

Oregon's Regional Haze Plan 5-Year Progress Report

and additional rule revisions

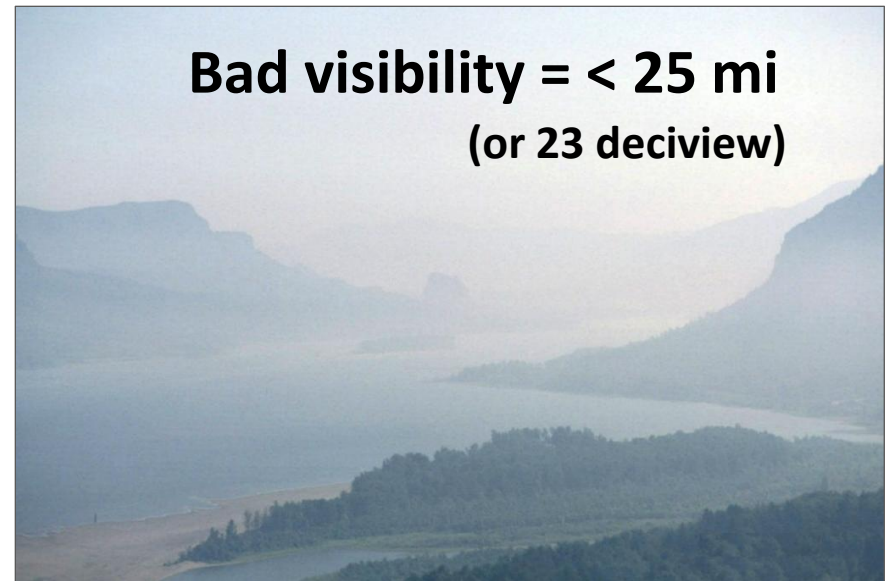
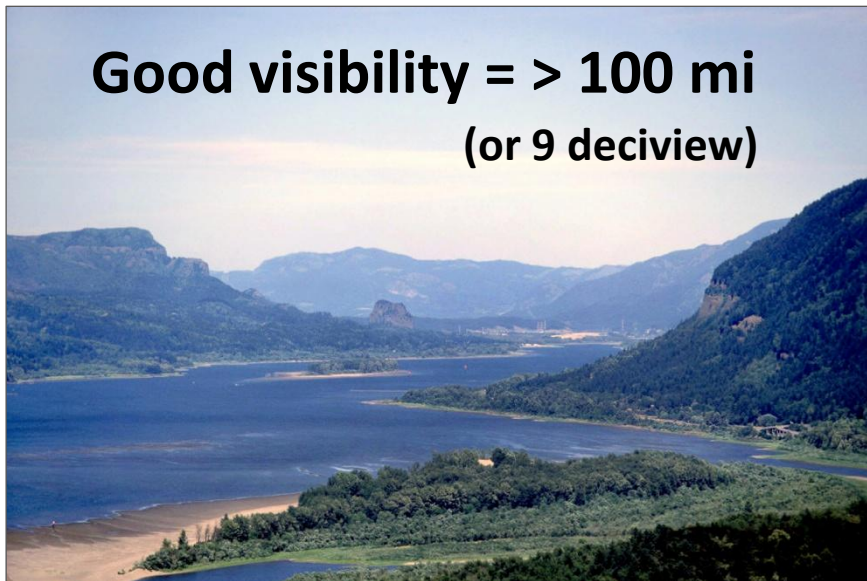
Environmental Quality Commission meeting
July 12, 2017

What is Regional Haze?

- Air pollution that is transported long distances and reduces visibility in cities and scenic areas.
- Haze is caused when sunlight encounters tiny pollution particles in the air.
- **Small amounts of air pollution** (well below health standards) can have significant effect on visibility.

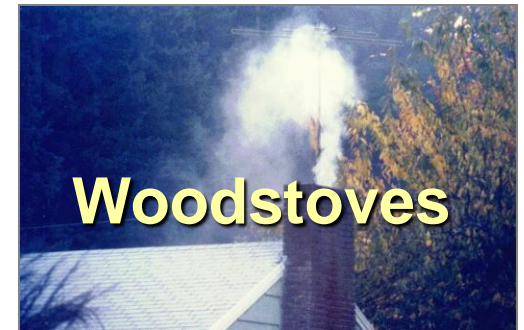
Visibility 101

- Visibility is “how far” and “how well” you can see a distant object.
- Scientifically: *light scattering + light absorption = light extinction*.



