

# Yakima wintertime PM<sub>2.5</sub> modeling update 4/3 km EMAQ

Looking at the Nov. 2019 simulations

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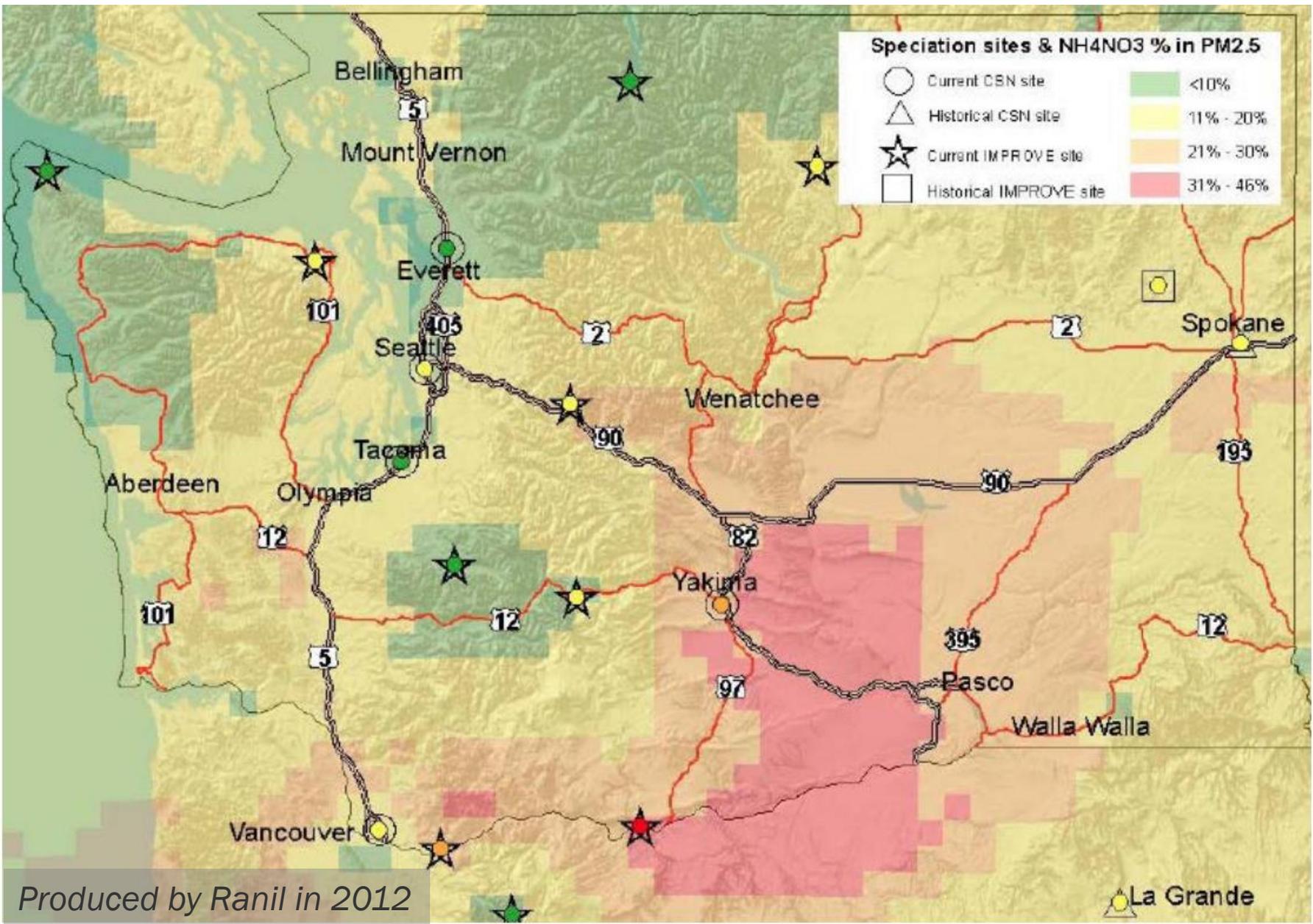
NW-AIRQUEST Mtg.

June 28, 2022

# Overview

- Previous YAWNS work (2013)
- Review EMAQ setup/configuration
- Recent follow-up to modeling work, with new case study (2019)
- Discussion of model performance for PM<sub>2.5</sub> in Yakima
- PM<sub>2.5</sub> speciation results
- Emissions reduction scenarios

# Ammonium Nitrate contribution to total PM2.5

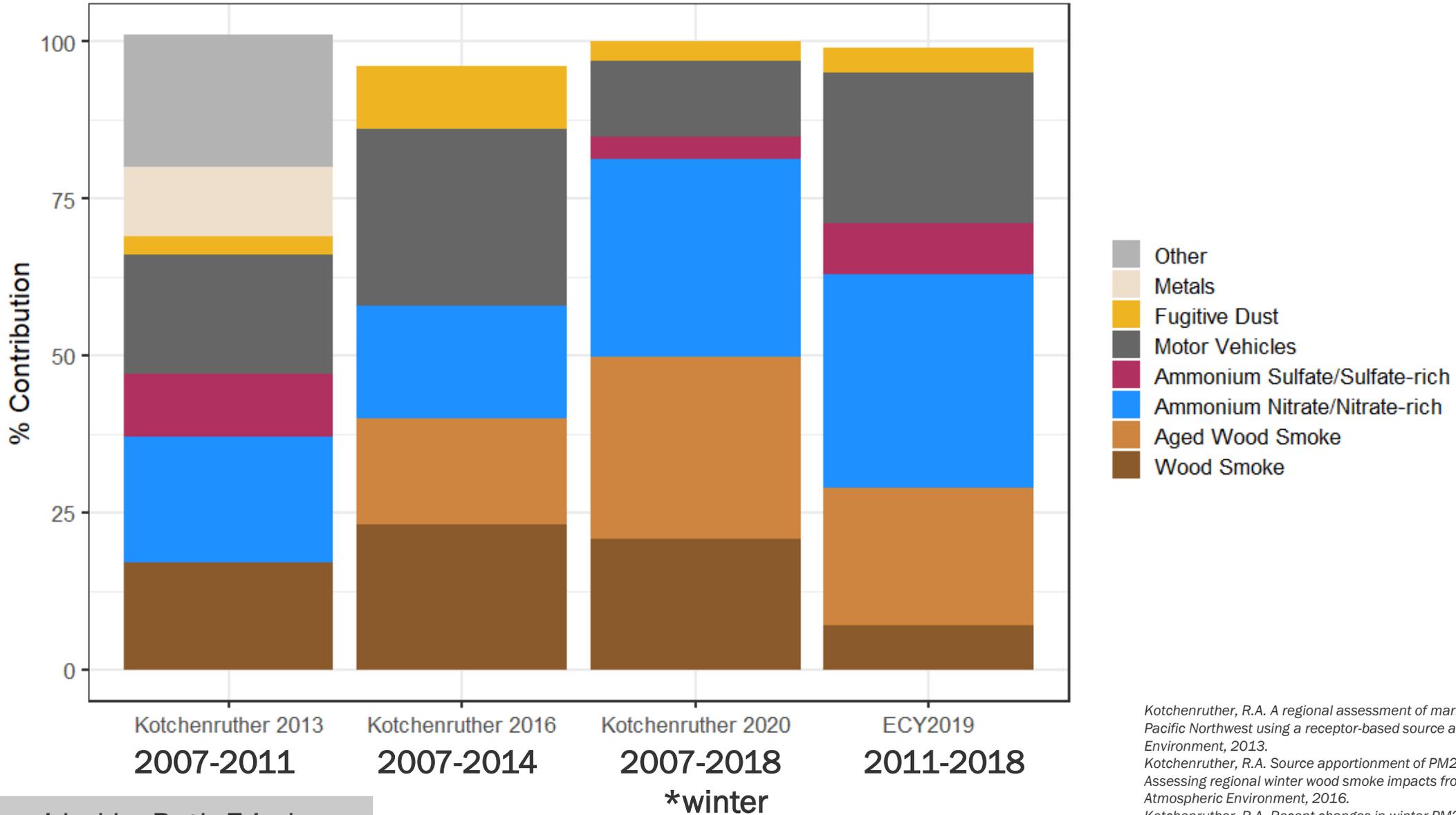


Yakima often has PM<sub>2.5</sub> issues during the winter, but not just due to wood-smoke.

WSU and CWU were contracted by Ecology to perform a Yakima Air Wintertime Nitrate Study (YAWNS) to understand why particulate nitrate is a problem in the area.

Multi-pollutant monitoring campaign conducted in January of 2013.

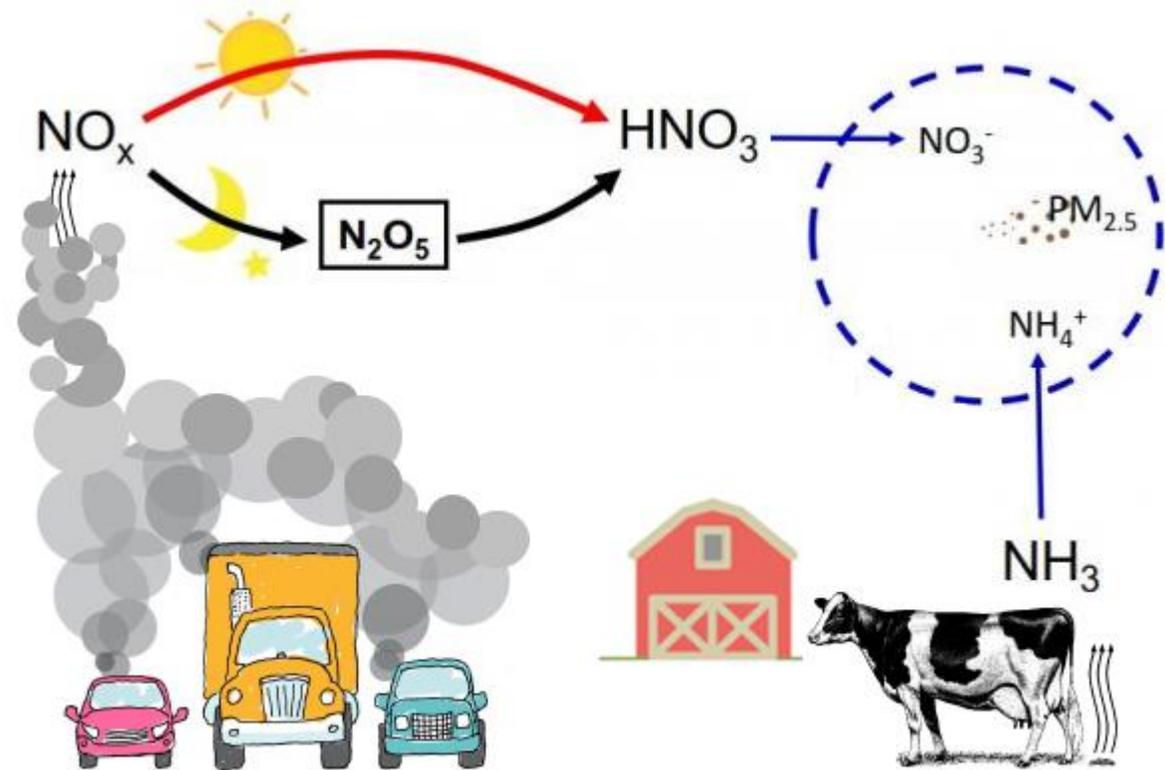
# Source apportionment of PM2.5 in Yakima



*Kotchenruther, R.A. A regional assessment of marine vessel PM2.5 impacts in the U.S. Pacific Northwest using a receptor-based source apportionment method. Atmospheric Environment, 2013.*  
*Kotchenruther, R.A. Source apportionment of PM2.5 at multiple Northwest U.S. sites: Assessing regional winter wood smoke impacts from residential wood combustion. Atmospheric Environment, 2016.*  
*Kotchenruther, R.A. Recent changes in winter PM2.5 contributions from wood smoke, motor vehicles, and other sources in the Northwest U.S. Atmospheric Environment, 2020.*

# YAWNS Conclusions

- High nitrate levels are likely caused by ammonia from agricultural activities interacting with NO<sub>x</sub> from motor vehicles during the right weather conditions.
- Air from both upper and lower Yakima valleys gradually mix together in typical conditions. However, mixing is restricted during cold, stagnant periods
- Need to determine what kind of actions will help reduce aerosol nitrate in Yakima.



