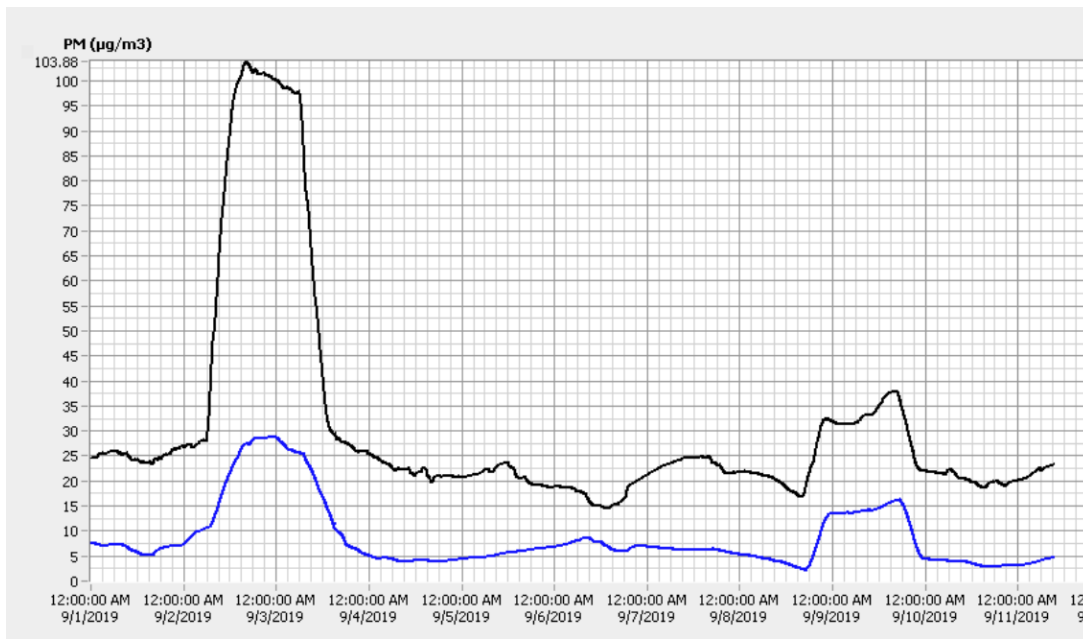




FROM THE AIR PROGRAM

Particulate levels with wind and fire

During summer 2019, a small number of wild fires burned in the Eastern Sierra, and the reservation saw smoke impacts from one, the Taboose Fire, which as of this writing is burning between McMurray Meadows and Aberdeen, and reaching up the flanks of the Sierra crest. The 10,000 acre fire closed multiple campgrounds, trails and trailheads, with 1 evacuation order and 2 evacuation advisories for nearby facilities and communities. Fire agency response to the fire was swift and vigilant as the fire grew from ~400 acres to nearly 10,000. Bishop saw 1 evening, 9/8, with notable smoke impacts; however, the concentrations during these hours did not cause an exceedance of the Tribal (and state) PM10 or PM2.5 24-hour (midnight-to-midnight) standards, with the actual PM10 24-hour average being 31.75 ug/m3 and PM2.5 24-hour average



being 13.56 ug/m3. However, the PM10 standard was exceeded on 9/2 (Labor Day) with a 24-hour average concentration of 99.15 ug/m3, with the highest concentrations occurring from 6 am to 3 pm. During this time, SSE winds became NNW, with the concentrations decreasing as the winds became SE again, and gusts fluctuated between 8 and 29 mph, reaching their peak during an hour of predominantly S winds.

Graph: 9/1 to 9/11 PM10 (black) and PM2.35 (blue) 24-hr concentrations—rolling averages

e-cigarettes and “Severe Pulmonary Disease”

As you may have heard, at the end of August, the US Centers for Disease Control (CDC) issued a statement of the first officially known death attributed to e-cigarettes or vaping, which was one of a couple hundred cases of hospitalization of vaping/e-cig users across the US over the last several months. CDC had started an investigation in August with FDA to determine any particular chemicals which may cause the acute reactions displayed consistently among those cases. Generally the patients were found to be not infected, and that some of these patients ultimately needed respiratory support devices and therapies, and subsequent deaths have occurred.

According to FDA, illegal products are under the most scrutiny for harmful chemicals, and cautions against adding anything to the device. CDC issued a statement urging people who use e-cigarettes to seek medical attention if they experience cough, shortness of breath, chest pain, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, fever. As of this writing, CDC states that pregnant women, youth and young adults should not use vaping/e-cig devices or at least until outcomes of the investigation are known.