

Thirteenth Annual Report of Ambient Air Quality Monitoring at Sunshine Canyon Landfill and Van Gogh Elementary School: A Thirteen-Year Summary November 22, 2007–November 21, 2020



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Planning Department, City of Los Angeles
and
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Thirteenth Annual Report of Ambient Air Quality Monitoring at Sunshine Canyon Landfill and Van Gogh Elementary School: A Thirteen-Year Summary November 22, 2007–November 21, 2020

Annual Report
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Executive Summary

Continuous monitoring of particulate matter less than 10 microns in aerodynamic diameter (PM₁₀), black carbon (BC), wind speed, and wind direction began at the Sunshine Canyon Landfill (Landfill site) and at Van Gogh Elementary School (Community site) in Granada Hills in fall 2007. This Thirteenth Annual Report includes data summaries, analysis, and interpretation drawn from 13 complete years of data from the Landfill and Community monitoring sites; one year of data from the temporary Landfill North site, which was installed upwind of the landfill for one year (2016); and data from the baseline year (November 22, 2001–November 21, 2002). These data are used to characterize ambient PM₁₀ and BC concentrations on a neighborhood scale, in the context of the Southern California Air Basin (SoCAB), and to evaluate the impact of landfill operations on air quality in the community.

The following conclusions are based on data from 13 years of continuous monitoring of PM₁₀, BC, and meteorology at the Landfill and Community monitoring sites. Additionally, this report highlights Year 13 (2020).

- Over the 13-year monitoring period, the federal 24-hr PM₁₀ standard was exceeded on 44 occasions at the Landfill site, with a record number occurring in 2017 (Year 10, with 11 exceedances). The federal standard was exceeded on a total of five occasions at the Community site. In 2020 (Year 13), the federal standard was exceeded on six occasions at the Landfill site, five of which occurred during the fall quarter. No federal standard exceedance was observed in Year 13 at the Community site.
- Exceedances of the more stringent state 24-hr PM₁₀ standard at the Landfill site declined each year between 2013 (Year 6) and 2016 (Year 9), spiked in 2017 (Year 10), and decreased again in 2018 (Year 11) and 2019 (Year 12). In 2020 (Year 13), however, the state standard was exceeded on 180 occasions at the Landfill site, an all-time high. The Community site has seen a low number of exceedances of the state PM₁₀ standard since 2015 (Year 8); the state standard was exceeded at the Community site less than 10 times in each year from 2015 (Year 8) to 2018 (Year 11). In 2019 (Year 12), the state standard was exceeded on 16 occasions at the Community site. The number of state exceedances decreased from that in 2020 (Year 13) to 14 occasions at the Community site.
- The Landfill site's PM₁₀ federal and state exceedances are accompanied by high wind speeds, with wind direction falling within a narrow sector that encompasses the active portion of the landfill. State exceedance days at the Landfill site are also accompanied by low-speed winds from the Los Angeles basin (south and southeast), suggesting that the addition of elevated concentrations within the basin can push the Landfill site's PM₁₀ concentrations over the state threshold. On days when PM₁₀ concentrations exceed the state standard at the Community site, wind speeds are relatively low and wind direction is predominantly from the Los Angeles basin (from the southeast). This suggests that regional contributions are the main driver of exceedances of the state PM₁₀ standard at the Community site.
- Monthly average PM₁₀ concentrations at the Landfill site compared well with the regional monitoring site in downtown Los Angeles in Years 5 through 9. However, in Year 10, the

Landfill site's monthly average PM₁₀ concentrations increased and remained higher than that of the downtown LA site for the entirety of 2017. Years 11 and 12 have since seen lower monthly average PM₁₀ concentrations at the Landfill Site (compared to those in 2017). For Year 13, monthly average PM₁₀ concentrations at the Landfill Site were on the rise since the spring quarter and decreased again in the fall quarter. In contrast, the annual average PM₁₀ concentrations at the Community site have been steadily decreasing since Year 7, nearing the annual average concentrations measured at Santa Clarita in Years 11 to 13. This is an important finding in that, while PM₁₀ concentrations measured at the Landfill site remain relatively high (with a recent trend upward), PM₁₀ concentrations measured at the Community site are trending down.

- To estimate the landfill contributions to PM₁₀ and BC concentrations at the Landfill and Community sites, we compared the difference between PM₁₀ and BC concentrations at the Landfill and Community sites under two wind sectors ("from landfill" and "from SoCAB") and two working categories (non-working day/hour and working day/hour).
 - The greatest difference in PM₁₀ and BC concentrations between the Landfill and Community sites was observed during periods of highest activity levels (i.e., working hours on working days).
 - The Community site measured slightly higher PM₁₀ and BC concentrations on working days (both working hours and non-working hours) compared to non-working days (both working hours and non-working hours) when the wind was from the landfill. A similar work day/non-work day pattern exists for PM₁₀ concentrations at Burbank and Los Angeles regional sites, which may indicate that the increase is attributable to higher levels of emissions in general on working days relative to non-working days. However, PM₁₀ concentrations measured at the Community site were significantly lower than PM₁₀ concentrations measured at regional monitoring sites and the Landfill site.
 - When the wind was from the SoCAB, the PM₁₀ values at the Landfill site were slightly higher than at the Community site during non-working and working hours and during working hours and days. On days in the highest activity level category, the regional contribution of PM₁₀ combined with local landfill contributions to increase PM₁₀ concentrations at the Landfill site. In Year 13, PM₁₀ levels were lower at the Community site than at the Landfill site when wind was from SoCAB for both working and non-working hours and days.
 - When the wind was from the SoCAB, BC concentrations were higher at the Community site than at the Landfill site during the working hour categories, but slightly lower during the non-working hour categories. This suggests that increased regional BC concentrations contributed to BC levels at the Community site.

1. Introduction

Two air quality monitoring sites were established by operators of the Sunshine Canyon Landfill in 2001. One monitoring site is on a high-elevation ridge on the southern edge of the Sunshine Canyon Landfill (Landfill site). The second site is at Van Gogh Elementary School in the nearby community of Granada Hills (Community site). These sites were established to monitor particulate matter less than 10 microns in aerodynamic diameter (PM₁₀), black carbon (BC) as a surrogate for diesel particulate matter (DPM), wind direction, and wind speed, in fulfillment of the stipulations set forth in the City of Los Angeles' Conditions of Approval for the expansion of the Sunshine Canyon Landfill in the City of Los Angeles (Section C.10.a of Ordinance No. 172,933). In 2009, the County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning and Public Works adopted conditions (County Condition 81) very similar to the City's conditions, governing ambient air quality monitoring for the County portion of the landfill.

1.1 Baseline Year and Continuous Monitoring

Continuous monitoring of PM₁₀, BC, and meteorology was performed during a baseline year between November 22, 2001, and November 21, 2002, and a report of the baseline year results was produced by ENVIRON International Corporation.¹ Between the time that the baseline studies were completed and November 2007, when continuous monitoring began, ambient sampling for PM₁₀, BC, and landfill gases (LFG) was planned at a nominal frequency of four times each year by ENVIRON International Corporation. Data from those years are not included in this report.

Beginning in 2007, ambient monitoring of particulate matter (and LFGs in some years) at the Landfill and Community sites became the responsibility of Sonoma Technology, Inc. (STI). STI's technical approach to monitoring PM₁₀ and BC was based on continuous monitoring (hourly, year-round), whereas previous monitoring was limited to four events per year. Continuous year-round monitoring of PM₁₀ and BC allows greater potential to evaluate times when air flows from the landfill to the Community receptor site, as well as to evaluate diurnal trends, day-of-week differences, seasonal differences, and annual trends in pollutant concentrations compared to regional monitors operated by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) and the California Air Resources Board (CARB).

November 21, 2020, marked the completion of 13 full years of continuous monitoring of PM₁₀, BC, and meteorology at the two main monitoring locations. Data capture rates and the quality of the captured data have generally been very high. A few discrete events have interrupted data capture at one or both sites; for example, the Sayre Fire in late 2008 took out power at the Landfill monitoring site for several weeks. Monitoring equipment upgrades in 2010 caused some loss of data because instruments were temporarily removed. There was significant loss of PM₁₀ data during the fourth quarter of Years 9 and 11 because the BAM instruments were removed from the field and sent to the manufacturer for maintenance. In 2019,

¹ ENVIRON International Corporation (2003) Results of the baseline ambient air monitoring program for the Sunshine Canyon Landfill. Final report prepared for Browning-Ferris Industries of California, Inc., by ENVIRON International Corporation, Contract No. 03-9660A, June 6.

the Landfill monitoring site was without power for about half a month in October due to the Saddle Ridge Fire. During the Year 13 spring quarter, about a third of the captured PM₁₀ data were invalidated due to limited access to sites for scheduled instrument maintenance during the COVID-19 shelter-in-place order. Even with these interruptions, however, PM₁₀ data completeness statistics for the 13 years indicate average data capture rates of approximately 95% at the Landfill site and approximately 98% at the Community site (see Section 2). On average, less than 5% of all captured data at the Landfill and Community sites were judged as invalid.

1.2 Report Overview

In this report, the high-quality, high-time-resolution data captured over the 13 years between November 2007 and November 2020 at the Landfill and Community sites are analyzed and summarized to offer a realistic characterization of ambient air quality concentrations at the Sunshine Canyon Landfill and the Granada Hills community, and to provide perspective on air quality at the landfill and the local community in the context of the greater South Coast Air Basin (SoCAB).

- Section 2 of this report discusses data completeness.
- Section 3 covers PM₁₀ exceedances of state and federal standards.
- Section 4 discusses regional comparisons of PM₁₀. No regional comparisons of BC were done in Year 13 because the most recent Multiple Air Toxics Exposure Study (MATES) data set used for comparison is not yet available. The BC data in Year 13 would not change the conclusions from the previous comparison included in the Ninth Annual Report of Ambient Air Quality Monitoring at Sunshine Canyon Landfill and Van Gogh Elementary School: A Nine-Year Summary November 22, 2007–November 21, 2016 (excerpt included as **Appendix A**).
- Section 5 describes the effects of wind direction and work activity levels on PM₁₀ and BC concentrations at the Landfill and Community monitoring sites.
- Section 6 discusses the landfill's impact on ambient PM₁₀ and BC concentrations.
- Section 7 describes routine field operations and recent upgrades to site infrastructure.
- Additional analyses of wind and the Landfill North site data are provided in **Appendix B**.
- **Appendix C** compares the Environmental Impact Report's estimated annual increment from landfill emissions to ambient air toxics concentrations and ambient air toxics from the 2016-2017 measurements made at the Landfill and Community sites.

Regulatory standards for pollutants are commonly used to judge the compliance status of air quality management districts. Currently, the only federal health-based standard for PM₁₀ is the daily (24-hr) average concentration of 150 µg/m³. The State of California's PM₁₀ 24-hr standard (50 µg/m³) is more stringent than the federal standard. In this report, both the 24-hr federal standard and the 24-hr state standard are used as a benchmark metric for evaluating the specific monitoring locations in relation to each other and to the standards.

Regional comparisons of ambient PM₁₀ concentrations are used to place the Landfill and Community monitors within the larger context of regional concentrations. For these comparisons, three of the closest regional monitoring sites, operated by the SCAQMD, were

chosen: downtown Los Angeles (North Main Street), Burbank (West Palm),² and Santa Clarita. **Figure 1-1** shows the relative locations of the sites.

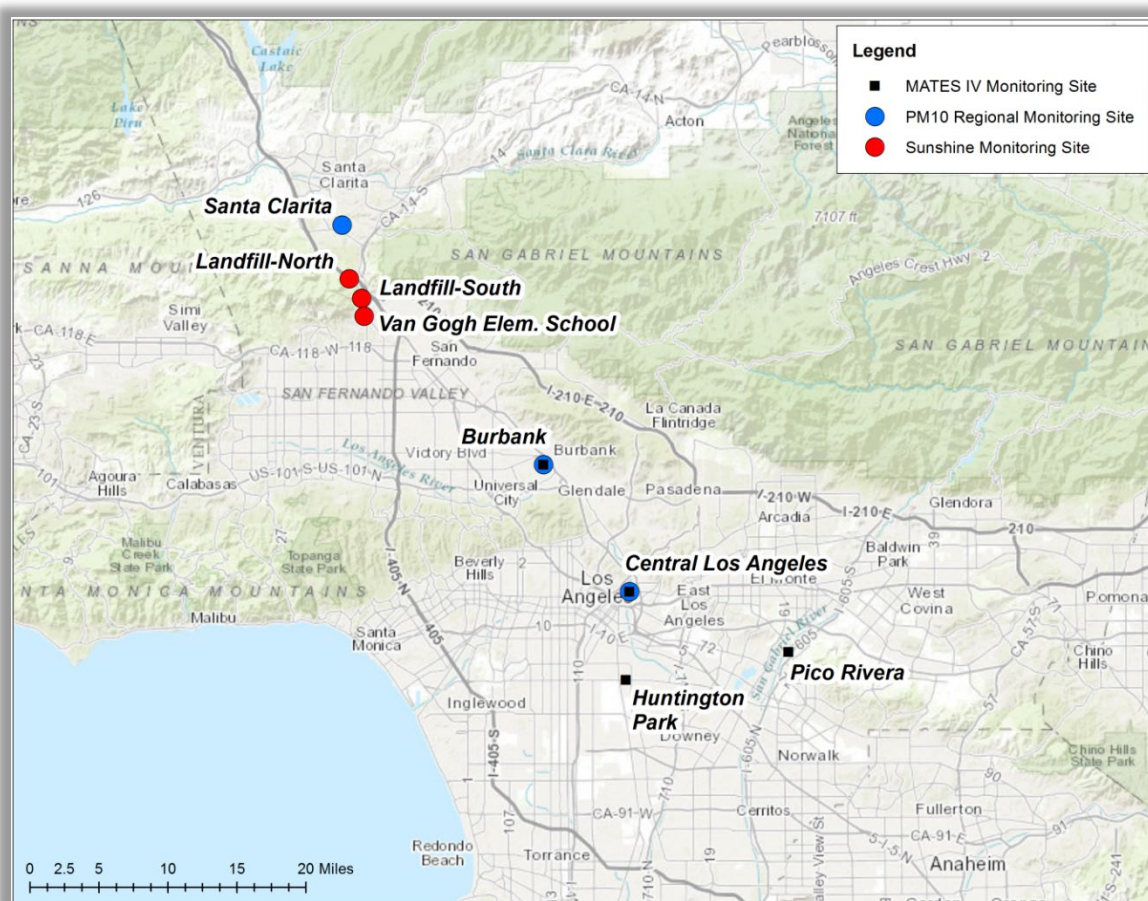


Figure 1-1. Locations of the Landfill and Community monitors in relation to the three SCAQMD PM₁₀ sites and four MATES IV BC sites used for regional comparisons. The Landfill site is labeled “Landfill South,” and the Community monitor is labeled “Van Gogh Elem. School.” In MATES IV documentation, the Central Los Angeles site is referred to as “Central LA.” The Landfill North site was operated from 2016-2017.

Ambient concentrations of BC as a surrogate for DPM continue to receive increased interest statewide, nationally, and globally. SCAQMD has shown that DPM is one of the primary air toxics of concern in the SoCAB. To place the Landfill and Community monitors within the larger context of regional concentrations, four of the closest regional monitoring sites from the Multiple Air Toxics Exposure Study (MATES IV, summer 2012–summer 2013),³ also operated by the SCAQMD, were selected: Burbank (approximately the same location as the Burbank PM₁₀ site), Central LA (approximately the same location as the Los Angeles PM₁₀ site), Huntington Park, and Pico Rivera. Note that this regional comparison spans only the one-year

² PM₁₀ monitoring at the Burbank (West Palm) site was discontinued in July 2014.

³ Information at <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/air-quality/air-quality-studies/health-studies/mates-iv>.

study period of the MATES IV study (Appendix A). MATES V results are not yet available at the time of report publication.

