



# *Evaluating Emissions and Anthropogenic Activities*

**Tracey Holloway, Monica Harkey, Xinran Wu, Cara Scalpone,  
Summer Acker, Chandler Wells, Brad Pierce, and many more!**

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**NELSON INSTITUTE**  
**SAGE** Center for  
Sustainability and the  
Global Environment  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN—MADISON



# Proposed HAQAST Activities

## 2025-2029

- Evaluating NO<sub>2</sub> plumes using  
→ AERMOD and TEMPO
- Working with California counties and related stakeholders to evaluate emissions reductions from *Blue Whales Blue Skies*



## 2020-2025

- Working with the American Lung Association to applied satellite-derived PM<sub>2.5</sub> to health assessment  
→
- Working with the Rocky Mountain Institute to assess NO<sub>2</sub> from building heating  
→
- Constraining NO<sub>x</sub> emissions with satellite data

# AERMOD – A widely used Regulatory Dispersion Model

- The American Meteorological Society (AMS)/ U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Regulatory Model (AERMOD) is a steady-state, local-scale Gaussian plume model.
- It incorporates air dispersion based on planetary boundary layer turbulence structure and scaling concepts.
- AERMOD represents EPA's recommended model and is commonly used for permitting.

*AERMOD Slides from  
Xinran Wu Ph.D. defense;  
work with Dr. Monica Harkey*

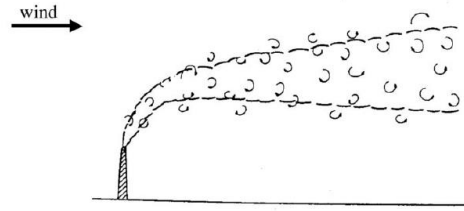
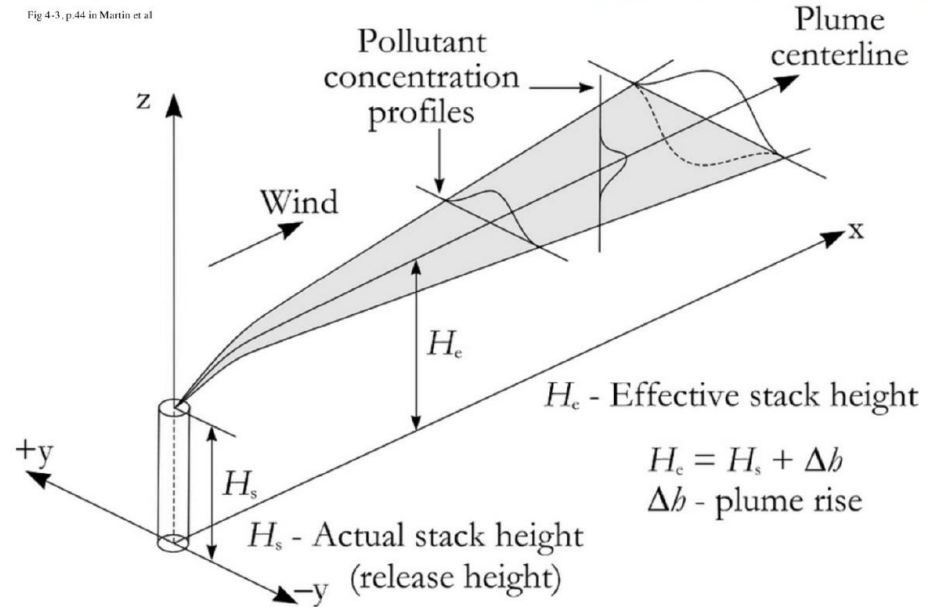
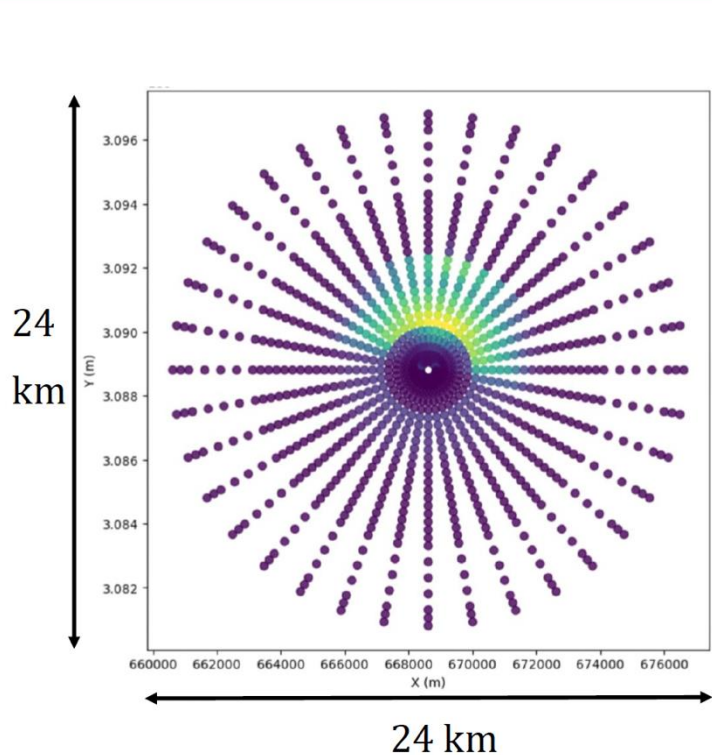


