

Summary of 2007 revisions to the Minnesota Smoke Management Plan

With a few exceptions, the majority of changes to the MN Smoke Management Plan are minor technical revisions bringing the plan up to date with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) rule changes, prescribed burn statistics and background information.

Notable revisions to the Smoke Management Plan include:

- Language was added to address the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Exceptional Event Rule. This rule, issued in March 2007, provides guidance to the treatment of air quality standard violations caused by prescribed fire. Refer to MN Smoke Management Plan, Section 1.3.2, part 3.
- In the event that a violation of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) occurs due to emissions produced by a prescribed fire, a recommendation to retain documentation of each burn for 4 years has been added in Section 4.2.1
- Table 4.2b, used to determine the minimum distance to smoke sensitive areas based on fire size smoke dispersion category, was revised to make the information more useful to burn managers.
- Additional maps and tables were added to the Appendix for reference and informational purposes, including maps showing the locations of Ozone and PM_{2.5} monitoring sites.