1.3 Methods and Operations Background

Aethalometers measure BC concentrations using an optical attenuation technique, and measurements are subject to what is known as a tape saturation effect, where the buildup of BC on the tape causes an artifact affecting the accuracy of the measured concentration.^{4,5} Instrument response is dampened with heavier loading (i.e., higher concentrations) of BC particles on the tape. This artifact can bias reported BC concentrations low. However, mathematical methods to correct the BC concentrations are available and are widely used. BC values from the Landfill and Community sites were compensated for this tape saturation effect and therefore are representations of ambient concentrations.

Meteorological factors and landfill work activity levels are known to have an impact on local and regional pollutant concentrations. An analysis based on wind direction and landfill working versus non-working days and hours is used to quantify the relationship of these factors to PM₁₀ and BC concentrations. This analysis also provides quantitative estimates of landfill contributions to ambient concentrations of PM₁₀ and BC. A summary of the analytical method is presented in Section 6, with additional analyses in Appendix B.

⁴ Drinovec L. et al. (2014) The "dual-spot" Aethalometer: an improved measurement of aerosol black carbon with real-time loading compensation. *Atmos. Meas. Tech. Discuss.*, 7(9), 10179-10220, doi: 10.5194/amtd-7-10179-2014. Available at <http://www.atmos-meas-tech-discuss.net/7/10179/2014/>.

⁵ Allen G. (2014) Analysis of spatial and temporal trends of black carbon in Boston. Report prepared by Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management (NESCAUM), Boston, MA, January. Available at nescaum.org/documents/analysis-of-spatial-and-temporal-trends-of-black-carbon-in-boston/nescaum-boston-bc-final-rept-2014.pdf.

2. Data Completeness

Table 2-1 shows completeness statistics for all measured variables for the 13 years considered in this analysis. Percent Data Capture is the percent of hourly data values that were collected divided by the total number of expected data intervals in the date range (e.g., 24 hourly data values are expected per day, and 8,760 hourly data values are expected per year—8,784 during leap years). Percent Data Valid or Suspect is the percent of data values that are either valid or suspect divided by the number of captured data values. Percent Data Suspect is the percentage of data values that are labeled as suspect divided by the number of captured data values. WS/WD is wind speed/wind direction.

Except for Year 2 (when the Sayre Fire shut down the Landfill monitoring site's data collection effort from November 15, 2008, through January 8, 2009) and Years 9 and 11 (due to instrument maintenance), the percent data capture for PM₁₀ exceeded 90% in each site-year at both the Landfill and Community sites, and averaged more than 95% over all 13 years. The percent data capture for PM₁₀ in the 13th year is above 99% at both sites. The percent data capture for BC at the Landfill and Community sites averaged more than 92% over 13 years and is above 97% in the 13th year. In Year 13, the percent data valid slightly decrease due to limited access to sites for scheduled instrument maintenance during the COVID-19 shelter-in-place order.

As shown in Table 2-1, the percent data capture for WS/WD exceeded 99% at the Landfill site in Year 13 and averaged 96% over all 13 years. At the Community site in Year 10, data logging computer failures caused significant WS/WD data loss, resulting in roughly 65% data capture. In Year 13 at the Community site, the percent data capture for WS/WD was above 99%, and over the 13-year period the data capture at the Community site averaged more than 96%.

Table 2-1. Data completeness statistics for hourly data during Years 1-13 of continuous monitoring and overall 13-year averages. The begin and end dates for each year are chosen to allow comparison with data collected from the baseline year (November 22, 2001–November 21, 2002).

Years	Monitoring Location	Percent Data Capture (%)			Percent Data Valid or Suspect (%)			Percent Data Suspect (%)		
		PM ₁₀	BC	WS/WD	PM ₁₀	BC	WS/WD	PM ₁₀	BC	WS/WD
Yr. 1 Nov. 22, 2007– Nov. 21, 2008	Sunshine Canyon Landfill Site	94.2%	90.7%	88.3%	98.0%	99.9%	93.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Van Gogh Elementary School Site	95.8%	92.3%	95.4%	96.0%	100.0%	94.7%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Yr. 2 Nov. 22, 2008– Nov. 21, 2009	Sunshine Canyon Landfill Site	86.6%	81.3%	86.8%	97.9%	100.0%	98.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Van Gogh Elementary School Site	98.7%	98.5%	99.9%	96.3%	100.0%	99.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Yr. 3 Nov. 22, 2009– Nov. 21, 2010	Sunshine Canyon Landfill Site	99.7%	87.8%	98.4%	98.2%	100.0%	99.2%	0.1%	0.0%	4.3%
	Van Gogh Elementary School Site	98.4%	87.9%	98.3%	97.0%	100.0%	100.0%	0.5%	23.3% ^a	0.0%
Yr. 4 Nov. 22, 2010– Nov. 21, 2011	Sunshine Canyon Landfill Site	90.8%	99.6%	99.9%	96.9%	100.0%	97.5%	0.3%	0.0%	1.6%
	Van Gogh Elementary School Site	100.0%	99.8%	100.0%	99.2%	99.9%	96.3%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%
Yr. 5 Nov. 22, 2011– Nov. 21, 2012	Sunshine Canyon Landfill Site	99.1%	99.6%	99.4%	95.4%	99.9%	96.7%	5.4%	0.0%	1.0%
	Van Gogh Elementary School Site	94.1%	99.9%	98.7%	98.1%	99.9%	96.1%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Yr. 6 Nov. 22, 2012– Nov. 21, 2013	Sunshine Canyon Landfill Site	99.9%	99.7%	98.7%	98.6%	99.9%	100.0%	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%
	Van Gogh Elementary School Site	100.0%	99.8%	99.4%	97.7%	100.0%	100.0%	0.4%	0.1%	0.0%
Yr. 7 Nov. 22, 2013– Nov. 21, 2014	Sunshine Canyon Landfill Site	100.0%	87.9%	98.1%	99.3%	100.0%	100.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%
	Van Gogh Elementary School Site	100.0%	99.1%	98.5%	98.0%	100.0%	100.0%	0.2%	0.6%	0.0%
Yr. 8 Nov. 22, 2014– Nov. 21, 2015	Sunshine Canyon Landfill Site	99.9%	88.4%	98.6%	98.3%	100.0%	100.0%	0.3%	0.1%	0.0%
	Van Gogh Elementary School Site	99.9%	85.1%	99.0%	82.2%	100.0%	100.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Yr. 9 Nov. 22, 2015– Nov. 21, 2016	Sunshine Canyon Landfill Site	91.8%	93.3%	99.16%	81.3%	99.8%	100.0%	0.0%	8.7%	0.0%
	Van Gogh Elementary School Site	89.9%	92.4%	99.18%	89.1%	99.7%	100.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%
	Sunshine Canyon Landfill North Site ^b	80.3%	85.6%	88.0%	94.8%	99.9%	100.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%
Yr. 10 Nov. 22, 2016– Nov. 21, 2017	Sunshine Canyon Landfill Site	98.6%	94.0%	97.5%	99.1%	100.0%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Van Gogh Elementary School Site	99.9%	91.5%	64.7%	99.8%	99.8%	100.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Sunshine Canyon Landfill North Site ^b	99.6%	90.3%	99.6%	99.4%	100.0%	100.0%	0.0%	17.5%	0.0%
Yr. 11 Nov. 22, 2017– Nov. 21, 2018	Sunshine Canyon Landfill Site	87.0%	91.1%	91.6%	98.1%	100.0%	100.0%	0.0%	10.9%	0.0%
	Van Gogh Elementary School Site	100.0%	95.6%	100.0%	98.0%	99.3%	100.0%	0.0%	6.9%	0.0%
Yr. 12 Nov. 22, 2018– Nov. 21, 2019	Sunshine Canyon Landfill Site	95.9%	95.0%	95.8%	98.4%	100.0%	94.6%	0.1%	2.2%	0.0%
	Van Gogh Elementary School Site	99.9%	96.3%	100.0%	97.1%	99.8%	99.9%	0.0%	4.1%	0.0%
Yr. 13 Nov. 22, 2019– Nov. 21, 2020	Sunshine Canyon Landfill Site	99.7%	99.6%	99.6%	94.4%	100.0%	99.2%	0.0%	3.6%	0.0%
	Van Gogh Elementary School Site	99.7%	99.1%	99.1%	90.4%	100.0%	99.2%	0.0%	3.7%	0.0%
Thirteen-Yr. Average	Sunshine Canyon Landfill Site	95.6%	92.9%	96.3%	96.5%	100.0%	98.3%	0.6%	2.0%	0.5%
	Van Gogh Elementary School Site	98.2%	95.2%	96.3%	95.3%	99.9%	99.0%	0.2%	3.0%	0.0%

^a Three-fourths of the data from the June 2010–August 2010 quarter were suspect because flow rates as measured by the reference flow meter were outside of tolerance levels. This was due to a leak in the push-to-connect fitting at the back of the Aethalometer. Further details can be found in the Eleventh Quarterly report. This quarter negatively affects the 13-year average for percent suspect. Without this quarter, the 13-year average would be 1.3% instead of 3.0%.

^b Sunshine Canyon Landfill North site was operated from June 2016 through May 31, 2017.

3. PM₁₀ Exceedances

The Clean Air Act requires EPA to set National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS, 40 CFR Part 50) for pollutants considered harmful to public health and the environment.⁶ Included in the NAAQS is PM₁₀. Currently, the only federal health-based standard for PM₁₀ is the daily (24-hr) average concentration of 150 µg/m³.

In 1959, California enacted legislation requiring the state Department of Public Health to establish air quality standards and necessary controls for motor vehicle emissions.⁷ California law continues to mandate California ambient air quality standards (CAAQS), which are often more stringent than national standards. The State of California's current 24-hr standard for PM₁₀ is 50 µg/m³. **Table 3-1** shows the number of federal and state PM₁₀ exceedances for the Landfill, Community, and regional monitoring sites by season over the 13-year period. Additional information on the federal and state exceedance days are described in the following sections.

Table 3-1. Total number of 24-hr federal (150 µg/m³) and state (50 µg/m³) PM₁₀ exceedances at the Landfill, Community, and regional monitoring sites by season over the 13-year period.

Exceedance Type	Season ^a	Sunshine Canyon Landfill (LS)	Community Site (CS)	Burbank ^b	Los Angeles North Main	Santa Clarita ^c
# of Federal Exceedances	Spring	14	1	0	0	0
	Summer	2	0	0	1	0
	Fall	18	4	0	1	0
	Winter	10	0	0	0	0
Total # of Federal Exceedances		44	5	0	2	0
# of State Exceedances	Spring	191	68	6	116	2
	Summer	270	125	6	108	1
	Fall	250	88	9	202	4
	Winter	117	25	7	147	1
Total # of State Exceedances		828	306	28	573	8

^a Spring: March 1–May 31; Summer: June 1–August 31; Fall: Sept. 1–Nov. 30; Winter: Dec. 1–Feb. 28 (Feb. 29 for leap year).

^b The Burbank site was discontinued in July 2014.

^c Samples from the Santa Clarita site are collected every six days.

⁶ <https://www.epa.gov/criteria-air-pollutants/naaqs-table>.

⁷ <https://www.arb.ca.gov/research/aaqs/caaqs/caaqs.htm>.

3.1 Federal Exceedances

Figure 3-1 depicts the number of federal PM₁₀ exceedances measured at the Landfill, Community, and regional monitoring sites for each year of the 13-year period. In Year 13, the federal standard was exceeded on six occasions at the Landfill site and on no occasions at the Community site. Five out of the six Federal exceedances at the Landfill site happened in the fall quarters of Year 13 and one happened in the winter quarter.

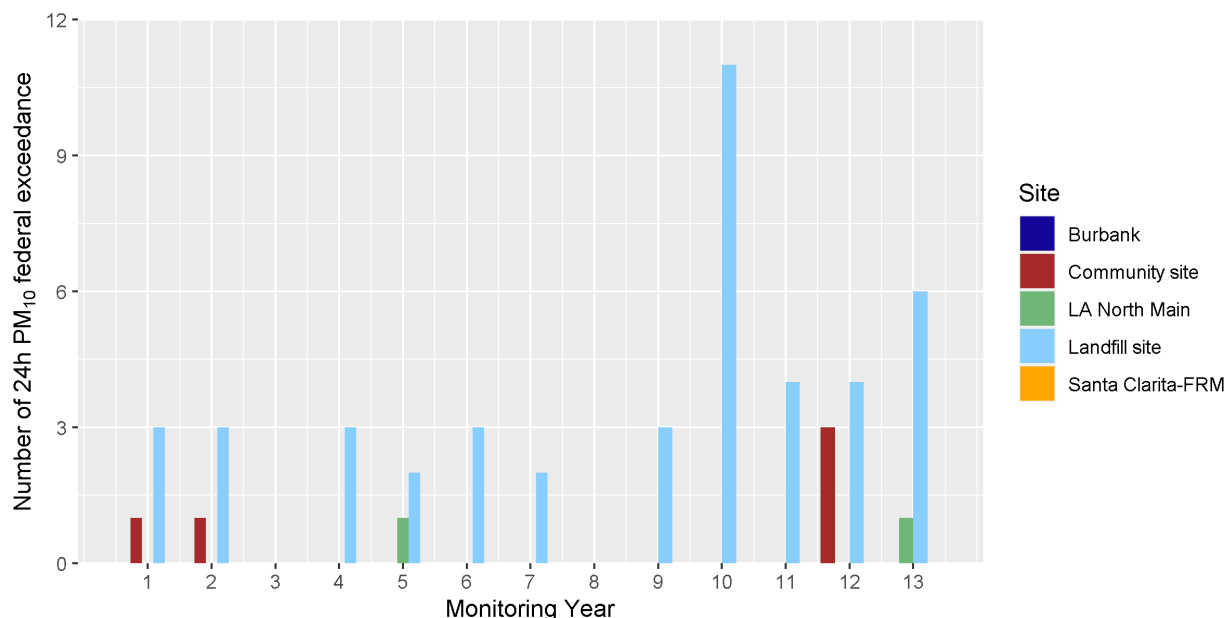


Figure 3-1. Number of federal exceedances of 24-hr PM₁₀ at the Landfill, Community and regional monitoring sites by year over the 13-year study period. (e.g., Monitoring Year 1 refers to Nov. 22, 2007–Nov. 21, 2008).

Figures 3-2 through 3-7 show 24-hr PM₁₀ concentrations at sites across the Los Angeles region on the days when the federal 24-hr PM₁₀ standard was exceeded at the Landfill site in Year 13.

As shown in Figures 3-2 and 3-3, back trajectory HYSPLIT model data illustrate wind flow from the north, where air quality monitoring sites in the Mojave Desert showed high levels of PM₁₀. While we assume landfill activity played a key role in these federal exceedances at the landfill monitor, the absence of an upwind landfill monitoring site makes it difficult to quantify landfill contributions to neighborhood-scale pollutant concentrations. Federal exceedances occurring at the Landfill site on December 17, 2019 (Figure 3-4), September 9, 2020 (Figure 3-5), and October 16, 2020 (Figure 3-6), were distinctive within the Los Angeles area. The Landfill site concentrations were 102%–134% higher than concentrations measured at the Community site on these days (with concentrations at the Community site exceeding the State PM₁₀ standard only on September 9). We assume that landfill activity played a key role in these federal exceedances; however, the level of uncertainty in quantifying landfill contributions to neighborhood-scale pollutant concentrations remains high without the presence of an upwind

landfill monitoring site. Conversely, in Figure 3-7, 24-hr PM₁₀ concentrations measured at several sites across the Los Angeles area on October 26, 2020, exceeded the federal 24-hr PM₁₀ standard. Wildfire activity within the area, as well as from beyond the Los Angeles Basin, was the main cause of this PM₁₀ event; therefore, it is difficult to quantify the impact landfill activities had on the Landfill site.