Fig 4-3, p.44 in Martin et al



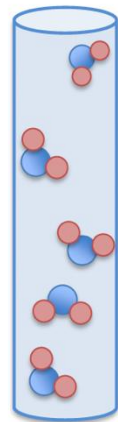
# Horizontal & Vertical Modeling Setup



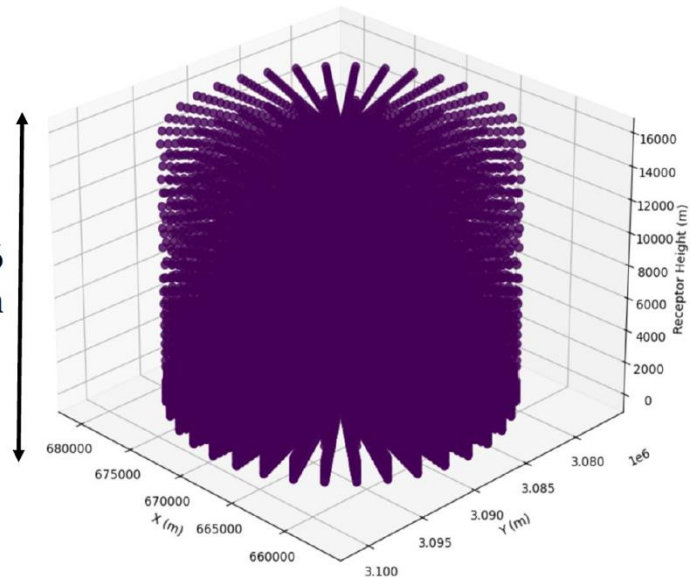
Horizontal receptors are set to be centered around the facility and extend with 12 km in 36 directions.