# EMAQ Setup

Met

WRF ARW v3.7.1; MCIP v4.4

Emis

SMOKE v4.5

EI

biogenic (BEIS 3.61/BELD 4.1); area (2014, no road dust); onroad/nonroad (2014 adjusted to “2019”); point (2016);

bcon

Boundary conditions derived from MOZART monthly avg. (static daily, no diurnal profile)

CTM

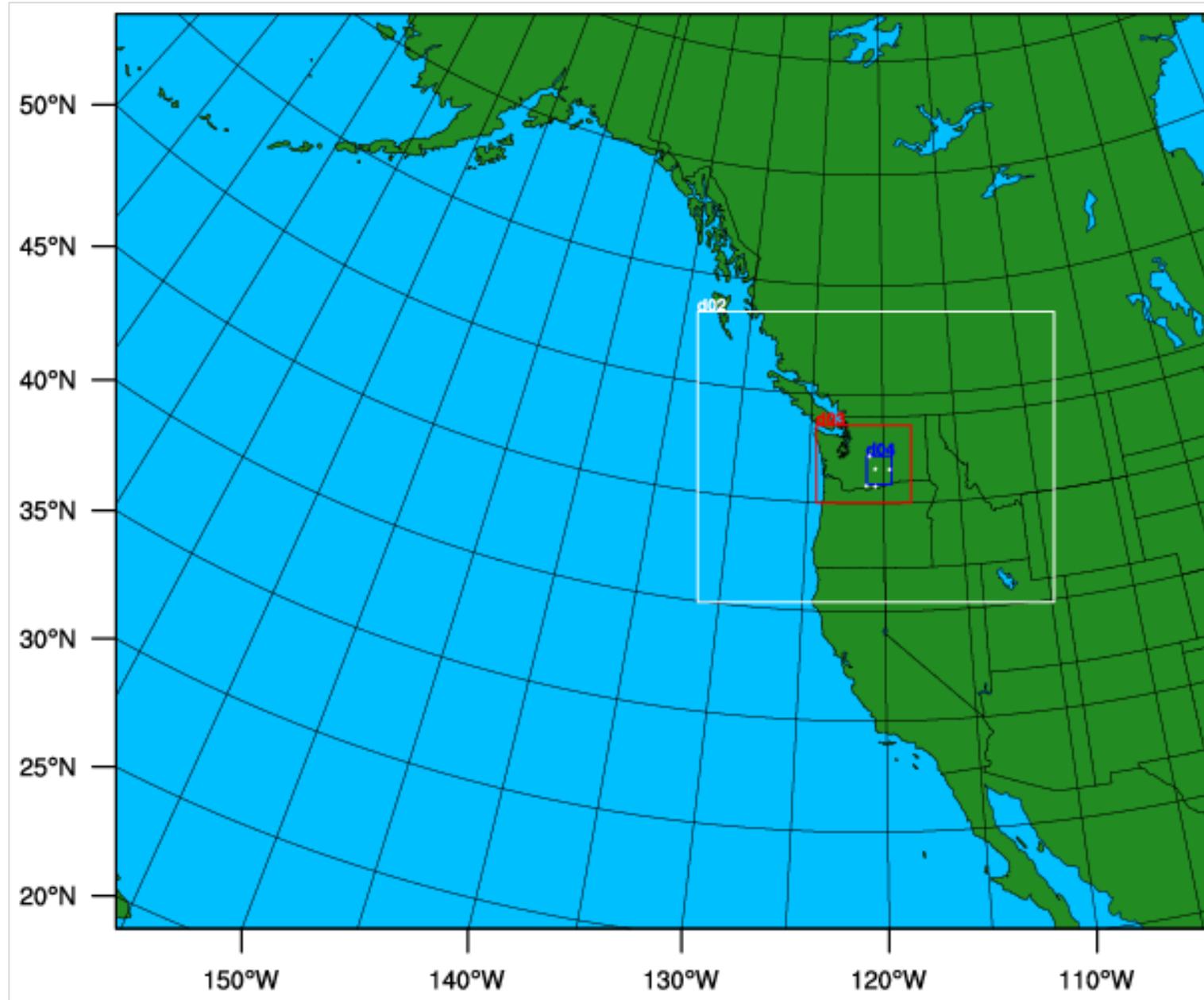
CMAQ v5.2; CB05; AERO6

linux

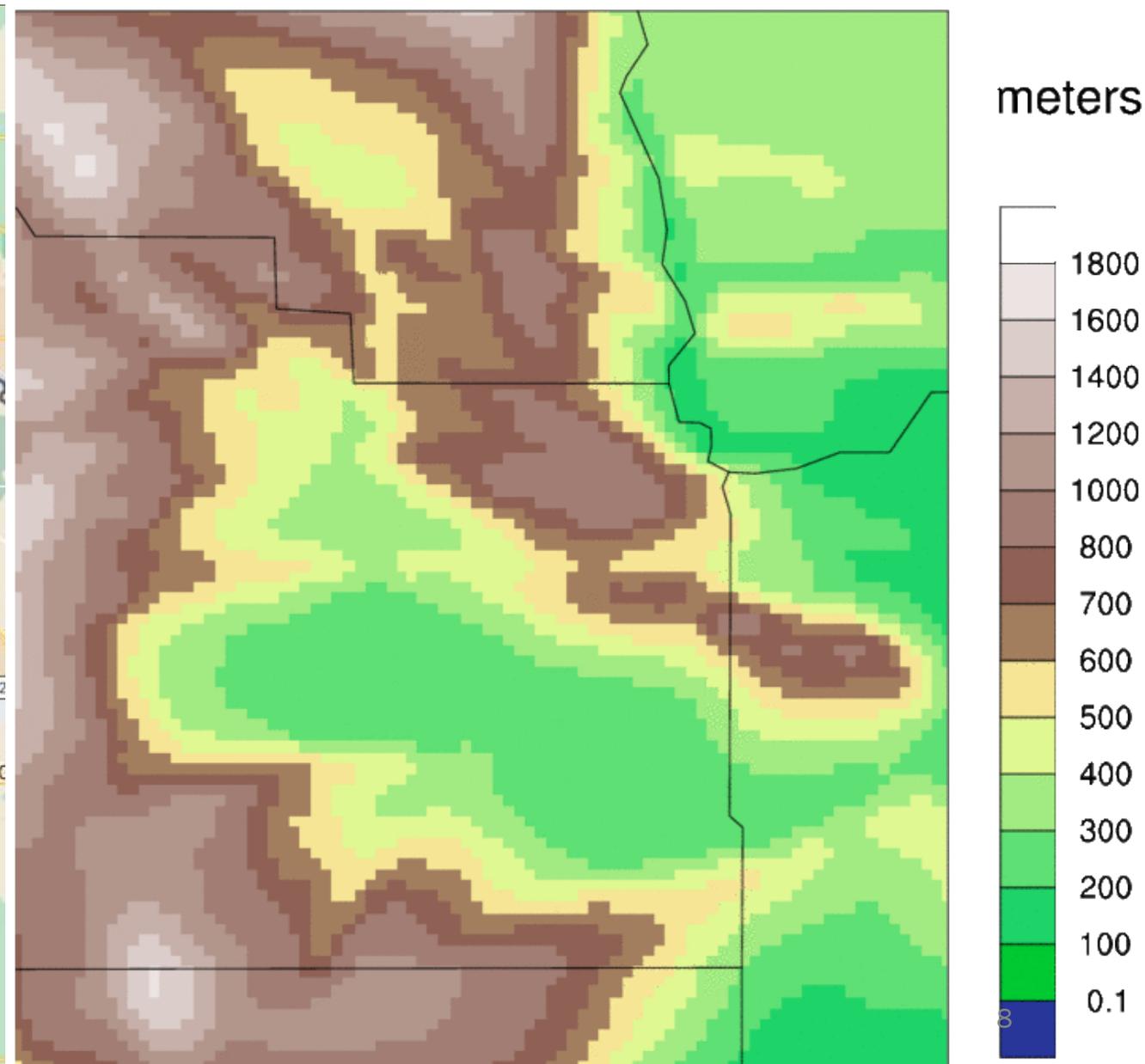
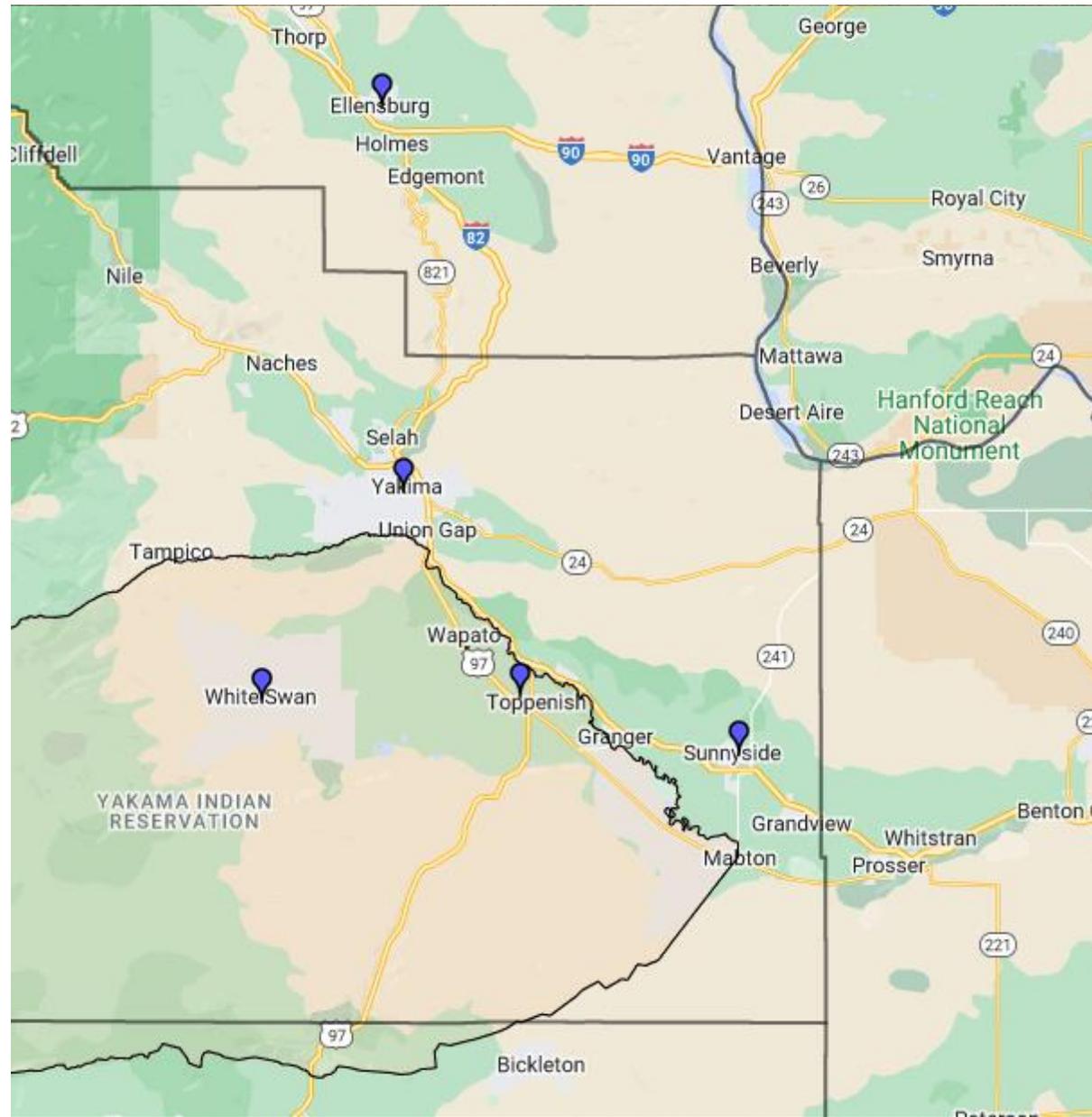
Computing Resources: 24 Virtual CPUs; 320 GB RAM; Scientific Linux 7.9

# EMAQ WRF Domains

Horiz. Resol <sup>n</sup> . (km)	Number of Grid Points	
	W->E	S->N
36	151	127
12	148	121
4	118	97
1.33	94	106