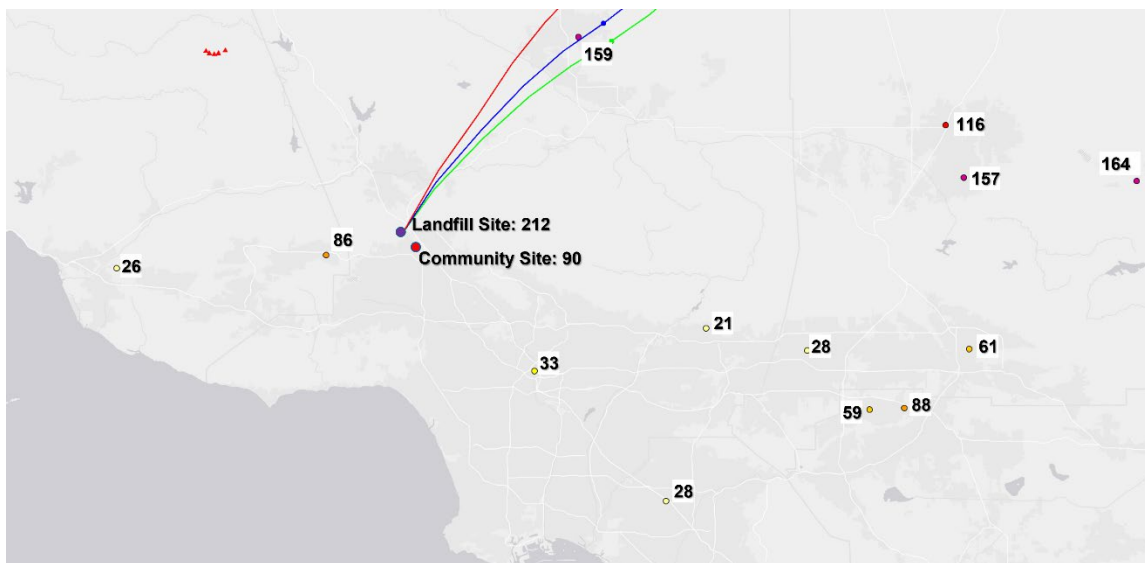


Figure 3-2. PM₁₀ concentrations at sites across the Los Angeles area on November 25, 2019. Values next to each site show the 24-hr PM₁₀ concentration in µg/m³. The NOAA HYSPLIT trajectory model is used to model wind flow at three different heights: 10 meters (green line), 100 meters (blue line), and 250 meters (red line) above ground. Note: no sites (within the map domain) recorded 24-hr PM₁₀ concentrations above the federal standard. Red triangles depict locations of the active wildfire hotspot events on this day.

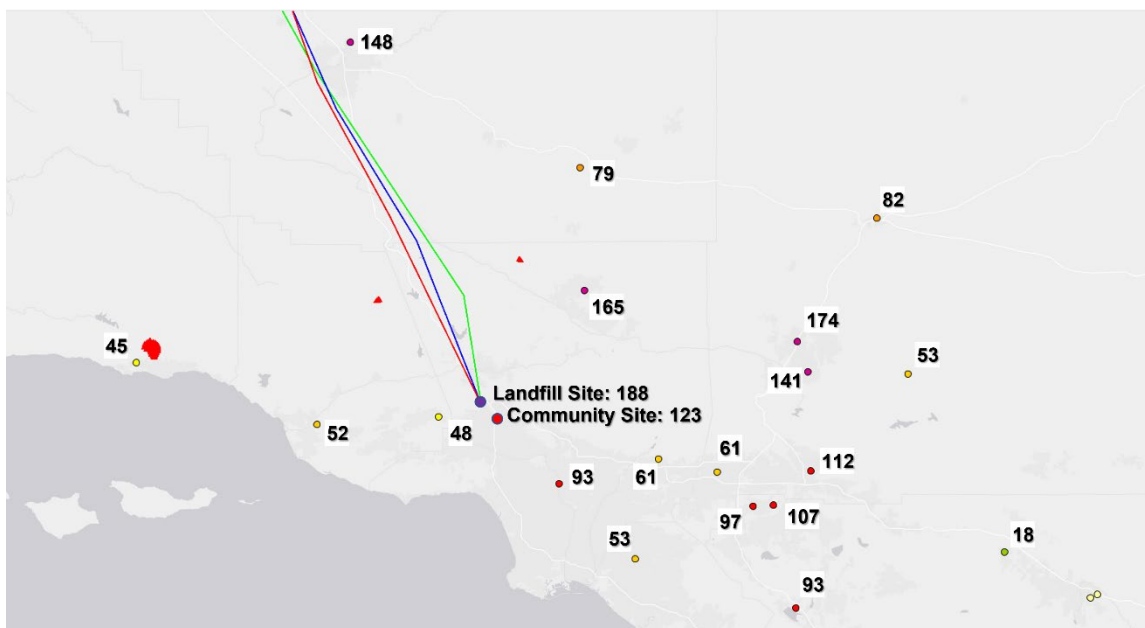


Figure 3-3. PM₁₀ concentrations at sites across the Los Angeles area on November 26, 2019. Values next to each site show the 24-hr PM₁₀ concentration in µg/m³. The NOAA HYSPLIT trajectory model is used to model wind flow at three different heights: 10 meters (green line), 100 meters (blue line), and 250 meters (red line) above ground. Note: two other sites (within the map domain) recorded 24-hr PM₁₀ concentrations above the federal standard, while most of the other sites recorded 24-hr PM₁₀ concentrations above the state standard (including the Community Site). Red triangles depict locations of the active wildfire hotspot events on this day.

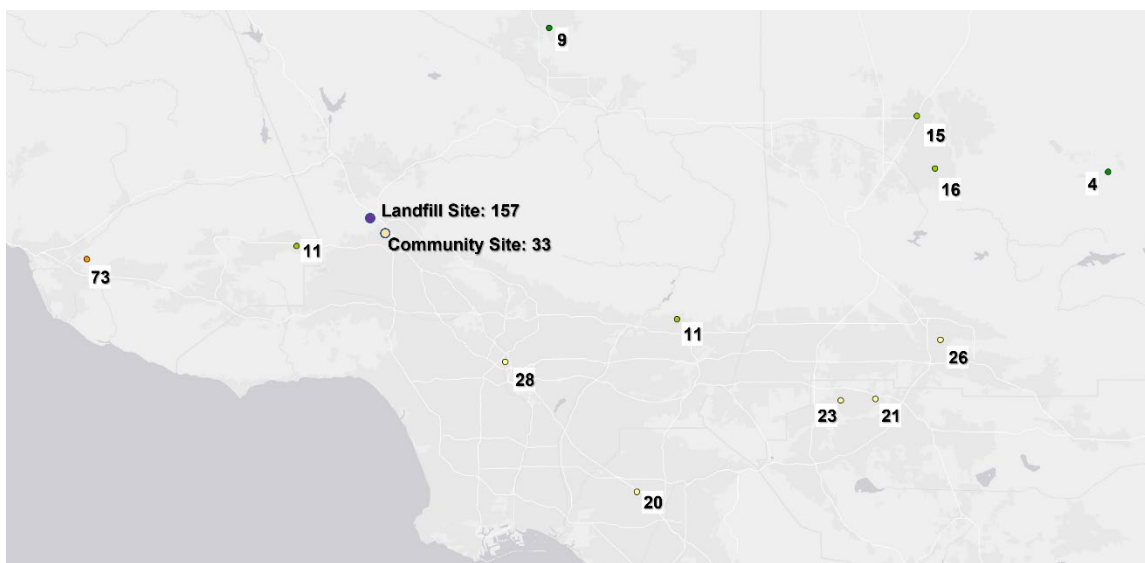


Figure 3-4. PM₁₀ concentrations at sites across the Los Angeles area on December 17, 2019. Values next to each site show the 24-hr PM₁₀ concentration in µg/m³. Note: no sites (within the map domain) recorded 24-hr PM₁₀ concentrations above the federal standard. No active wildfire hotspot events were within the map domain on this day.

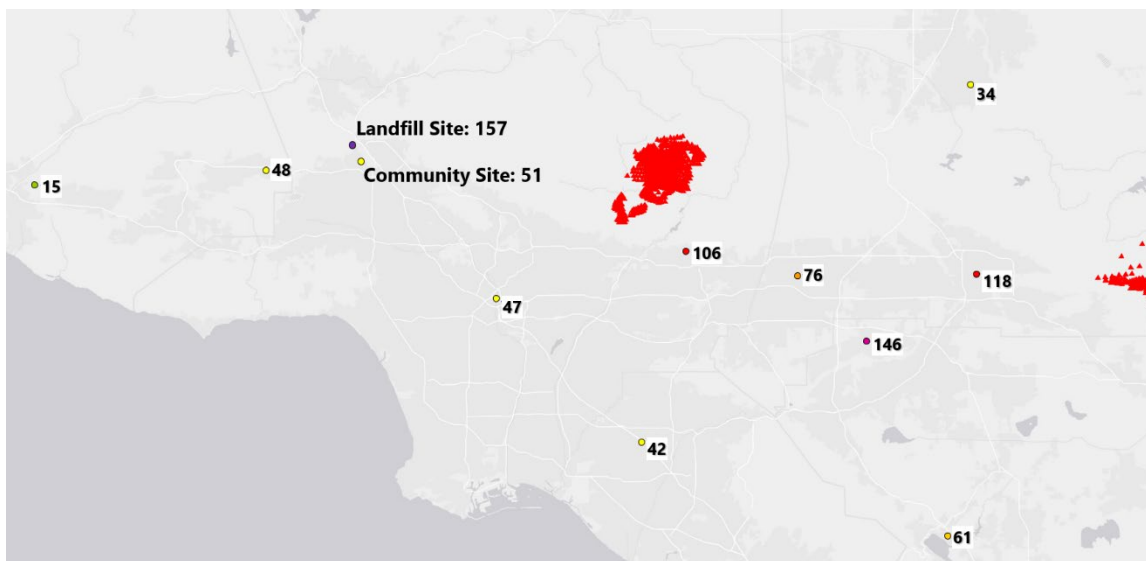


Figure 3-5. PM₁₀ concentrations at sites across the Los Angeles area on September 9, 2020. Values next to each site show the 24-hr PM₁₀ concentration in $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. Note: no other sites (within the map domain) recorded 24-hr PM₁₀ concentrations above the federal standard, however several sites (including the Community Site) recorded 24-hr PM₁₀ concentrations above the state standard. Red triangles depict locations of the active wildfire hotspot events on this day.

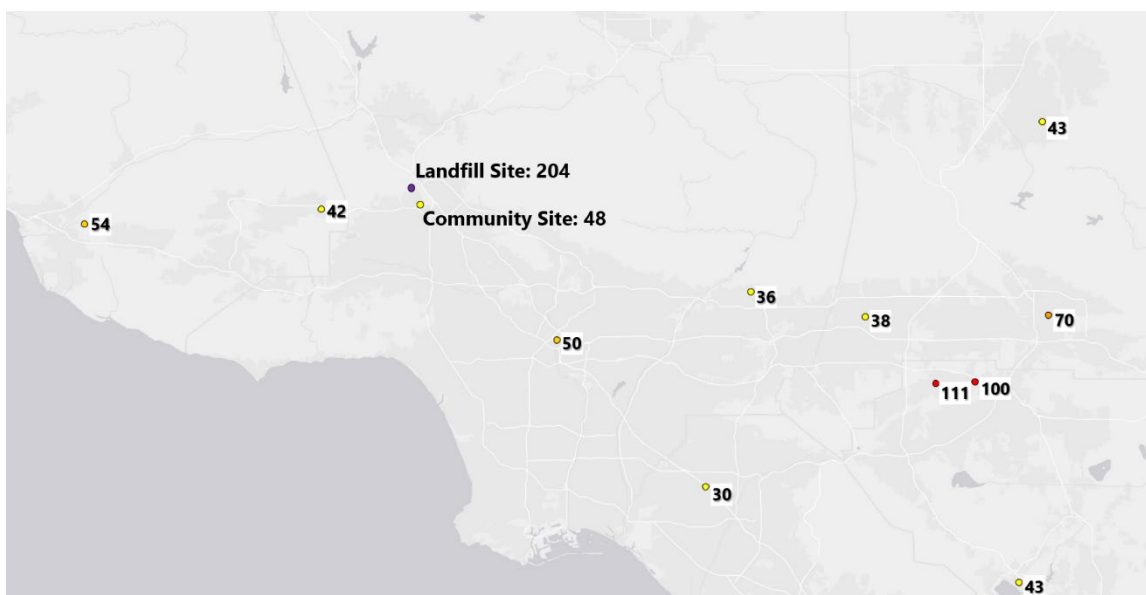


Figure 3-6. PM₁₀ concentrations at sites across the Los Angeles area on October 16, 2020. Values next to each site show the 24-hr PM₁₀ concentration in $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. Note: no other sites (within the map domain) recorded 24-hr PM₁₀ concentrations above the federal standard. No active wildfire hotspot events were within the map domain on this day.

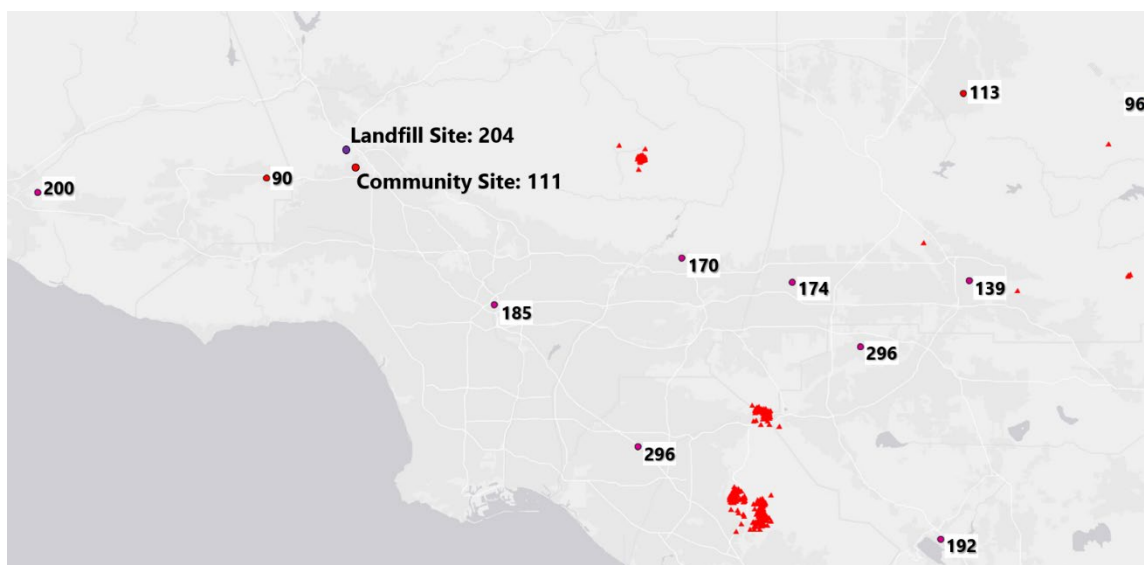


Figure 3-7. PM₁₀ concentrations at sites across the Los Angeles area on October 26, 2020. Values next to each site show the 24-hr PM₁₀ concentration in µg/m³. Note: several sites recorded 24-hr PM₁₀ concentrations above the federal standard. Red triangles depict locations of the active wildfire hotspot events on this day.

Table 3-2 lists all the days during the past 13 years of continuous monitoring on which the federal 24-hr PM₁₀ standard was exceeded at either the Landfill site or the Community Site, along with 24-hr average concentrations from those days at the three comparative SCAQMD sites (Burbank, Santa Clarita, and downtown Los Angeles). The Burbank and Los Angeles sites have continuous (hourly) PM₁₀ monitors, like those at the Landfill and Community sites; the Santa Clarita site, however, employs Federal Reference Method (FRM) sampling (integrated 24-hr samples on filters) on a one-in-six-day schedule. Of the six federal exceedance days in Year 13, December 17, 2019, happened to fall on the one-in-six-day Santa Clarita sample schedule. Note that a 75% data completeness threshold was used when calculating the 24-hr average PM₁₀ from these measurements. For example, 18 out of 24 data points (per day) need to be valid to calculate the 24-hr average value at a site with hourly measurements.

