EASTERN RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS NETWORK

ASSESSING THE RISK OF FOLIAR INJURY FROM OZONE ON VEGETATION IN PARKS IN THE EASTERN RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS NETWORK

October 2004

Objective

This assessment employs a biologically-based method to evaluate the risk of foliar injury from ozone at parks within the 32 Vital Signs Networks. The assessment allows resource managers at each park to better understand the risk of ozone injury to vegetation within their park and permits them to make a better informed decision regarding the need to monitor the impacts of ozone on plants.

This introduction provides an overview of the risk assessment process and the data used. It also provides a summary of the results of risk assessments for sites within the network.

Risk Assessment Methodology

The risk assessment is based on a Triad model that holds that the response of a plant to ozone is the result of the interaction of the plant, the level of exposure and the exposure environment. While interactions among the three variables determine the response, the state of any one of them can serve to accentuate or preclude the production of foliar injury. The response is greatest when all three variables and their interactions are optimized relative to the conditions that foster injury. The optimized states are: the species of plants are highly sensitive to ozone, the exposure levels of ozone significantly exceed the thresholds for foliar injury, and the environmental conditions foster gas exchange and the uptake of ozone by plants.

To conduct a risk assessment for a specific site, information was obtained on the ozone-sensitive plant species found there, the levels of ozone exposure that occur over a number of years, and, since soil moisture is a critical variable controlling gas exchange, the levels of soil moisture that exist during the periods of ozone exposure. The information was evaluated to determine the degree to which the levels of ozone exposure and soil moisture conditions integrate to create an environment that leads to the production of foliar injury on sensitive species at the site.

Ozone-Sensitive Plant Species

In 2003 a workshop was convened by the National Park Service to review the ozone research literature and apply the field experience of the attendees to develop a comprehensive list of ozone-sensitive plant species for the eastern and western United States. Because of the emphasis of previous field studies and research, information on the ozone-sensitivity of tropical, arctic and rare species is limited. The workshop

identified both sensitive and bioindicator species for ozone, and published its determinations in a National Park Service Report (U.S. National Park Service 2003). An ozone bioindicator species is one whose high level of sensitivity and characteristic pattern of foliar injury allow it to be confidently used to ascertain the occurrence of injurious levels of ozone exposure in the field. With regard to the Triad model, a bioindicator species integrates the effects of exposure and environment while optimizing plant sensitivity. A bioindicator serves as an early-warning agent for the plant community with respect to the potential impacts of ozone. Ozone-sensitive and bioindicator plant species at each site were identified by comparing the site's floral list from NPSpecies with the list of sensitive species developed at the workshop.

Levels of Ozone Exposure

Ozone exposure data for 1995 through 1999 for each site were obtained either from on-site monitoring or by kriging. Both monitored and kriged data have limitations. Ozone monitoring was conducted at relatively few sites, but provides the most accurate assessment of ozone exposure. However, data from a single monitor may not accurately represent exposures throughout a large park, or a park with significant elevation differences. For sites without monitoring, ozone data were statistically estimated using a technique known as kriging. This technique uses ozone data from near-by monitoring sites to estimate data for the point of interest. Most of the sites in the risk assessment have kriged data. The accuracy of the kriged data depends on the number of near-by monitoring sites, their distance and their spatial arrangement. The accuracy with which the kriged data represents the actual exposure conditions is likely to vary among the sites.

All ozone data, both monitored and kriged, were analyzed by the Air Resources Division of the National Park Service to produce annual indices of exposure for 1995 through 1999 for each site. Since the ozone research community has not completely accepted one index of exposure as fully characterizing the threshold for foliar injury to vegetation, the assessment employed three indices to assure a comprehensive approach was taken in the assessment.

One index is the Sum06 and its attendant thresholds for injury (Heck and Cowling 1997). This index is comprised of the 90-day maximum sum of the 0800 through 1959 hourly concentrations of ozone $\geq$ 60 ppb (0.60 ppm). The index is calculated over running 90-day periods and the maximum sum can occur over any period of the year, although the chemistry of ozone generation usually results in it occurring over the summer months. For risk assessment purposes, it is also necessary to know the three-month period over which each year's maximum index occurs.

Another index is the W126 and its associated thresholds (Lefohn et al. 1997). The W126 index is the weighted sum of the 24 one-hour ozone concentrations daily from April through October, and the number of hours of exposure to concentrations $\geq$ 100 ppb (0.10 ppm) during that period. The W126 index uses a sigmoidal weighting function in producing the sum: the lower concentrations are given less weight than are the higher concentrations since the higher exposures play a greater role in producing injury. The

significance of the higher concentrations is also reflected in the requirement that there be a specified minimum number of hours of exposure to concentrations ≥ 100 ppb. Thus, the W126 index has two criteria that must be realized to satisfy its thresholds: a minimum sum of weighted concentrations and a minimum number of hours ≥ 100 ppb.

The last indicator of ozone exposure, designated N-value, consists of the numbers of hours of exposure each year that exceeded 60, 80 and 100 ppb. While there are no formal thresholds associated with these values, they provide insight to the distribution of exposures among these concentrations, and to the numbers of hours at and above 80 and 100 ppb, levels of exposure that are associated with the production of foliar injury.

Soil Moisture Status

Although gas exchange in plants is influenced by many environmental variables, soil moisture status is a critical factor since stomatal closure during periods of low soil moisture can severely limit gas exchange. Since site-specific soil moisture data are not available for the sites, the USDA's Palmer Z Index was selected to represent soil moisture conditions. The Palmer Z Index is a measure of the short-term departure of soil moisture from the long-term mean for the area. Consequently, the index automatically takes into account the diversity in precipitation among the parks, and emphasizes the difference that exists between the monthly soil moisture norm for the site and its actual state. The index is calculated monthly for up to ten regions in each of the 48 contiguous states, and measures drought on a scale from 0.0 to –4.0, a range representing normal to severe conditions. The regions are considered to be relatively homogeneous by USDA, but contain a diversity of soil, elevation and site variables that influence the soil moisture conditions at any specific location. The Palmer Z Index is not site specific and may not fully represent the soil moisture conditions at a park during a specific month.

The objective of this aspect of the risk assessment was to determine whether there is a consistent relationship between the level of ozone exposure and soil moisture status for the site by using the five years of data available. Atmospheric conditions that foster the production of ozone, such as clear sky, high UV levels and higher temperatures, are ones associated with the presence of few clouds and reduced precipitation. Consequently, years with high levels of atmospheric ozone may also experience low levels of soil moisture. This inverse relationship can constrain the uptake of ozone by plants in years with high levels of ozone and significantly reduce the likelihood that foliar injury will be produced. Knowing whether this relationship exists at a site is essential in determining whether certain levels of ozone exposure pose a risk to vegetation.

Palmer Z data were obtained from the USDA web site for 1995 through 1999 and tabulated for the three-month period over which the Sum06 exposure indices were compiled, and for the May to October period associated with the W126 exposure indices. Visual analysis of the exposure and soil moisture data was undertaken to determine whether there was an association between the two factors at each site.

Site-Specific Assessment

After information on the presence of sensitive species, levels of ozone exposure and relationships between exposure and soil moisture was compiled, it was synthesized into an assessment of risk of foliar injury for the site. Risk was classified as high, medium or low. Most sites had ozone-sensitive species on them and some of species were bioindicators that could be used in field surveys for ozone injury. If a site did not have any sensitive species, the risk assessment was completed and considered to be potential until sensitive species are identified.

The Sum06 and W126 exposure indices were examined to determine whether they exceeded their respective thresholds for injury, and the frequency with which the thresholds were exceeded over the five-year assessment period. The N-value data were examined to assess the distribution of exposures in a given year, and the consistency of exposure over the five years.

Evaluation of the relationship between ozone exposure and soil moisture might indicate they are inversely related, or they are not related and months of drought occur independent of the level of ozone exposure. At a site where exposure and drought are inversely related, the uptake of ozone is constrained by drought stress in the highest exposure years. In this instance, the risk of foliar ozone injury is likely greatest in years with lower levels of exposure that still exceed the injury thresholds and with soil moisture conditions that are more favorable for the uptake of ozone. In these cases, the greatest risk of foliar injury does not necessarily occur in the year with the highest level of ozone exposure. At sites where exposure and soil moisture are not related, the risk of foliar injury in a given year is a function of the random co-occurrence of high exposure and favorable moisture conditions.

The risk of foliar ozone injury at a site was determined by analyzing the plant, exposure and moisture data. The process was not quantitative, but based upon three primary evaluations: the extent and consistency by which the ozone injury thresholds were exceeded by the Sum06 and W126 exposure indices, the nature of the relationship between exposure and soil moisture, and the extent to which soil moisture conditions constrained the uptake of ozone in high exposure years. The evaluation of these factors and the assessment of their interactions with ozone-sensitive plant species is consistent with the Triad model of risk assessment, and comprises the framework for determining whether the risk of foliar ozone injury was high, moderate or low at each site. The accuracy of a site's risk assessment is dependent upon the quality of the plant list, the accuracy of the ozone exposure data and the degree to which the regional soil moisture data represent conditions at the site.

Sites receiving a risk rating of high have a probability of experiencing foliar injury in most years, while those rated low are not likely to experience injury in any year. A rating of moderate was assigned to sites where analysis indicated injury was likely to occur at some point in the five-year period, but the chance of injury occurring consistently was low. In other words, foliar injury will probably occur at sites rated moderate, but it is not

anticipated it will occur regularly or frequently. Sites rated moderate are likely to experience a wide temporal variation in the occurrence of injury, and over a period of time may experience injury for one or more years while also experiencing several years without injury.

Literature Cited

Heck, W.W. and E.B. Cowling. 1997. The Need for a Long-term Cumulative Secondary Ozone Standard - An Ecological Perspective. Environmental Management. January

Lefohn, AS, W Jackson, D. Shadwick, and HP Knudsen. 1997. Effect of surface ozone exposures on vegetation grown in the Southern Appalachian Mountains: identification of possible areas of concern. Atmospheric Environment 31(11):1695-1708.