# Yakima EMAQ 4/3km Modeling Domain UGAs (left) and terrain (right)

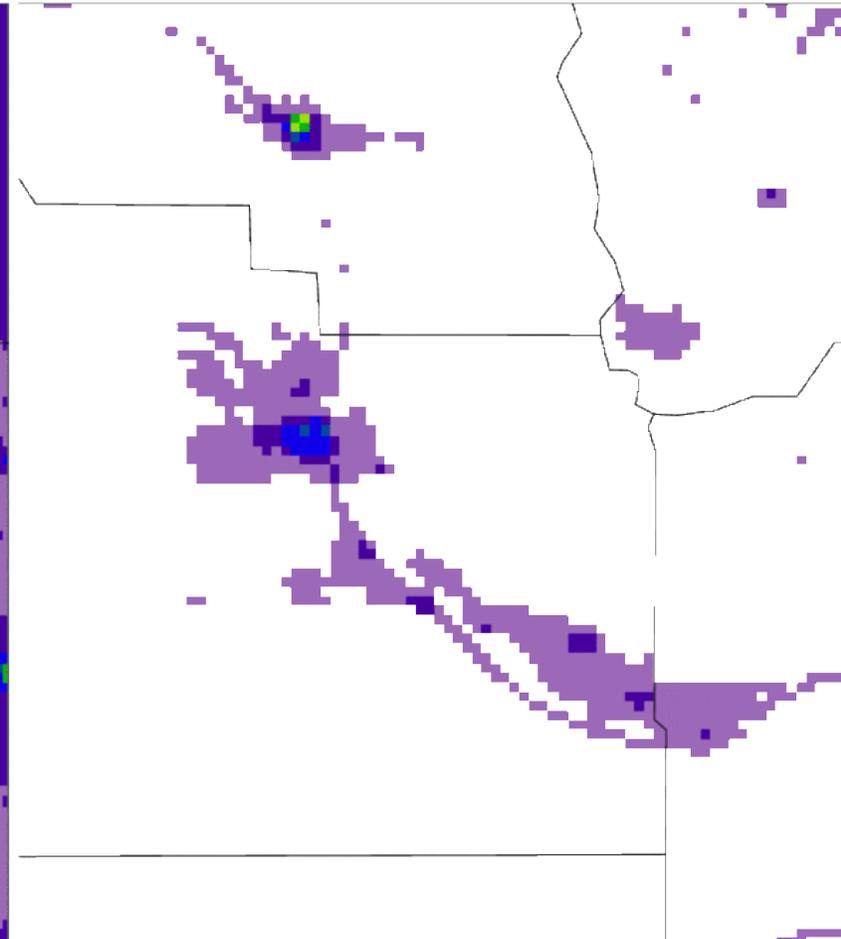
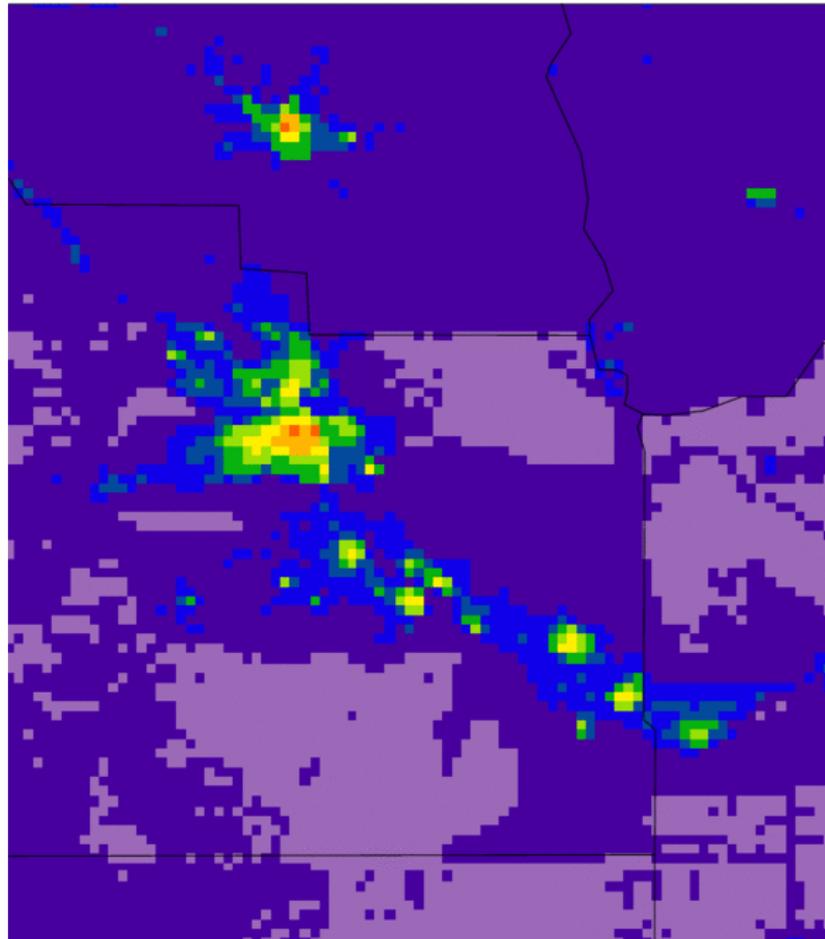
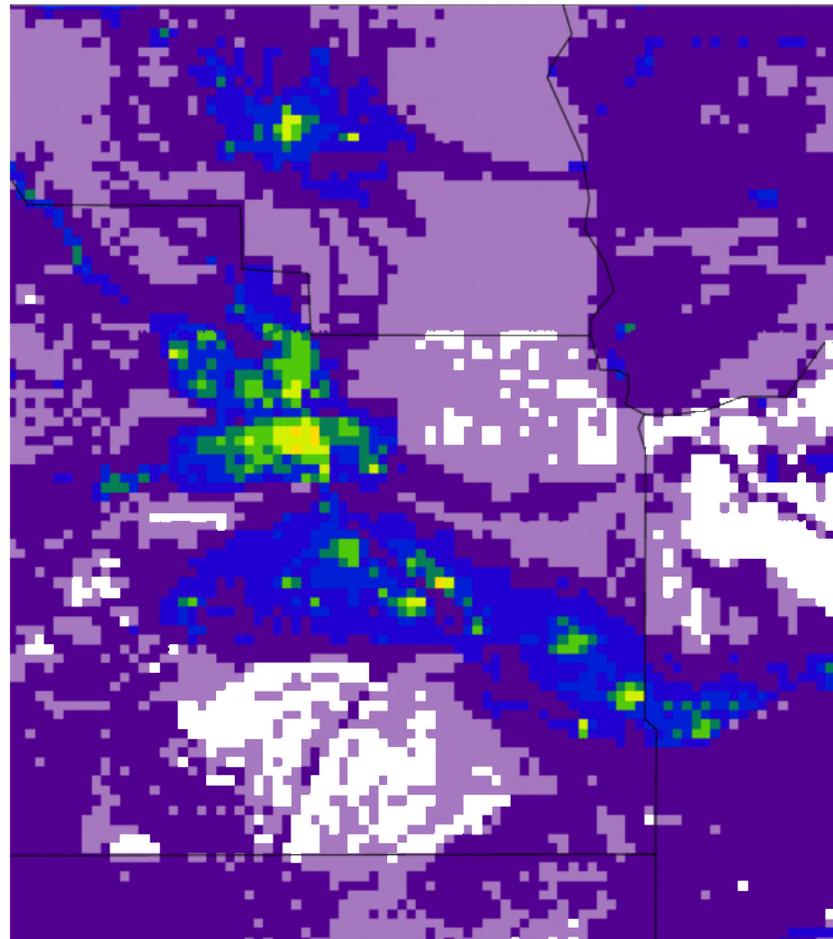


# Emissions – Spatial Distribution

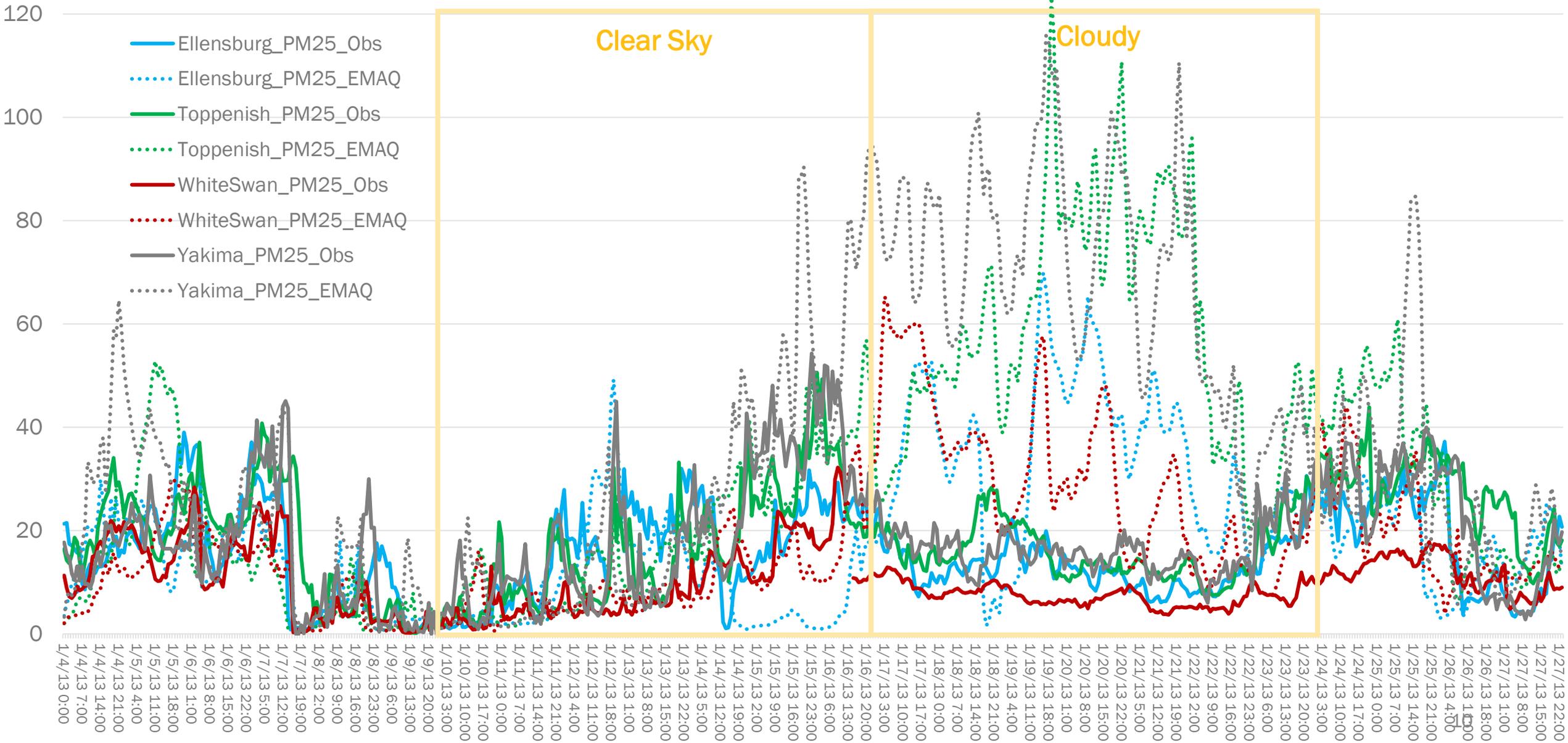
PM2.5

CO

NOx



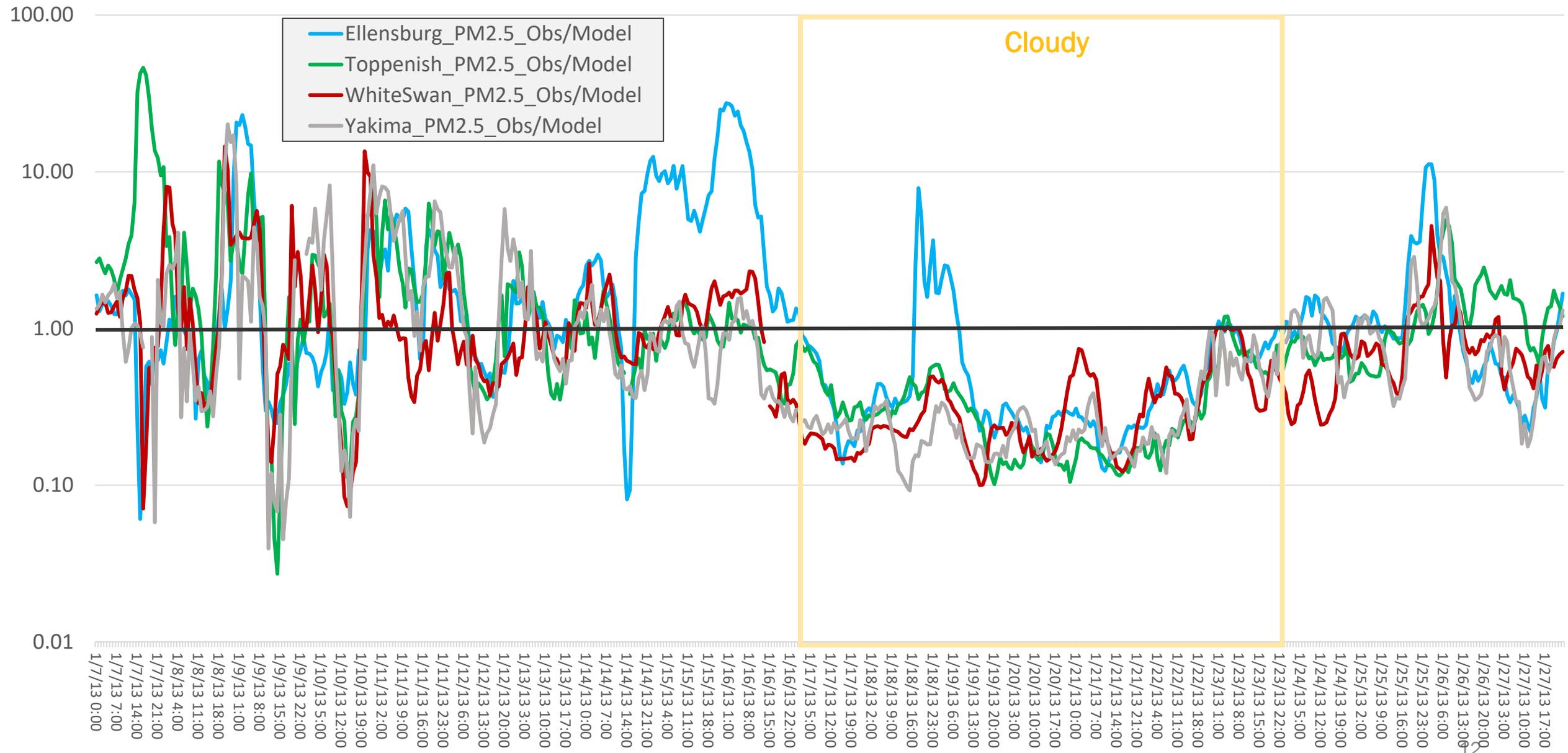
# 2013 EMAQ PM2.5 Performance ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )



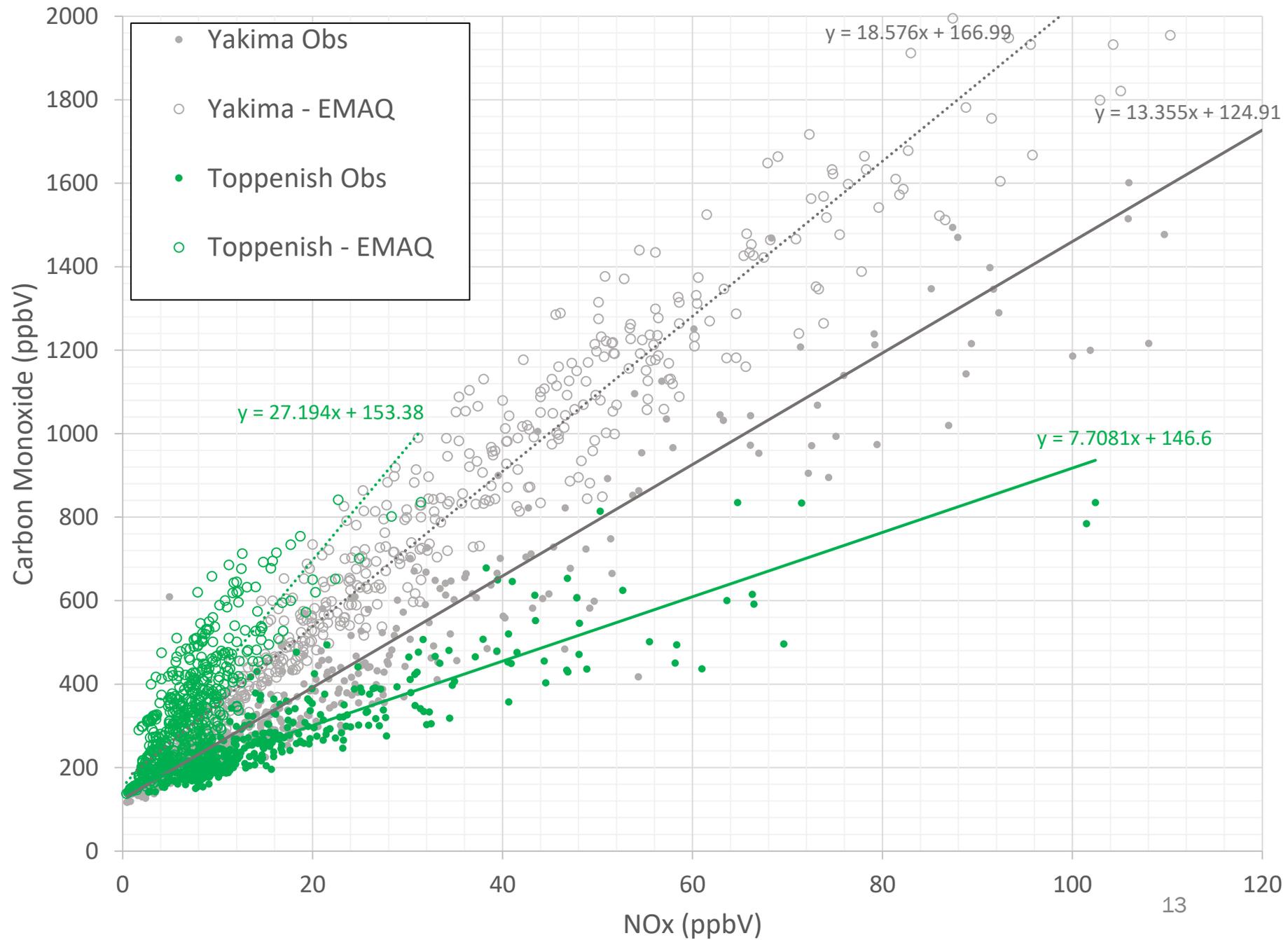
## Two periods with a mesoscale stagnation episode:

- Clear Sky period, 10 – 16 January, 2013;
  - Night was characterized by elevated levels of both primary and secondary PM components
  - Diurnal cycle of the mixing layer followed a typical pattern
- Persistent Cloud period, 17 – 23 January, 2013;
  - Persistent low levels of all primary pollutants;
  - Meteorology driven; T & RH relatively flat
  - secondary PM remained high, especially particulate nitrate
  - Low-level cloud enhanced surface mixing and increased dilution of primary pollutants

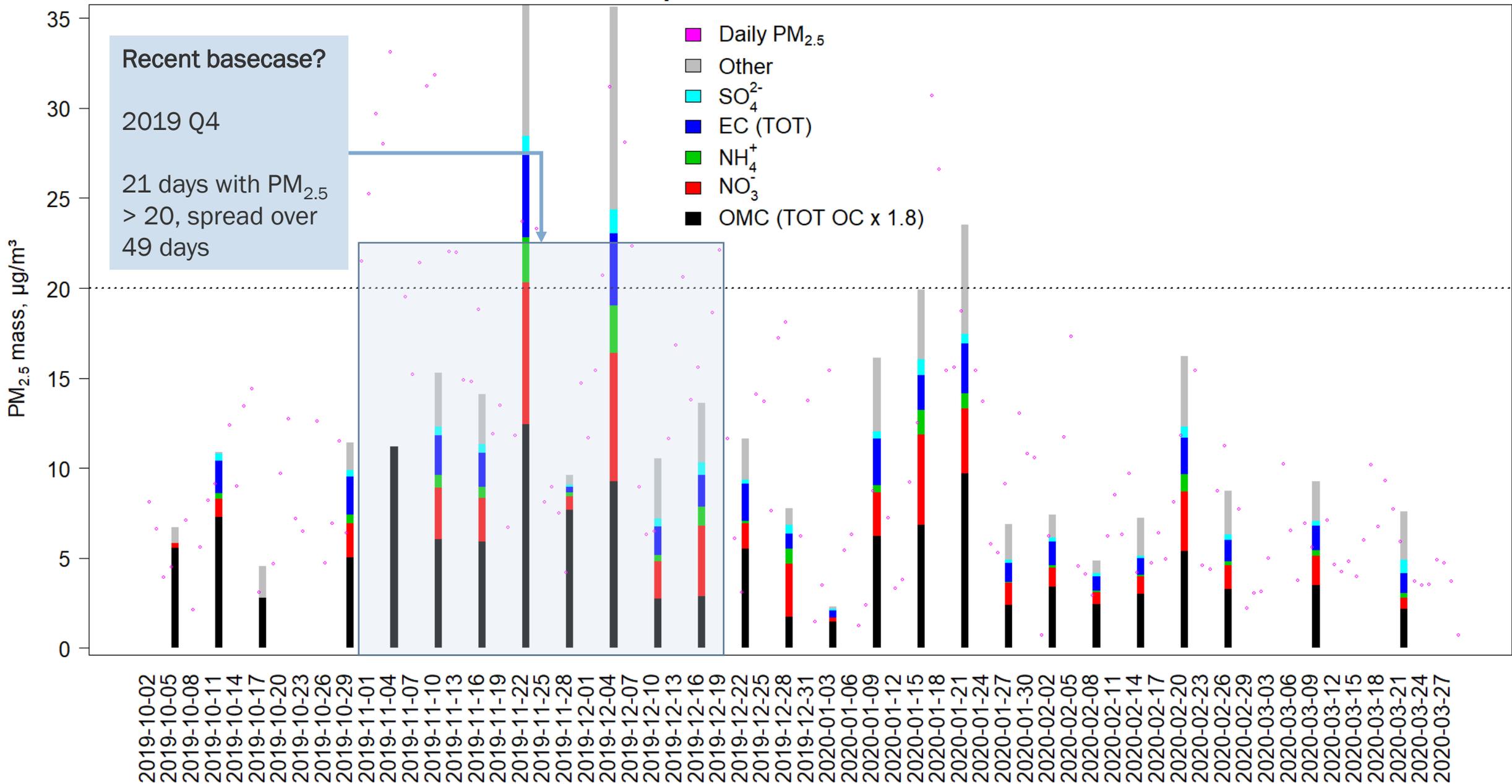
# Observed / Modeled PM2.5 ratio (log scale)



