

PM10 – Truckee (Tables 6, 8, 13)

There are currently two PM10 samplers within the city limits of the Town of Truckee. They are located at the fire station in downtown Truckee. The Town of Truckee is located predominantly within a region known as the Martis Valley. Two PM2.5 samplers, added in late March of 1999, are also located at the same fire station. The PM10 High Volume sampler located in Glenshire was terminated in July of 2000. We do not anticipate reactivating that sampler in the near future.

Glenshire: Eight and a half years of Hi-Vol data shows some improvement in air quality. There has been a slight, gradual decrease in the annual geometric mean, the highest 24-hour concentration, and the number of exceedances of the CAAQS. This may be due to consecutive wet winters and / or the increased use of natural gas as a heating fuel. There were no recorded exceedances of the CAAQS in 2000. Sampler was shutdown in July of 2000.

Fire Station: Fifteen years of Hi-Vol data show some improvement in PM10 levels, specifically during the early part of this century, however, PM10 took a dramatic upward swing in 2004 and 2005. Twelve years of TEOM data showed Truckee air quality has been quite poor but has improved greatly since 2000. The TEOM recorded only 4 exceedances of the CAAQS in 2003, but the data for the year was incomplete. In September the District retired the TEOM and replaced it with a BAM. The BAM recorded 3 exceedances of the CAAQS during the months of October, November and December of 2003. In 2004 the BAM recorded 48 days exceeding the State 24-hour standard, and 32 such days in 2005. There were no recorded exceedances of the PM2.5 NAAQS.

Long Term Outlook: Considering projected population increases coupled with increasing local mitigation efforts, the District expects to see continued poor air quality with some potential for a slowing or even a reversal of the current problem. The anticipated increases in prescribed burning pose a serious threat to an air shed already overburdened with a variety of particulate matter sources. The threat of federal non-attainment is real. Increased effort should be made to mitigate and eliminate particulate sources within the Martis Valley. The anticipated increases in prescribed burning have the potential to overwhelm all existing particulate mitigation efforts currently in place. Expected rising particulate levels from increased open burning may only be offset slightly from the increased use of natural gas as a heating fuel in the Truckee area. It should be noted that the anticipated increase in prescribed burning has yet to materialize, but there is still a chance that such an increase may occur within the next 5 – 10 years.