Looking East from Vista House

Visibility 101



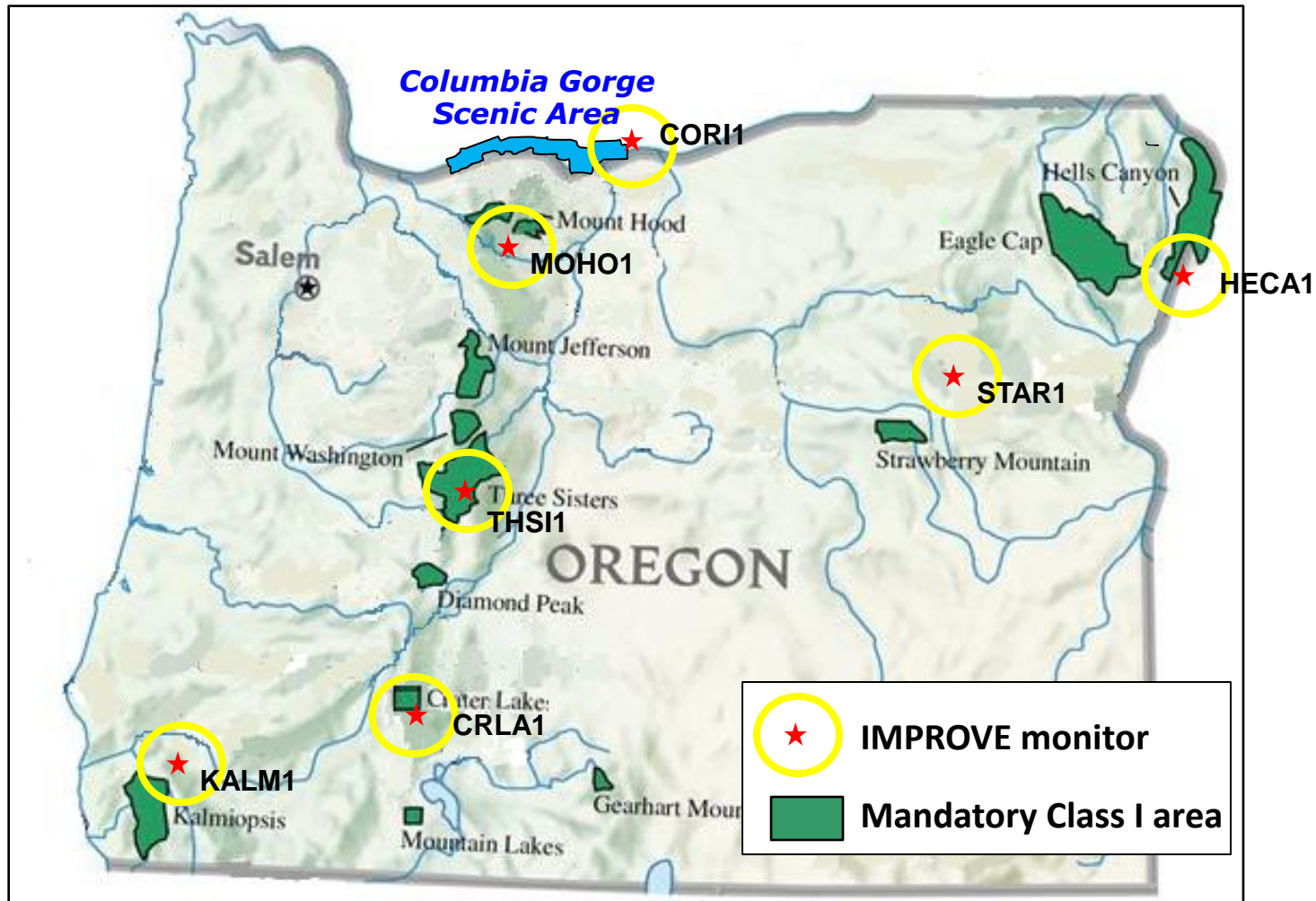
Overview of EPA's Regional Haze Rule

- EPA promulgated Regional Haze Rule in 1999
 - Purpose is to return visibility in all 156 Class I Areas to natural background levels by 2064
- Requires states to adopt regional haze plans to improve haziest days (20% worst) and protect clearest days (20% best) in Class I areas

What's a Class I Area?