Tropospheric column  
~ 10-18 km

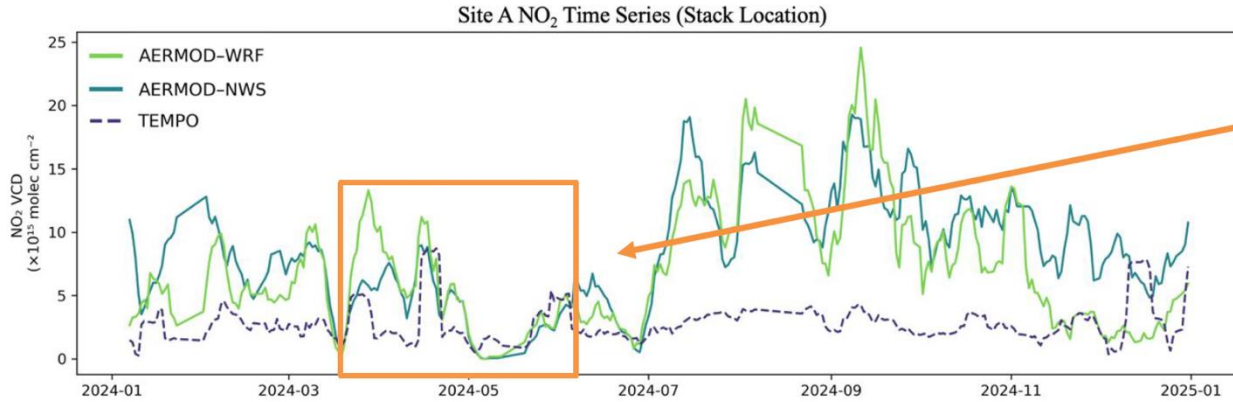


16 km

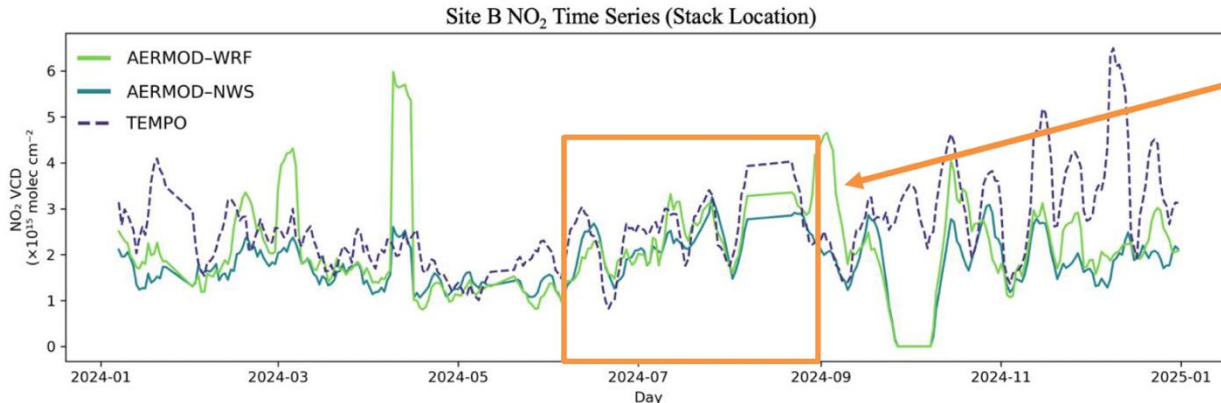


Vertical heights were limited to 15 km to capture the portion of the column most influenced by surface emissions.

# Temporal Pattern – Annual Time Series of Stack Hourly NO<sub>2</sub>

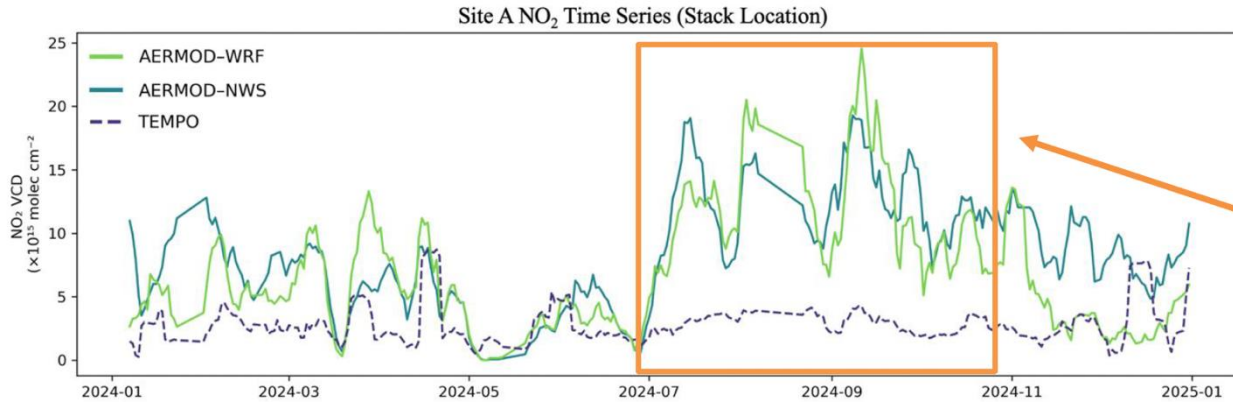


- AERMOD simulations generally capture the daily temporal variability observed by TEMPO.

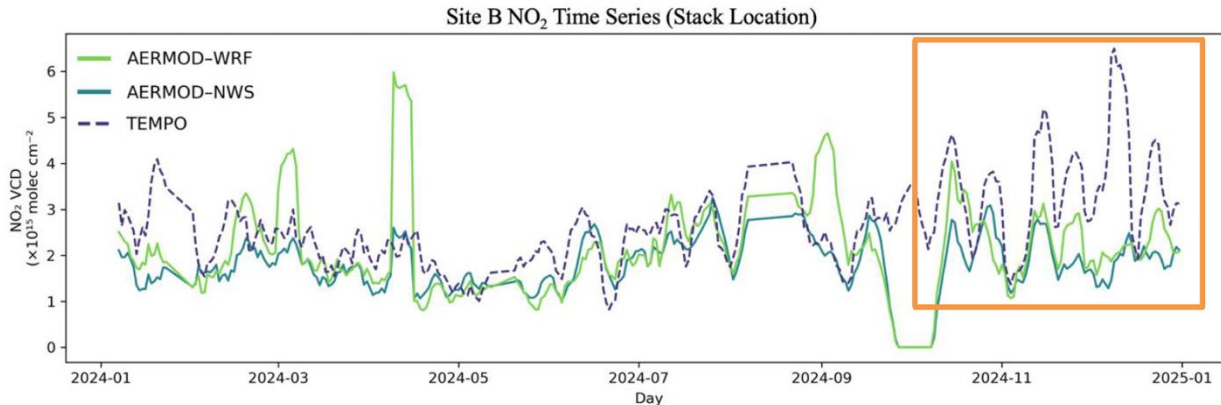


- Agreement is stronger at Site B, where temporal patterns align more closely with TEMPO.

