7-3-2014

Air Quality in Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem

Robert Field

University of Wyoming

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Publication Information


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Air quality is of critical importance to a healthy environment. The impact of air pollution upon the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem is explored with particular reference to nitrogen deposition and wintertime ozone. Increased deposition of nitrogen from the atmosphere has already affected high elevation ecosystems by enriching surface waters and soils. The definition of critical Loads for nitrogen in these sensitive areas is discussed. The recently discovered phenomenon of wintertime ground level ozone was identified in the Upper Green River Basin. The results of investigations into the scope of wintertime ozone episodes and the importance of oil and gas emissions are presented.