U.S. National Park Service. 2003. Ozone Sensitive Plant Species on National Park Service and US Fish and Wildlife Service Lands. NPS D1522. Natural Resource Report NPS/NRARD/NRR-2003/01. Air Resources Division. Denver, CO. 21 pp. (Available at www2.nature.nps.gov/ard/pubs/index.htm)

SUMMARY OF RISK ASSESSMENTS FOR PARKS IN THE EASTERN RVERS AND MOUNTAINS NETWORK

Park	Code	State	Risk	O3 Data
Allegheny Portage Railroad NHS	ALPO	PA	moderate	kriged
Bluestone NSR	BLUE	WV	moderate	kriged
Delaware Water Gap NRA	DEWA	PA	high	kriged
Fort Necessity NB	FONE	PA	high	kriged
Friendship Hill NHS	FRHI	PA	high	kriged
Gauley River NRA	GARI	WV	moderate	kriged
Johnstown Flood N MEM	JOFL	PA	moderate	kriged
New River Gorge NR	NERI	WV	moderate	kriged
Upper Delaware SRR	UPDE	PA	high	kriged

A portion of the Appalachian National Scenic Trail passes through the network. A stand-alone assessment of risk has been produced for sites along the Appalachian Trail.

ALLEGHENY PORTAGE RAILROAD NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE (ALPO)

Plant Species Sensitive to Ozone

Latin Name	*Common Name*	*Family*
Ailanthus altissima	Tree-of-heaven	Simaroubaceae
Apocynum androsaemifolium	Spreading dogbane	Apocynaceae
Asclepias syriaca	Common milkweed	Asclepiadaceae
Aster acuminatus	Whorled aster	Asteraceae
Fraxinus americana	White ash	Oleaceae
Liriodendron tulipifera	Yellow-poplar	Magnoliaceae
Parthenocissus quinquefolia	Virginia creeper	Vitaceae
Pinus banksiana	Jack pine	Pinaceae
Pinus rigida	Pitch pine	Pinaceae
Pinus virginiana	Virginia pine	Pinaceae
Platanus occidentalis	American sycamore	Platanaceae
Populus tremuloides	Quaking aspen	Salicaceae
Prunus serotina	Black cherry	Rosaceae
Rhus copallina	Flameleaf sumac	Anacardiaceae
Robinia pseudoacacia	Black locust	Fabaceae
Rubus allegheniensis	Allegheny blackberry	Rosaceae
Rudbeckia laciniata	Cut-leaf coneflower	Asteraceae
Sambucus canadensis	American elder	Caprifoliaceae
Sassafras albidum	Sassafras	Lauraceae

Representative Ozone Injury Thresholds

Sum06 -- The running 90-day maximum sum of the 0800-2000 hourly ozone concentrations of ozone equal to or greater than 0.06 ppm. Index is in cumulative ppm-hr.

Natural Ecosystems	8 - 12 ppm-hr	(foliar injury)
Tree Seedlings	10 - 16 ppm-hr	(1-2% reduction in growth)
Crops	15 - 20 ppm-hr	(10% reduction in 25-35% of crops)

W126 -- A cumulative index of exposure that uses a sigmoidal weighting function to give added significance to higher concentrations of ozone while retaining and giving less weight to mid and lower concentrations. The number of hours over 100 ppb (N100) is also considered in assessing the possible impact of the exposure. The W126 index is in cumulative ppm-hr.

	W126	N100
Highly Sensitive Species	5.9 ppm-hr	6
Moderately Sensitive Species	23.8 ppm-hr	51
Low Sensitivity	66.6 ppm-hr	135

Ozone Exposure Data

Ambient concentrations of ozone were not monitored on-site, but were estimated by kriging, a statistical interpolation process. The estimated hourly concentrations of ozone were then used to generate annual exposure values for the site. The exposure values include the Sum06 and W126 exposure indices in ppm-hr and the annual number of hours above 60, 80 and 100 ppb (N60, N80 and N100, respectively).

Ozone air quality data for ALPO					
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Sum06	20	18	23	26	31
W126	30.9	23.9	32.2	44.0	38.2
N60	505	422	514	744	655
N80	117	55	111	183	133
N100	16	4	21	33	14

Soil Moisture Status

The uptake of ambient ozone by a plant is highly dependent upon the environmental conditions under which the exposure takes place, and the level of soil moisture is an important environmental variable controlling the process. Understanding the soil moisture status can provide insight to how effective an exposure may be in leading to foliar injury. The Palmer Z Index was selected to indicate soil moisture status since it represents the short-term departure of soil moisture from the average for each month for the site. The objectives of the assessment were to examine the relationship between high annual levels of ozone and soil moisture status, and to consider the impact reduced soil moisture status would have on the effectiveness of exposure.

The Palmer Z Index is calculated for up to 10 regions within a state and therefore is not a site-specific index. Without site-specific data, ozone/soil moisture relationships can only be estimated. Site-specific criteria such as aspect, elevation, and soil type can alter soil moisture conditions such that they depart from those determined for the region. However,

in lieu of site-specific data, the Palmer Z Index is the best estimate of short-term soil moisture status and its change throughout the growing season.

Palmer Z data were compiled for the site for both the three months used to calculate the Sum06 index and for the April through October period for the W126 index for 1995 through 1999. It was not possible to identify the specific 3-month summation period for the Sum 06 index since the index was obtained by kriging. The summation period was estimated from the 3-month periods for Sum 06 indices calculated from monitored ozone data for sites within 50 km of the park. The Palmer Z index ranges from approximately +4.0 (extreme wetness) to –4.0 (extreme drought) with ±0.9 representing normal soil moisture.

Soil moisture status for the Sum06 index period.

Palmer Z Index data for 3-month Sum06 period at ALPO					
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Month 1	2.57	0.66	-0.37	-0.89	-2.67
Month 2	-1.29	4.22	-1.75	-1.19	-1.70
Month 3	-3.25	-0.22	1.54	-2.03	-3.36

Soil moisture status for the April through October period for the W126 index.

Palmer Z Index data for the 7-month W126 period at ALPO					
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
April	-1.10	-0.91	-2.49	2.93	2.21
May	0.38	1.41	1.81	-0.20	-2.67
June	2.57	0.66	-0.37	1.02	-1.70
July	-1.29	4.22	-1.75	-0.89	-3.36
August	-3.25	-0.22	1.54	-1.19	0.72
September	-1.88	8.51	1.49	-2.03	0.68
October	2.69	2.10	-1.30	-1.36	-0.79

Risk Analysis

- There are numerous ozone-sensitive species at the site, some of which are bioindicators for ozone.

- The Sum06 index exceeds the threshold for injury to vegetation. The W126 accumulative value and the N100 count are greater than their threshold values, thus the criteria for injury under the W126 index are satisfied. The Sum06 and W126 indices both exceed the levels considered necessary for injury to vegetation.

- The N-values for the site show concentrations frequently exceeded 60 and 80 ppb, and exceeded 100 ppb for a significant number of hours every year. These levels of exposure can injure vegetation.

- Soil moisture levels during both the 90-day Sum06 and seasonal W126 accumulation periods appear to be inversely related to ozone concentrations: when ozone is high, soil moisture is low. This relationship reduces the uptake of ozone and the effectiveness of the exposure in producing foliar injury. The years with the highest Sum06 ozone exposure values, 1999 and 1998, show three and two months of mild to severe drought, respectively. The two mid-level exposure years, 1997 and 1995 , had one month of mild drought and two months of mild and severe drought, respectively, while the year with the lowest exposure, 1996, experienced favorable conditions. Soil moisture levels associated with the W126 index also appear inversely related to ozone exposure. The four highest ozone years each experienced three or four months of mild to severe drought. In the lowest exposure year, 1996, soil moisture conditions were favorable.

The risk of foliar ozone injury to plants at Allegheny Portage Railroad National Historic Site is moderate. The Sum06 threshold for injury is consistently satisfied, and the W126 index criteria are generally fulfilled. The N80 and N100 counts are high, but significantly lower in one year. The inverse relationship between ozone exposure and soil moisture is a significant factor affecting the potential for injury at the site. The years in which exposures exceed the injury thresholds are also ones in which there are three to four months of mild to severe drought. These moisture conditions constrain the uptake of ozone and reduce the likelihood that the exposures will produce foliar injury. When drought is moderate and severe in high ozone years, the uptake of ozone is significantly diminished, and, in spite of the high levels of exposure, the risk of injury is greatly reduced. One year, 1996, has favorable soil moisture conditions, but ozone exposures are lower. This year, however, suggests that levels of exposure capable of producing foliar injury may also occur at the site under conditions of minor drought or normal soil moisture. The probability of foliar injury developing may greatest during years in which ozone levels are somewhat reduced but still exceed the thresholds, and soil moisture levels are normal or under mild drought and do not significantly constrain the uptake of ozone.

A program to assess the incidence of foliar ozone injury on plants at the site could use one or more of the following bioindicator species: tree-of-heaven, spreading dogbane, common milkweed, yellow-poplar, American sycamore, quaking aspen, black cherry, Allegheny blackberry, cut-leaf coneflower, and American elder.