# Temporal Pattern – Annual Time Series of Stack Hourly NO<sub>2</sub>

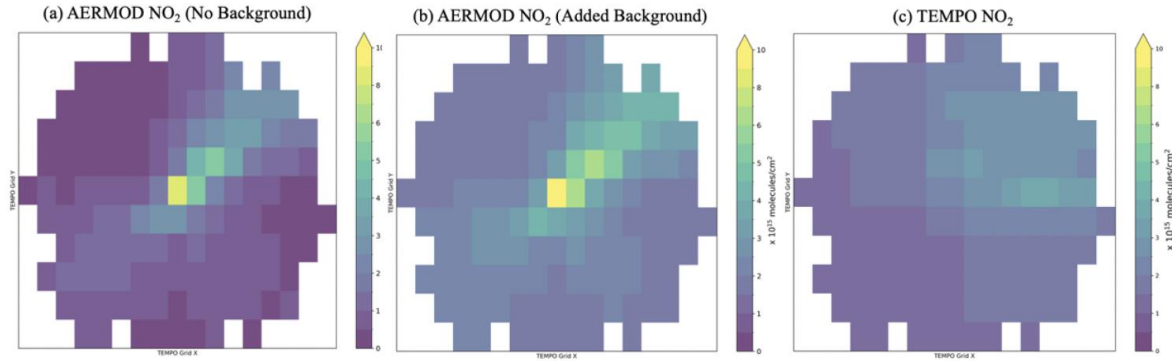


- But discrepancies in peak magnitudes exist, particularly at Site A.

