



Regional Haze Program

2nd Planning and Implementation Period Introduction and Overview

Air Quality

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Regional Haze – Policy Context



Regional Haze in Oregon

Regional Haze Definitions

1st Regional Haze Rule (1999)

1st 10-year Regional Haze Plan (2009)

Regional Haze Progress Report (2017)

2nd 10-year Regional Haze Plan (2021)

End of Second 10-year Plan Period (2028)

“Natural Conditions” Goal (2064)

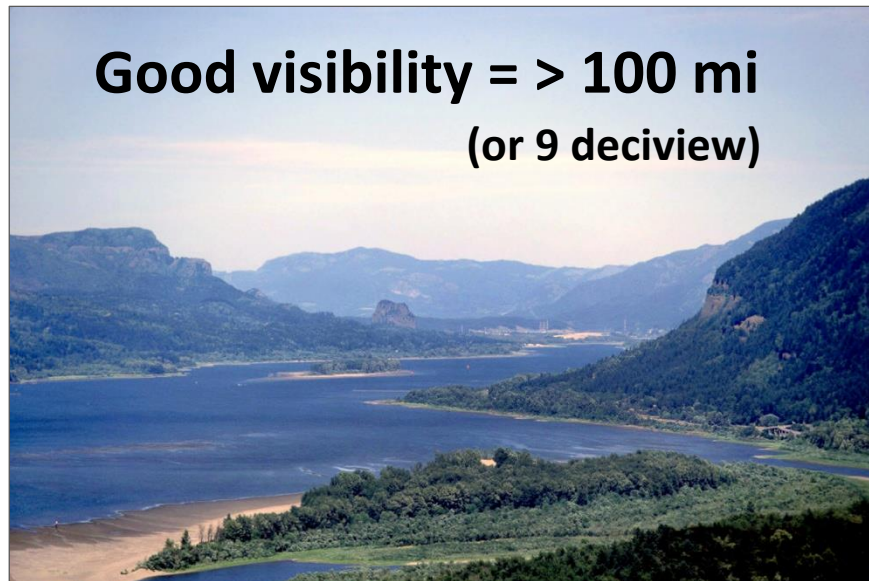
- Visibility & visibility impairment
- Sources of Visibility Impairment
- Definition of Class I Area
- Oregon’s Class I Areas and the Columbia River Gorge NSA

Haze and Visibility

- 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 that scatters light and decreases visibility.
- **Small amounts of air pollution** (well below health standards) can have significant effect on visibility.