BLUESTONE NATIONAL SCENIC RIVER (BLUE)

Plant Species Sensitive to Ozone

Latin Name	*Common Name*	*Family*
Aesculus octandra	Yellow buckeye	Hippocastanacea
Ailanthus altissima	Tree-of-heaven	Simaroubaceae
Apocynum androsaemifolium	Spreading dogbane	Apocynaceae
Asclepias exaltata	Tall milkweed	Asclepiadaceae
Asclepias syriaca	Common milkweed	Asclepiadaceae
Aster macrophyllus	Big-leaf aster	Asteraceae
Fraxinus americana	White ash	Oleaceae
Fraxinus pennsylvanica	Green ash	Oleaceae
Liquidambar styraciflua	Sweetgum	Hamamelidaceae
Liriodendron tulipifera	Yellow-poplar	Magnoliaceae
Parthenocissus quinquefolia	Virginia creeper	Vitaceae
Pinus rigida	Pitch pine	Pinaceae
Pinus virginiana	Virginia pine	Pinaceae
Platanus occidentalis	American sycamore	Platanaceae
Robinia pseudoacacia	Black locust	Fabaceae
Rhus copallina	Flameleaf sumac	Anacardiaceae
Rubus allegheniensis	Allegheny blackberry	Rosaceae
Rudbeckia laciniata	Cut-leaf coneflower	Asteraceae
Sambucus canadensis	American elder	Caprifoliaceae
Sassafras albidum	Sassafras	Lauraceae
Verbesina occidentalis	Crownbeard	Asteraceae
Vitis labrusca	Northern fox grape	Vitaceae

Representative Ozone Injury Thresholds

Sum06 -- The running 90-day maximum sum of the 0800-2000 hourly ozone concentrations of ozone equal to or greater than 0.06 ppm. Index is in cumulative ppm-hr.

Natural Ecosystems	8 - 12 ppm-hr	(foliar injury)
Tree Seedlings	10 - 16 ppm-hr	(1-2% reduction in growth)
Crops	15 - 20 ppm-hr	(10% reduction in 25-35% of crops)

W126 -- A cumulative index of exposure that uses a sigmoidal weighting function to give added significance to higher concentrations of ozone while retaining and giving less weight to mid and lower concentrations. The number of hours over 100 ppb (N100) is also considered in assessing the possible impact of the exposure. The W126 index is in cumulative ppm-hr.

	W126	N100
Highly Sensitive Species	5.9 ppm-hr	6
Moderately Sensitive Species	23.8 ppm-hr	51
Low Sensitivity	66.6 ppm-hr	135

Ozone Exposure Data

Ambient concentrations of ozone were not monitored on-site, but were estimated by kriging, a statistical interpolation process. The estimated hourly concentrations of ozone were then used to generate annual exposure values for the site. The exposure values include the Sum06 and W126 exposure indices in ppm-hr and the annual number of hours above 60, 80 and 100 ppb (N60, N80 and N100, respectively).

Ozone air quality data for BLUE					
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Sum06	27	19	24	36	37
W126	45.9	30.3	46.8	64.8	59.9
N60	892	554	897	1217	1163
N80	92	46	86	215	161
N100	6	3	3	21	9

Soil Moisture Status

The uptake of ambient ozone by a plant is highly dependent upon the environmental conditions under which the exposure takes place, and the level of soil moisture is an important environmental variable controlling the process. Understanding the soil moisture status can provide insight to how effective an exposure may be in leading to foliar injury. The Palmer Z Index was selected to indicate soil moisture status since it represents the short-term departure of soil moisture from the average for each month for the site. The objectives of the assessment were to examine the relationship between high annual levels of ozone and soil moisture status, and to consider the impact reduced soil moisture status would have on the effectiveness of exposure.

The Palmer Z Index is calculated for up to 10 regions within a state and therefore is not a site-specific index. Without site-specific data, ozone/soil moisture relationships can only be estimated. Site-specific criteria such as aspect, elevation, and soil type can alter soil moisture conditions such that they depart from those determined for the region. However, in lieu of site-specific data, the Palmer Z Index is the best estimate of short-term soil moisture status and its change throughout the growing season.

Palmer Z data were compiled for the site for both the three months used to calculate the Sum06 index and for the April through October period for the W126 index for 1995 through 1999. It was not possible to identify the specific 3-month summation period for

the Sum 06 index since the index was obtained by kriging. The summation period was estimated from the 3-month periods for Sum 06 indices calculated from monitored ozone data for sites within 50 km of the park. The Palmer Z index ranges from approximately +4.0 (extreme wetness) to –4.0 (extreme drought) with ±0.9 representing normal soil moisture.

Soil moisture status for the Sum06 index period.

Palmer Z Index data for 3-month Sum06 period at BLUE					
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Month 1	-2.22	-0.66	0.82	2.42	-1.03
Month 2	-2.76	4.73	0.50	-1.48	-2.58
Month 3	0.76	0.41	0.30	-1.56	-2.18

Soil moisture status for the April through October period for the W126 index.

Palmer Z Index data for the 7-month W126 period at BLUE					
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
April	-1.98	-0.66	-0.84	2.50	0.47
May	2.67	4.73	0.82	3.09	-1.03
June	3.62	0.41	0.50	2.42	-2.58
July	-2.22	-0.59	0.30	-1.48	-2.18
August	-2.76	2.36	-0.72	-1.56	-1.45
September	0.76	3.75	-0.74	-2.96	1.05
October	0.65	-0.17	-1.99	-2.14	-0.07

Risk Analysis

- There are numerous ozone-sensitive species at the site, some of which are bioindicators for ozone.
- The Sum06 index exceeds the threshold for injury to vegetation. While the W126 accumulative value exceeded the threshold each year, the N100 count shows that the required number of hours was met in three years, although concentrations exceeded 100 ppb every year. The criteria for injury under the W126 exposure index are generally satisfied.
- The N-values for the site show concentrations frequently exceeded 60 and 80 ppb, and exceeded 100 ppb for a significant number of hours in some years. The higher levels of exposure can injure vegetation.
- Soil moisture levels associated with both the 90-day Sum06 and seasonal W126 accumulation period levels of ozone appear to be inversely related to ozone

concentrations: when ozone is high, soil moisture is low. This relationship reduces the uptake of ozone and the effectiveness of the higher exposures in producing foliar injury. The years with the highest Sum06 ozone exposure values, 1999 and 1998, had, respectively, three and two months of mild and moderate drought. The two intermediate ozone years, 1995 and 1997, had two months of moderate drought stress and normal soil moisture, respectively. Soil moisture was normal in 1996, the year with the lowest ozone exposure. Soil moisture levels associated with the W126 index also appear to be inversely related to ozone concentrations, although the pattern is not consistent. The two highest ozone years, 1998 and 1999, each had four months of mild and moderate drought. The two mid-level exposure years, 1997 and 1995, had one month of mild drought, and three months of mild and moderate drought, respectively. The year with the lowest ozone exposure, 1996, had normal soil moisture conditions.

The risk of foliar ozone injury to plants at Bluestone National Scenic River is moderate. The Sum06 threshold for injury is consistently satisfied, and the W126 index criteria are generally fulfilled. The N80 and N100 counts are high, but significantly lower in two years. The inverse relationship between ozone exposure and soil moisture is a significant factor affecting the potential for injury at the site. The years in which exposures exceed the injury thresholds are also ones in which there are three to four months of mild to severe drought. These moisture conditions constrain the uptake of ozone and reduce the likelihood that the exposures will produce foliar injury. When drought is moderate and severe in high ozone years, the uptake of ozone is significantly diminished, and, in spite of the high levels of exposure, the risk of injury is reduced. The two years that have favorable soil moisture conditions, 1996 and 1997, also have ozone exposures that are lower. These years, however, suggest that levels of exposure capable of producing foliar injury may also occur at the site under conditions of minor drought or normal soil moisture. The probability of foliar injury developing may be greatest during years when ozone levels are somewhat reduced but still exceed the thresholds, and soil moisture levels are normal or under mild drought and do not significantly constrain the uptake of ozone.

A program to assess the incidence of foliar ozone injury on plants at the site could use one or more of the following bioindicator species: tree-of-heaven, spreading dogbane, tall milkweed, common milkweed, big-leaf aster, white ash, yellow-poplar, American sycamore, Allegheny blackberry, cut-leaf coneflower, American elder, crownbeard, and northern fox grape.

DELAWARE WATER GAP NATIONAL RECREATION AREA (DEWA)

Plant Species Sensitive to Ozone

Latin Name	*Common Name*	*Family*
Ailanthus altissima	Tree-of-heaven	Simaroubaceae
Apocynum androsaemifolium	Spreading dogbane	Apocynaceae
Asclepias exaltata	Tall milkweed	Asclepiadaceae
Asclepias syriaca	Common milkweed	Asclepiadaceae
Aster acuminatus	Whorled aster	Asteraceae
Aster macrophyllus	Big-leaf aster	Asteraceae
Cercis canadensis	Redbud	Fabaceae
Fraxinus americana	White ash	Oleaceae
Fraxinus pennsylvanica	Green ash	Oleaceae
Liquidambar styraciflua	Sweetgum	Hamamelidaceae
Liriodendron tulipifera	Yellow-poplar	Magnoliaceae
Parthenocissus quinquefolia	Virginia creeper	Vitaceae
Philadelphus coronarius	Sweet mock-orange	Hydrangeaceae
Pinus rigida	Pitch pine	Pinaceae
Pinus virginiana	Virginia pine	Pinaceae
Platanus occidentalis	American sycamore	Platanaceae
Populus tremuloides	Quaking aspen	Salicaceae
Prunus serotina	Black cherry	Rosaceae
Rhus copallina	Flameleaf sumac	Anacardiaceae
Robinia pseudoacacia	Black locust	Fabaceae
Rubus allegheniensis	Allegheny blackberry	Rosaceae
Rudbeckia laciniata	Cut-leaf coneflower	Asteraceae
Sambucus canadensis	American elder	Caprifoliaceae
Sassafras albidum	Sassafras	Lauraceae
Symphoricarpos albus	Common snowberry	Caprifoliaceae
Vitis labrusca	Northern fox grape	Vitaceae

Representative Ozone Injury Thresholds

Sum06 -- The running 90-day maximum sum of the 0800-2000 hourly ozone concentrations of ozone equal to or greater than 0.06 ppm. Index is in cumulative ppm-hr.