The federal standard was exceeded on 44 occasions at the Landfill site; on two of those 44 days, the Community site also registered an exceedance. While the SCAQMD sites in Burbank, Santa Clarita, and Los Angeles did not report exceedances on the aforementioned two days, the 24-hr PM₁₀ concentrations were relatively high. The elevated concentrations at these sites suggest that, when regional concentrations are high, the combination of landfill and regional contributions can push the Community site's PM₁₀ concentrations over the federal standard. Additionally, the Community site had three federal exceedances in October 2019, likely due to wildfire activities (See the 12th Annual Report). However, over the 13 years of monitoring, high regional concentrations combined with high landfill concentrations have only occurred on three days (05/21/2008, 10/27/2009, and 10/26/2020). More conclusive, however, is the insignificant effect on Community PM₁₀ concentrations when Landfill concentrations exceed federal limits and regional concentrations are relatively low. As shown in Table 3-2 and

Figure 3-1, this is particularly evident on the 11 federal exceedance days at the Landfill site in Year 10 (2017).

Table 3-2. Summary of 24-hr PM₁₀ concentrations (µg/m³) at the Landfill, Community, and Landfill North monitoring sites and the SCAQMD Burbank, Santa Clarita, and Los Angeles regional sites when a federal PM₁₀ exceedance (>150 µg/m³) occurred at either the Landfill site or the Community site.

Date	Landfill Site	Community Site	Landfill North Site	Burbank West Palm	Los Angeles Main Street	Santa Clarita
2/14/2008	167	48	n/a	19	30	-- b
5/21/2008	290	152	n/a	119	140	-- b
10/9/2008	158	104	n/a	--b	59	91
1/9/2009	185	71	n/a	-- b	68	-- b
5/6/2009	257	91	n/a	-- b	49	-- b
10/27/2009	239	165	n/a	130	147	-- b
1/20/2011	207	28	n/a	26	46	-- b
4/30/2011	221	32	n/a	25	40	-- b
11/2/2011	263	43	n/a	37	56	-- b
5/22/2012	186	61	n/a	34	-- a	-- b
10/26/2012	227	49	n/a	31	40	-- b
3/21/2013	181	34	n/a	32	37	-- b
4/8/2013	174	64	n/a	53	-- b	-- b
10/4/2013	200	64	n/a	28	58	-- b
12/4/2013	155	18	n/a	21	-- a	-- b
12/9/2013	181	31	n/a	24	34	-- b
7/22/2016	183	51	66	-- c	53	-- b
7/30/2016	153	129	209	-- c	36	-- b
11/17/2016	178	38	-- b	-- c	51	-- b
12/2/2016	245	76	84	-- c	35	22
12/18/2016	204	32	21	-- c	26	-- b
3/27/2017	170	37	26	-- c	28	-- b
4/20/2017	236	37	30	-- c	35	-- b
4/21/2017	167	41	29	-- c	40	-- b
4/25/2017	191	42	38	-- c	28	67
4/27/2017	184	45	45	-- c	45	-- b
4/28/2017	165	47	46	-- c	33	-- b
10/9/2017	200	61	-- b	-- c	61	-- b
10/24/2017	276	35	-- b	-- c	39	-- b
11/21/2017	170	30	-- b	-- c	48	25
12/5/2017	225	62	-- b	-- c	54	-- b
12/17/2017	210	54	-- b	-- c	36	-- b
4/12/2018	237	50	-- b	-- c	40	-- b
11/8/2018	231	60	-- b	-- c	49	-- b
4/9/2019	193	53	-- b	-- c	59	42
10/10/2019	-- a	161	-- b	-- c	47	-- b

Date	Landfill Site	Community Site	Landfill North Site	Burbank West Palm	Los Angeles Main Street	Santa Clarita
10/11/2019	-- a	259	-- b	-- c	45	-- b
10/25/2019	202	64	-- b	-- c	47	-- b
10/30/2019	-- a	324	-- b	-- c	64	63
10/31/2019	170	61	-- b	-- c	42	-- b
11/16/2019	157	30	-- b	-- c	43	-- b
11/25/2019	212	90	-- b	-- c	33	-- b
11/26/2019	188	123	-- b	-- c	94	-- b
12/17/2019	157	33	-- b	-- c	29	8
9/9/2020	157	51	-- b	-- c	48	-- b
10/16/2020	204	48	-- b	-- c	51	-- b
10/26/2020	204	111	-- b	-- c	185	-- b

^a Not enough hourly data to meet the 75% data threshold standard. ^b No data available. ^c PM₁₀ monitoring was discontinued in July 2014.

The Landfill PM₁₀ federal exceedances listed in Table 3-2 were generally accompanied by high wind speeds, with wind direction falling within a narrow sector that encompasses the active portion of the landfill. Wind data from the Landfill site for all federal exceedance days are plotted in **Figure 3-8**. A wind rose depicts how wind speed and direction are typically distributed at a particular location. Presented in a circular format, the length of each “spoke” is related to the frequency of time that wind blows from that direction. The color of each spoke indicates differences in wind speed. The majority of the winds were from the northwest, passing directly over working areas of the landfill. Wind speeds were highest when the wind direction was from the northwest and from the north. Also shown in Figure 3-8 is wind data from the Community site for the five federal exceedance days. While the wind direction is also mainly from the north-northwest, wind speeds are significantly lower.

After 13 years of continuous data collection, it is clear that PM₁₀ federal exceedances at the Landfill site are more common than they are in the Community or at regional monitoring sites, suggesting that surface material is being entrained at high wind speeds and subsequently detected by the Landfill monitor. By the time these air parcels reach the Community or regional monitors, they have been diluted, and some of the larger particles may have been removed by deposition.

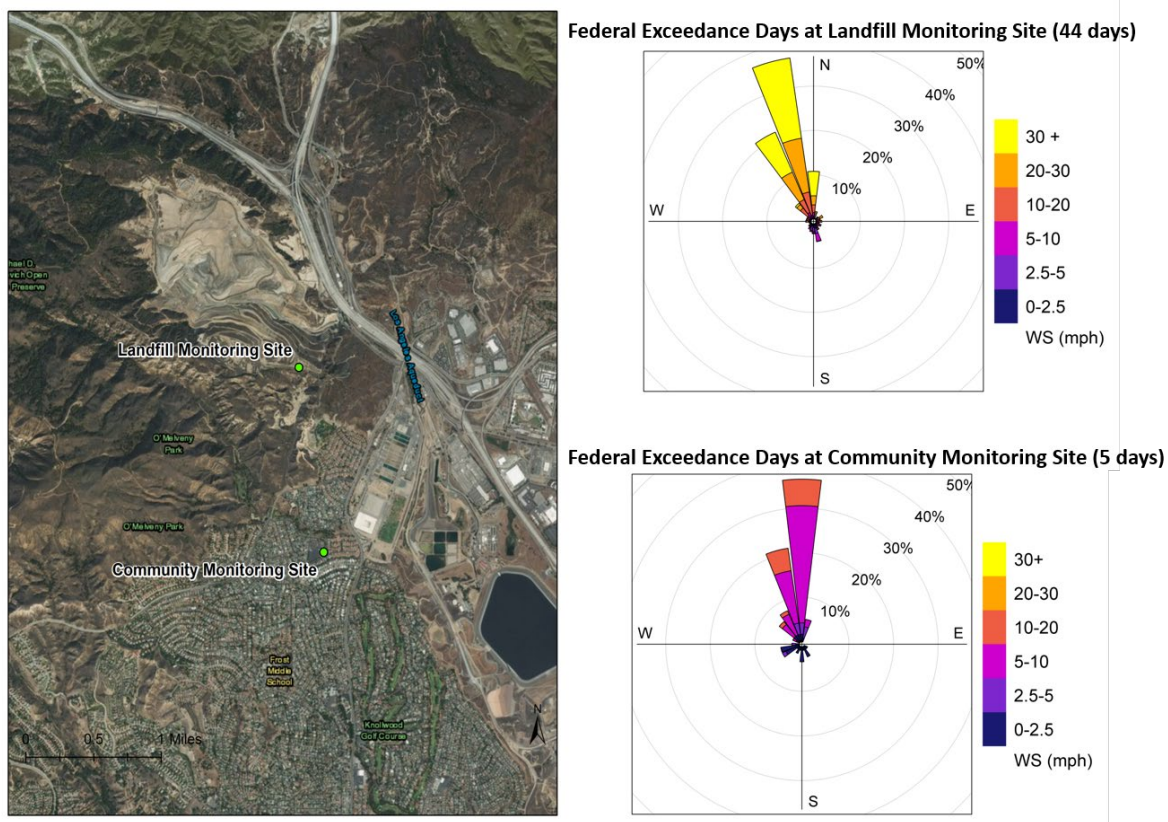


Figure 3-8. Wind rose from federal exceedance days during 13 continuous monitoring years at the Landfill (top right) and Community (bottom right) monitoring sites. Wind data at the Community site are replaced with those from the Reseda site since Year 11.

3.2 State Exceedances

Figure 3-9 depicts the number of PM₁₀ California state exceedances measured at the Landfill, Community, and regional monitoring sites for each year of the 13-year period. State exceedances are more common across sites than the federal exceedances shown in Figure 3-1. Although state exceedances at the Landfill site declined three years in a row between 2017 (Year 10) and 2019 (Year 12), 2020 (Year 13) had a record number of state exceedances, 180, over the 13-year monitoring period. The Community site has seen a low number (< 10) of state 24-hr PM₁₀ standard exceedances consistently since 2015. In Year 12 however, the number of exceedances at the Community site climbed back up to 16 due to the wildfire and smoke activities in the fall quarter of 2019. For Year 13, state exceedances at the Community site decreased to 14.

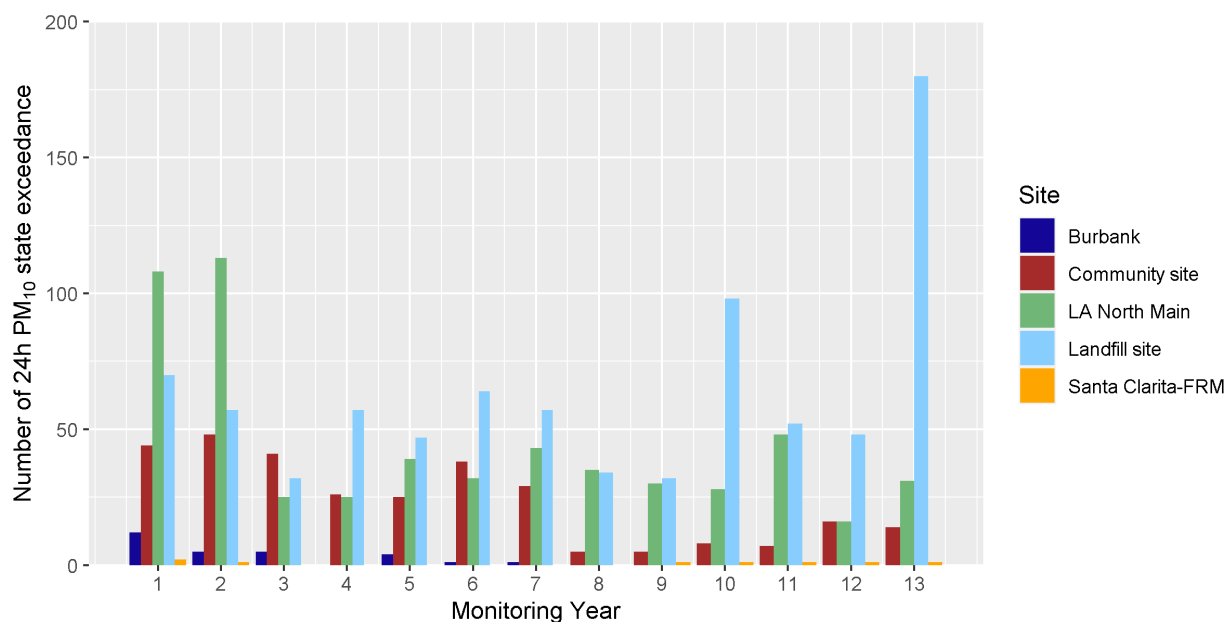


Figure 3-9. Number of state exceedances of 24-hr PM₁₀ at the Landfill, Community, and regional monitoring sites by year over the 13-year study period. (e.g., Monitoring Year 1 refers to Nov. 22, 2007–Nov. 21, 2008).

Table 3-3 lists the number of days during the past 13 years of continuous monitoring when the state 24-hr PM₁₀ standard was exceeded at all three monitoring sites operated by STI, along with the three comparative SCAQMD sites (Burbank, Santa Clarita, and downtown Los Angeles).

Table 3-3. Summary of state PM₁₀ exceedance (more than 50 µg/m³) at the Landfill, Community, Landfill North monitoring sites and at the Burbank, Santa Clarita, and Los Angeles regional sites operated by SCAQMD.

	Year	No. of Exceedances	No. of Valid 24-hr Averages	% Exceedances
Sunshine Canyon Landfill (LS)	Year 1	70	337	21%
	Year 2	57	307	19%
	Year 3	32	354	9%
	Year 4	57	320	18%
	Year 5	47	341	14%
	Year 6	64	359	18%
	Year 7	57	364	16%
	Year 8	34	358	9%
	Year 9	32	270	12%
	Year 10	98	356	28%
	Year 11	52	311	17%
	Year 12	48	342	14%
	Year 13	180	343	52%
Sunshine Canyon Landfill North (LN) ⁸	Year 9	77	275	28%
	Year 10	14	190	7%
Community Site (CS)	Year 1	44	335	13%
	Year 2	48	341	14%
	Year 3	41	346	12%
	Year 4	26	362	7%
	Year 5	25	336	7%
	Year 6	38	354	11%
	Year 7	29	359	8%
	Year 8	5	299	2%
	Year 9	5	291	2%
	Year 10	8	365	2%
	Year 11	7	357	2%
	Year 12	16	354	5%
	Year 13	14	329	4%
Burbank ⁹	Year 1	12	217	6%
	Year 2	5	58	9%
	Year 3	5	363	1%
	Year 4	0	362	0%
	Year 5	4	366	1%

⁸ Sunshine Canyon Landfill North Site operated June 2016 through May 31, 2017.

⁹ PM₁₀ monitoring was discontinued in July 2014 at the Burbank site.

	Year	No. of Exceedances	No. of Valid 24-hr Averages	% Exceedances
	Year 6	1	360	0%
	Year 7	1	200	1%
Los Angeles North Main	Year 1	108	312	35%
	Year 2	113	354	32%
	Year 3	25	342	7%
	Year 4	25	317	8%
	Year 5	39	335	12%
	Year 6	32	332	9%
	Year 7	43	342	13%
	Year 8	35	335	10%
	Year 9	30	360	8%
	Year 10	28	338	8%
	Year 11	48	364	13%
	Year 12	16	358	4%
	Year 13	31	360	9%
Santa Clarita ¹⁰	Year 1	2	56	4%
	Year 2	1	53	2%
	Year 3	0	57	0%
	Year 4	0	56	0%
	Year 5	0	55	0%
	Year 6	0	60	0%
	Year 7	0	59	0%
	Year 8	0	53	0%
	Year 9	1	60	2%
	Year 10	1	57	2%
	Year 11	1	50	2%
	Year 12	1	60	2%
	Year 13	1	40	3%

Similar to the federal exceedance pattern (discussed in Section 3.1), the Landfill PM₁₀ state exceedances were accompanied by high wind speeds, with wind direction falling within a narrow sector that encompassed the active portion of the landfill. However, as shown in **Figure 3-10**, state exceedance days at the Landfill site were also accompanied by low wind speeds and wind directions from the Los Angeles basin (south and southeast). These elevated concentrations within the basin, in combination with landfill contributions, can push the Landfill site's PM₁₀ concentrations over the state standard. To help explain this pattern and to emphasize the importance of meteorology's effect on measured pollutant levels, the Ninth

¹⁰ FRM sampling (integrated 24-hr samples on filters) on a one-in-six day schedule at the Santa Clarita site.

Annual Report provided meteorological data measured at the Landfill site for the years 2008 through 2016; these data demonstrated that measurements at the Landfill site are dominated by summer season wind flow from the south to south-southeast and thus by regional PM₁₀ concentrations originating in the SoCAB.