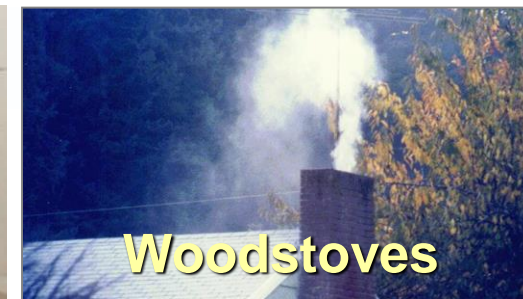
Visibility

- 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

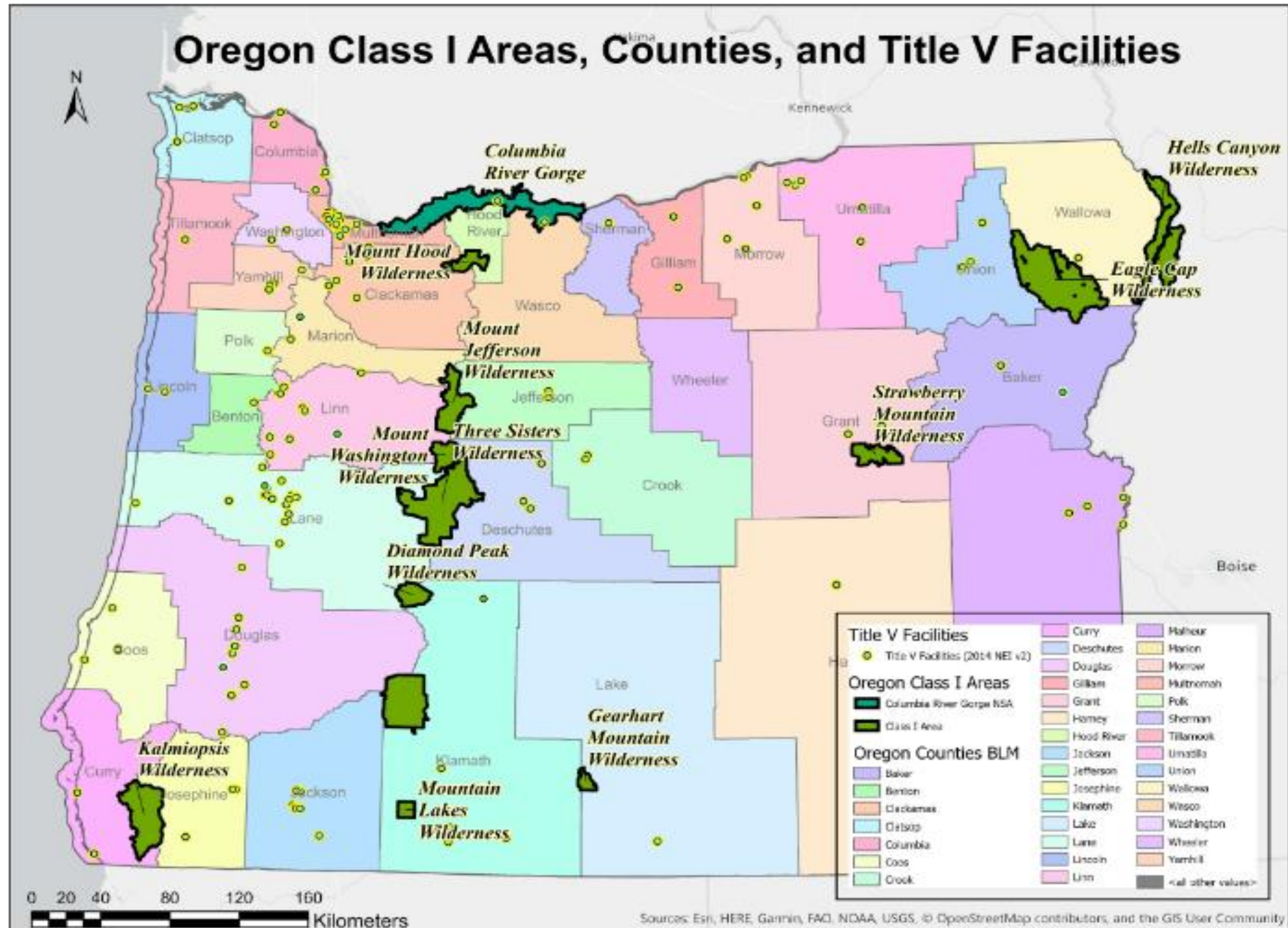
Sources of Visibility Impairment



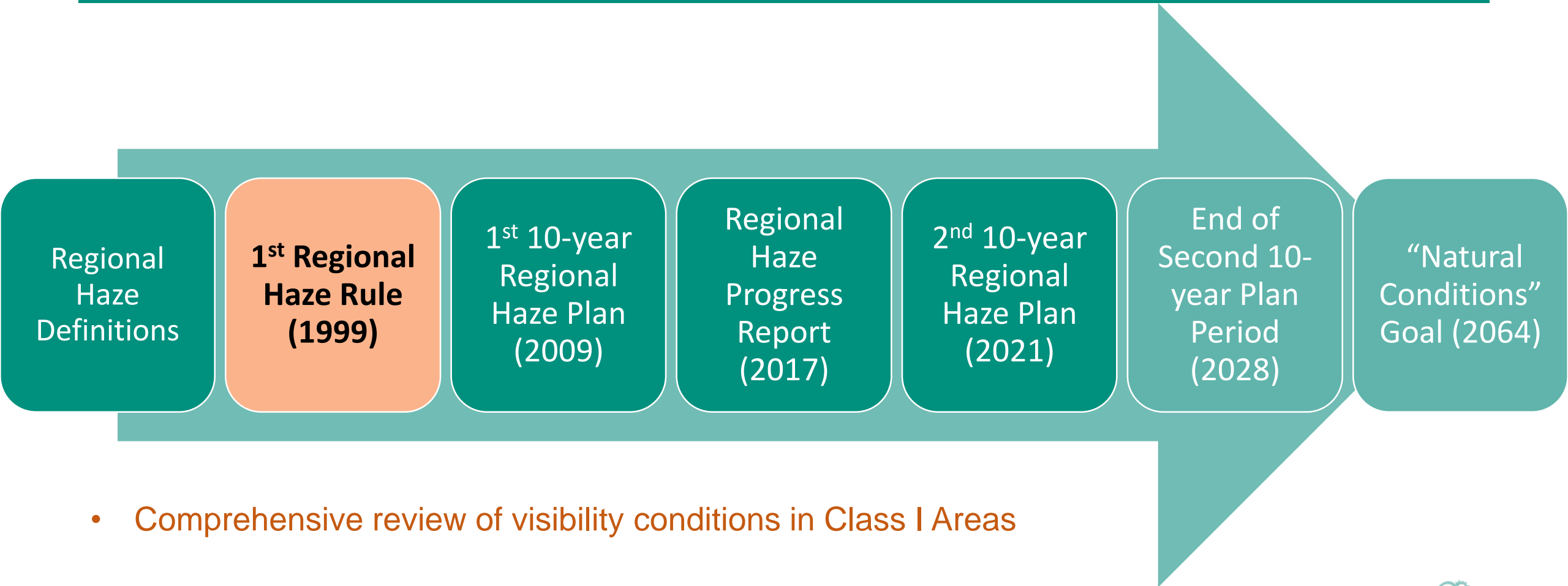
What is a Class I Area?