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W126 -- A cumulative index of exposure that uses a sigmoidal weighting function to

give added significance to higher concentrations of ozone while retaining and giving less weight to mid and lower concentrations. The number of hours over 100 ppb (N100) is also considered in assessing the possible impact of the exposure. The W126 index is in cumulative ppm-hr.

	W126	N100
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Moderately Sensitive Species	23.8 ppm-hr	51
Low Sensitivity	66.6 ppm-hr	135

Ozone Exposure Data

Ambient concentrations of ozone were not monitored on-site, but were estimated by kriging, a statistical interpolation process. The estimated hourly concentrations of ozone were then used to generate annual exposure values for the site. The exposure values include the Sum06 and W126 exposure indices in ppm-hr and the annual number of hours above 60, 80 and 100 ppb (N60, N80 and N100, respectively).

Ozone air quality data for DEWA					
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Sum06	21	16	20	23	28
W126	32.8	25.3	29.1	36.4	39.9
N60	511	397	452	608	630
N80	160	96	128	160	184
N100	29	13	21	14	41

Soil Moisture Status

The uptake of ambient ozone by a plant is highly dependent upon the environmental conditions under which the exposure takes place, and the level of soil moisture is an important environmental variable controlling the process. Understanding the soil moisture status can provide insight to how effective an exposure may be in leading to foliar injury. The Palmer Z Index was selected to indicate soil moisture status since it represents the short-term departure of soil moisture from the average for each month for the site. The objectives of the assessment were to examine the relationship between high annual levels of ozone and soil moisture status, and to consider the impact reduced soil moisture status would have on the effectiveness of exposure.

The Palmer Z Index is calculated for up to 10 regions within a state and therefore is not a site-specific index. Without site-specific data, ozone/soil moisture relationships can only be estimated. Site-specific criteria such as aspect, elevation, and soil type can alter soil moisture conditions such that they depart from those determined for the region. However, in lieu of site-specific data, the Palmer Z Index is the best estimate of short-term soil

moisture status and its change throughout the growing season.

Palmer Z data were compiled for the site for both the three months used to calculate the Sum06 index and for the April through October period for the W126 index for 1995 through 1999. It was not possible to identify the specific 3-month summation period for the Sum 06 index since the index was obtained by kriging. The summation period was estimated from the 3-month periods for Sum 06 indices calculated from monitored ozone data for sites within 50 km of the park. The Palmer Z index ranges from approximately +4.0 (extreme wetness) to –4.0 (extreme drought) with ±0.9 representing normal soil moisture.

Soil moisture status for the Sum06 index period.

Palmer Z Index data for 3-month Sum06 period at DEWA					
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Month 1	-1.94	0.86	-1.37	-1.19	-2.14
Month 2	-0.56	2.84	-1.72	-2.13	-3.15
Month 3	-3.49	-1.70	1.36	-0.66	-1.97

Soil moisture status for the April through October period for the W126 index.

Palmer Z Index data for the 7-month W126 period at DEWA					
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
April	-1.53	1.90	-1.44	1.60	-1.41
May	-1.22	-0.18	-0.32	0.78	-1.13
June	-1.94	0.86	-1.37	3.26	-2.14
July	-0.56	2.84	-1.72	-1.19	-3.15
August	-3.49	-1.70	1.36	-2.13	-1.97
September	-0.99	1.26	0.11	-0.66	6.14
October	3.91	2.89	-1.41	-0.17	-0.10

Risk Analysis

- There are numerous ozone-sensitive species at the site, some of which are bioindicators for ozone.

- The Sum06 index exceeds the threshold for injury to vegetation. The W126 accumulative value and the N100 count are greater than their threshold values, thus the criteria for injury under the W126 index are satisfied. The Sum06 and W126 indices both exceed the levels considered necessary for injury to vegetation.

- The N-values for the site show concentrations frequently exceeded 60 and 80 ppb,

and exceeded 100 ppb for a significant number of hours every year. These levels of exposure can injure vegetation.

- Soil moisture levels during the 90-day Sum06 accumulation periods appear to be inversely related to ozone concentrations: when ozone is high, soil moisture is low. This relationship reduces the uptake of ozone and the effectiveness of the exposure in producing foliar injury. The year with the highest ozone exposure value, 1999, had three months of mild to moderate drought, while the lowest ozone year, 1996, had one month of mild drought. The three intermediate years each had two months of mild to severe drought. Soil moisture levels associated with the seasonal W126 index also appear to be inversely related to ozone concentrations, but the pattern is not consistent. The highest ozone year, 1999, had five months of mild to severe drought and the lowest year, 1996, had one month of mild drought. However, the second highest ozone year, 1998, had two months of drought, while the second lowest year, 1997, had four months of mild drought.

The risk of foliar ozone injury to plants at Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area is high. The Sum06 and W126 threshold criteria are both satisfied, and the N80 and N100 counts are high. While the levels of ozone exposure consistently create the potential for injury, the inverse relationship between exposure and soil moisture reduces the likelihood of injury developing in the highest ozone years. Since the site is subject to potentially harmful levels of ozone annually, the probability of foliar injury developing may be greatest during years such as 1996 when ozone levels are somewhat reduced but still exceed the thresholds, and soil moisture levels are normal or under mild drought and do not significantly constrain the uptake of ozone.

A program to assess the incidence of foliar ozone injury on plants at the site could use one or more of the following bioindicator species: tree-of-heaven, spreading dogbane, tall milkweed, common milkweed, big-leaf aster, redbud, white ash, yellow-poplar, American sycamore, quaking aspen, black cherry, Allegheny blackberry, cut-leaf coneflower, American elder, common snowberry, and northern fox grape.

FORT NECESSITY NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD (FONE)

Plant Species Sensitive to Ozone

Latin Name	*Common Name*	*Family*
Asclepias syriaca	Common milkweed	Asclepiadaceae
Fraxinus americana	White ash	Oleaceae
Liriodendron tulipifera	Yellow-poplar	Magnoliaceae
Parthenocissus quinquefolia	Virginia creeper	Vitaceae
Pinus rigida	Pitch pine	Pinaceae
Prunus serotina	Black cherry	Rosaceae
Robinia pseudoacacia	Black locust	Fabaceae
Rhus copallina	Flameleaf sumac	Anacardiaceae
Rubus allegheniensis	Allegheny blackberry	Rosaceae
Sambucus canadensis	American elder	Caprifoliaceae
Sassafras albidum	Sassafras	Lauraceae

Representative Ozone Injury Thresholds

Sum06 -- The running 90-day maximum sum of the 0800-2000 hourly ozone concentrations of ozone equal to or greater than 0.06 ppm. Index is in cumulative ppm-hr.

Natural Ecosystems	8 - 12 ppm-hr	(foliar injury)
Tree Seedlings	10 - 16 ppm-hr	(1-2% reduction in growth)
Crops	15 - 20 ppm-hr	(10% reduction in 25-35% of crops)

W126 -- A cumulative index of exposure that uses a sigmoidal weighting function to give added significance to higher concentrations of ozone while retaining and giving less weight to mid and lower concentrations. The number of hours over 100 ppb (N100) is also considered in assessing the possible impact of the exposure. The W126 index is in cumulative ppm-hr.

	W126	N100
Highly Sensitive Species	5.9 ppm-hr	6
Moderately Sensitive Species	23.8 ppm-hr	51
Low Sensitivity	66.6 ppm-hr	135

Ozone Exposure Data

Ambient concentrations of ozone were not monitored on-site, but were estimated by kriging, a statistical interpolation process. The estimated hourly concentrations of ozone were then used to generate annual exposure values for the site. The exposure values include the Sum06 and W126 exposure indices in ppm-hr and the annual number of hours above 60, 80 and 100 ppb (N60, N80 and N100, respectively).

Ozone air quality data for FONE					
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Sum06	21	18	22	29	32
W126	32.5	27.2	30.8	43.5	40.7
N60	544	488	494	741	711
N80	130	74	112	191	148
N100	21	7	17	36	19

Soil Moisture Status

The uptake of ambient ozone by a plant is highly dependent upon the environmental conditions under which the exposure takes place, and the level of soil moisture is an important environmental variable controlling the process. Understanding the soil moisture status can provide insight to how effective an exposure may be in leading to foliar injury. The Palmer Z Index was selected to indicate soil moisture status since it represents the short-term departure of soil moisture from the average for each month for the site. The objectives of the assessment were to examine the relationship between high annual levels of ozone and soil moisture status, and to consider the impact reduced soil moisture status would have on the effectiveness of exposure.

The Palmer Z Index is calculated for up to 10 regions within a state and therefore is not a site-specific index. Without site-specific data, ozone/soil moisture relationships can only be estimated. Site-specific criteria such as aspect, elevation, and soil type can alter soil moisture conditions such that they depart from those determined for the region. However, in lieu of site-specific data, the Palmer Z Index is the best estimate of short-term soil moisture status and its change throughout the growing season.

Palmer Z data were compiled for the site for both the three months used to calculate the Sum06 index and for the April through October period for the W126 index for 1995 through 1999. It was not possible to identify the specific 3-month summation period for the Sum 06 index since the index was obtained by kriging. The summation period was estimated from the 3-month periods for Sum 06 indices calculated from monitored ozone data for sites within 50 km of the park. The Palmer Z index ranges from approximately +4.0 (extreme wetness) to –4.0 (extreme drought) with ±0.9 representing normal soil moisture.

Soil moisture status for the Sum06 index period.

Palmer Z Index data for 3-month Sum06 period at FONE					
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Month 1	-0.52	1.23	-0.80	-1.48	-1.07
Month 2	-1.84	1.41	-2.79	-0.83	-3.31
Month 3	-3.07	-0.63	1.58	-2.13	-1.30

Soil moisture status for the April through October period for the W126 index.