Also shown in Figure 3-10 are wind data from the Community site for the 306 state exceedance days during the 13-year period. On days when 24-hr PM₁₀ concentrations exceed the state standard at the Community site, wind speeds are relatively low and wind direction is predominantly from the Los Angeles basin (southeast). Regional contributions are thus the main driver of PM₁₀ concentration state exceedances at the Community site. After 13 years of continuous data collection, it is clear that PM₁₀ state exceedances are more common at the Landfill site than they are at the Community site. In addition, differences in wind speed and direction patterns between the two sites on days of measured state exceedances provide insight on the source contributions.

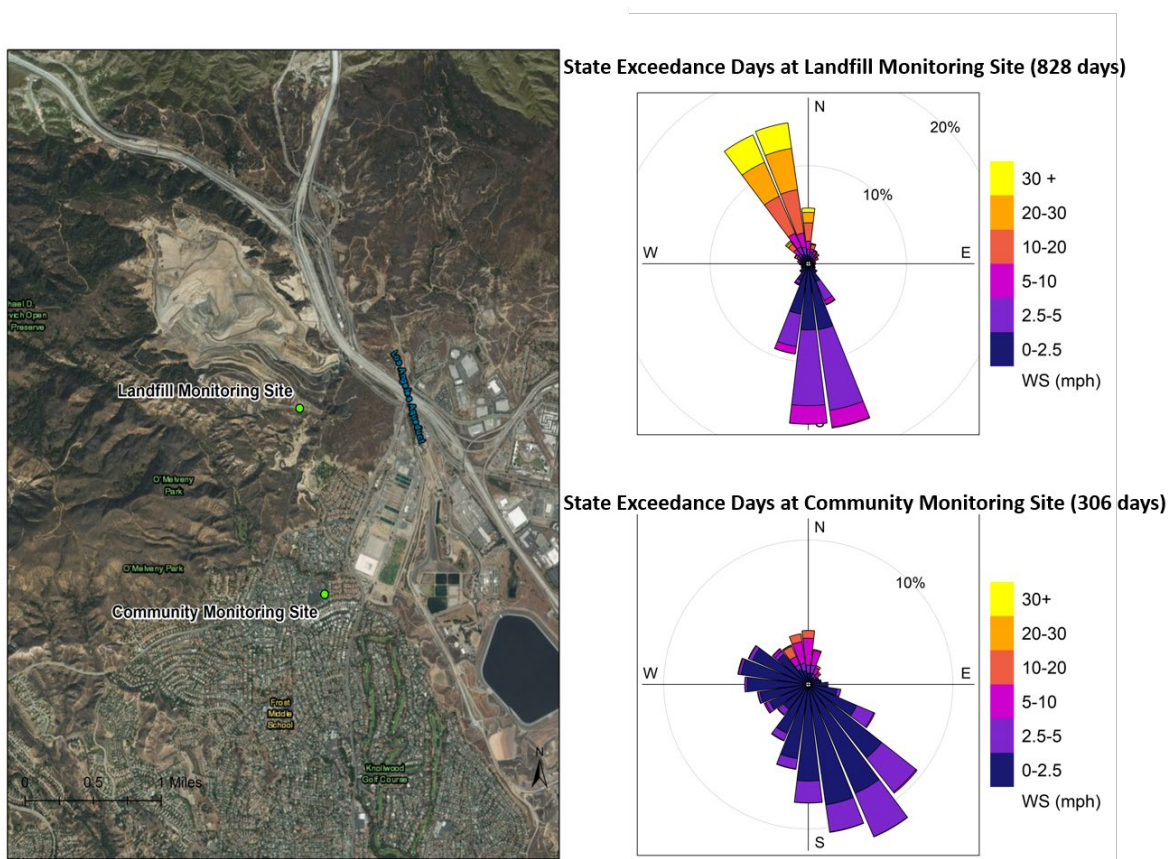


Figure 3-10. Wind rose from state 24-hr PM₁₀ exceedance days during 13 continuous monitoring years at the Landfill (top right) and Community (bottom right) monitoring sites. Wind data at the Community site have been replaced with those from the Reseda site since Year 11 (as discussed in Section 5.1).

4. Regional Comparisons of PM₁₀

Comparing the PM₁₀ concentrations measured at the Landfill and Community monitoring sites with those measured at nearby regional monitoring sites places the locally collected data in a larger, more regional context. The Landfill and Community sites are directly affected by emissions in the SoCAB and the nearby highly trafficked freeway system. The sites chosen for comparison, shown earlier in Figure 1-1, are the closest regulatory sites that conduct routine PM₁₀ monitoring.

Figure 4-1 shows the monthly average PM₁₀ concentrations for the Landfill and Community monitoring sites, and for the three regional locations, from January 2008 until November 2020. Note that a 75% data threshold was used when calculating the monthly averages. For example, at least 23 valid daily PM₁₀ values are needed to calculate the monthly average PM₁₀ for a month with 31 days. For the first three years of continuous monitoring, the SCAQMD monitor at downtown Los Angeles recorded, on average, the highest PM₁₀ concentrations among the three regional sites, with exceptions noted in May 2009 and June/July 2010. These exceptions were discussed in the *Third Annual Report of Ambient Air Quality Monitoring at Sunshine Canyon Landfill and Van Gogh Elementary School (June 1, 2009–May 31, 2010)*, delivered to the Los Angeles City Planning Department in March 2011. The regional monitor in Burbank followed a month-to-month pattern similar to the Los Angeles pattern, but at a lower average PM₁₀ concentration, until the site was discontinued in summer 2014. The FRM monitor at Santa Clarita, on the northern edge of the air basin, recorded on average the lowest PM₁₀ concentrations of the regional sites. From 2008 to 2010, Landfill and Community measurements tended to track between the Los Angeles and Santa Clarita data.

The monitoring years since 2011 deviated from this pattern, with the Landfill monitor usually exhibiting the highest average monthly concentrations in June through September. To help explain this pattern and emphasize the importance of meteorology's effect on measured pollutant levels, the *Ninth Annual Report of Ambient Air Quality Monitoring at Sunshine Canyon Landfill and Van Gogh Elementary School (November 22, 2007–November 21, 2016)*, delivered to the Los Angeles City Planning Department in April 2017, provides meteorological data measured at the Landfill site for the summer seasons of 2008 through 2016; these data demonstrate that measurements at the Landfill site are dominated by wind flow from the south to south-southeast and thus by regional PM₁₀ concentrations originating in the SoCAB. The dominance of low speed, south-southeasterly winds from June through September between 2011 and 2016 was coupled with PM₁₀ concentrations at the Landfill monitor that consistently exceeded those of the downtown Los Angeles monitor. The main conclusion drawn from these periods of low-speed, southerly winds is that summertime elevations in PM₁₀ concentrations measured at the Landfill site are not solely attributable to Landfill activities. A deviation from the pattern occurred in 2017, with the Landfill monitor exhibiting the highest average monthly concentrations among the sites shown in Figure 4-1, consistently throughout the year. Uncharacteristic monthly concentration spikes occurred at the Landfill site in December 2016, April 2017, and October 2017. In addition, concentrations followed the similar elevated summer season pattern; however, the deviations in monthly average PM₁₀ concentrations from the next highest monitor (SCAQMD monitor in downtown Los Angeles) were the largest on record. In 2018, the Landfill site again followed the elevated summer season pattern. In 2019, both the

Landfill site and the Community site had an abnormal increase in the monthly average PM₁₀ concentrations during the fall quarter due to wildfire activities. In Year 13, the Landfill site had high PM₁₀ concentrations starting in May 2020. Although the PM₁₀ concentration at the Community site followed the same increasing trend as that of the Landfill site until October 2020, the values remained much lower, the lowest among all SCAQMD sites. Figure 4-1 also shows a strong correlation between Community and Santa Clarita PM₁₀ data.

Figure 4-2 shows the rolling annual average PM₁₀ concentrations for the Landfill and Community monitoring sites, and for the three regional locations, for Year 1 (2008) through Year 13 (2020). The rolling annual average is calculated from yearly averages over a period of three years. For example, the annual rolling average for Year 13 is calculated based on the individual yearly average of Year 11, 12, and 13. Due to the nature of this method, the rolling annual average for Year 1 and Year 2 are their yearly averages, respectively. (The yearly averages are calculated based on either hourly or 1-in-6-day FRM measurements.) While Figure 4-1 provides valuable insight on monthly and seasonal variations for each site, a rolling annual average allows for more concise site-by-site comparison over the entire monitoring period. The Landfill site compares well with the downtown Los Angeles site in Years 5 through 9. However, starting in Year 10, the average concentrations at the two sites deviate from each other, with the Landfill site showing a significant increase.

In Years 5 through 7, the PM₁₀ concentrations are consistently higher at the Community site than at the regional monitor in Burbank and the Santa Clarita FRM; however, annual average concentrations are significantly lower at the Community site than at the downtown Los Angeles and Landfill sites for the 13-year period. Furthermore, the concentrations at the Community site have been steadily decreasing since Year 7, and in Year 11 they fell below the annual average concentrations measured at Santa Clarita. This is an important finding in that, while PM₁₀ concentrations measured at the Landfill site remain relatively high (with a recent trend upward), PM₁₀ concentrations measured at the Community site are trending down.

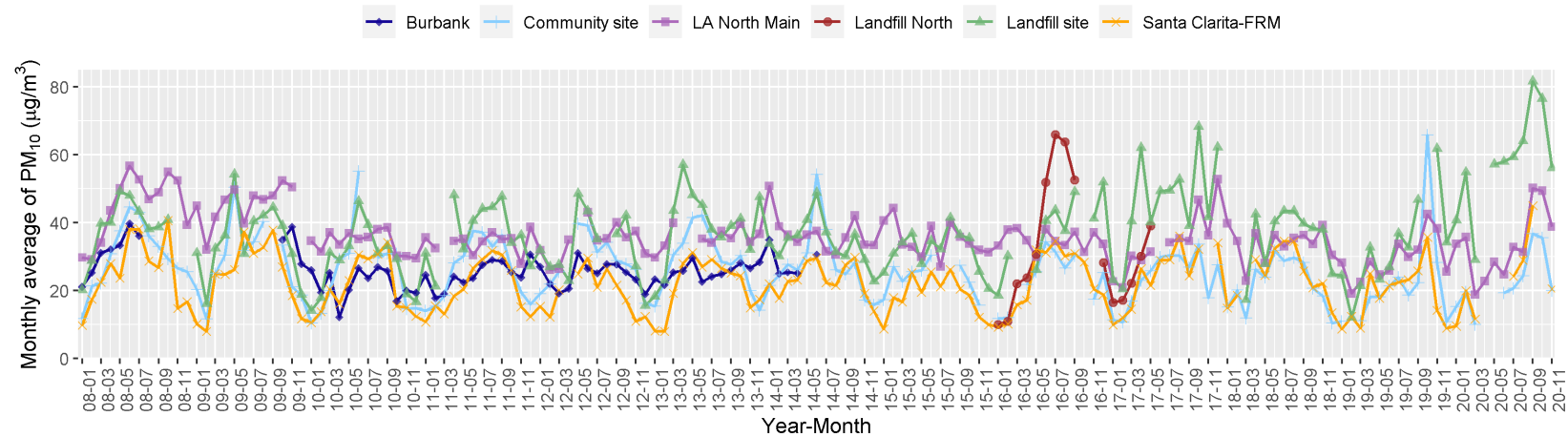


Figure 4-1. Monthly average PM₁₀ concentrations for the Landfill, Landfill North (in operation from June 2016 until May 2017), and Community sites, and three regional monitoring sites for 2008–2020. The Santa Clarita site reports integrated 24-hr samples of filters on a one-in-six-day schedule. As of June 30, 2014, the Burbank site is no longer actively reporting PM₁₀ data.

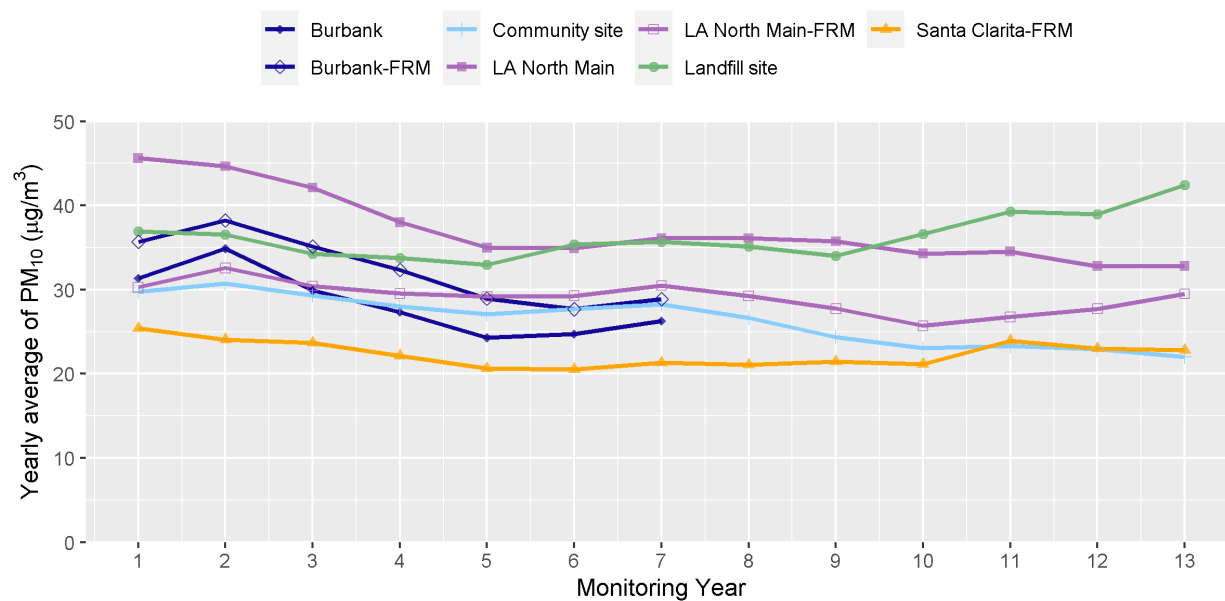


Figure 4-2. Rolling annual average PM₁₀ concentrations for the Landfill, Community, and three regional monitoring sites for Monitoring Year 1–Year 13 (e.g., Monitoring Year 1 refers to Nov. 22, 2007–Nov. 21, 2008). Additional FRM data at the Los Angeles site and at the Burbank site are also included.

5. PM₁₀ and BC: Effects of Wind Direction and Work Activity Levels

Both wind direction and landfill work activity levels affect PM₁₀ and BC concentrations measured at the Landfill and Community monitoring sites. As described in Sections 3 and 4, winds coming from the south, for example, transport pollutants from densely populated areas of the SoCAB and have a major effect on local pollutant concentrations. Similarly, landfill contributions to neighborhood-scale PM₁₀ and BC concentrations are expected under northerly wind flow. PM₁₀ and BC concentrations are also expected to vary diurnally, and from day to day, as source strengths increase and decrease with changing activity levels. These activity levels vary with different times of day (e.g., daytime versus nighttime) or between working days and holidays, both regionally and at the local (landfill operations) scale.

The 13-year data archive is used here to compare, with long-term averaging, the concentrations of PM₁₀ and BC that characterize the Landfill and Community monitoring sites under northerly and southerly wind flows and under differing activity levels (subsections 5.1 to 5.5). Activity levels are binned according to landfill working and non-working days and working and non-working hours. The 13-year averaged results presented in this report concerning the effect of work activity levels on concentrations of PM₁₀ and BC are, overall, consistent with those presented in STI's third through twelfth annual reports.

The *Ninth Annual Report of Ambient Air Quality Monitoring at Sunshine Canyon Landfill and Van Gogh Elementary School (November 22, 2007–November 21, 2016)*, provides a comparative analysis of the PM₁₀ and BC levels at the Landfill and Landfill North sites in 2016. Because the Landfill North site operated for only one year, it is not included in subsequent analyses. However, subsection 5.6 of the Ninth Annual Report described the additional comparisons of PM₁₀ and BC concentrations between the Landfill and Landfill North sites by wind direction and landfill work activity levels, and this information is reproduced in Section B.3 of this report (**Appendix B**).