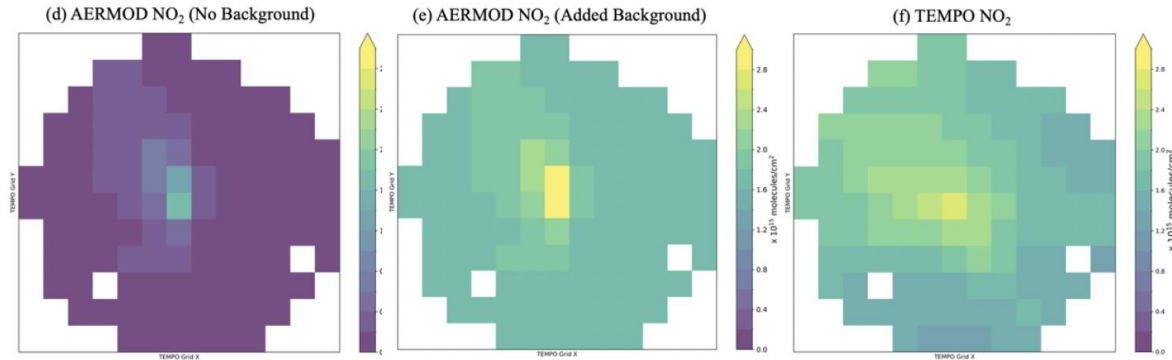


# Spatial Pattern – Annual-averaged NO<sub>2</sub> on TEMPO Grid

Site A

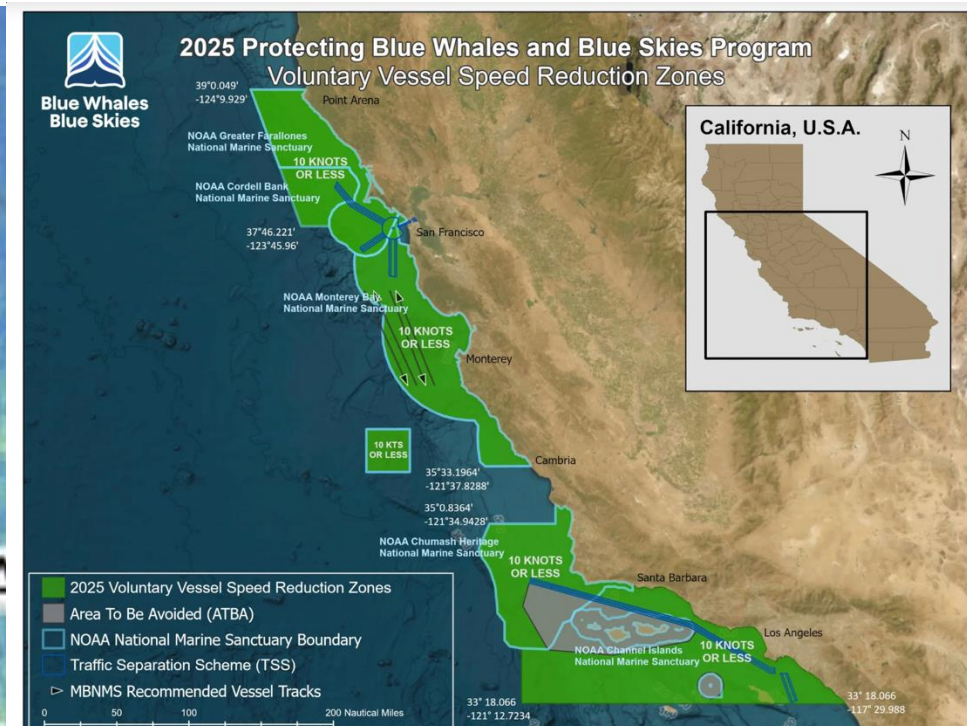
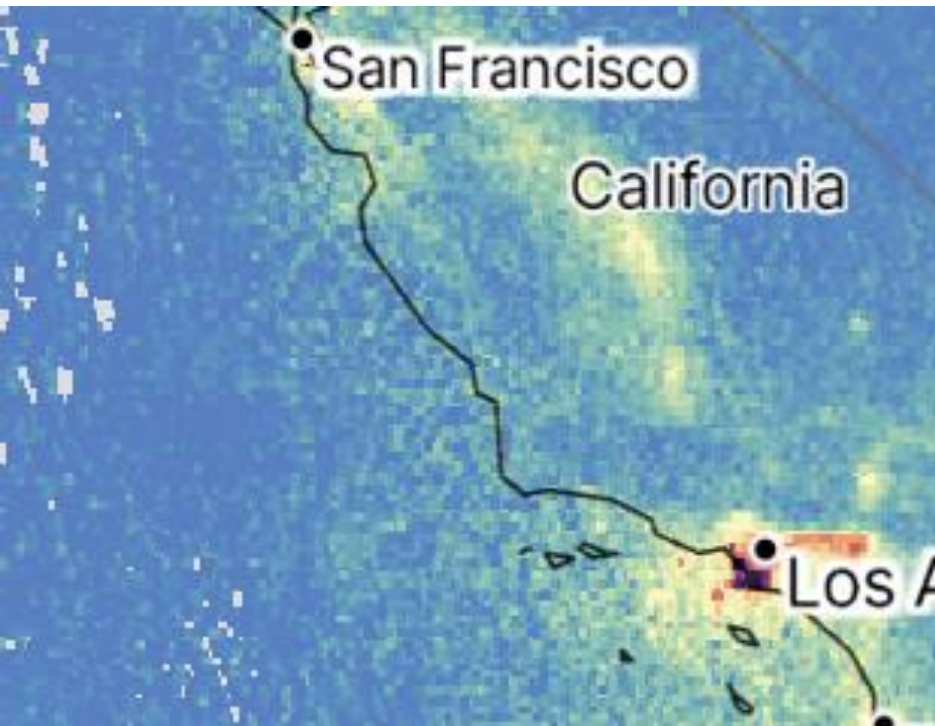


Site B



- AERMOD results (no background added) only show localized plume effects, which may not be apple-to-apple comparable to TEMPO.
- Adding the TEMPO-derived background makes AERMOD pattern more closely match the overall magnitude of TEMPO NO<sub>2</sub>.

# Just starting: Evaluating Vessel Speed Reduction Impacts on Air Quality



Illustrative data from TEMPO

Home > Policy & Advocacy > Healthy Air Initiatives > Something in the Air Reports

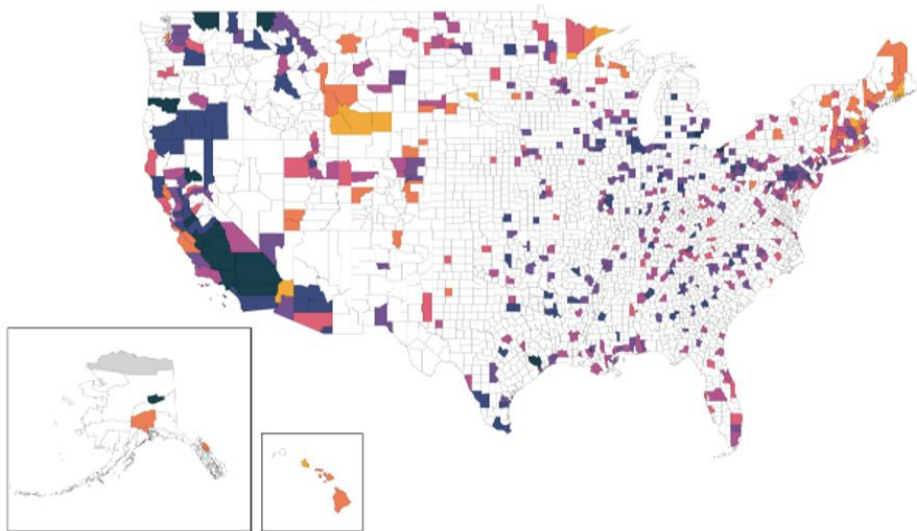
# Something in the Air Reports

A series of reports highlighting the promising potential of satellite data to complement and enhance the United States' existing air quality monitoring network.