Palmer Z Index data for the 7-month W126 period at FONE					
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
April	-1.16	0.57	-2.08	1.97	1.42
May	0.64	1.19	2.81	-2.20	-1.07
June	-0.52	1.23	-0.80	1.33	-3.31
July	-1.84	1.41	-2.79	-1.48	-1.30
August	-3.07	-0.63	1.58	-0.83	-1.86
September	-2.15	4.21	0.69	-2.13	-0.86
October	0.25	1.76	-1.71	-1.24	-1.58

Risk Analysis

- There are numerous ozone-sensitive species at the site, some of which are bioindicators for ozone.

- The Sum06 index exceeds the threshold for injury to vegetation. The W126 accumulative value and the N100 count are greater than their threshold values, thus the criteria for injury under the W126 index are satisfied. The Sum06 and W126 indices both exceed the levels considered necessary for injury to vegetation.

- The N-values for the site show concentrations frequently exceeded 60 and 80 ppb, and exceeded 100 ppb for a significant number of hours every year. These levels of exposure can injure vegetation.

- Soil moisture levels during both the 90-day Sum06 and seasonal W126 accumulation periods appear to be inversely related to ozone concentrations: when ozone is high, soil moisture is low. This relationship reduces the uptake of ozone and the effectiveness of the exposure in producing foliar injury. The year with the highest and second highest Sum06 ozone exposure values, 1999 and 1998, experienced three and two months of mild to severe drought, respectively. The two intermediate ozone years, 1997 and 1995, had similar levels of exposure and one and two months of drought each. The year with the lowest ozone

exposure, 1996, had favorable soil moisture conditions. Soil moisture levels associated with the W126 index also appear inversely related to ozone exposure. In the highest ozone years, 1998 and 1999, there were four and five months, respectively, of mild to severe drought. The two mid-level ozone years, 1995 and 1997, had four and three months of mild to severe drought, while the lowest ozone year, 1996, had favorable soil moisture conditions throughout.

The risk of foliar ozone injury to plants at Fort Necessity National Battlefield is high. The Sum06 and W126 threshold criteria are both satisfied, and the N80 and N100 counts are generally high. While the levels of ozone exposure consistently create the potential for injury, the inverse relationship between exposure and soil moisture reduces the likelihood of injury developing in the highest ozone years. Since the site is subject to potentially harmful levels of ozone annually, the probability of foliar injury developing may be greatest during years such as 1996 when ozone levels are somewhat reduced but still exceed the thresholds, and soil moisture levels are normal or under mild drought and do not significantly constrain the uptake of ozone.

A program to assess the incidence of foliar ozone injury on plants at the site could use one or more of the following bioindicator species: common milkweed, white ash, yellow-poplar, black cherry, Allegheny blackberry, and American elder.

FRIENDSHIP HILL NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE (FRHI)

Plant Species Sensitive to Ozone

Latin Name	*Common Name*	*Family*
Aesculus octandra	Yellow buckeye	Hippocastanaceae
Ailanthus altissima	Tree-of-heaven	Simaroubaceae
Asclepias syriaca	Common milkweed	Asclepiadaceae
Cercis canadensis	Redbud	Fabaceae
Fraxinus americana	White ash	Oleaceae
Liquidambar styraciflua	Sweetgum	Hamamelidaceae
Liriodendron tulipifera	Yellow-poplar	Magnoliaceae
Parthenocissus quinquefolia	Virginia creeper	Vitaceae
Pinus rigida	Pitch pine	Pinaceae
Platanus occidentalis	American sycamore	Platanaceae
Prunus serotina	Black cherry	Rosaceae
Rubus allegheniensis	Allegheny blackberry	Rosaceae
Robinia pseudoacacia	Black locust	Fabaceae
Rudbeckia laciniata	Cut-leaf coneflower	Asteraceae
Sambucus canadensis	American elder	Caprifoliaceae
Sassafras albidum	Sassafras	Lauraceae

Representative Ozone Injury Thresholds

Sum06 -- The running 90-day maximum sum of the 0800-2000 hourly ozone concentrations of ozone equal to or greater than 0.06 ppm. Index is in cumulative ppm-hr.

Natural Ecosystems	8 - 12 ppm-hr	(foliar injury)
Tree Seedlings	10 - 16 ppm-hr	(1-2% reduction in growth)
Crops	15 - 20 ppm-hr	(10% reduction in 25-35% of crops)

W126 -- A cumulative index of exposure that uses a sigmoidal weighting function to give added significance to higher concentrations of ozone while retaining and giving less weight to mid and lower concentrations. The number of hours over 100 ppb (N100) is also considered in assessing the possible impact of the exposure. The W126 index is in cumulative ppm-hr.

	W126	N100
Highly Sensitive Species	5.9 ppm-hr	6
Moderately Sensitive Species	23.8 ppm-hr	51
Low Sensitivity	66.6 ppm-hr	135

Ozone Exposure Data

Ambient concentrations of ozone were not monitored on-site, but were estimated by kriging, a statistical interpolation process. The estimated hourly concentrations of ozone were then used to generate annual exposure values for the site. The exposure values include the Sum06 and W126 exposure indices in ppm-hr and the annual number of hours above 60, 80 and 100 ppb (N60, N80 and N100, respectively).

Ozone air quality data for FRHI					
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Sum06	20	18	24	32	34
W126	32.2	28.2	30.8	45.2	45.9
N60	540	505	501	772	815
N80	128	78	107	201	163
N100	20	8	15	36	19

Soil Moisture Status

The uptake of ambient ozone by a plant is highly dependent upon the environmental conditions under which the exposure takes place, and the level of soil moisture is an important environmental variable controlling the process. Understanding the soil moisture status can provide insight to how effective an exposure may be in leading to foliar injury. The Palmer Z Index was selected to indicate soil moisture status since it represents the short-term departure of soil moisture from the average for each month for the site. The objectives of the assessment were to examine the relationship between high annual levels of ozone and soil moisture status, and to consider the impact reduced soil moisture status would have on the effectiveness of exposure.

The Palmer Z Index is calculated for up to 10 regions within a state and therefore is not a site-specific index. Without site-specific data, ozone/soil moisture relationships can only be estimated. Site-specific criteria such as aspect, elevation, and soil type can alter soil moisture conditions such that they depart from those determined for the region. However, in lieu of site-specific data, the Palmer Z Index is the best estimate of short-term soil moisture status and its change throughout the growing season.

Palmer Z data were compiled for the site for both the three months used to calculate the Sum06 index and for the April through October period for the W126 index for 1995 through 1999. It was not possible to identify the specific 3-month summation period for the Sum 06 index since the index was obtained by kriging. The summation period was estimated from the 3-month periods for Sum 06 indices calculated from monitored ozone data for sites within 50 km of the park. The Palmer Z index ranges from approximately +4.0 (extreme wetness) to –4.0 (extreme drought) with ±0.9 representing normal soil moisture.

Soil moisture status for the Sum06 index period.

Palmer Z Index data for 3-month Sum06 period at FRHI					
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Month 1	-0.52	1.23	-0.80	-1.48	-1.07
Month 2	-1.84	1.41	-2.79	-0.83	-3.31
Month 3	-3.07	-0.63	1.58	-2.13	-1.30

Soil moisture status for the April through October period for the W126 index.

Palmer Z Index data for the 7-month W126 period at FRHI					
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
April	-1.16	0.57	-2.08	1.97	1.42
May	0.64	1.19	2.81	-2.20	-1.07
June	-0.52	1.23	-0.80	1.33	-3.31
July	-1.84	1.41	-2.79	-1.48	-1.30
August	-3.07	-0.63	1.58	-0.83	-1.86
September	-2.15	4.21	0.69	-2.13	-0.86
October	0.25	1.76	-1.71	-1.24	-1.58

Risk Analysis

- There are numerous ozone-sensitive species at the site, some of which are bioindicators for ozone.

- The Sum06 index exceeds the threshold for injury to vegetation. The W126 accumulative value and the N100 count are greater than their threshold values, thus the criteria for injury under the W126 index are satisfied. The Sum06 and W126 indices both exceed the levels considered necessary for injury to vegetation.

- The N-values for the site show concentrations frequently exceeded 60 and 80 ppb, and exceeded 100 ppb for a significant number of hours every year. These levels of exposure can injure vegetation.

- Soil moisture levels during both the 90-day Sum06 and seasonal W126 accumulation periods appear to be inversely related to ozone concentrations: when ozone is high, soil moisture is low. This relationship reduces the uptake of ozone and the effectiveness of the exposure in producing foliar injury. The years with the highest and second highest Sum06 ozone exposure values, 1999 and 1998, experienced three and two months of mild to severe drought, respectively. The two intermediate ozone years, 1997 and 1995, had one and two months of drought each. The year with the lowest ozone exposure, 1996, had favorable soil

moisture conditions. Soil moisture levels associated with the W126 index also appear inversely related to ozone exposure. In the highest ozone years, 1999 and 1998, there were five and four months, respectively, of mild to severe drought. The two mid-level ozone years, 1995 and 1997, had four and three months of mild to severe drought. In the lowest ozone year, 1996, soil moisture conditions were favorable throughout.

The risk of foliar ozone injury to plants at Friendship Hill National Historic Site is high. The Sum06 and W126 threshold criteria are both satisfied, and the N80 and N100 counts are generally high. While the levels of ozone exposure consistently create the potential for injury, the inverse relationship between exposure and soil moisture reduces the likelihood of injury developing in the highest ozone years. Since the site is subject to potentially harmful levels of ozone annually, the probability of foliar injury developing may be greatest during years such as 1996 when ozone levels are somewhat reduced but still exceed the thresholds, and soil moisture levels are normal or under mild drought and do not significantly constrain the uptake of ozone.

A program to assess the incidence of foliar ozone injury on plants at the site could use one or more of the following bioindicator species: tree-of-heaven, common milkweed, redbud, white ash, yellow-poplar, American sycamore, black cherry, Allegheny blackberry, cut-leaf coneflower, and American elder.

