

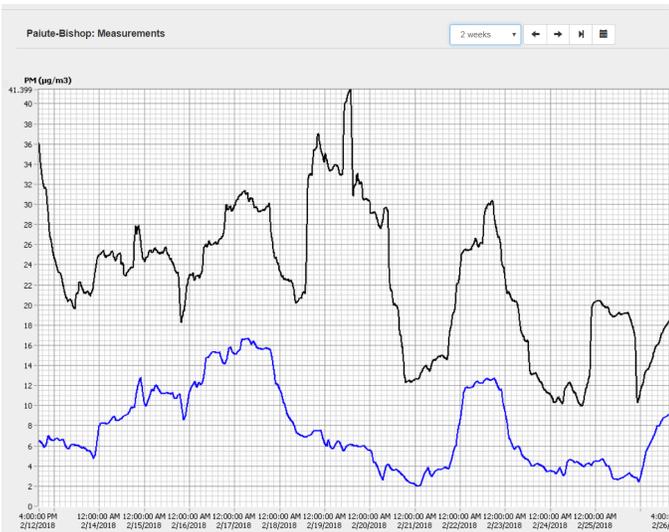


FROM THE AIR PROGRAM

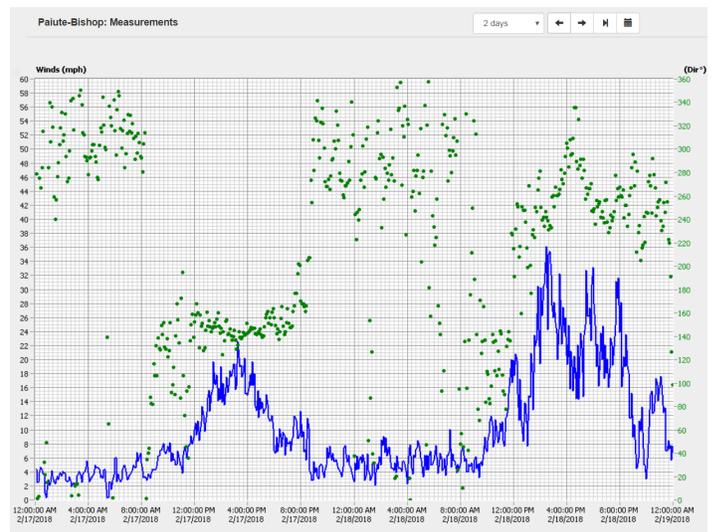
The Pleasant Fire, February 18 2018

On 2/18/18, 3 days after the Air Program submitted a newsletter article comparing the 2/13/08 “Valentine Dust Storm” and the 2/6/15 Round Fire wind event, a wildfire ignited locally on the afternoon of a wind event in the Owens Valley. Response to the fire, known as the Pleasant Fire (not to be confused with the Pleasant Fire in 2017 in Nevada County), was commanded by CalFire San Bernardino and Inyo County Sheriff Office, with 20 other cooperating agencies, and many unofficial helpers. The fire started in the vicinity of Pleasant Valley Campground, travelled down the Owens River in front of the Chalk Bluffs, reached 2070 acres and was 100% contained within 1 week of ignition on 2/18, when the final report was issued.

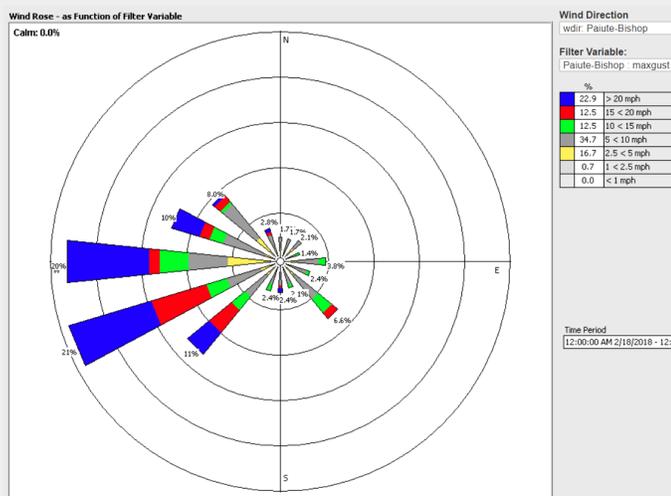
The graphs below show a 2 week period centered on the 2/18. The left graph shows daily (24 hr) rolling average concentrations of PM10 (black line) and PM2.5 (blue line). The right graph is truncated to a 3-day period for ease of viewing, and shows max wind gust (blue line) and predominant wind direction (green clusters). Increases in levels shown by those lines are visible for 2/18, with the clusters of wind direction turning from E/SE to W as the fastest gusts were recorded. The highest PM10 levels and the max (WSW) wind gust of ~36 mph recorded at the reservation on the 18th were both during the 2 pm hour, also the approximate time of ignition, and likely representative of windblown dust. The fire ignited roughly 4 miles northwest of the reservation and travelled generally west. During the 10 am hour on 2/19, with a N wind with gusts over 28 mph, another increase (or “spike”) in PM10 levels occurred; however, PM2.5 levels did not increase during the fire at the reservation and wind direction values in the N and NW quadrant during the 18th-19th don't all correlate with higher PM levels, so smoke from the fire did not greatly impact the reservation. Wind roses for 2/18-19 are shown below the graphs, displaying how the wind gusts for each day can be characterized.



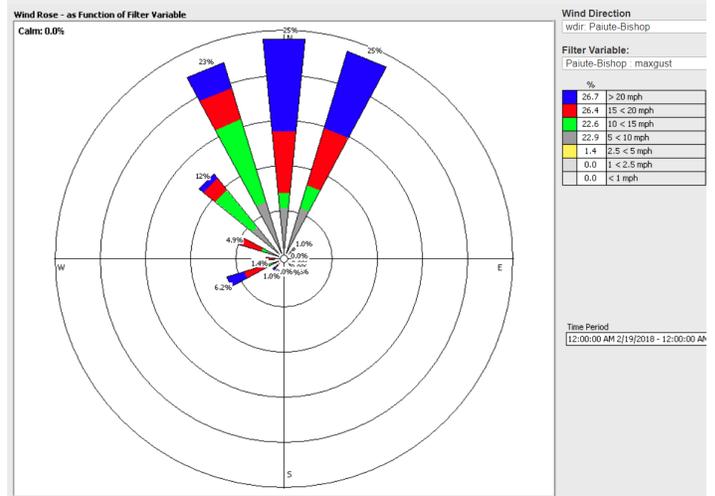
Particulate Matter February 18, 2018



Wind Gust (mph) February 18, 2018



Wind rose 2/18/18



Wind rose 2/19/18