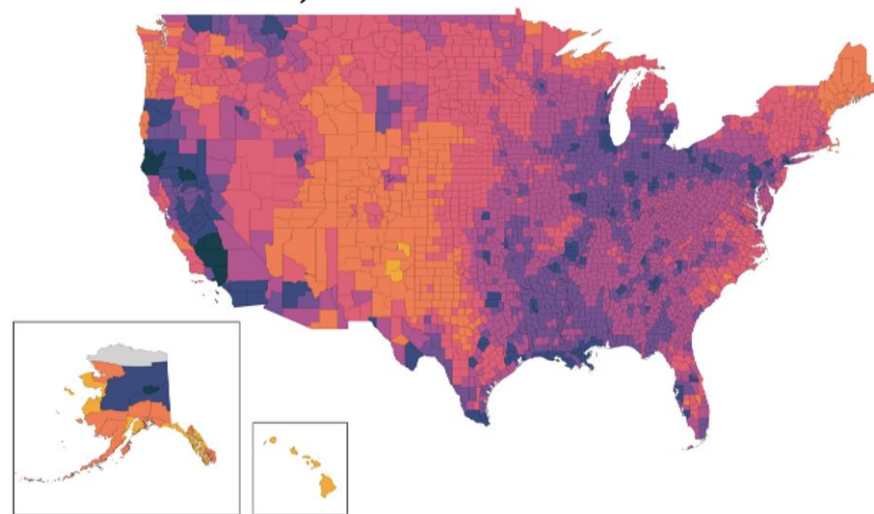


As a nation, we make great strides cleaning up air pollution—but not all communities benefit equally.

a) EPA CDVs



d) All U.S. CDVEs



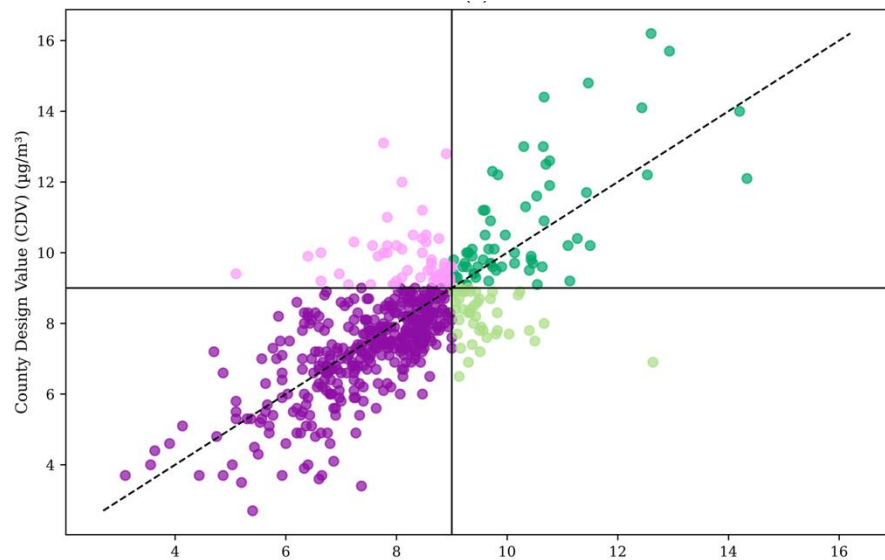
**County Design Value (CDV) – highest 3-year annual  $PM_{2.5}$  monitor in county**