- Areas designated by Congress on **August 7, 1977**
 - National Parks over 5,000 acres
 - Wilderness areas over 6,000 acres
- Identified visibility as an important value in these natural areas.
- A total of 156 Class I areas in the country.
- **Oregon** has 12 Class I areas.

Oregon Class I Areas and IMPROVE monitors



Overview of Regional Haze Plan

- State must adopt plans that contain regional strategies to reduce haze from all sources.
 - Includes a requirement for emissions controls BART (Best Available Retrofit Technology) for industrial facilities
 - Requires states to show how reasonable progress is being made to the 2064 goal
 - States must show progress to reduce haze by a benchmark called the 2018 milestone

Overview of Oregon's Regional Haze Plan

- Oregon adopted first Regional Haze Plan in 2009. Included:
 - Comprehensive review of visibility conditions in Class I areas
 - DEQ's BART review, including PGE Boardman emission controls and visibility improvements.
 - State and regional emission inventory and visibility projections for next 10 yrs (20% best/worst).
 - Other strategies for reducing haze
- EQC updated Regional Haze Plan in 2010 to incorporate rules requiring PGE Boardman to stop burning coal by 2020.

Regional Haze Rule

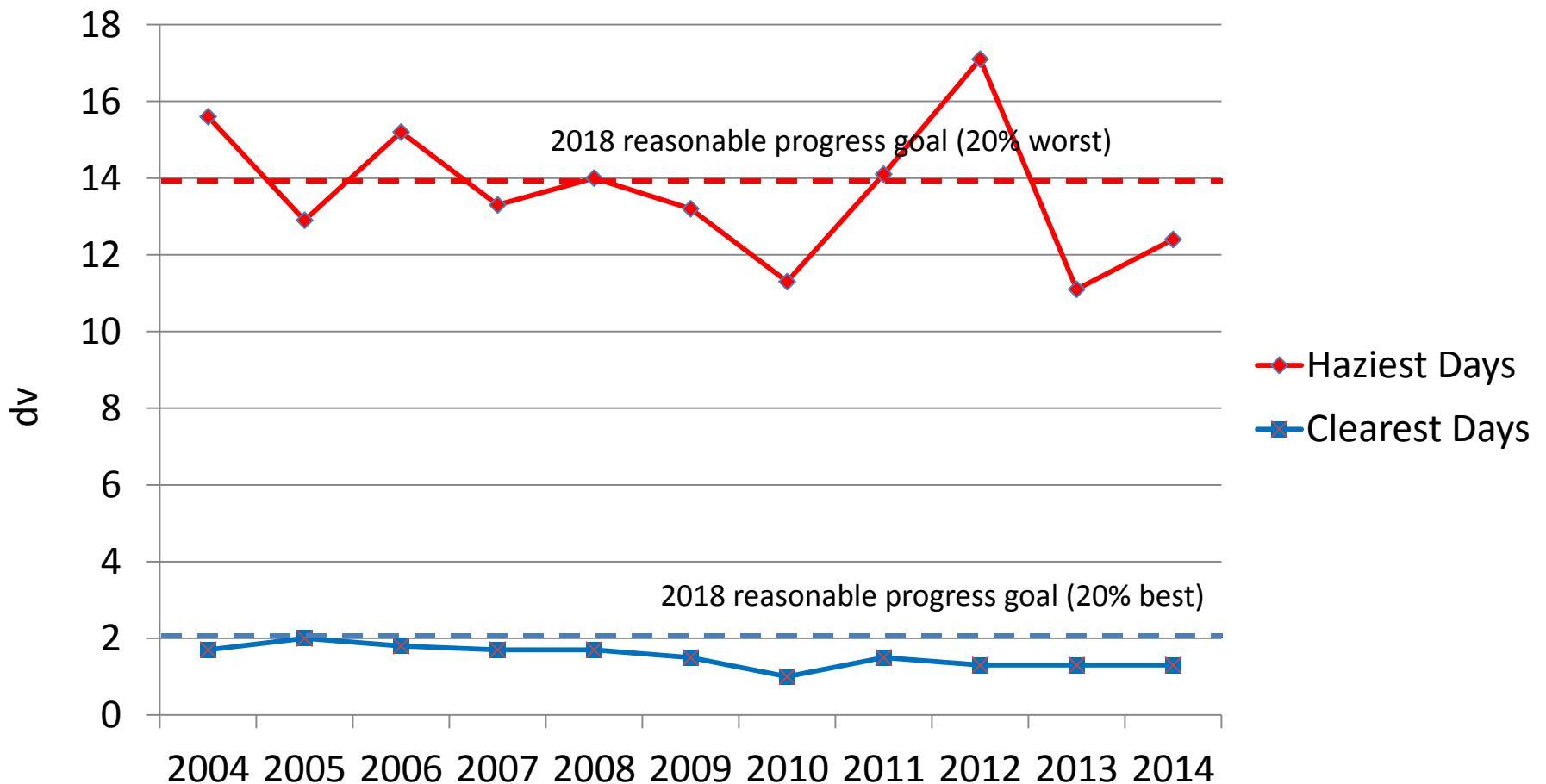
- EPA's Regional Haze Rule requires a progress report every 5 years
- Oregon Regional Haze Progress Report (2017)
 - Evaluates progress towards the 2018 reasonable progress goals
 - Analyzed 5-yr timeframe (2010-2014)
 - Continue to see emission reductions from BART
 - Shows improvement in visibility for both worst and best days
 - Current visibility data meeting 2018 reasonable progress goals for most Class I areas