5.1 General Wind Roses for the Monitoring Sites

Figures 5-1 and 5-2 show two-year groups of annual wind roses at the Landfill site and Community site from 2007 through 2017, and individual wind roses for 2018, 2019, and 2020. It should be noted that wind data from the Community site since Year 11 (i.e., since November 22, 2017) were substituted with data from the nearby Reseda site. While data completeness for wind speed and wind direction at the Community site were above 99% (as depicted in Table 2-1), a database issue¹¹ prevented the use of the Community wind data since Year 11. The Reseda data were chosen as a surrogate because (1) the Reseda site is operated by South Coast AQMD and follows strict data collection and quality standards; (2) the Reseda site is located just over 4 miles to the south of the Community site, and no topographical barriers exist between it and the Community site; and (3) historical wind patterns at the Reseda site are most representative of the historical patterns of the Community site (i.e., shows the strongest winds

¹¹ Wind data (WD) appears shifted from typical patterns and is currently suspect.

from the north and light, variable winds from other directions). To avoid confusion, the report will continue to refer to wind data from the Community site.

Winds at the Landfill site are strongest when they are from the north and north-northwest; conversely, southerly winds are lighter. Community site winds are also strongest from the north-northwest; winds from all other directions are generally lighter. The wind data show that the winds at the Landfill site are highly directional, and winds at the Community sites are more variable.

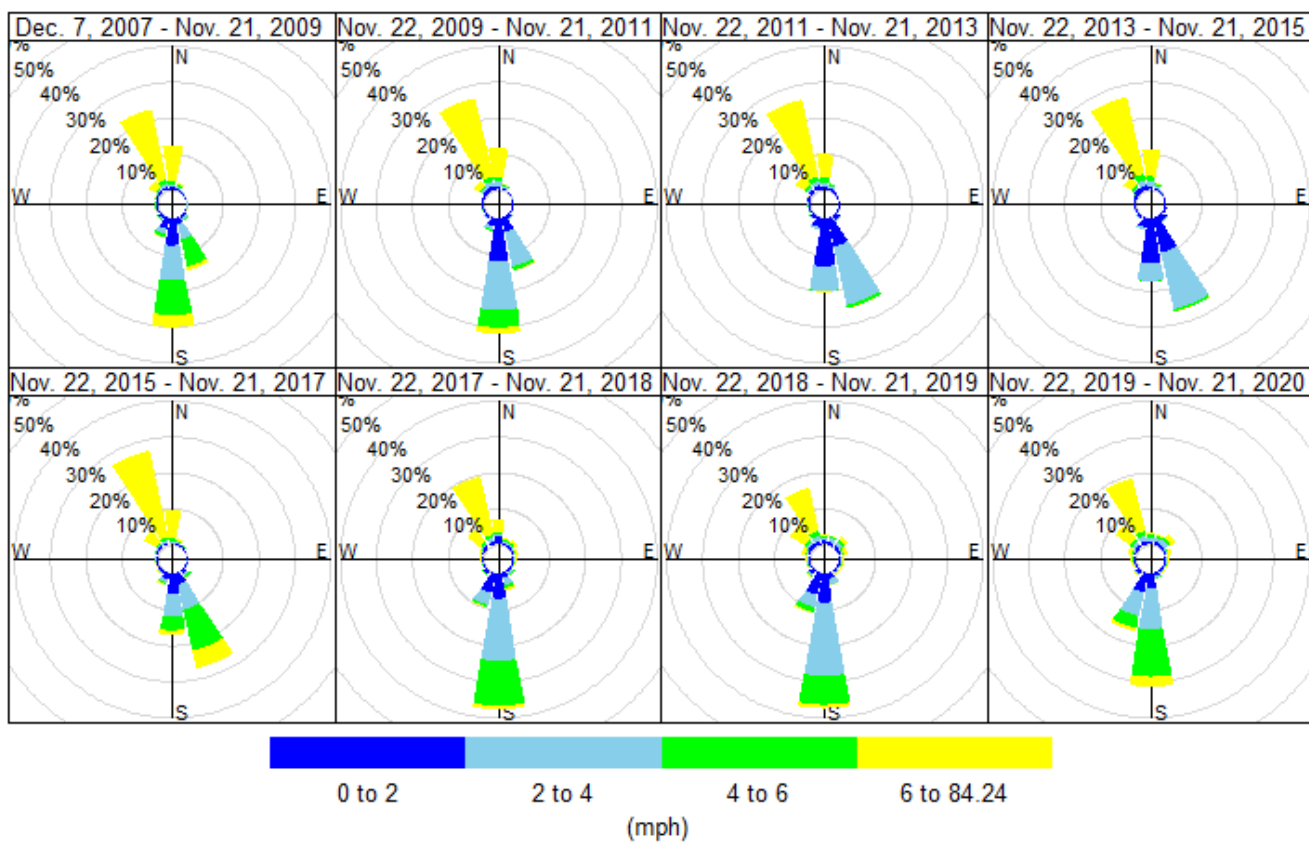


Figure 5-1. Landfill station wind roses over the 13 years of monitoring data. Winds are highly directional at the Landfill site. Wind data for monitoring Years 1 through 10 are shown in two-year groups, while the data for Year 11, Year 12, and Year 13 are displayed as individual wind roses, respectively. Only data labeled “valid” or “suspect” are used.

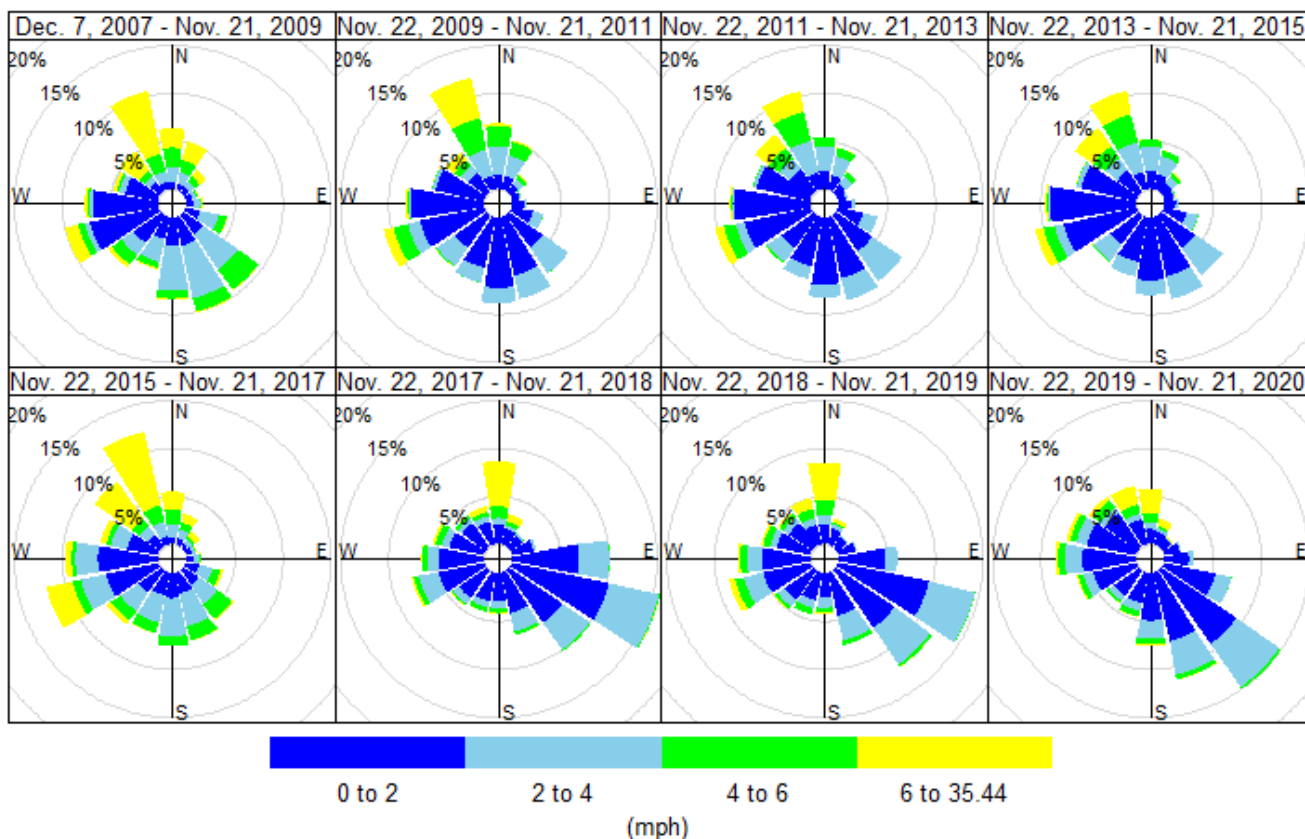
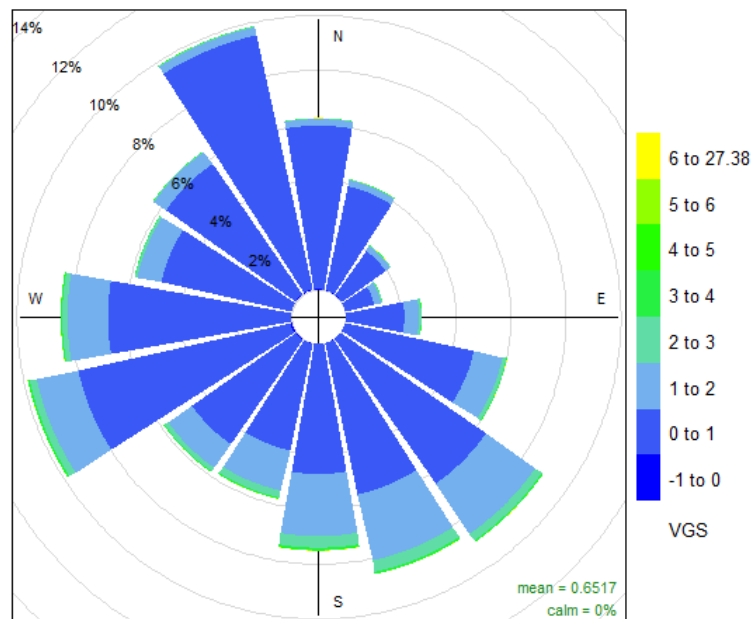


Figure 5-2. Community site wind roses over the 13 years of monitoring data. Wind data for monitoring Years 1 through 10 are shown in two-year groups, while the data for Year 11 (Reseda site), Year 12 (Reseda site), and Year 13 (Reseda Site) are displayed as individual wind roses. Only data labeled “valid” or “suspect” are used. Wind data at the Community site were replaced with those from the Reseda site since Year 11.

Figure 5-3 shows a pollution rose and a pollution differential rose for hourly BC concentration at the Community site. A pollution rose is akin to a bar graph of concentrations associated with wind direction. As shown in Figure 5-3, the lowest hourly BC concentrations at the Community site are associated with winds from the northwest (as shown in the top graphic). In contrast, the pollution differential rose in the bottom graphic shows that the highest hourly BC concentrations at the Community site (when hourly BC concentrations are higher than those at the Landfill site) are associated with winds from the south and southeast.



Frequency of counts by wind direction (%)

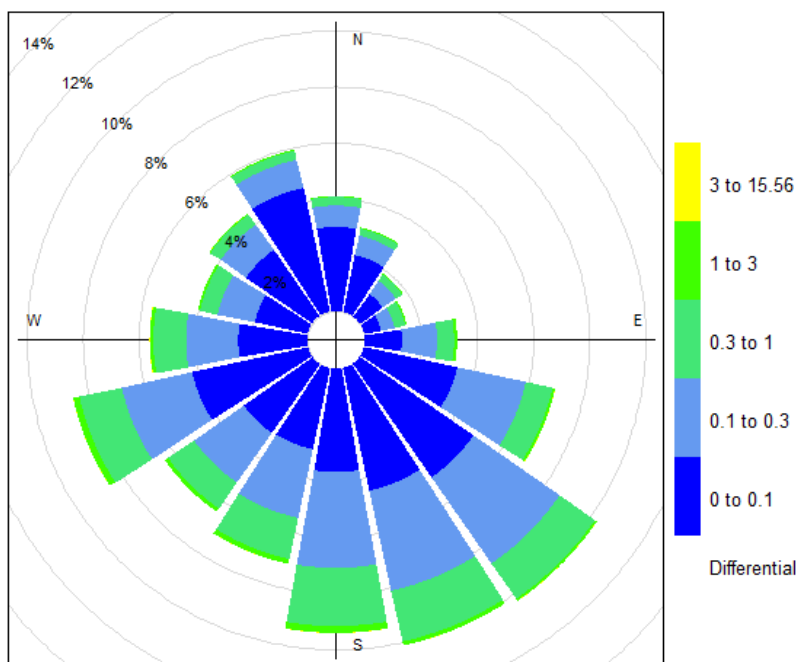


Figure 5-3. Top panel: pollution rose of hourly black carbon concentration at the Community site; bottom panel: pollution differential rose of excess hourly black carbon concentration at the Community site (compared to that at the Landfill site). Data are from December 7, 2007, through November 21, 2020. Data are used only when both black carbon and wind direction are labeled “valid.”

5.2 Wind Direction Sectors for Categorizing Data

In light of the information about directional winds influencing pollutant concentrations, data for this analysis were selected by using one wind sector to represent the landfill source and areas to the north and a second wind sector to represent the area from which pollutants travel from the SoCAB. **Figure 5-4** shows the wind sectors representing the landfill source in black for the Landfill monitor and in green for the Community monitor. The Landfill monitor's wind sector (greater than or equal to 303 degrees and less than or equal to 360 degrees from true north) is broader than the Community monitor's (greater than or equal to 325 degrees and less than or equal to 355 degrees from true north). Hourly pollution data corresponding to hourly wind direction data that fall within the boundaries of these sectors are used to compute the pollution metrics for working and non-working days (or hours). The analysis is based only on direction, not on matching times between records at the two sites. The underlying premise is that long-term averages calculated in this manner more accurately represent true average landfill-derived contributions than do those calculated from matched hourly records.

Figure 5-5 shows the wind sector representing the SoCAB source for both the Landfill and Community monitors (greater than or equal to 150 degrees and less than or equal to 210 degrees from true north).



Figure 5-4. Aerial image of the Sunshine Canyon Landfill and the surrounding area, showing the wind direction sectors representing the landfill source used to select data for analysis from the Landfill monitor (in black) and the Community monitor (in green).

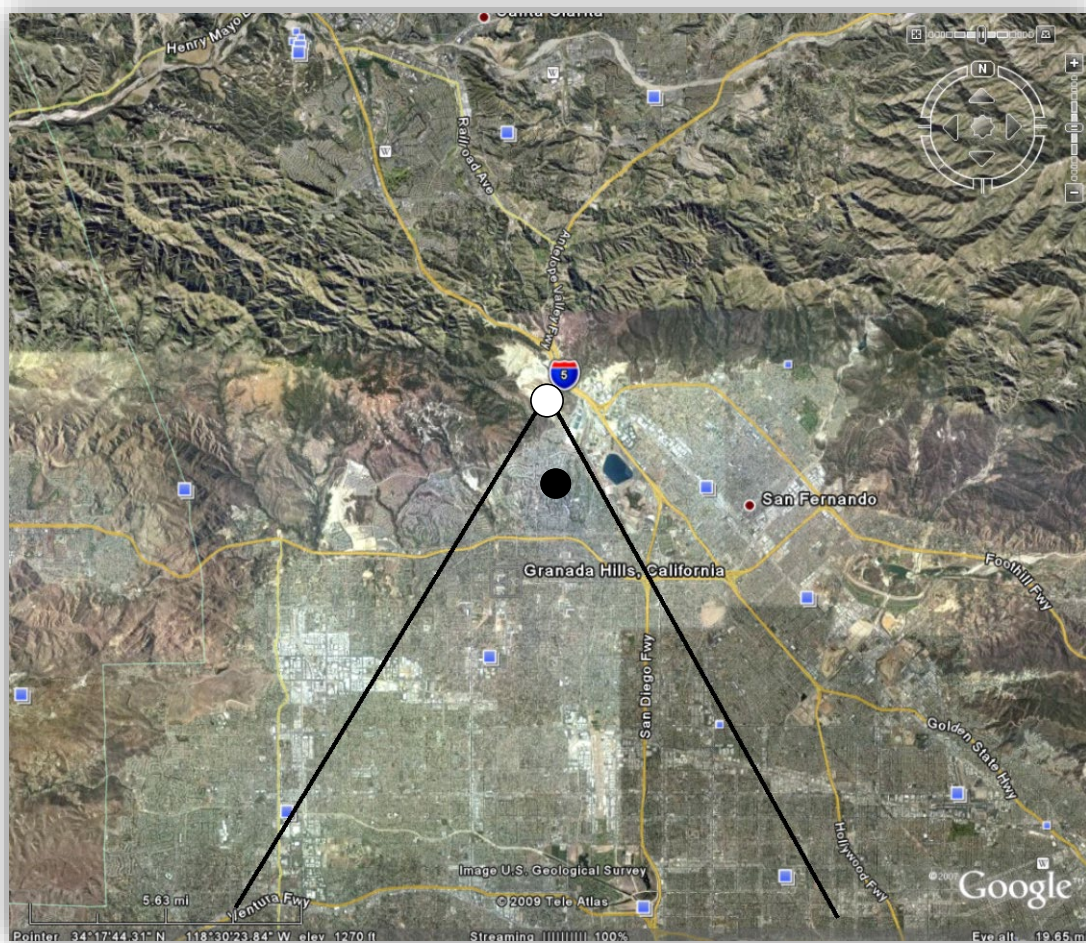


Figure 5-5. Aerial image of the Sunshine Canyon Landfill and the northern portion of the SoCAB, showing the wind direction sector representing the SoCAB source used to select data for analysis to compare with the landfill wind direction sectors depicted in Figure 5-4. The white dot represents the Landfill monitor, and the black dot represents the Community monitor.