# 2013 CO/NO<sub>x</sub>

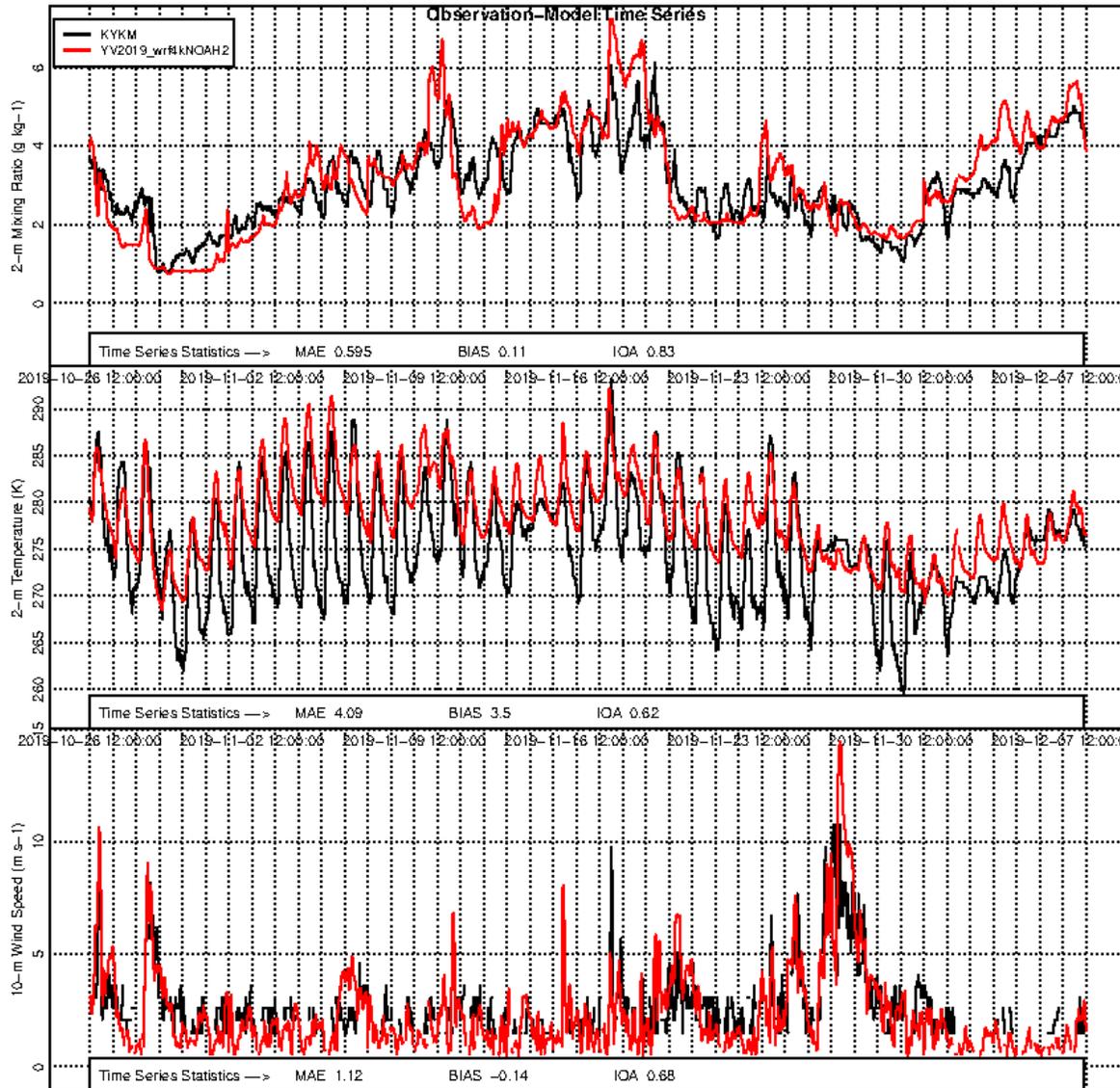


### Yakima speciation data in recent winters

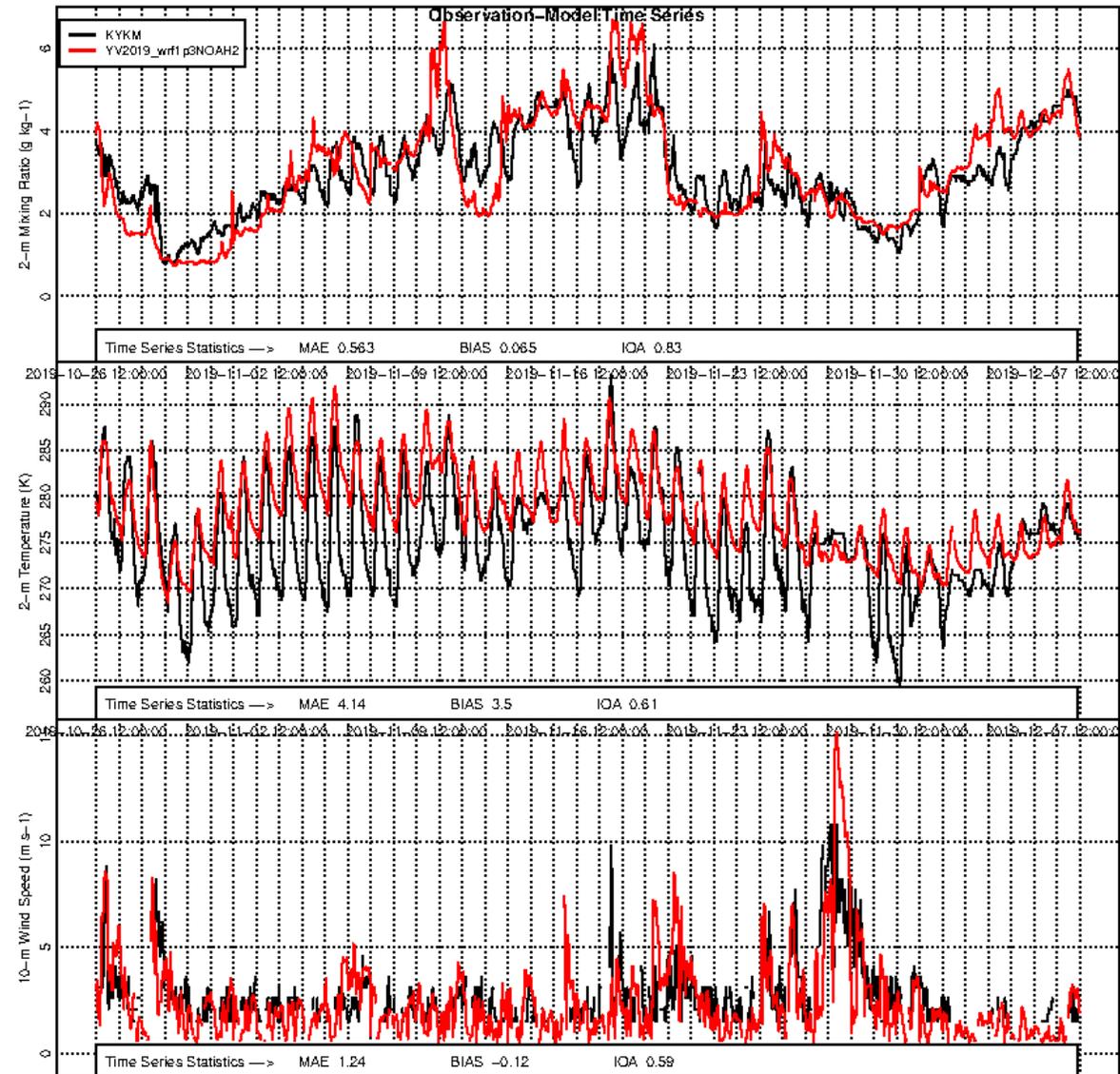


# EMAQ WRF Performance

## 4 km domain: Q(g/kg), T(K), WS(m/s)



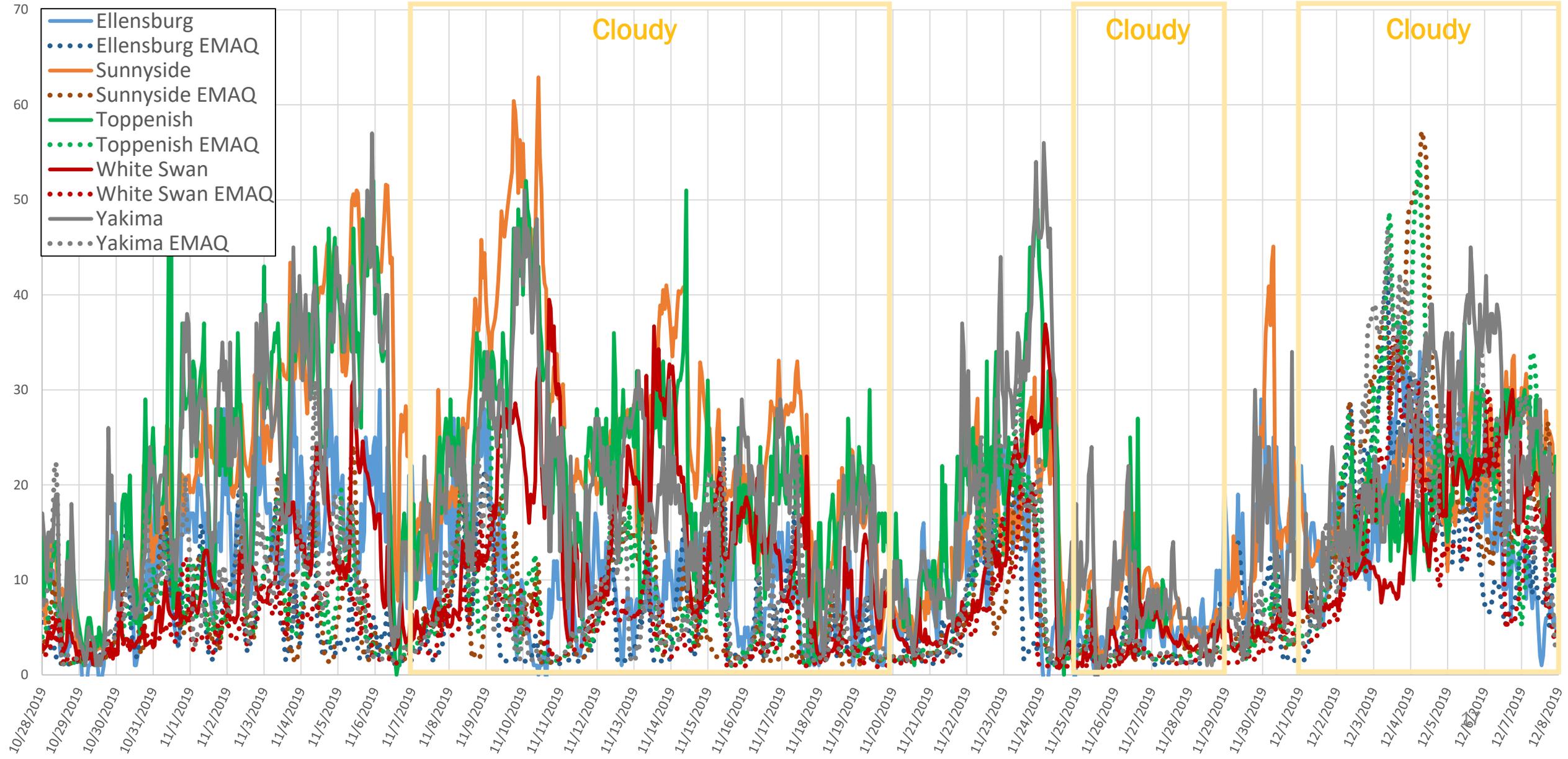
## 1.3 km domain: Q, T, WS



## WRF Performance

- Performed within the target benchmarks for humidity and wind speed
- Poor performance in temperature
- A mixed performance in wind direction: better in bias, but poor in mean error due to wide variability and divergence
- Observational Nudging is the only and next plan for a possible reproduction of WRF variables to observations more accurately