Oregon Class I Areas, Counties, and Title V Facilities

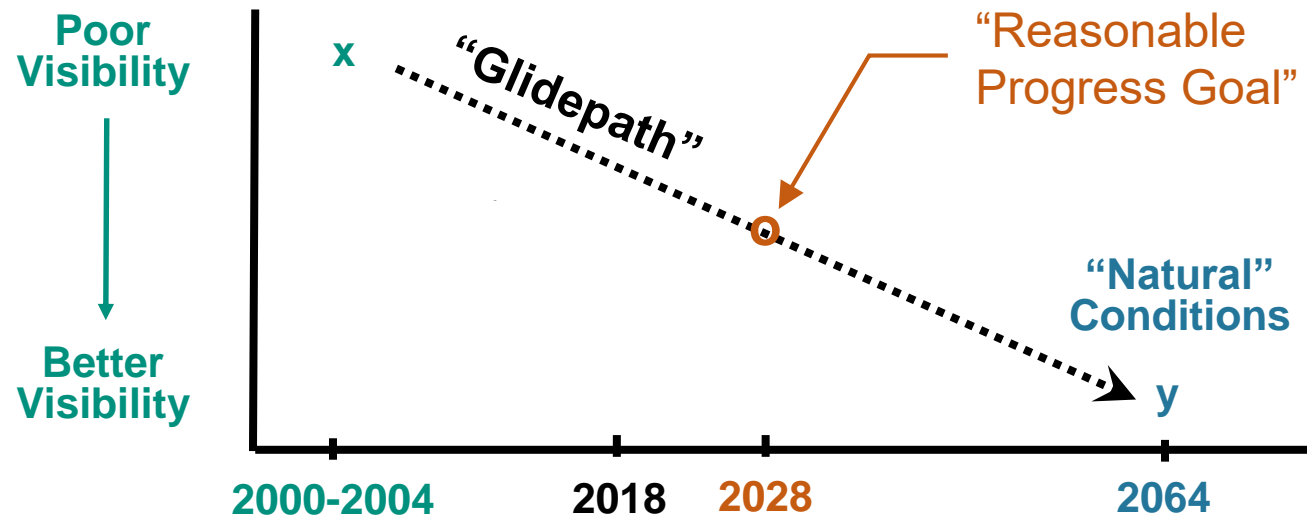


Regional Haze in Oregon



EPA's Regional Haze Rule (1999)

- Requires improvement of the 20% WORST days and no degradation of the 20% BEST days to 2064.



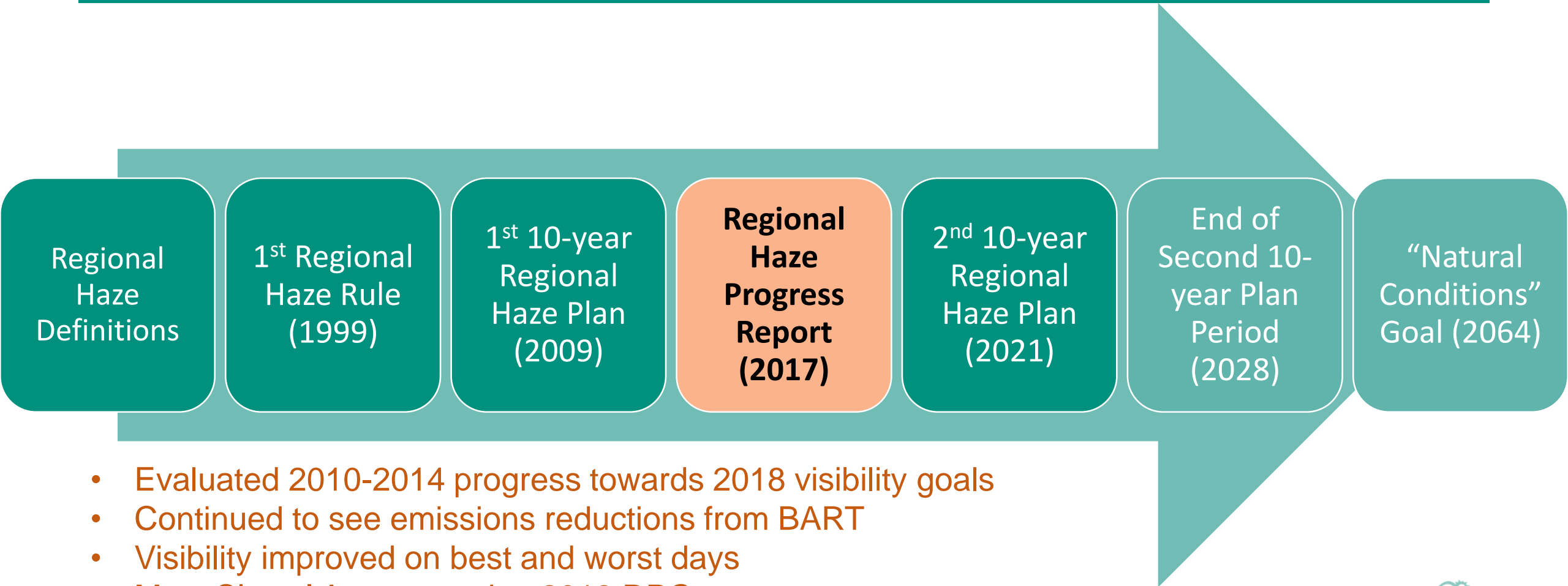
- States must adopt comprehensive strategies.
- Must show "reasonable progress" in improving visibility goal (by 2018 first planning period, by 2028 for the second).