5.3 Working and Non-Working Days and Hours for Categorizing Data

After the hourly data have been initially binned by the wind direction sectors described above, hourly PM_{10} and BC concentrations are categorized into the landfill's working and non-working days, and working hours (defined as beginning at 06:00 PST and ending at 17:00 PST) and non-working hours within those days. Working days at the landfill are defined as Monday through Friday, excluding federal holidays. Non-working days are considered Sundays and federal holidays, including New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day. Additional non-Sunday holidays when the landfill is closed, but operating, would also be incorrectly binned and thus slightly skew the resulting estimates for that category. Saturdays are categorized "mixed use" at the landfill; thus, they do

not fit easily into either category. The non-Sunday holidays and Saturdays are excluded from the analysis.

5.4 PM₁₀ Concentrations

Figure 5-6 provides a visual key for interpreting a notched box-whisker plot. **Figures 5-7 through 5-10** show notched box-whisker plots that summarize the 13-year and Year 13 (2020) hourly average PM₁₀ concentrations at the Landfill and Community sites for the northerly and southerly wind sectors for working and non-working days and for working and non-working hours within those days. **Figures 5-11 through 5-14** illustrate median PM₁₀ concentrations and 95% confidence intervals for working and non-working days and for working and non-working hours for each wind sector.

A notched box-whisker plot shows the entire distribution of concentrations for each year. In box-whisker plots, each box shows the 25th, 50th (median), and 75th percentiles. The boxes are notched (narrowed) at the median and return to full width at the 95% lower and upper confidence interval values. These plots indicate that we are 95% confident that the median falls within the notch. Figures 5-11 through 5-14 illustrate median PM₁₀ concentrations and 95% confidence intervals for working and non-working days and for working and non-working hours for each wind sector. **Figure 5-15** depicts the hourly average PM₁₀ concentrations at the Burbank and Los Angeles regional monitoring sites for working and non-working days and for working and non-working hours within those days in notched box-whisker plots.

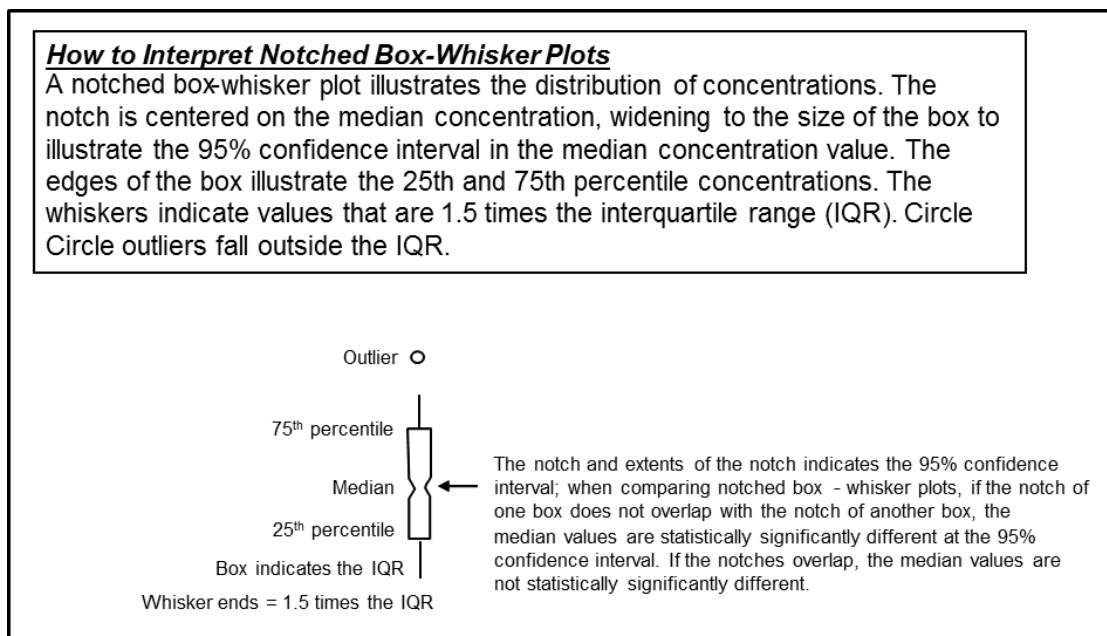


Figure 5-6. Instructions for interpreting notched box-whisker plots.

The following general conclusions are based on the results depicted in the following Figures (5-7 through 5-14). During the highest activity levels (working hours on working days):

- When the wind is from the SoCAB, the Landfill and Community monitors typically measure similar concentrations of PM₁₀. In Year 13, when the wind is from the SoCAB, the Landfill monitor measures higher concentrations of PM₁₀ than the Community monitor.
- At the Community site, the median concentration of PM₁₀ when the wind is from the SoCAB is typically more than two times higher than when the wind is from the landfill. In Year 13, the same pattern is present; however, the median concentration of PM₁₀ at the Community site is approximately 1.7 times higher when wind is from SoCAB than when wind is from the landfill.
- When wind is from the landfill, the median PM₁₀ concentration at the Community site is approximately one-third of that measured at the landfill itself, suggesting that although the landfill-derived PM₁₀ concentrations are significant, they remain mostly localized to the landfill. This is true when investigating PM₁₀ concentrations over the entire 13-year period. In Year 13, the median PM₁₀ concentration at the Community site is less than one-third of that measured at the landfill itself.
- At the Community site, the median concentration of PM₁₀ on working days is slightly higher than that on non-working days when the wind is from either the landfill or the SoCAB (over the entire 13-year period). This pattern is similar to median PM₁₀ concentrations at the regional sites (Burbank and Los Angeles) for working and non-working days/hours, suggesting an influence of regional day-of-week and working hours' concentration patterns on the Community site.
- During non-working hours on working days:
 - When the wind is from the SoCAB, the Community monitor measures higher PM₁₀ concentrations than when wind is from the landfill. This is true when investigating PM₁₀ concentrations over the entire 13-year period and for Year 13 only.
 - When the wind is from the landfill over the course of the 13-year monitoring period, PM₁₀ concentrations are lower at both monitoring sites than when the wind is from the SoCAB, with the Community monitor characterized by lower concentrations than the Landfill monitor. This pattern illustrates a localized landfill contribution during times of low activity (nighttime) at the Landfill site.
 - In Year 13, when the wind is from the landfill, PM₁₀ concentrations at the Landfill monitoring site are less than half the concentrations than when the wind is from the SoCAB, suggesting a regional influence. Nevertheless, PM₁₀ concentrations measured at the Community monitor remain lower than the Landfill monitor whether wind is from the landfill or SoCAB.

- During the lowest activity levels:
 - The median PM₁₀ concentrations are lower on non-working days than on working days, but the extent of the difference is influenced by wind direction. At the Landfill site, the median PM₁₀ concentrations in daytime (working hours) showed a greater proportional decrease on non-working days when wind direction was from the landfill than on non-working days when wind came from the SoCAB. This reflects the larger regional PM₁₀ influence of the SoCAB on non-working days.
 - At the Community site, the median PM₁₀ concentrations in daytime (working hours) showed a lesser proportional decrease on non-working days than on working days, and wind direction was less of a factor. Furthermore, lower PM₁₀ concentrations during non-working days versus working days at the Community site coincide with work day/non-work day PM₁₀ concentrations patterns at the regional sites (Burbank and Los Angeles).

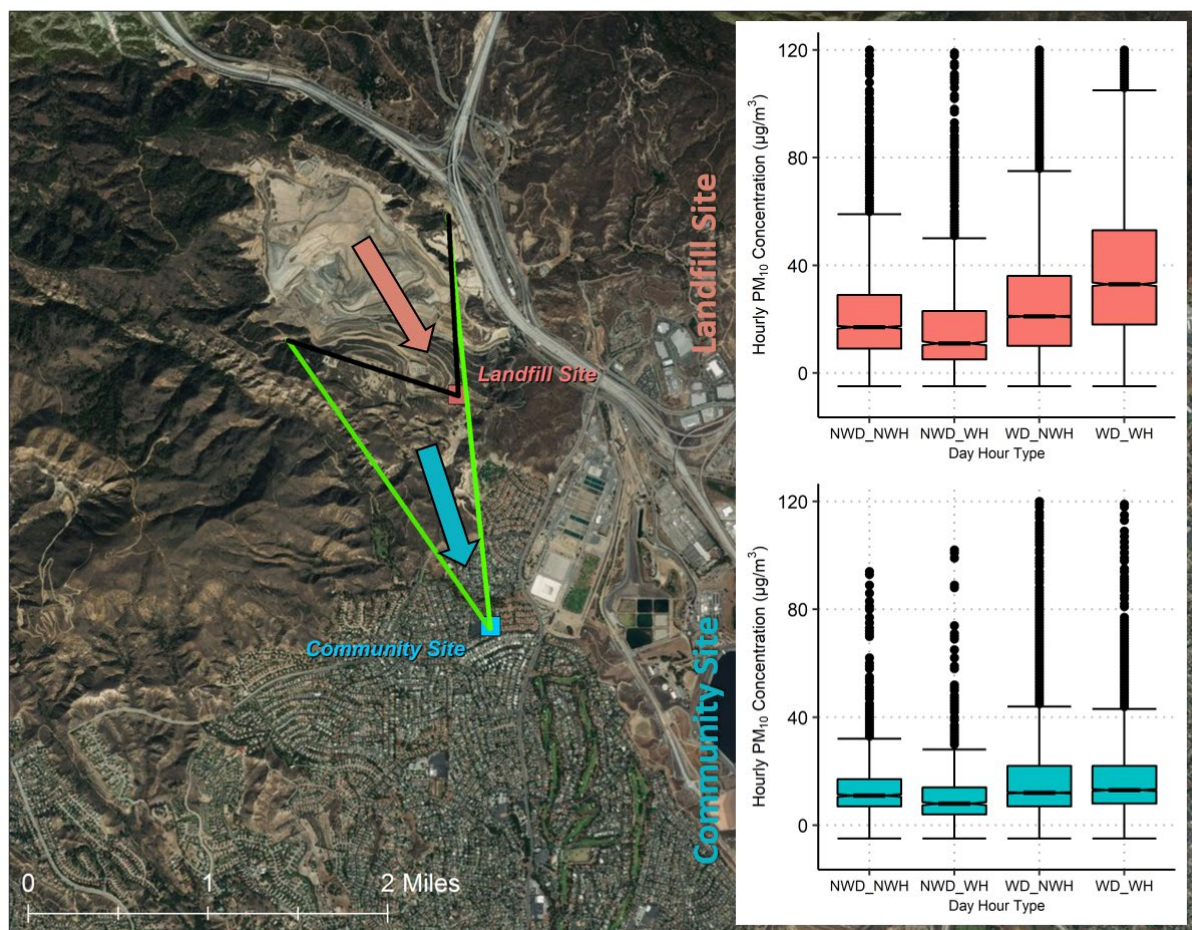


Figure 5-7. Notched box whisker plots of 13-year hourly PM₁₀ concentrations for northerly (“From Landfill”) wind sectors (as displayed in Figure 5-4) for working days (WD) and non-working days (NWD) and for working hours (WH) and non-working hours (NWH) within those days for the Landfill (red) and Community (blue) monitor sites. Outliers over 120 µg/m³ are not displayed.

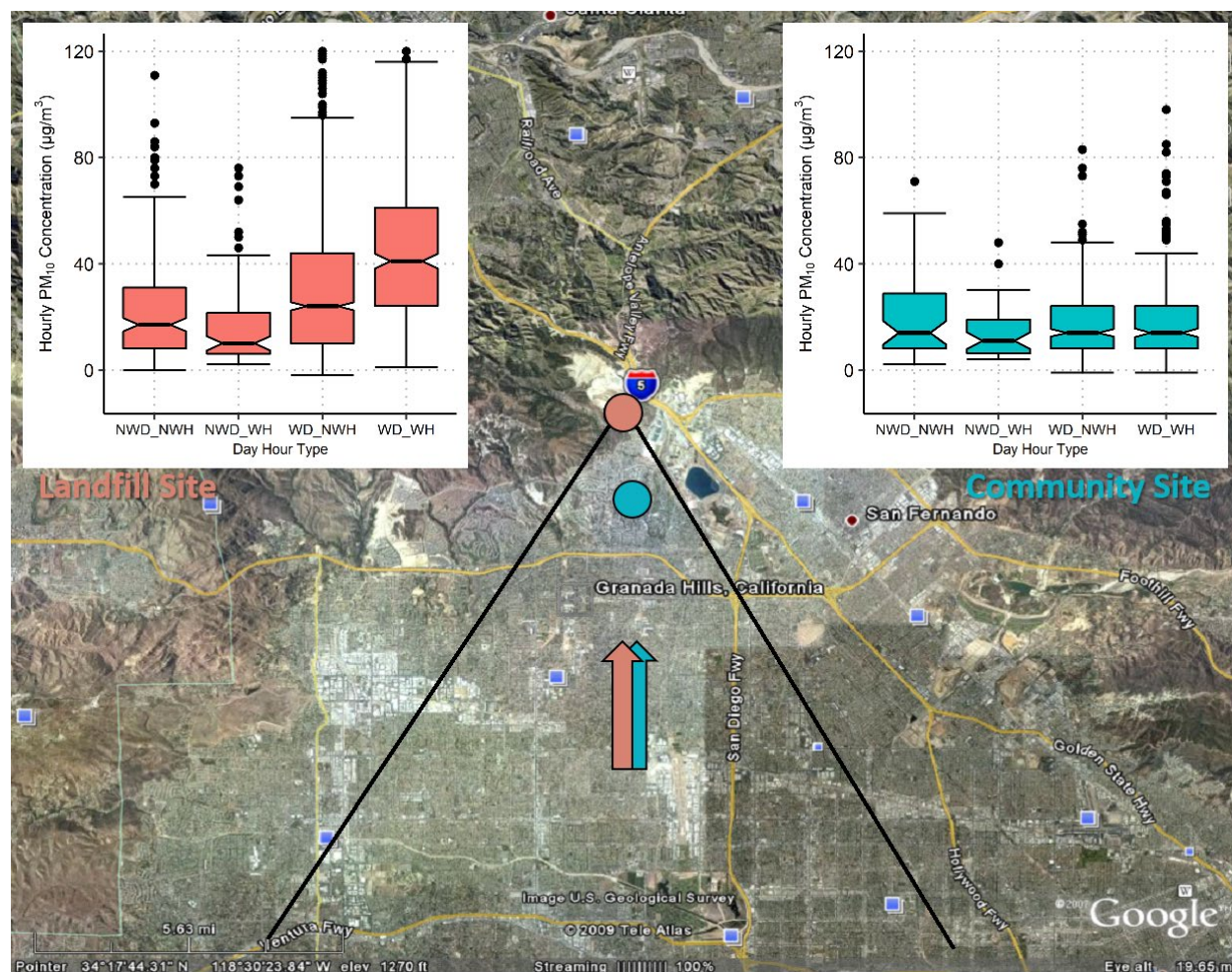


Figure 5-8. Notched box whisker plots of 13-year hourly PM₁₀ concentrations for southerly ("From SoCAB") wind sectors (as displayed in Figure 5-4) for working days (WD) and non-working days (NWD) and for working hours (WH) and non-working hours (NWH) within those days for the Landfill (red) and Community (blue) monitor sites. Outliers over 120 µg/m³ are not displayed.