# 2019 EMAQ (Base) PM2.5 Performance ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )



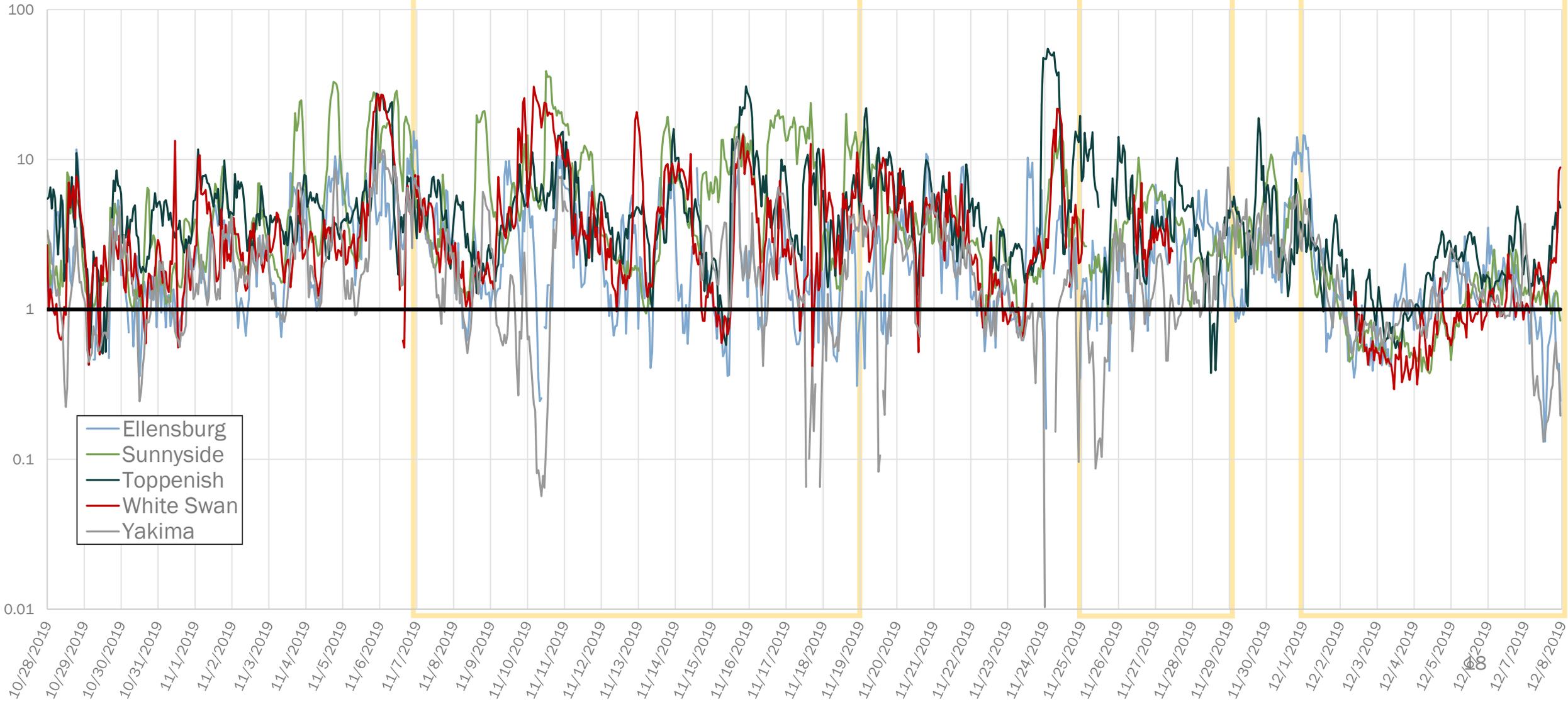
# 2019 EMAQ (Base) PM2.5 Obs/Model

log scale

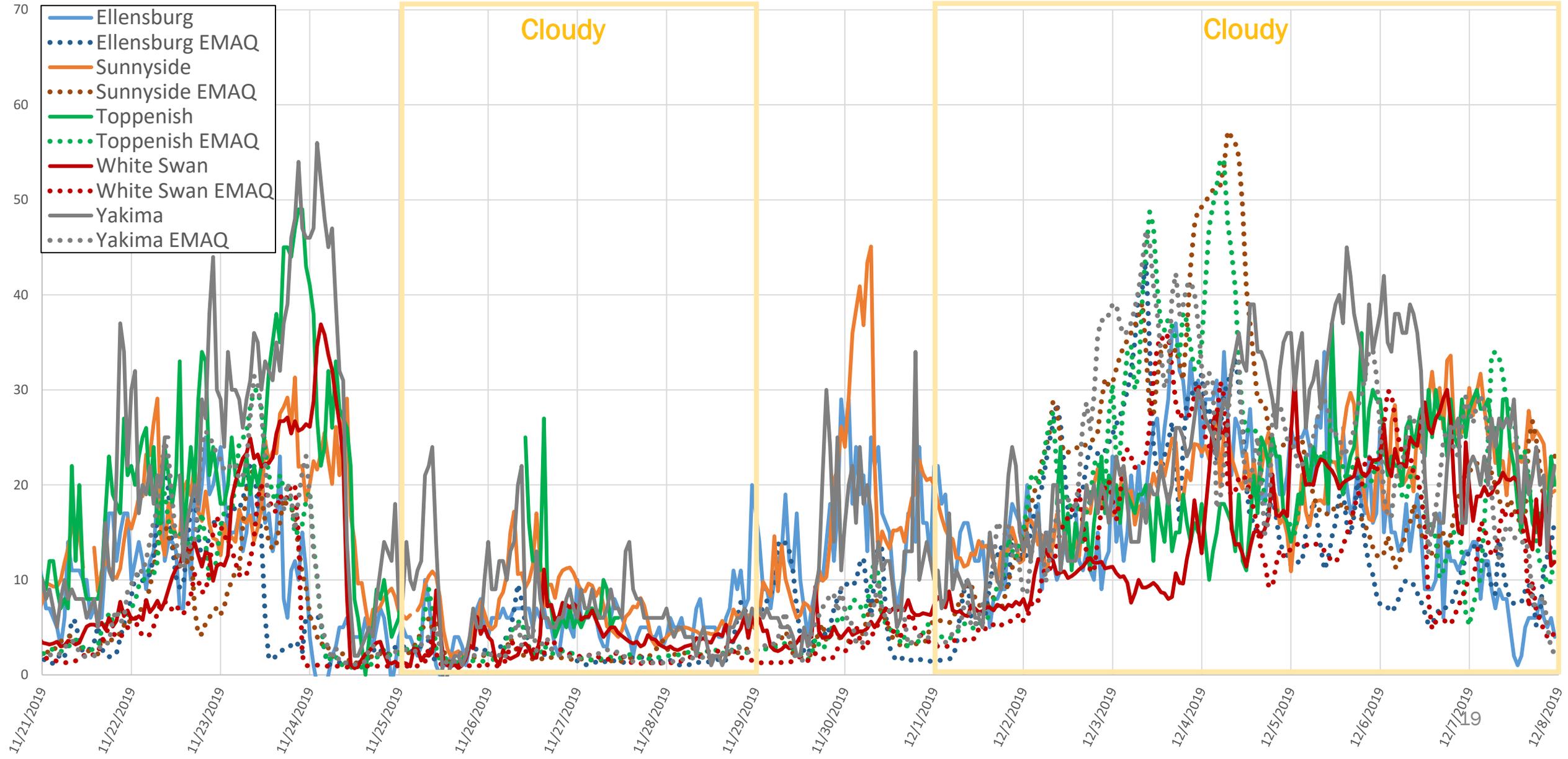
Cloudy

Cloudy

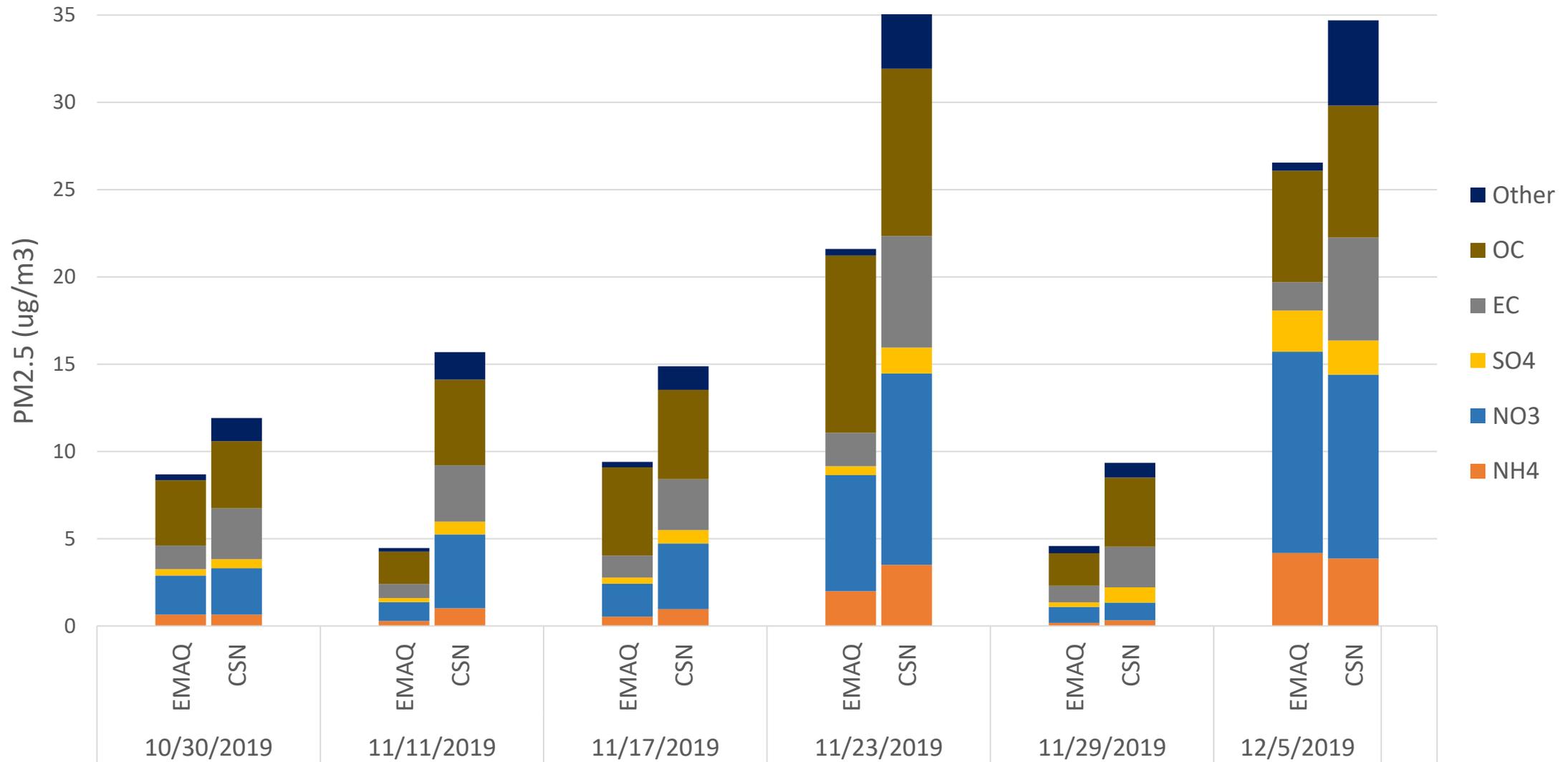
Cloudy



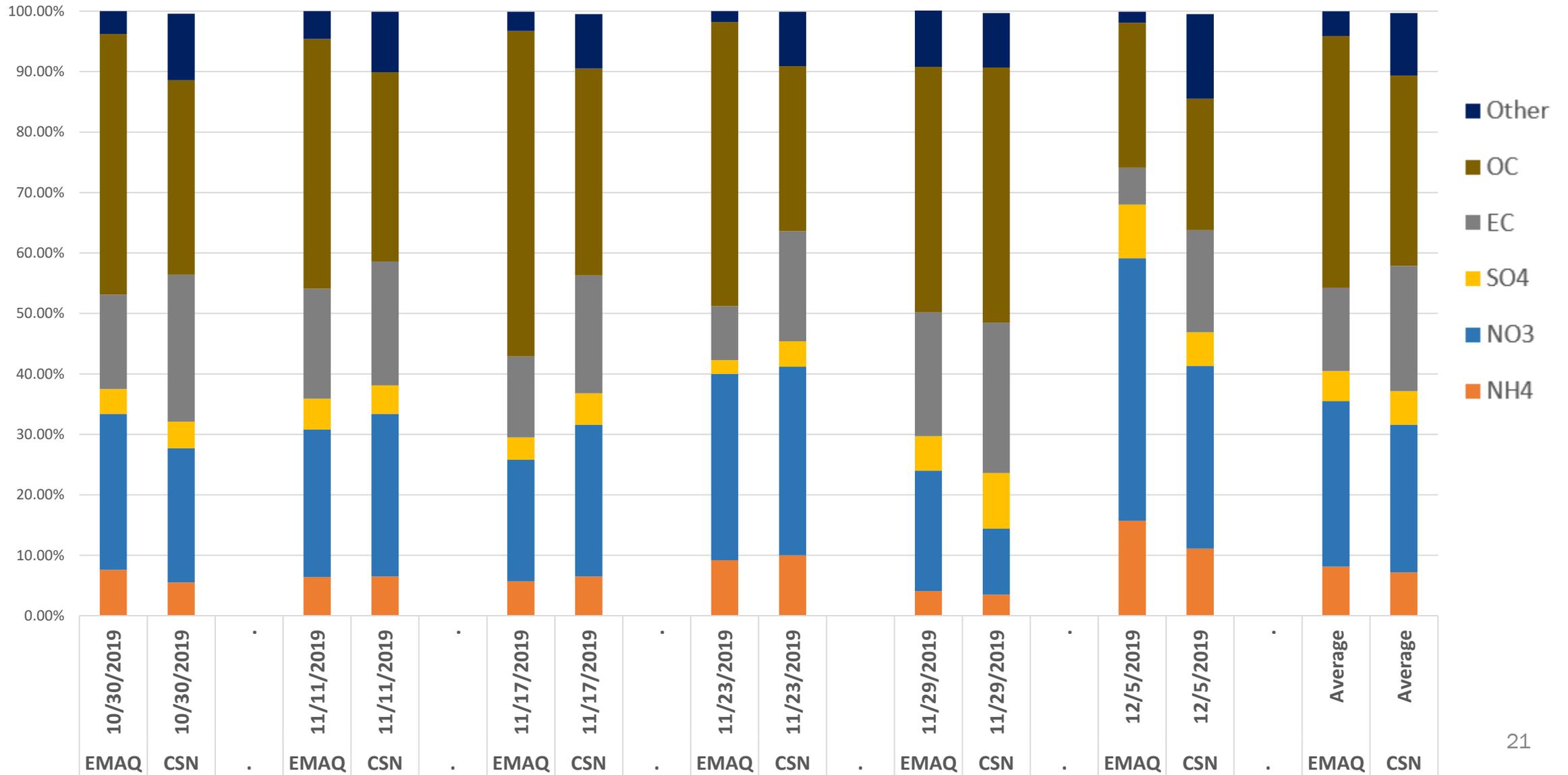
# 2019 EMAQ (Base) PM2.5 Performance ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )



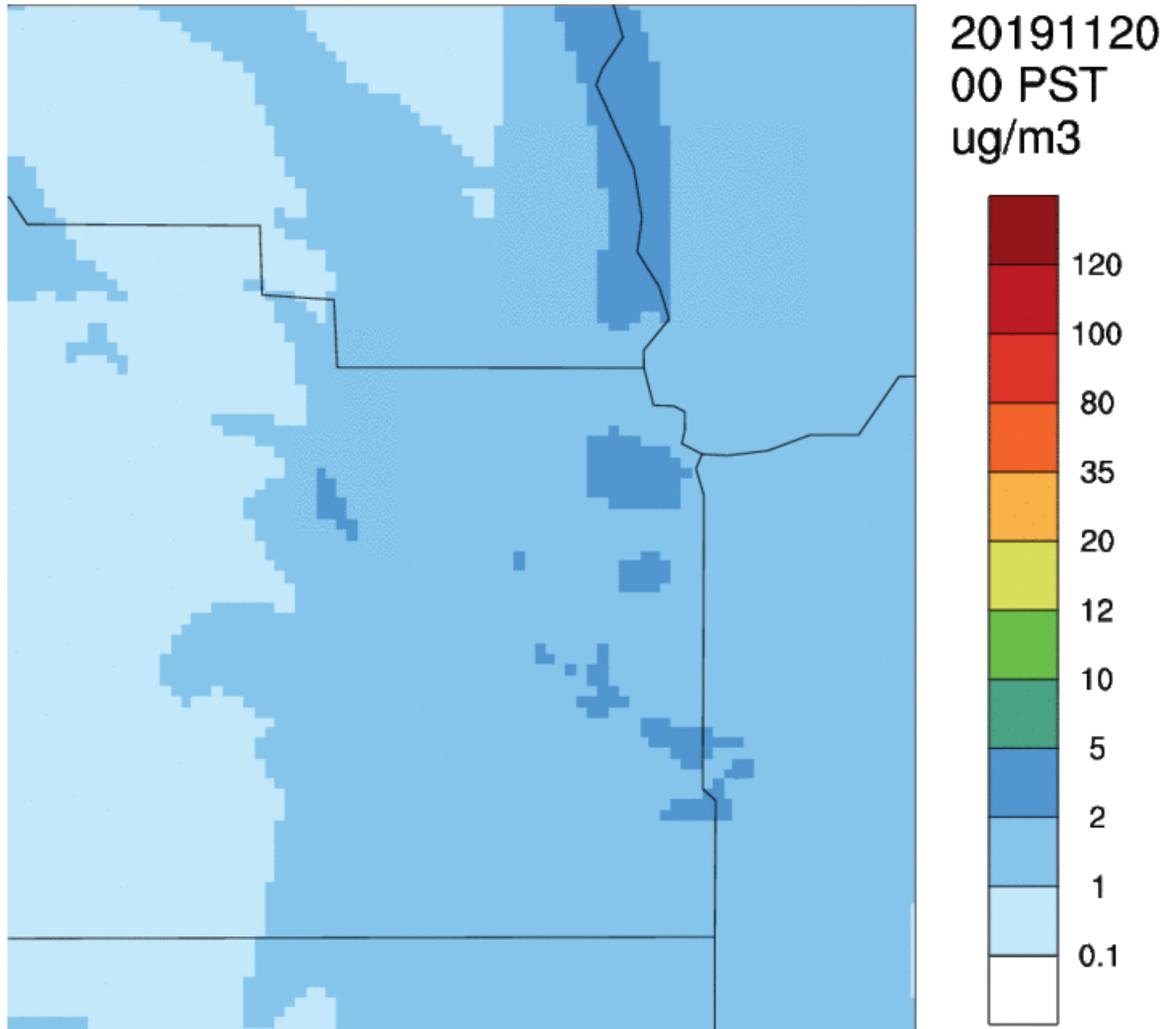
# EMAQ PM2.5 Speciation Performance (Yakima)