GAULEY RIVER NATIONAL RECREATION AREA (GARI)

Plant Species Sensitive to Ozone

Latin Name	*Common Name*	*Family*
Aesculus octandra	Yellow buckeye	Hippocastanaceae
Ailanthus altissima	Tree-of-heaven	Simaroubaceae
Apocynum androsaemifolium	Spreading dogbane	Apocynaceae
Asclepias exaltata	Tall milkweed	Asclepiadaceae
Asclepias syriaca	Common milkweed	Asclepiadaceae
Aster macrophyllus	Big-leaf aster	Asteraceae
Cercis canadensis	Redbud	Fabaceae
Fraxinus americana	White ash	Oleaceae
Fraxinus pennsylvanica	Green ash	Oleaceae
Liquidambar styraciflua	Sweetgum	Hamamelidaceae
Liriodendron tulipifera	Yellow-poplar	Magnoliaceae
Parthenocissus quinquefolia	Virginia creeper	Vitaceae
Pinus rigida	Pitch pine	Pinaceae
Pinus virginiana	Virginia pine	Pinaceae
Platanus occidentalis	American sycamore	Platanaceae
Prunus serotina	Black cherry	Rosaceae
Rhus copallina	Flameleaf sumac	Anacardiaceae
Robinia pseudoacacia	Black locust	Fabaceae
Rubus allegheniensis	Allegheny blackberry	Rosaceae
Rudbeckia laciniata	Cut-leaf coneflower	Asteraceae
Sambucus canadensis	American elder	Caprifoliaceae
Sassafras albidum	Sassafras	Lauraceae
Verbesina occidentalis	Crownbeard	Asteraceae

Representative Ozone Injury Thresholds

Sum06 -- The running 90-day maximum sum of the 0800-2000 hourly ozone concentrations of ozone equal to or greater than 0.06 ppm. Index is in cumulative ppm-hr.

Natural Ecosystems	8 - 12 ppm-hr	(foliar injury)
Tree Seedlings	10 - 16 ppm-hr	(1-2% reduction in growth)
Crops	15 - 20 ppm-hr	(10% reduction in 25-35% of crops)

W126 -- A cumulative index of exposure that uses a sigmoidal weighting function to give added significance to higher concentrations of ozone while retaining and giving less weight to mid and lower concentrations. The number of hours over 100 ppb (N100) is also considered in assessing the possible impact of the exposure. The W126 index is in cumulative ppm-hr.

	W126	N100
Highly Sensitive Species	5.9 ppm-hr	6
Moderately Sensitive Species	23.8 ppm-hr	51
Low Sensitivity	66.6 ppm-hr	135

Ozone Exposure Data

Ambient concentrations of ozone were not monitored on-site, but were estimated by kriging, a statistical interpolation process. The estimated hourly concentrations of ozone were then used to generate annual exposure values for the site. The exposure values include the Sum06 and W126 exposure indices in ppm-hr and the annual number of hours above 60, 80 and 100 ppb (N60, N80 and N100, respectively).

Ozone air quality data for GARI					
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Sum06	19	15	15	23	29
W126	40.3	27.0	36.2	52.3	48.4
N60	757	485	673	955	889
N80	100	53	72	195	150
N100	11	4	4	26	18

Soil Moisture Status

The uptake of ambient ozone by a plant is highly dependent upon the environmental conditions under which the exposure takes place, and the level of soil moisture is an important environmental variable controlling the process. Understanding the soil moisture status can provide insight to how effective an exposure may be in leading to foliar injury. The Palmer Z Index was selected to indicate soil moisture status since it represents the short-term departure of soil moisture from the average for each month for the site. The objectives of the assessment were to examine the relationship between high annual levels of ozone and soil moisture status, and to consider the impact reduced soil moisture status would have on the effectiveness of exposure.

The Palmer Z Index is calculated for up to 10 regions within a state and therefore is not a site-specific index. Without site-specific data, ozone/soil moisture relationships can only be estimated. Site-specific criteria such as aspect, elevation, and soil type can alter soil moisture conditions such that they depart from those determined for the region. However, in lieu of site-specific data, the Palmer Z Index is the best estimate of short-term soil moisture status and its change throughout the growing season.

Palmer Z data were compiled for the site for both the three months used to calculate the Sum06 index and for the April through October period for the W126 index for 1995 through 1999. It was not possible to identify the specific 3-month summation period for the Sum 06 index since the index was obtained by kriging. The summation period was estimated from the 3-month periods for Sum 06 indices calculated from monitored ozone data for sites within 50 km of the park. The Palmer Z index ranges from approximately +4.0 (extreme wetness) to –4.0 (extreme drought) with ±0.9 representing normal soil moisture.

Soil moisture status for the Sum06 index period.

Palmer Z Index data for 3-month Sum06 period at GARI					
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Month 1	0.96	-1.05	-1.13	-1.91	-3.46
Month 2	-3.09	4.40	0.91	-1.51	-3.38
Month 3	-1.88	1.51	0.44	-2.06	-1.56

Soil moisture status for the April through October period for the W126 index.

Palmer Z Index data for the 7-month W126 period at GARI					
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
April	-1.89	-0.78	-1.11	1.15	-1.35
May	2.18	6.67	1.50	0.09	-1.66
June	0.96	-1.05	-0.50	5.38	-3.46
July	-3.09	4.40	-1.13	-1.91	-3.38
August	-1.88	1.51	0.91	-1.51	-1.56
September	-1.84	5.53	0.44	-2.06	-1.10
October	-0.55	0.45	-1.49	-2.48	-0.28

Risk Analysis

- There are numerous ozone-sensitive species at the site, some of which are bioindicators for ozone.
- The Sum06 index exceeds the threshold for injury to vegetation. The W126 accumulative value exceeds the threshold each year and the N100 count generally meets the threshold requirement.
- The N-values for the site show concentrations frequently exceeded 60 and 80 ppb. The N-value for 100 ppb was highly variable, but reached a significant number of hours in three of the years. The higher levels of exposure can injure vegetation.

- Soil moisture levels during the 90-day Sum06 accumulation periods appear to be inversely related to ozone concentrations: when ozone is high, soil moisture is low. This relationship reduces the uptake of ozone and the effectiveness of the exposure in producing foliar injury. The years with the highest and second highest ozone exposure values, 1999 and 1998, each experienced three months of mild to severe drought. The mid-level exposure year 1995 had two months of mild and severe drought while the two years with the same and lowest ozone exposure, 1996 and 1997, each had one month of mild drought. Soil moisture levels associated with the seasonal W126 index also appear inversely related to ozone exposure. In the highest ozone years, 1998 and 1999, there were four and six months, respectively, of mild to severe drought. The two mid-level ozone years, 1995 and 1997, had four and three months of mild to severe drought. In the lowest ozone year, 1996, there was one month of mild drought.

The risk of foliar ozone injury to plants at Gauley River National Recreation Area is moderate. The Sum06 threshold for injury is consistently satisfied, and the W126 index criteria are generally fulfilled. The N80 and N100 counts are high, but significantly lower in two years. The inverse relationship between ozone exposure and soil moisture is a significant factor affecting the potential for injury at the site. The years in which exposures exceed the injury thresholds are also ones in which there are four to six months of mild to severe drought. These moisture conditions constrain the uptake of ozone and reduce the likelihood that the exposures will produce foliar injury. When drought is moderate and severe in high ozone years, the uptake of ozone is significantly diminished, and, in spite of the high levels of exposure, the risk of injury is greatly reduced. Two years, 1996 and 1997, have favorable to generally favorable soil moisture conditions, but ozone exposures are lower. These years, however, suggest that levels of exposure capable of producing foliar injury may also occur at the site under conditions of minor drought or normal soil moisture. The probability of foliar injury developing may greatest during years in which ozone levels are somewhat reduced but still exceed the thresholds, and soil moisture levels are normal or under mild drought and do not significantly constrain the uptake of ozone.

A program to assess the incidence of foliar ozone injury on plants at the site could use one or more of the following bioindicator species: tree-of-heaven, spreading dogbane, tall milkweed, common milkweed, big-leaf aster, redbud, white ash, yellow-poplar, American sycamore, black cherry, Allegheny blackberry, cut-leaf coneflower, American elder, and crownbeard.

JOHNSTOWN FLOOD NATIONAL MEMORIAL (JOFL)

Plant Species Sensitive to Ozone

Latin Name	*Common Name*	*Family*
Asclepias syriaca	Common milkweed	Asclepiadaceae
Aster acuminatus	Whorled aster	Asteraceae
Fraxinus americana	White ash	Oleaceae
Liriodendron tulipifera	Yellow-poplar	Magnoliaceae
Parthenocissus quinquefolia	Virginia creeper	Vitaceae
Populus tremuloides	Quaking aspen	Salicaceae
Prunus serotina	Black cherry	Rosaceae
Robinia pseudoacacia	Black locust	Fabaceae
Rubus allegheniensis	Allegheny blackberry	Rosaceae
Rudbeckia laciniata	Cut-leaf coneflower	Asteraceae
Sambucus canadensis	American elder	Caprifoliaceae
Sassafras albidum	Sassafras	Lauraceae

Representative Ozone Injury Thresholds

Sum06 -- The running 90-day maximum sum of the 0800-2000 hourly ozone concentrations of ozone equal to or greater than 0.06 ppm. Index is in cumulative ppm-hr.

Natural Ecosystems	8 - 12 ppm-hr	(foliar injury)
Tree Seedlings	10 - 16 ppm-hr	(1-2% reduction in growth)
Crops	15 - 20 ppm-hr	(10% reduction in 25-35% of crops)

W126 -- A cumulative index of exposure that uses a sigmoidal weighting function to give added significance to higher concentrations of ozone while retaining and giving less weight to mid and lower concentrations. The number of hours over 100 ppb (N100) is also considered in assessing the possible impact of the exposure. The W126 index is in cumulative ppm-hr.

