the implementation of the following three mitigation plan components:
  - ▶ Provide for the implementation of appropriate measures to protect public health from exceedances or violations of ambient air quality standards caused by exceptional events
  - ▶ Provide for public education concerning actions that individuals may take to reduce exposures to unhealthy levels of air quality during and following an exceptional event, and
  - ▶ Provide for prompt public notification whenever air quality concentrations exceed or are expected to exceed an applicable ambient air quality standard

# Colorado elements

## ▶ 1. Public Notification and Education

- ▶ The Division issues Front Range ozone Action Day Alerts and air quality health advisories for wildfire smoke or a stratospheric ozone intrusion and posts them to the Colorado Air Quality Summary webpage
- ▶ The Division sends each alert and advisory to members of the media, public and local representatives who are on a list serve
- ▶ The Division posts the advisories on its Facebook page and Twitter feed
- ▶ The Division maintains an ozone email list for the public and interested stakeholders to receive updates
- ▶ The identification of exceedances that are occurring or may occur in the near future relies upon the team of expert meteorologists in the Division that issue forecasts seven days a week and are on duty 365 days a year
- ▶ The Division has worked closely with stakeholders located within the DM/NFR region to educate the public about the problems associated with elevated ozone levels
- ▶ The Division maintains an ozone information website and woodsmoke information website
- ▶ The Division posts ozone data from monitoring sites across the DM/NFR area to a website on an hourly basis

# Colorado elements

## ▶ 2. Mitigation Methods

- ▶ Measures included in an Ozone Action Plan developed in 2009
- ▶ Number of regulations on oil and gas development from 2014 - 2016
- ▶ Regional haze plan in 2011
- ▶ The ozone nonattainment SIP includes a number of measures targeted at reducing precursor emissions
- ▶ EPA approved regulations in the SIP:
  - ▶ AQCC Regulation 1: Emission Control For Particulate Matter, Smoke, Carbon Monoxide, And Sulfur Oxides
  - ▶ AQCC Regulation 3: Stationary Source Permitting
  - ▶ AQCC Regulation 4: Concerning the Sale and Installation of Woodburning Appliances
  - ▶ AQCC Regulation 6: Standards of Performance for New Stationary Sources
  - ▶ AQCC Regulation 7: Control of Ozone via Ozone Precursors and Control of Hydrocarbons via Oil and Gas Emissions
  - ▶ AQCC Regulation 9: Open Burning, Prescribed Fire, and Permitting
  - ▶ AQCC Regulation 10: Criteria for Analysis of Transportation Conformity
  - ▶ AQCC Regulation 11: Motor Vehicle Emissions Inspection Program
  - ▶ AQCC Regulation 16: Street Sanding Emissions
- ▶ The Colorado Department of Public Safety Division of Fire Prevention and Control administers the state's prescribed burning certification program

# Colorado elements

## ▶ 3. Processes to Collect and Maintain Data

- ▶ The Division meets the requirements for the number of air monitors in the area
- ▶ The current ozone ambient air monitoring network in the DM/NFR region consists of 14 stations operated by the Division and one location (2 stations) operated by the National Park Service and the EPA in Rocky Mountain National Park
- ▶ Each of the 14 continuous ozone monitors operated by the Division within the DM/NFR provide real-time data that are available to the Division at any time
- ▶ All quality assurance and quality control procedures are conducted in accordance with 40 CFR 58
- ▶ The Division also saves an electronic copy of each air quality advisory that is forwarded to the county health department in the affected area

# Colorado elements

- ▶ **4. Mechanisms to Consult with other Air Quality Managers**
  - ▶ The Division communicates and coordinates with the Western U.S. Mitigation Plan Workgroup, in addition to various Federal, county, and city staff
  - ▶ The Division hosts educational webinars through the Colorado Air Quality Collaborative
  - ▶ The Division hosted a wildfire smoke webinar in June 2018 and plans to focus on this topic during an upcoming Collaboration meeting
  - ▶ The Division will to consult with city and county staff within the Denver Metro/North Front Range area as needed

# Colorado elements

- ▶ **5 .Periodic Review, Evaluation, and Public Comment**
  - ▶ A draft version of the mitigation plan was posted on the Division's webpage and distributed to the Division's Public Permit Notice list serve for a 30-day public comment period
  - ▶ The Division will conduct a review and revision, if appropriate, and recertification of this mitigation plan five years after this mitigation plan is finalized
  - ▶ If any substantive changes related to major elements of this plan occur, the Division will determine if an earlier update of the mitigation plan is necessary
  - ▶ The Division is currently evaluating the effectiveness of the public notification and education process and will continue to do so as new technology methods of communication become available
  - ▶ The Division will consult with the RAQC, planning organizations, and interested stakeholders to gain their feedback and suggestions for mitigation plan revisions

# Questions?