Regional Haze Visibility Progress

Actual Visibility Observed in 2014 Relative to 2018 Goals		Mt. Hood Wilderness Area	Mt. Jefferson, Mt. Washington, Three Sisters Wilderness	Crater Lake NP, Diamond Peak, Mountain Lakes, Gearhart Mountain Wilderness	Kalmiopsis Wilderness	Strawberry Mountain, Eagle Cap Wilderness	Hells Canyon Wilderness
20% Worst Days	2018 Reasonable Progress Goal (dv)	13.8	14.3	13.4	15.1	17.5	16.6
	2014 Visibility (dv)	12.4	14.0	12.9	13.4	13.4	15.3
20% Best Days	2018 Reasonable Progress Goal (dv)	2.0	2.9	1.5	6.1	4.1	4.7
	2014 Visibility (dv)	1.4	2.6	1.0	6.5	2.7	4.0

Regional Haze Visibility Progress

Mt. Hood Wilderness (Northern Cascades)



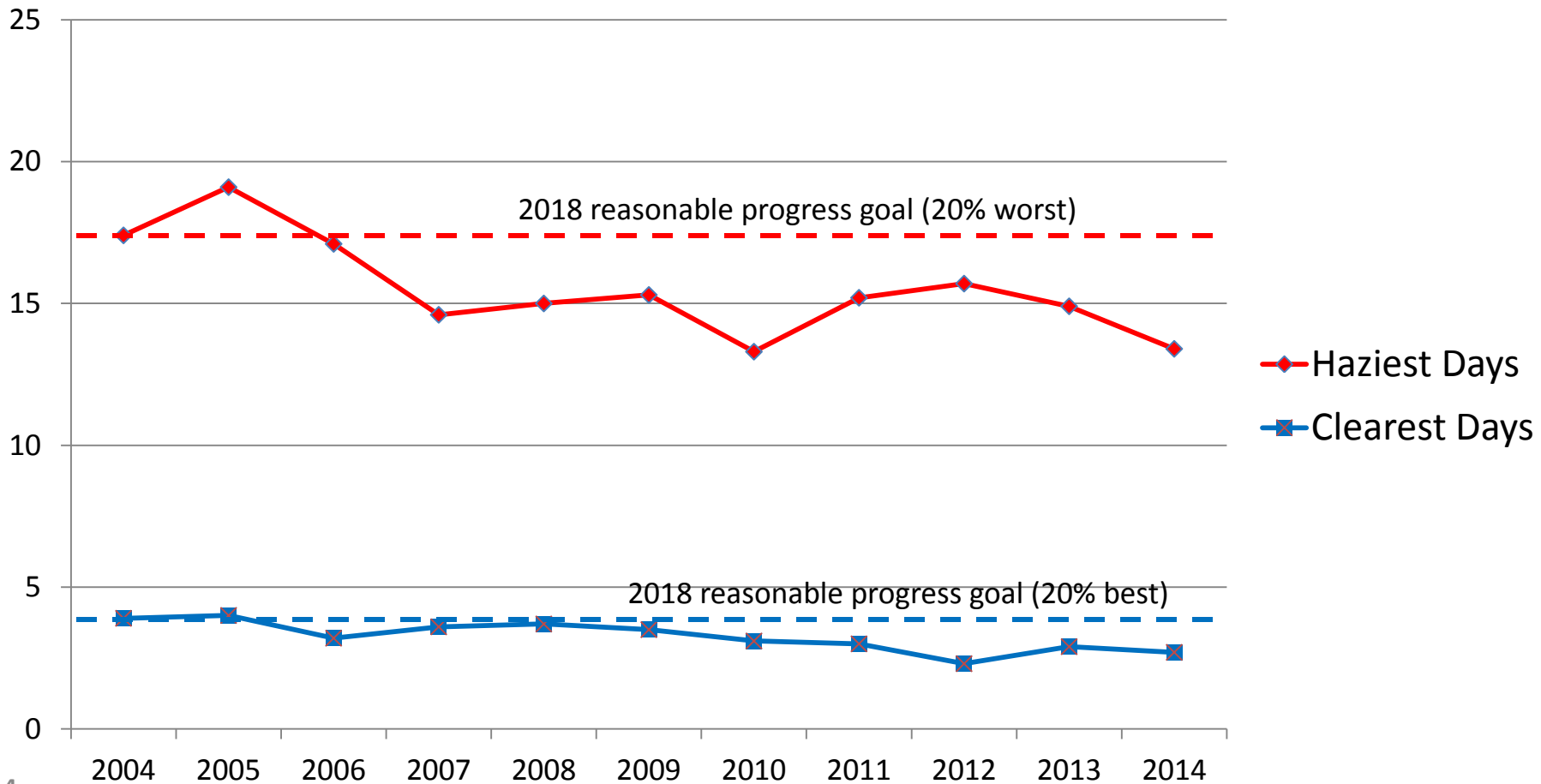
Regional Haze Visibility Progress

Crater Lake, Diamond Peak, Mountain Lakes, Gearheart Mountain (Southern Cascades)



Regional Haze Visibility Progress

Strawberry Mountain, Eagle Cap Wilderness (Eastern Oregon Region)



Public Comment

- 30 day public comment period
 - Public hearing – April 20, 2017
 - Posted to website, social media, sent email delivery, informed state and federal land managers, and Tribes
- Public comment overview:
 - Minor changes to progress report update including clarifications and edits to align with federal regional haze rule requirements

Next Steps

- Current 2017 progress report will be submitted to EPA as a revision to the State Implementation Plan
- Begin work on the 10-year Regional Haze comprehensive update. Must include:
 - Description of visibility improvements made to date
 - Development of new 10-year strategy to make reasonable progress
 - Additional measures needed to improve visibility
- 10-year Regional Haze comprehensive update due to EPA in 2021

Additional separate housekeeping rules

- Minor rule changes
 - Remove rules from the State Implementation Plan (SIP) that were accidentally submitted as SIP revisions
 - Update state rules to reflect EPA's recently revised ozone standard

Requested EQC Action

- Approve incorporating the Regional Haze Plan Progress Report update and separate rule amendments into the Oregon Clean Air Act State Implementation Plan
- Adopt the proposed ozone standard
- Direct DEQ to submit the SIP revision to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for approval