**CDV-Equivalent (CDV-E) – highest 90<sup>th</sup> percentile satellite-derived  $PM_{2.5}$  grid in county**

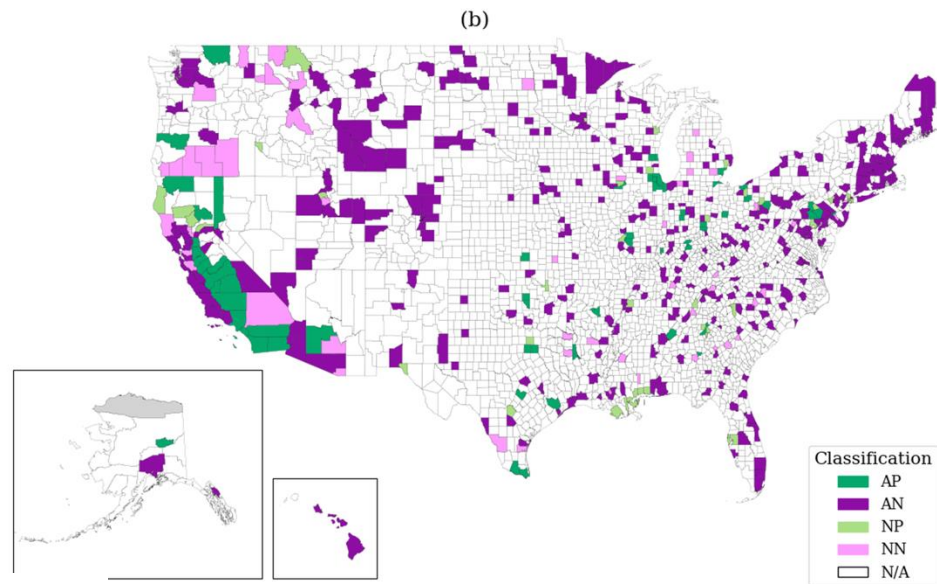


## Applying Satellite-Derived $PM_{2.5}$ Data to Policy-Relevant Air Quality Metrics

Tracey Holloway<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Summer Acker<sup>1</sup>, Lizzy Kysela<sup>1,2</sup>, Colleen Heck<sup>1,2</sup>, Aaron van Donkelaar<sup>3</sup>,  
Randall V. Martin<sup>3</sup>, Kevin Stewart<sup>4</sup>, Katherine Pruitt<sup>4</sup>



● AP     
 ● AN     
 ● NP     
 ● NN



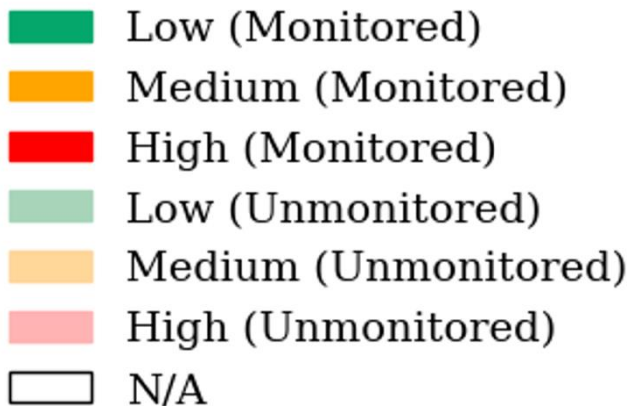
**Classification**  
■ AP  
■ AN  
■ NP  
■ NN  
 N/A

manuscript submitted to *GeoHealth*

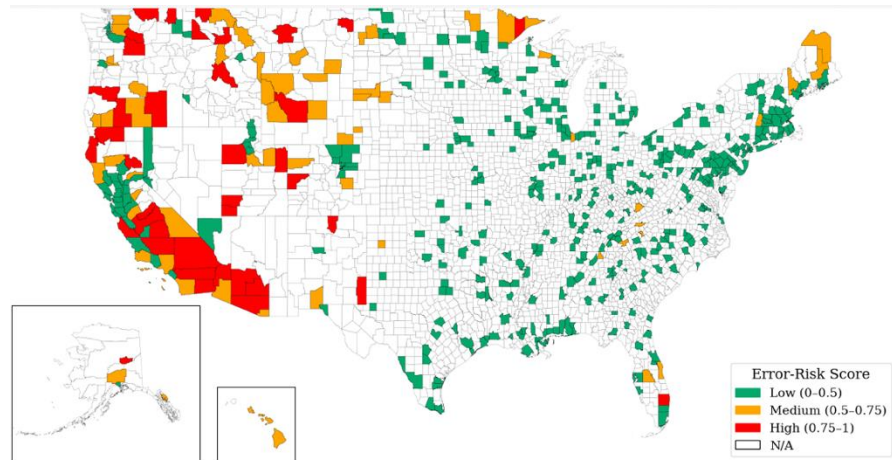
**Comparison of policy-relevant air quality metrics calculated with sparse in situ monitoring and contiguous satellite-derived data**

Summer Acker<sup>1\*</sup>, Tracey Holloway<sup>1,2</sup>, Kevin Stewart<sup>4</sup>, Aaron van Donkelaar<sup>3</sup>, Randall V. Martin<sup>3</sup>