	W126	N100
Highly Sensitive Species	5.9 ppm-hr	6
Moderately Sensitive Species	23.8 ppm-hr	51
Low Sensitivity	66.6 ppm-hr	135

Ozone Exposure Data

Ambient concentrations of ozone were not monitored on-site, but were estimated by kriging, a statistical interpolation process. The estimated hourly concentrations of ozone were then used to generate annual exposure values for the site. The exposure values include the Sum06 and W126 exposure indices in ppm-hr and the annual number of hours above 60, 80 and 100 ppb (N60, N80 and N100, respectively).

Ozone air quality data for JOFL					
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Sum06	20	18	20	25	30
W126	30.6	23.4	30.4	40.7	36.2
N60	497	413	482	684	618
N80	123	58	107	173	133
N100	19	5	20	33	17

Soil Moisture Status

The uptake of ambient ozone by a plant is highly dependent upon the environmental conditions under which the exposure takes place, and the level of soil moisture is an important environmental variable controlling the process. Understanding the soil moisture status can provide insight to how effective an exposure may be in leading to foliar injury. The Palmer Z Index was selected to indicate soil moisture status since it represents the short-term departure of soil moisture from the average for each month for the site. The objectives of the assessment were to examine the relationship between high annual levels of ozone and soil moisture status, and to consider the impact reduced soil moisture status would have on the effectiveness of exposure.

The Palmer Z Index is calculated for up to 10 regions within a state and therefore is not a site-specific index. Without site-specific data, ozone/soil moisture relationships can only be estimated. Site-specific criteria such as aspect, elevation, and soil type can alter soil moisture conditions such that they depart from those determined for the region. However, in lieu of site-specific data, the Palmer Z Index is the best estimate of short-term soil moisture status and its change throughout the growing season.

Palmer Z data were compiled for the site for both the three months used to calculate the Sum06 index and for the April through October period for the W126 index for 1995 through 1999. It was not possible to identify the specific 3-month summation period for the Sum 06 index since the index was obtained by kriging. The summation period was estimated from the 3-month periods for Sum 06 indices calculated from monitored ozone data for sites within 50 km of the park. The Palmer Z index ranges from approximately +4.0 (extreme wetness) to –4.0 (extreme drought) with ±0.9 representing normal soil moisture.

Soil moisture status for the Sum06 index period.

Palmer Z Index data for 3-month Sum06 period at JOFL					
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Month 1	2.57	0.66	-0.37	-0.89	-2.67
Month 2	-1.29	4.22	-1.75	-1.19	-1.70
Month 3	-3.25	-0.22	1.54	-2.03	-3.36

Soil moisture status for the April through October period for the W126 index.

Palmer Z Index data for the 7-month W126 period at JOFL					
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
April	-1.10	-0.91	-2.49	2.93	2.21
May	0.38	1.41	1.81	-0.20	-2.67
June	2.57	0.66	-0.37	1.02	-1.70
July	-1.29	4.22	-1.75	-0.89	-3.36
August	-3.25	-0.22	1.54	-1.19	0.72
September	-1.88	8.51	1.49	-2.03	0.68
October	2.69	2.10	-1.30	-1.36	-0.79

Risk Analysis

- There are numerous ozone-sensitive species at the site, some of which are bioindicators for ozone.

- The Sum06 index exceeds the threshold for injury to vegetation. The W126 accumulative value exceeds the threshold each year and the N100 count generally meets the threshold requirement.

- The N-values for the site show concentrations frequently exceeded 60 and 80 ppb, and exceeded 100 ppb for a significant number of hours in most years. The levels of high exposure can injure vegetation.

- Soil moisture levels during both the 90-day Sum06 and seasonal W126 accumulation periods appear to be inversely related to ozone concentrations: when ozone is high, soil moisture is low. This relationship reduces the uptake of ozone and the effectiveness of the exposure in producing foliar injury. The years with the highest and second highest Sum06 ozone exposure values, 1999 and 1998, experienced three and two months of mild to severe drought, respectively.. The two intermediate ozone years, 1997 and 1995, had one and two months of drought each, and the year with the lowest ozone exposure, 1996, had favorable soil moisture conditions. Soil moisture levels associated with the seasonal W126 index also appear inversely related to ozone exposure. The highest ozone years,

1998 and 1999, each had three months of mild to severe drought. The two mid-level ozone years, 1995 and 1997, had four and three months of mild to severe drought. The lowest ozone year, 1996, had favorable soil moisture conditions.

The risk of foliar ozone injury to plants at Johnstown Flood National Memorial is moderate. The Sum06 threshold for injury is consistently satisfied, and the W126 index criteria are generally fulfilled. The N80 and N100 counts are high, but significantly lower in one year. The inverse relationship between ozone exposure and soil moisture is a significant factor affecting the potential for injury at the site. The years in which exposures exceed the injury thresholds are also ones in which there are three to four months of mild to severe drought. These moisture conditions constrain the uptake of ozone and reduce the likelihood that the exposures will produce foliar injury. When drought is moderate and severe in high ozone years, the uptake of ozone is significantly diminished, and, in spite of the high levels of exposure, the risk of injury is greatly reduced. One year, 1996, has favorable soil moisture conditions, but ozone exposures are lower. This year, however, suggests that levels of exposure capable of producing foliar injury may also occur at the site under conditions of minor drought or normal soil moisture. The probability of foliar injury developing may greatest during years in which ozone levels are somewhat reduced but still exceed the thresholds, and soil moisture levels are normal or under mild drought and do not significantly constrain the uptake of ozone.

A program to assess the incidence of foliar ozone injury on plants at the site could use one or more of the following bioindicator species: common milkweed, white ash, yellow-poplar, quaking aspen, black cherry, Allegheny blackberry, cut-leaf coneflower, and American elder.

NEW RIVER GORGE NATIONAL RIVER (NERI)

Plant Species Sensitive to Ozone

Latin Name	*Common Name*	*Family*
Ailanthus altissima	Tree-of-heaven	Simaroubaceae
Apocynum androsaemifolium	Spreading dogbane	Apocynaceae
Asclepias exaltata	Tall milkweed	Asclepiadaceae
Asclepias syriaca	Common milkweed	Asclepiadaceae
Aster acuminatus	Whorled aster	Asteraceae
Cercis canadensis	Redbud	Fabaceae
Fraxinus americana	White ash	Oleaceae
Fraxinus pennsylvanica	Green ash	Oleaceae
Liquidambar styraciflua	Sweetgum	Hamamelidaceae
Liriodendron tulipifera	Yellow-poplar	Magnoliaceae
Parthenocissus quinquefolia	Virginia creeper	Vitaceae
Pinus rigida	Pitch pine	Pinaceae
Pinus virginiana	Virginia pine	Pinaceae
Platanus occidentalis	American sycamore	Platanaceae
Populus tremuloides	Quaking aspen	Salicaceae
Robinia pseudoacacia	Black locust	Fabaceae
Rubus allegheniensis	Allegheny blackberry	Rosaceae
Rudbeckia laciniata	Cut-leaf coneflower	Asteraceae
Sambucus canadensis	American elder	Caprifoliaceae
Symphoricarpos albus	Common snowberry	Caprifoliaceae
Sassafras albidum	Sassafras	Lauraceae
Verbesina occidentalis	Crownbeard	Asteraceae
Vitis labrusca	Northern fox grape	Vitaceae

Representative Ozone Injury Thresholds

Sum06 -- The running 90-day maximum sum of the 0800-2000 hourly ozone concentrations of ozone equal to or greater than 0.06 ppm. Index is in cumulative ppm-hr.

Natural Ecosystems	8 - 12 ppm-hr	(foliar injury)
Tree Seedlings	10 - 16 ppm-hr	(1-2% reduction in growth)
Crops	15 - 20 ppm-hr	(10% reduction in 25-35% of crops)

W126 -- A cumulative index of exposure that uses a sigmoidal weighting function to give added significance to higher concentrations of ozone while retaining and giving less weight to mid and lower concentrations. The number of hours over 100 ppb (N100) is also considered in assessing the possible impact of the exposure. The W126 index is in cumulative ppm-hr.

	W126	N100
Highly Sensitive Species	5.9 ppm-hr	6
Moderately Sensitive Species	23.8 ppm-hr	51
Low Sensitivity	66.6 ppm-hr	135

Ozone Exposure Data

Ambient concentrations of ozone were not monitored on-site, but were estimated by kriging, a statistical interpolation process. The estimated hourly concentrations of ozone were then used to generate annual exposure values for the site. The exposure values include the Sum06 and W126 exposure indices in ppm-hr and the annual number of hours above 60, 80 and 100 ppb (N60, N80 and N100, respectively).

Ozone air quality data for NERI					
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Sum06	19	14	16	25	29
W126	44.3	28.7	40.8	59.7	53.3
N60	848	520	771	1109	1001
N80	100	48	79	209	157
N100	9	3	4	24	15

Soil Moisture Status

The uptake of ambient ozone by a plant is highly dependent upon the environmental conditions under which the exposure takes place, and the level of soil moisture is an important environmental variable controlling the process. Understanding the soil moisture status can provide insight to how effective an exposure may be in leading to foliar injury. The Palmer Z Index was selected to indicate soil moisture status since it represents the short-term departure of soil moisture from the average for each month for the site. The objectives of the assessment were to examine the relationship between high annual levels of ozone and soil moisture status, and to consider the impact reduced soil moisture status would have on the effectiveness of exposure.

The Palmer Z Index is calculated for up to 10 regions within a state and therefore is not a site-specific index. Without site-specific data, ozone/soil moisture relationships can only be estimated. Site-specific criteria such as aspect, elevation, and soil type can alter soil moisture conditions such that they depart from those determined for the region. However, in lieu of site-specific data, the Palmer Z Index is the best estimate of short-term soil moisture status and its change throughout the growing season.