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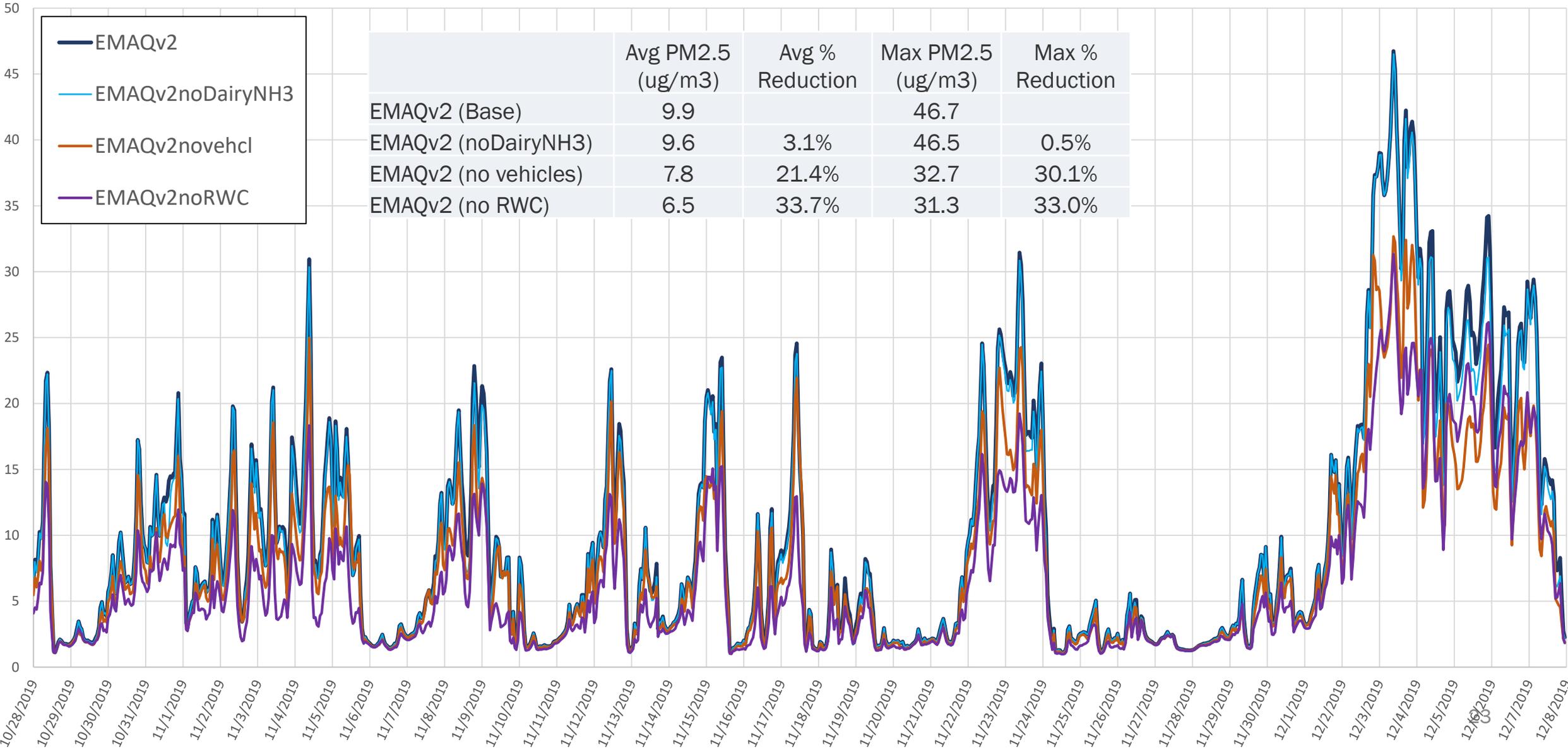
# EMAQ PM2.5 Surface PM2.5 Base Case (Updated) Animation



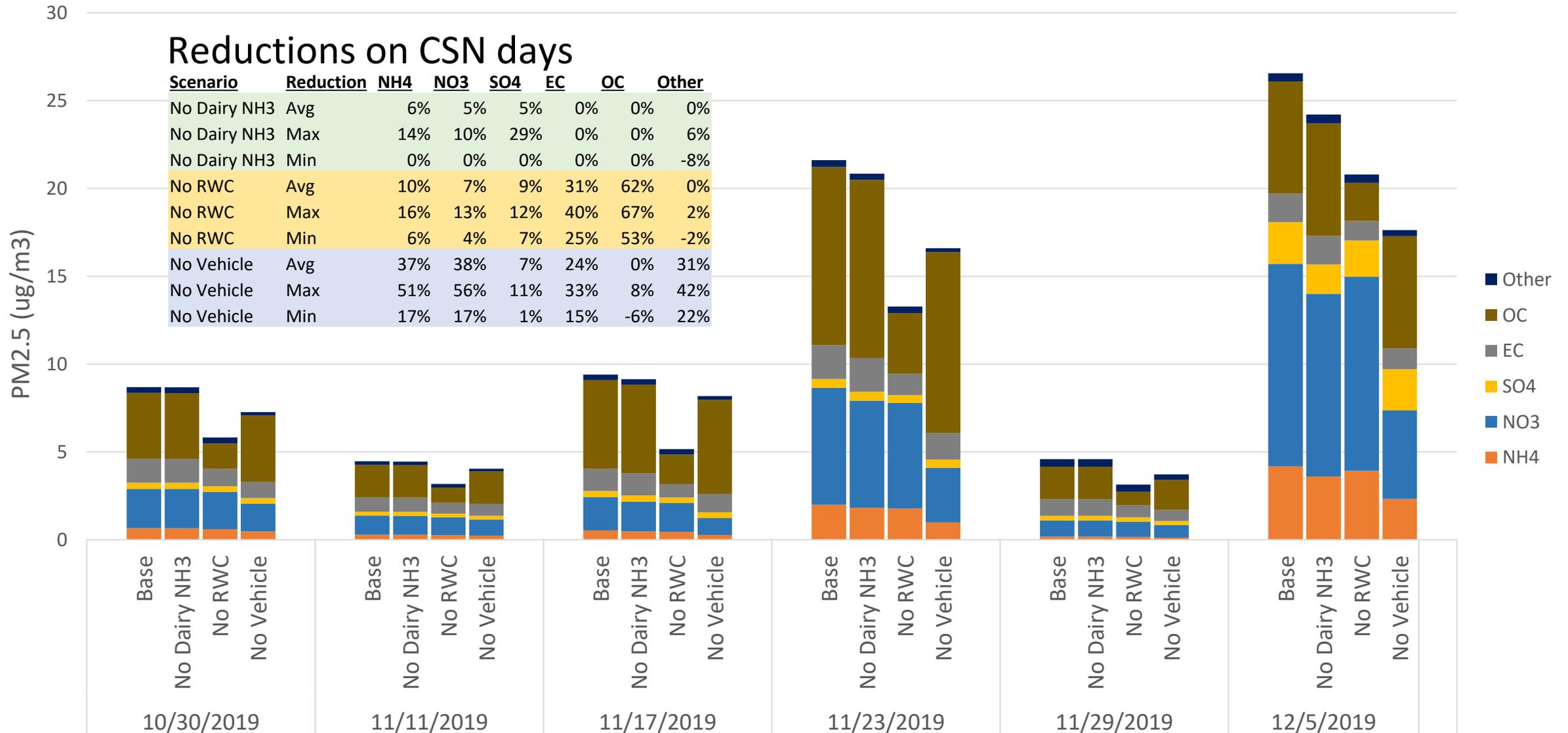
## Brute Force Emissions Reduction Scenarios

- EMAQ Base Case (not shown)
- EMAQv2 Base Case (Updated)
- EMAQv2 No Dairy NH3 Scenario
- EMAQv2 No Vehicles Scenario
- EMAQv2 No RWC Scenario

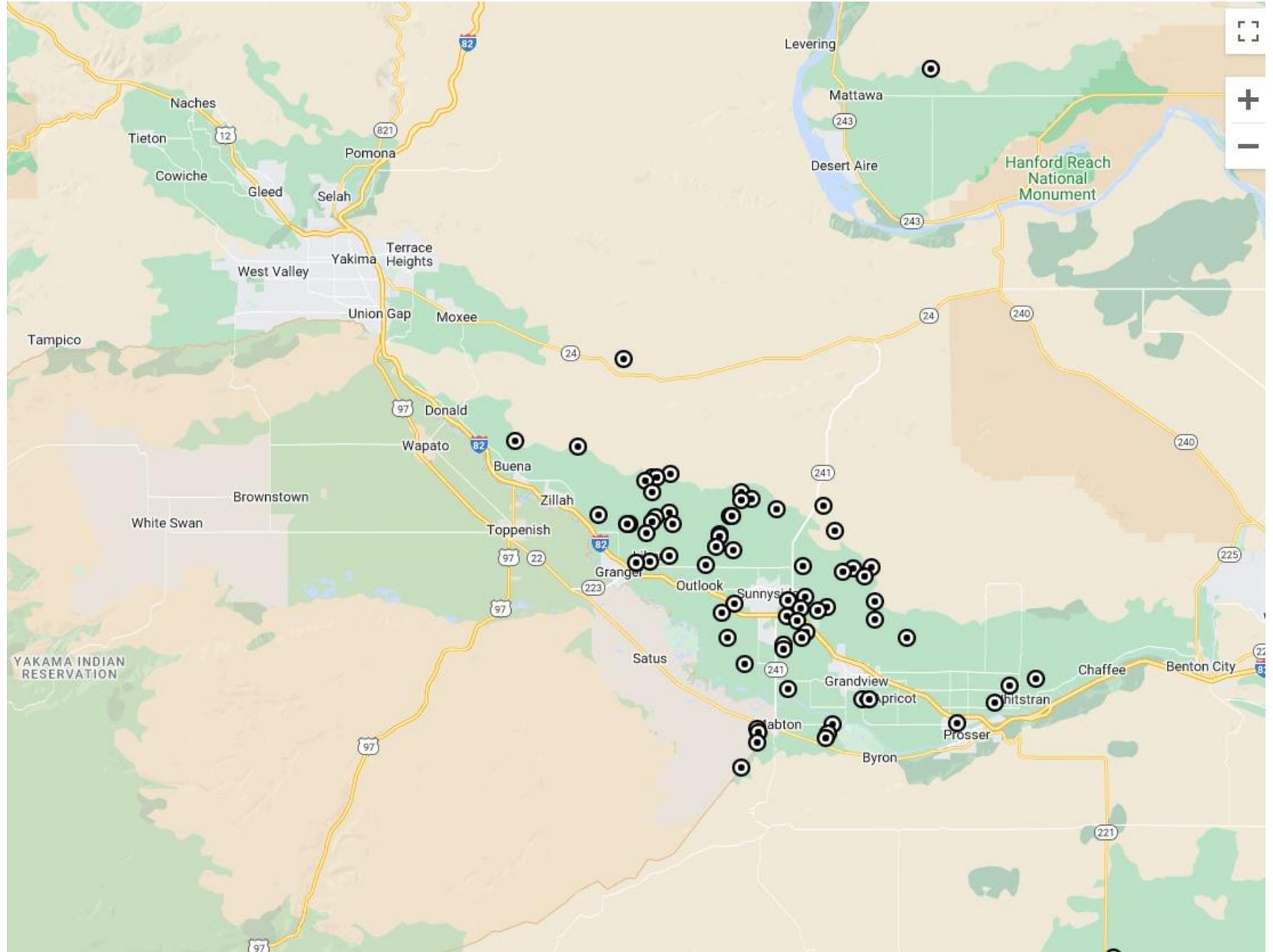
# 2019 EMAQ Scenarios PM2.5 Yakima ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )



# EMAQ PM2.5 Scenarios Speciation (Yakima)



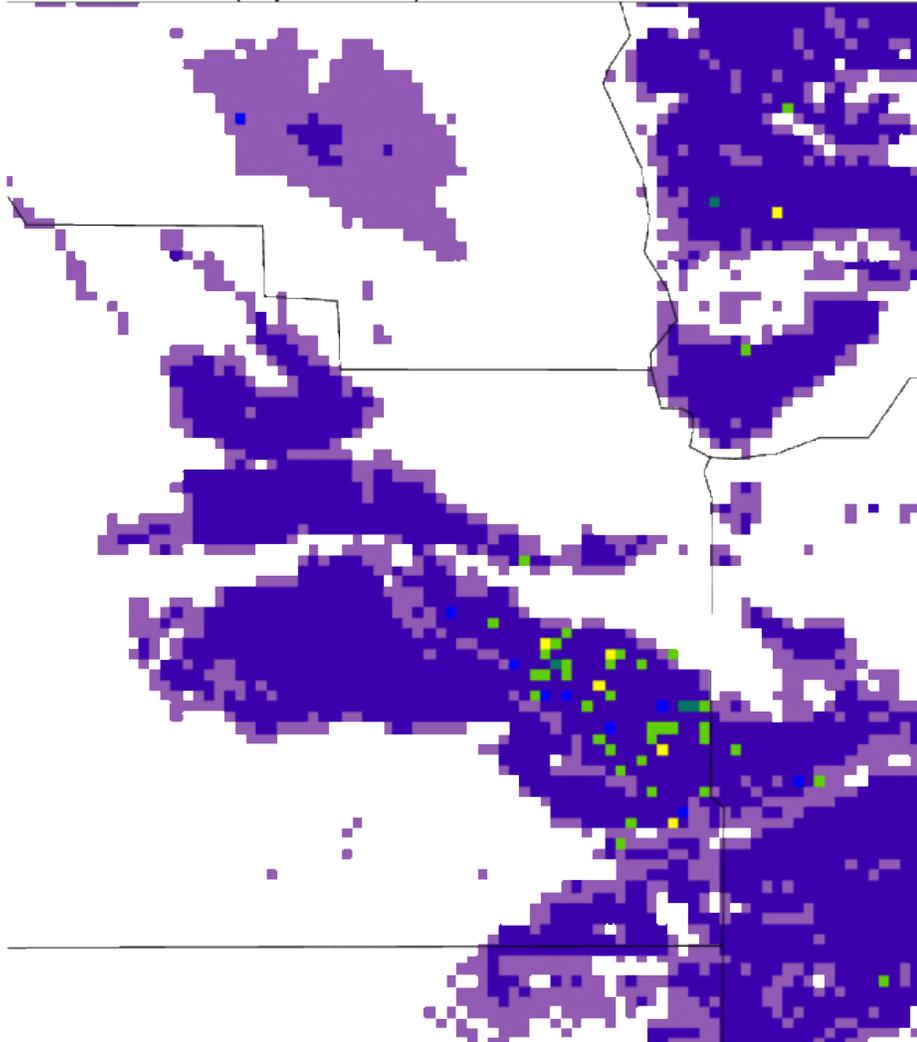
# Ag Points (Dairies, etc.)