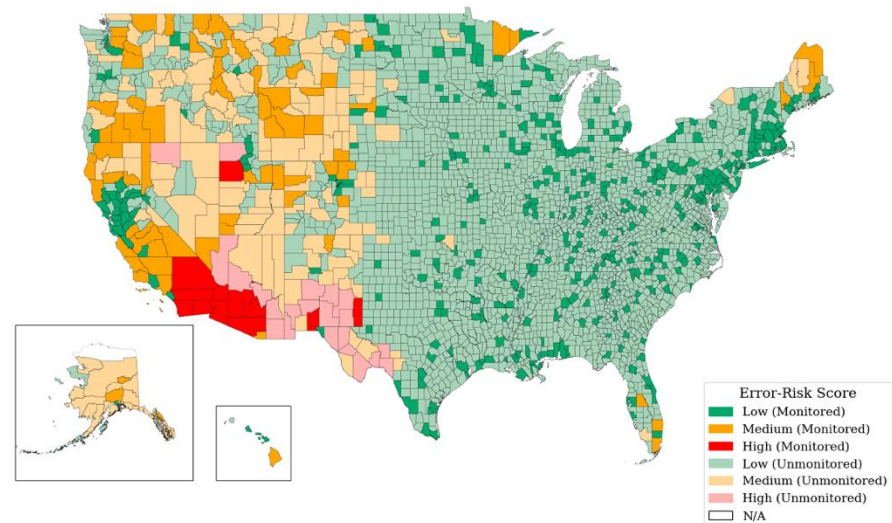
## Error-Risk Score



CDV and CDVE are more likely to be **non-aligned** in counties with deserts, mountains, and non-urban land use



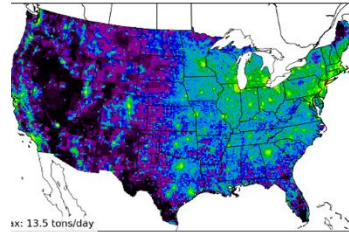
b) All Counties



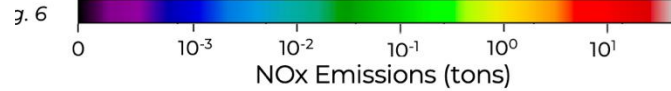
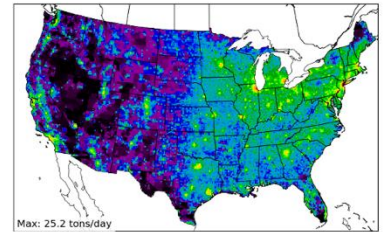


Maximum Daily NOx Emission Rate (tons/day)

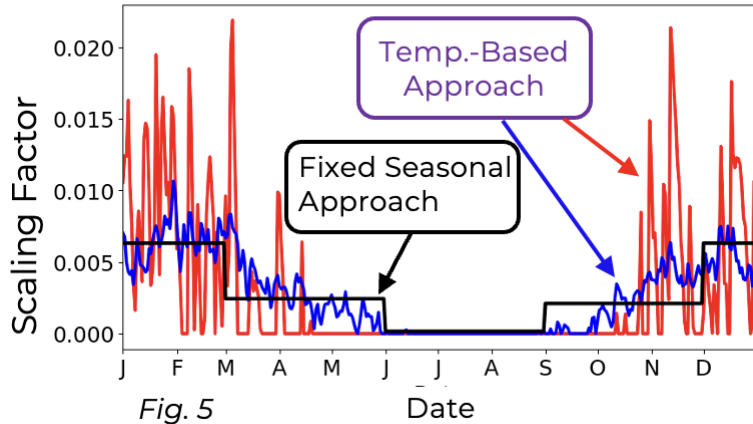
Fixed Seasonal Allocation



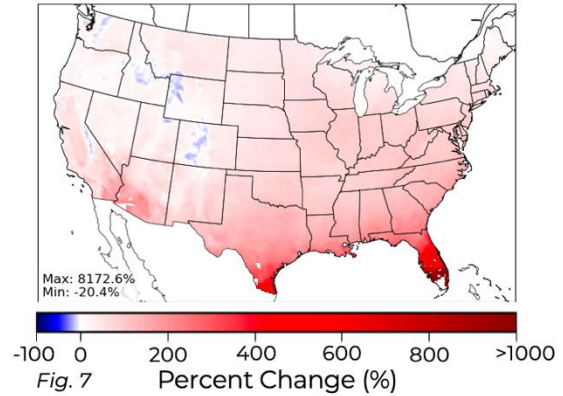
Daily Temperature-Based Allocation



Temporal Scaling Factors



% Change in Maximum Daily NOx Emission Rate





# LINKING AIR QUALITY WITH ENERGY & PUBLIC HEALTH

The Holloway Group Advances Air Quality Research To Inform  
Science And Policy. We Partner With Organizations To Ensure The  
Relevance Of Our Work To Real-World Needs.

[HAQAST.org](https://HAQAST.org)

[hollowaygroup.org](https://hollowaygroup.org)