Palmer Z data were compiled for the site for both the three months used to calculate the Sum06 index and for the April through October period for the W126 index for 1995 through 1999. It was not possible to identify the specific 3-month summation period for the Sum 06 index since the index was obtained by kriging. The summation period was estimated from the 3-month periods for Sum 06 indices calculated from monitored ozone data for sites within 50 km of the park. The Palmer Z index ranges from approximately +4.0 (extreme wetness) to –4.0 (extreme drought) with ±0.9 representing normal soil moisture.

Soil moisture status for the Sum06 index period.

Palmer Z Index data for 3-month Sum06 period at NERI					
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Month 1	0.96	-1.05	-1.13	-1.91	-3.46
Month 2	-3.09	4.40	0.91	-1.51	-3.38
Month 3	-1.88	1.51	0.44	-2.06	-1.56

Soil moisture status for the April through October period for the W126 index.

Palmer Z Index data for the 7-month W126 period at NERI					
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
April	-1.89	-0.78	-1.11	1.15	-1.35
May	2.18	6.67	1.50	0.09	-1.66
June	0.96	-1.05	-0.50	5.38	-3.46
July	-3.09	4.40	-1.13	-1.91	-3.38
August	-1.88	1.51	0.91	-1.51	-1.56
September	-1.84	5.53	0.44	-2.06	-1.10
October	-0.55	0.45	-1.49	-2.48	-0.28

Risk Analysis

- There are numerous ozone-sensitive species at the site, some of which are bioindicators for ozone.
- The Sum06 index exceeds the threshold for injury to vegetation. The W126 accumulative value exceeds the threshold each year and the N100 count generally meets the threshold requirement.
- The N-values for the site show concentrations frequently exceeded 60 and 80 ppb, and exceeded 100 ppb for a significant number of hours most years. The high levels of exposure can injure vegetation.

- Soil moisture levels during both the 90-day Sum06 and seasonal W126 accumulation periods appear to be inversely related to ozone concentrations: when ozone is high, soil moisture is low. This relationship reduces the uptake of ozone and the effectiveness of the exposure in producing foliar injury. The years with the highest and second highest Sum06 ozone exposure values, 1999 and 1998, each experienced three months of mild to severe drought, and the intermediate ozone year, 1995, had two months of drought. The years with the lowest and second lowest ozone exposure, 1996 and 1997, each experienced one month of mild drought. Soil moisture levels associated with the W126 index also appear inversely related to ozone exposure. In the highest ozone years, 1998 and 1999, there were four and six months, respectively, of mild to severe drought. The two mid-level ozone years, 1995 and 1997, had four and three months of drought, respectively, and the lowest ozone year, 1996, had one month of mild drought.

The risk of foliar ozone injury to plants at New River Gorge National River is moderate. The Sum06 threshold for injury is consistently satisfied, and the W126 index criteria are generally fulfilled. The N80 and N100 counts are high, but significantly lower in two years. The inverse relationship between ozone exposure and soil moisture is a significant factor affecting the potential for injury at the site. The years in which exposures exceed the injury thresholds are also ones in which there are three to four months of mild to severe drought. These moisture conditions constrain the uptake of ozone and reduce the likelihood that the exposures will produce foliar injury. When drought is moderate and severe in high ozone years, the uptake of ozone is significantly diminished, and, in spite of the high levels of exposure, the risk of injury is greatly reduced. Two years, 1996 and 1997, have favorable or generally favorable soil moisture conditions, but ozone exposures are lower. These years, however, suggest that levels of exposure capable of producing foliar injury may also occur at the site under conditions of minor drought or normal soil moisture. The probability of foliar injury developing may greatest during years in which ozone levels are somewhat reduced but still exceed the thresholds, and soil moisture levels are normal or under mild drought and do not significantly constrain the uptake of ozone.

A program to assess the incidence of foliar ozone injury on plants at the site could use one or more of the following bioindicator species: tree-of-heaven, spreading dogbane, tall milkweed, common milkweed, redbud, white ash, yellow-poplar, American sycamore, quaking aspen, Allegheny blackberry, cut-leaf coneflower, American elder, common snowberry, crownbeard, and northern fox grape.

UPPER DELAWARE SCENIC AND RECREATIONAL RIVER (UPDE)

Plant Species Sensitive to Ozone

Latin Name	*Common Name*	*Family*
Asclepias syriaca	Common milkweed	Asclepiadaceae
Aster acuminatus	Whorled aster	Asteraceae
Fraxinus americana	White ash	Oleaceae
Fraxinus pennsylvanica	Green ash	Oleaceae
Liriodendron tulipifera	Yellow-poplar	Magnoliaceae
Parthenocissus quinquefolia	Virginia creeper	Vitaceae
Pinus rigida	Pitch pine	Pinaceae
Platanus occidentalis	American sycamore	Platanaceae
Populus tremuloides	Quaking aspen	Salicaceae
Prunus serotina	Black cherry	Rosaceae
Robinia pseudoacacia	Black locust	Fabaceae
Rubus allegheniensis	Allegheny blackberry	Rosaceae
Rudbeckia laciniata	Cut-leaf coneflower	Asteraceae
Sassafras albidum	Sassafras	Lauraceae
Spartina alterniflora	Smooth cordgrass	Poaceae
Vitis labrusca	Northern fox grape	Vitaceae

Representative Ozone Injury Thresholds

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	W126	N100
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Ozone Exposure Data

Ambient concentrations of ozone were not monitored on-site, but were estimated by kriging, a statistical interpolation process. The estimated hourly concentrations of ozone were then used to generate annual exposure values for the site. The exposure values include the Sum06 and W126 exposure indices in ppm-hr and the annual number of hours above 60, 80 and 100 ppb (N60, N80 and N100, respectively).

Ozone air quality data for UPDE					
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Sum06	21	15	20	19	26
W126	28.9	23	25.4	31.2	33.6
N60	461	362	401	530	540
N80	112	68	90	108	127
N100	14	9	9	8	19

Soil Moisture Status

The uptake of ambient ozone by a plant is highly dependent upon the environmental conditions under which the exposure takes place, and the level of soil moisture is an important environmental variable controlling the process. Understanding the soil moisture status can provide insight to how effective an exposure may be in leading to foliar injury. The Palmer Z Index was selected to indicate soil moisture status since it represents the short-term departure of soil moisture from the average for each month for the site. The objectives of the assessment were to examine the relationship between high annual levels of ozone and soil moisture status, and to consider the impact reduced soil moisture status would have on the effectiveness of exposure.

The Palmer Z Index is calculated for up to 10 regions within a state and therefore is not a site-specific index. Without site-specific data, ozone/soil moisture relationships can only be estimated. Site-specific criteria such as aspect, elevation, and soil type can alter soil moisture conditions such that they depart from those determined for the region. However, in lieu of site-specific data, the Palmer Z Index is the best estimate of short-term soil moisture status and its change throughout the growing season.

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Soil moisture status for the Sum06 index period.

Palmer Z Index data for 3-month Sum06 period at UPDE					
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Month 1	-1.94	0.86	-1.37	-1.19	-1.13
Month 2	-0.56	2.84	-1.72	-2.13	-2.14
Month 3	-3.49	-1.70	1.36	-0.66	-3.15

Soil moisture status for the April through October period for the W126 index.

Palmer Z Index data for the 7-month W126 period at UPDE					
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
April	-1.53	1.90	-1.44	1.60	-1.41
May	-1.22	-0.18	-0.32	0.78	-1.13
June	-1.94	0.86	-1.37	3.26	-2.14
July	-0.56	2.84	-1.72	-1.19	-3.15
August	-3.49	-1.70	1.36	-2.13	-1.97
September	-0.99	1.26	0.11	-0.66	4.14
October	3.91	2.89	-1.41	-0.17	-0.10

Risk Analysis

- There are numerous ozone-sensitive species at the site, some of which are bioindicators for ozone.

- The Sum06 index exceeds the threshold for injury to vegetation. The W126 accumulative value and the N100 count are greater than their threshold values, thus the criteria for injury under the W126 index are satisfied.

- The N-values for the site show concentrations frequently exceeded 60 and 80 ppb, and exceeded 100 ppb for a significant number of hours every year. These levels of exposure can injure vegetation.

- Soil moisture levels during both the 90-day Sum06 and seasonal W126 accumulation periods appear to be inversely related to ozone concentrations: when ozone is high, soil moisture is low. This relationship reduces the uptake of ozone and the effectiveness of the exposure in producing foliar injury. The year with the highest Sum06 ozone exposure value, 1999, experienced three months of mild to severe drought. The three intermediate ozone years had similar levels of exposure and each had two months of drought. The year with the lowest ozone exposure, 1996, had one month of mild drought. Soil moisture levels associated with the W126 index also appear inversely related to ozone exposure. In the highest ozone year, 1999, there were five months of mild to severe drought. The

three mid-level ozone years, 1998, 1995 and 1997, had two, four and three months of drought, respectively, and the lowest ozone year, 1996, had one month of mild drought.

The risk of foliar ozone injury to plants at Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River is high. The Sum06 and W126 threshold criteria are both satisfied, and the N80 and N100 counts are high. While the levels of ozone exposure consistently create the potential for injury, the inverse relationship between exposure and soil moisture reduces the likelihood of injury developing in the highest ozone years. Since the site is subject to potentially harmful levels of ozone annually, the probability of foliar injury developing may be greatest during years such as 1996 when ozone levels are somewhat reduced but still exceed the thresholds, and soil moisture levels are normal or under mild drought and do not significantly constrain the uptake of ozone.

A program to assess the incidence of foliar ozone injury on plants at the site could use one or more of the following bioindicator species: common milkweed, white ash, yellow-poplar, American sycamore, quaking aspen, black cherry, Allegheny blackberry, cut-leaf coneflower, and northern fox grape.