Regional Haze in Oregon



- Comprehensive review of visibility conditions in Oregon Class I Areas
- Evaluation of 5 BART-eligible sources;
 - retrofit controls at PGE Boardman; FEPLs at 4 other sources
- Smoke management plan; Willamette Valley field burning rule

Regional Haze in Oregon



- Evaluated 2010-2014 progress towards 2018 visibility goals
- Continued to see emissions reductions from BART
- Visibility improved on best and worst days
- Most Class I Areas meeting 2018 RPGs

Regional Haze in Oregon

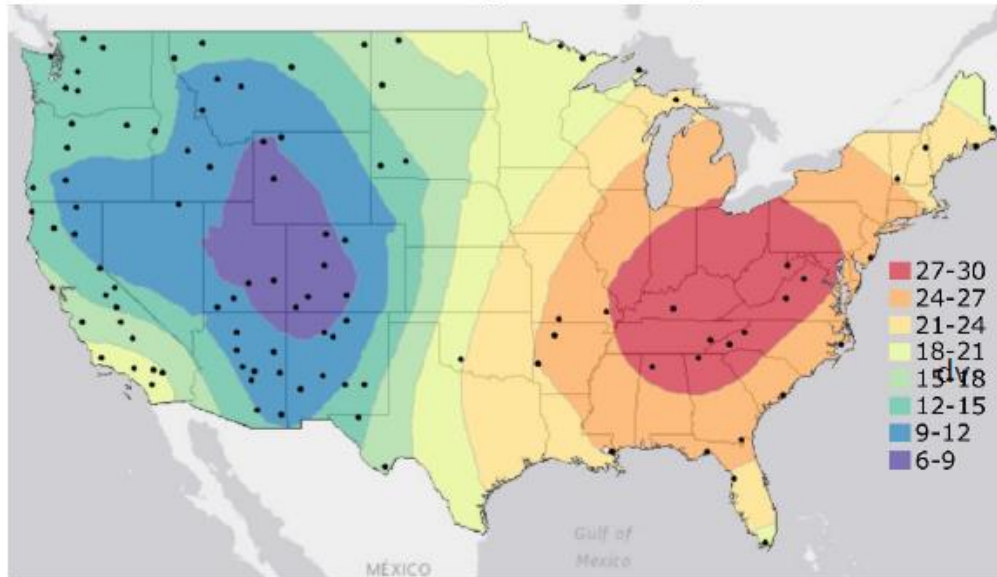


- Regional Haze Rule Update (2017) + Guidance (2019)
- Calculations of visibility conditions in each of Oregon’s Class I Areas: focus on anthropogenic impacts
- Long Term Strategy for regional haze
- Reasonable Progress Goals

First Planning Period: Visibility is Improving

2000-2004

Visibility (dv) on 20% most
impaired days



2013-2017

Visibility (dv) on 20% most
impaired days



The National Park Service estimates that as of mid-2014, emission controls established under the first planning period led to approximately 500,000 tons/year of SO₂ and 300,000 tons/year of NO_x reductions. EPA estimates that visibility has improved significantly with the average visual range increased by 20 – 30 miles in Class I areas.

The Path to July 31, 2021

	2019			2020				2021	
Activity	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2
Data Analysis & Modeling									
Source contribution analysis									
Consultations									
Rulemaking									
EQC									
Final SIP Submittal to EPA									

Thank you!