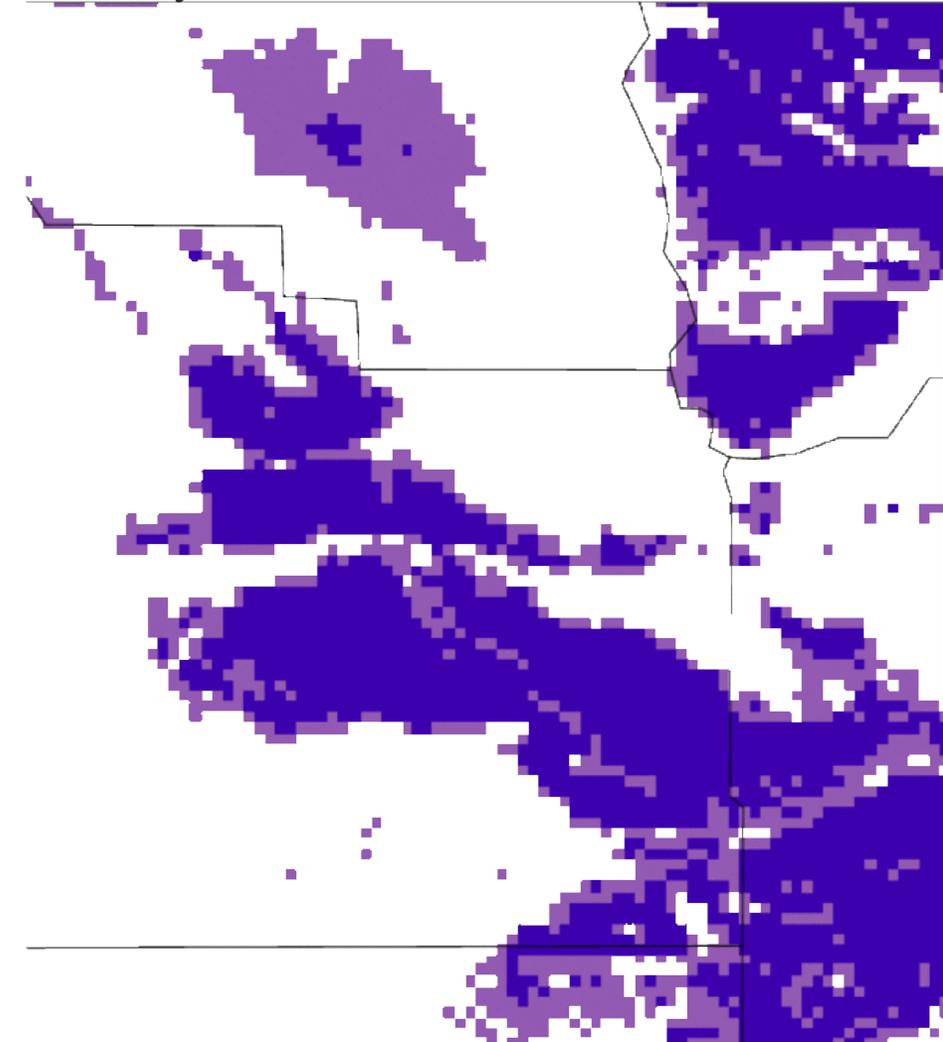
# NH3 Emissions

Avg NH3 Emissions = 0.00202 vs 0.00053 moles/sec

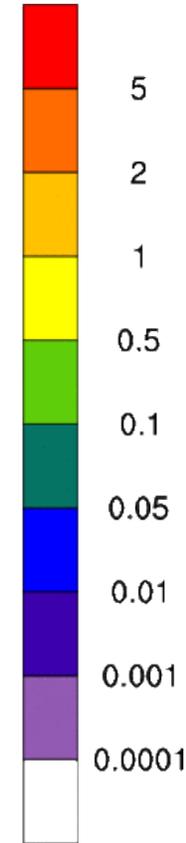
Base Case (Updated)



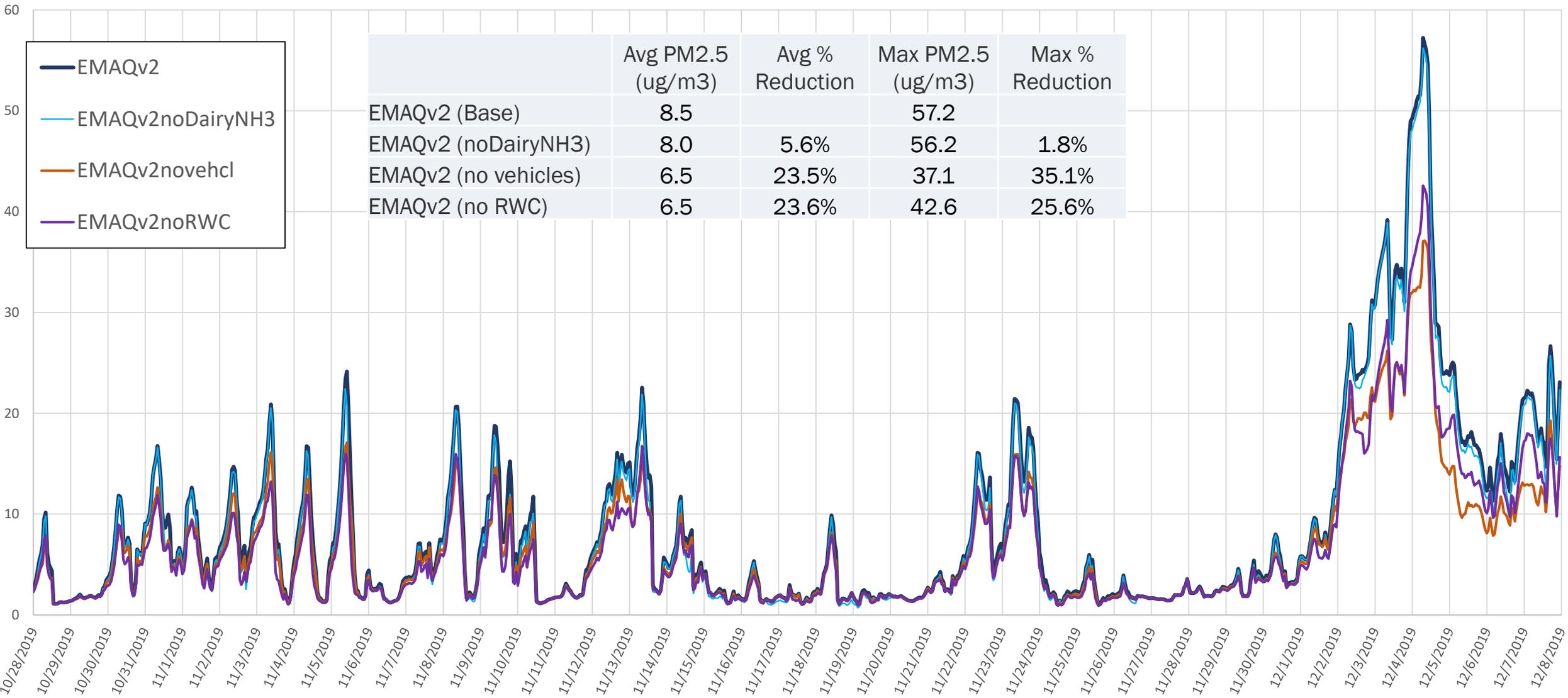
No Dairy NH3



moles/s

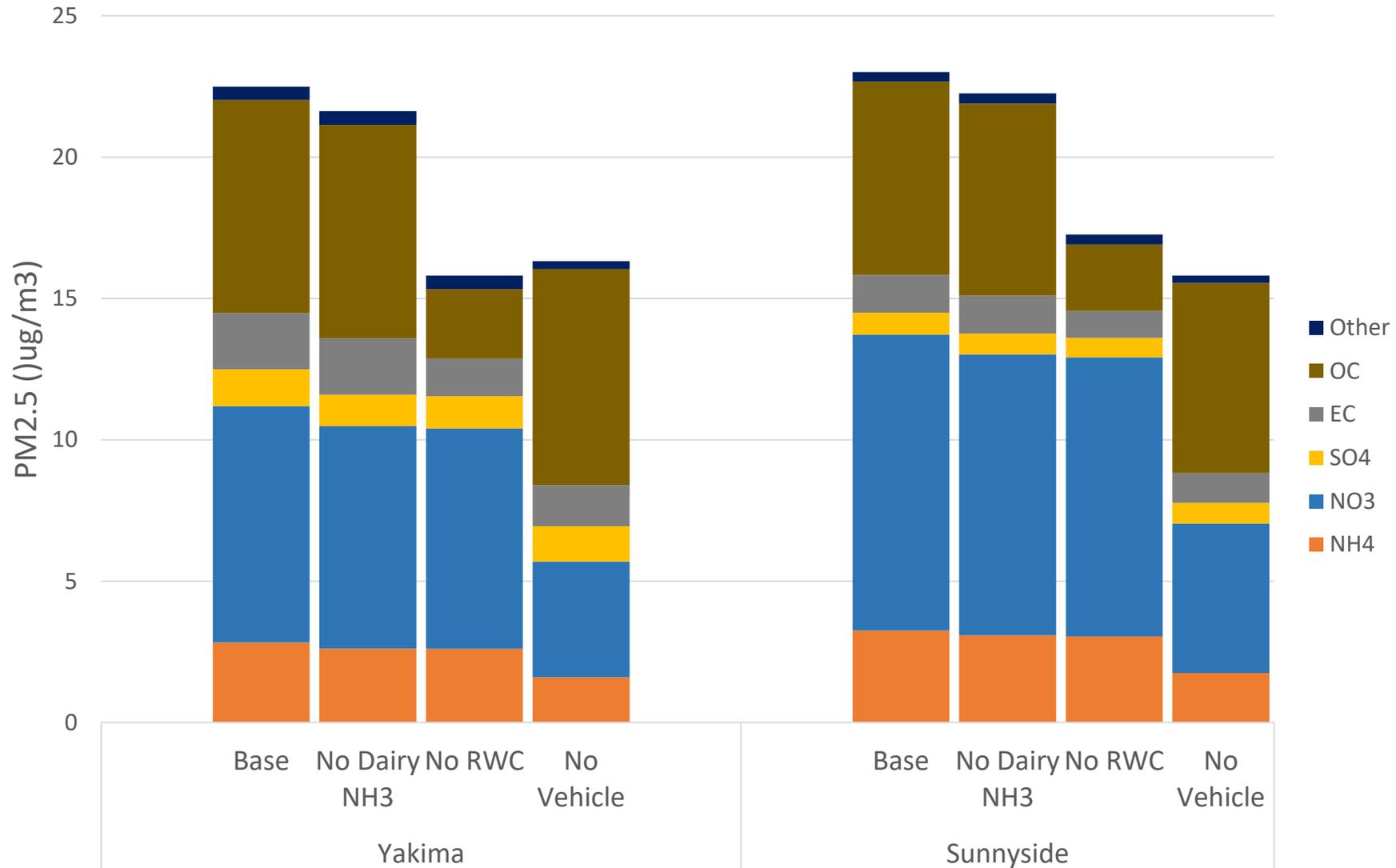


# 2019 EMAQ Scenarios PM2.5 Sunnyside ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )



# Dec 1 – 7, 2019 EMAQ Speciation

Results suggest NO<sub>x</sub>-limited regime for secondary PM<sub>2.5</sub> production



# Next Steps

- Other model emissions reductions scenarios
  - Dust? Point Sources? Nonroad? Combination?
- Try observational nudging in WRF 1.33km
  - Compiler issues may require virtual machine
- Solicit feedback/ideas from leadership and locals



DEPARTMENT OF  
**ECOLOGY**  
State of Washington

# Thank you

Questions?