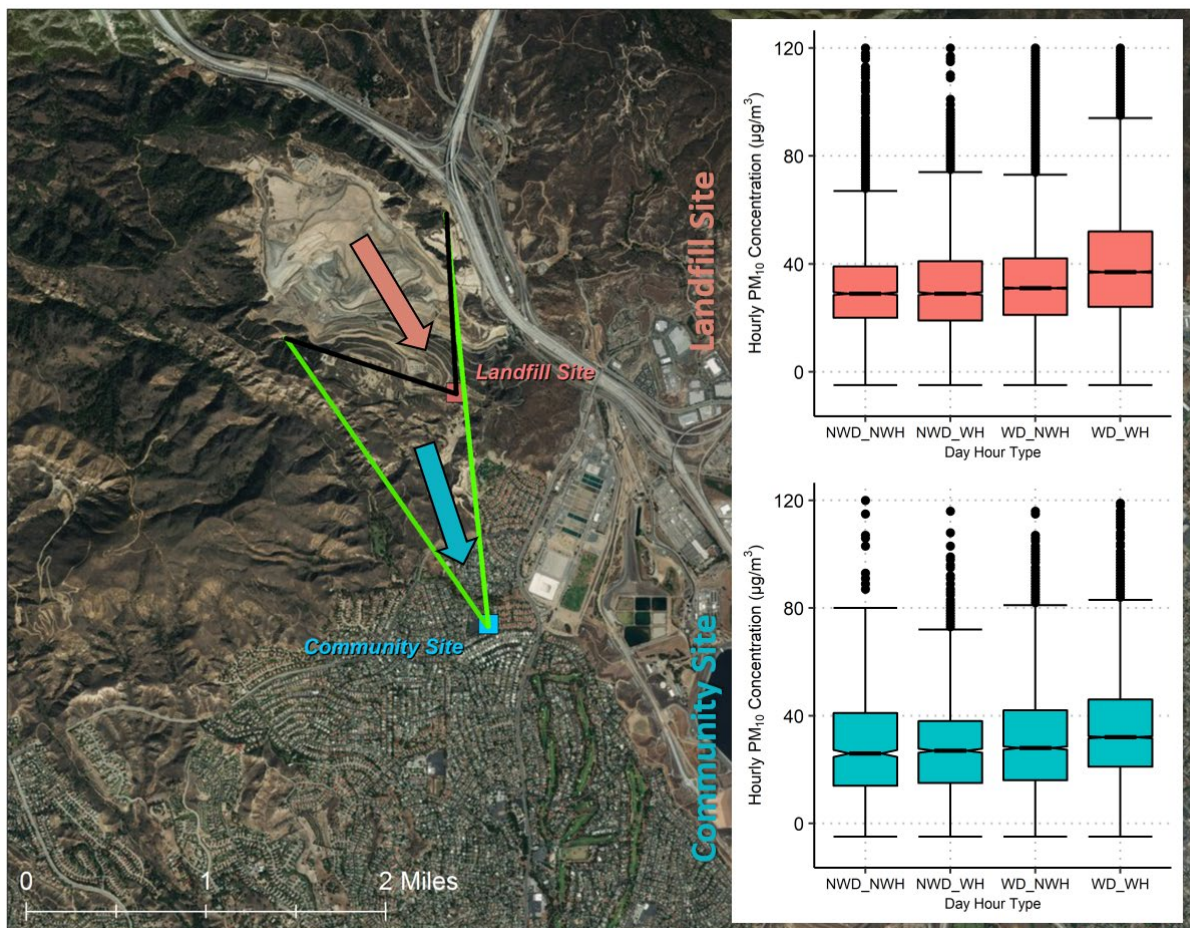


Figure 5-9. Notched box whisker plots of Year 13 (2020) hourly PM₁₀ concentrations for northerly (“From Landfill”) wind sectors (as displayed in Figure 5-4) for working days (WD) and non-working days (NWD) and for working hours (WH) and non-working hours (NWH) within those days for the Landfill (red) and Community (blue) monitor sites. Outliers over 120 µg/m³ are not displayed.

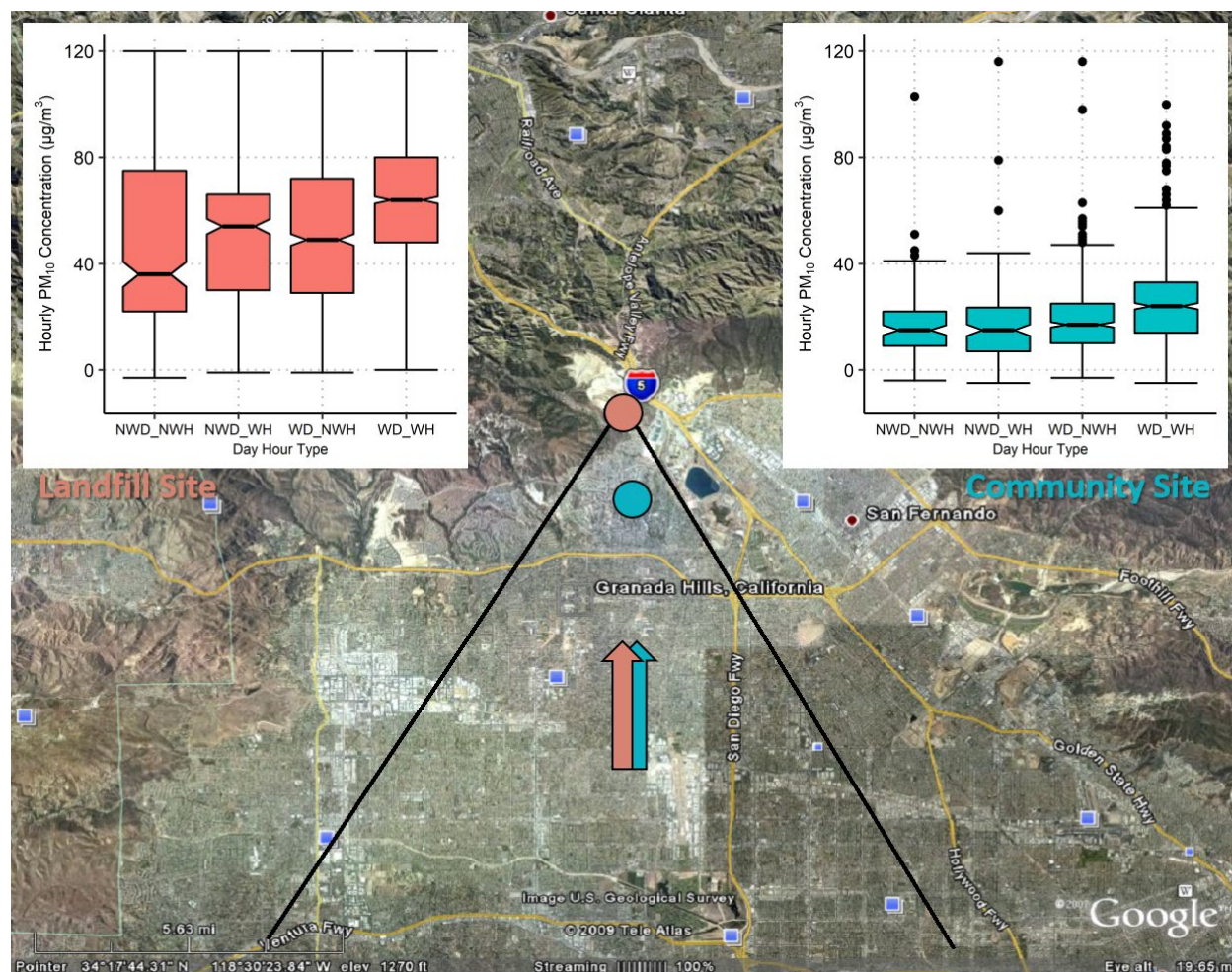


Figure 5-10. Notched box whisker plots of Year 13 (2020) hourly PM₁₀ concentrations for Southerly (“From SoCAB”) wind sectors (as displayed in Figure 5-4) for working days (WD) and non-working days (NWD) and for working hours (WH) and non-working hours (NWH) within those days for the Landfill (red) and Community (blue) monitor sites. Outliers over 120 µg/m³ are not displayed.

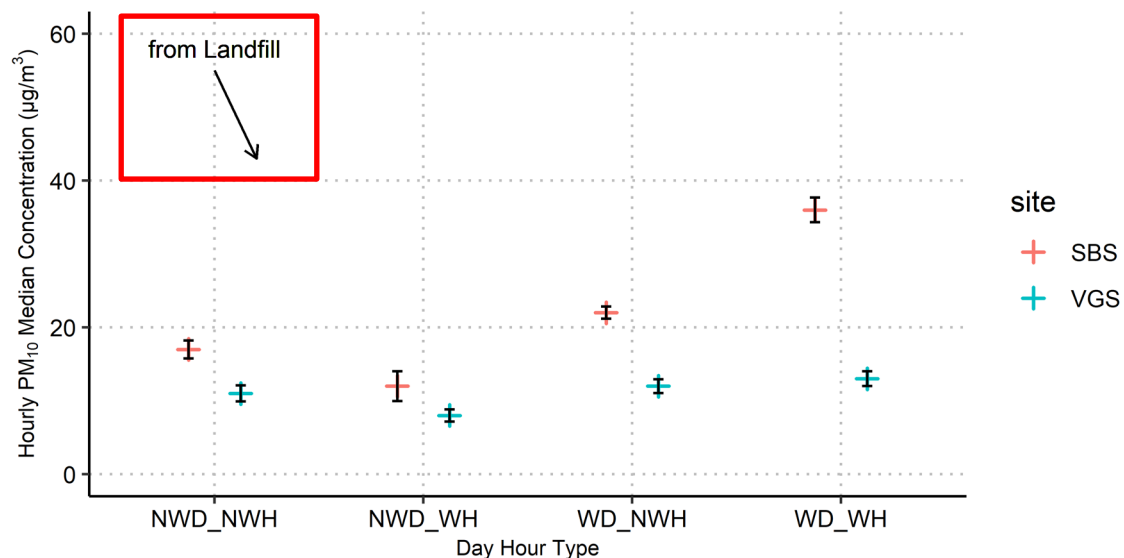


Figure 5-11. Thirteen-year hourly PM₁₀ median concentrations for northerly (“From Landfill”) wind sectors (as displayed in Figure 5-4) for working days (WD) and non-working days (NWD) and for working hours (WH) and non-working hours (NWH) within those days for the Landfill (red) and Community (blue) monitor sites. 95% confidence intervals are shown in black.

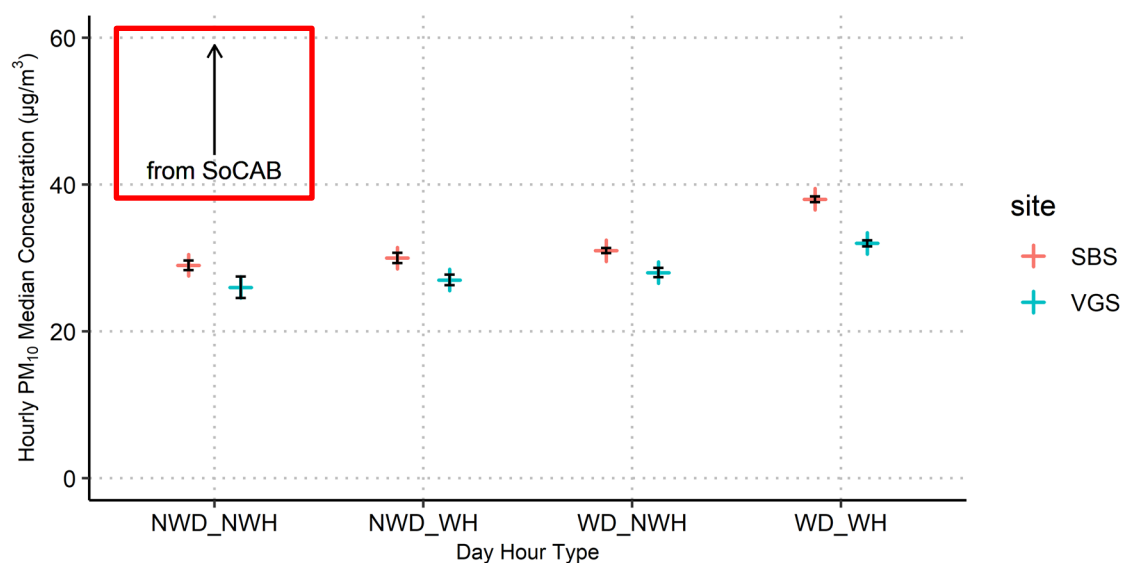


Figure 5-12. Thirteen-year hourly PM₁₀ median concentrations for northerly (“From SoCAB”) wind sectors (as displayed in Figure 5-4) for working days (WD) and non-working days (NWD) and for working hours (WH) and non-working hours (NWH) within those days for the Landfill (red) and Community (blue) monitor sites. 95% confidence intervals are shown in black.

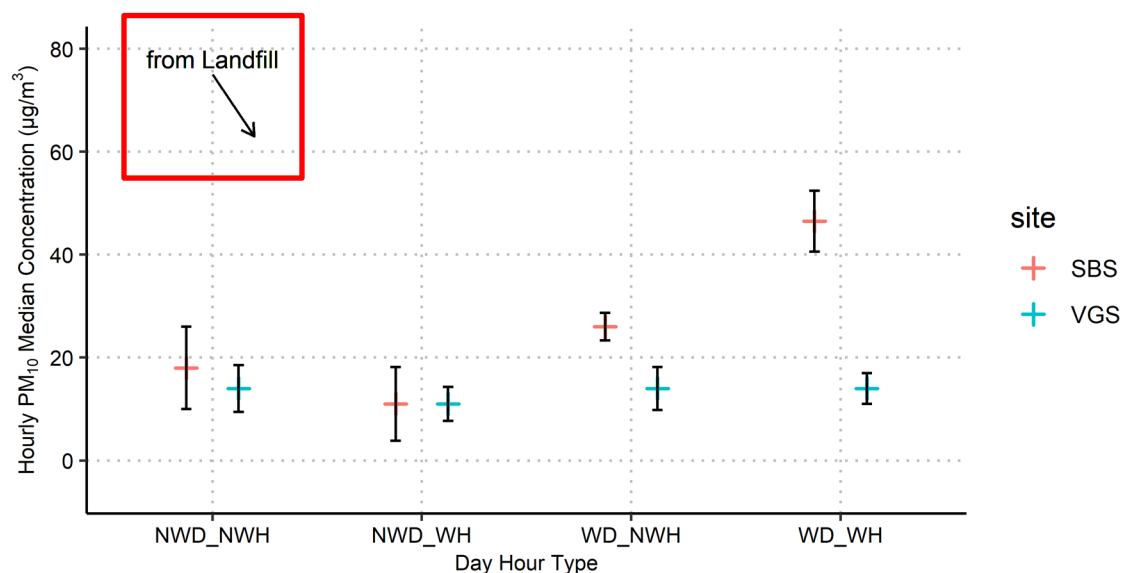


Figure 5-13. Year 13 (2020) hourly PM₁₀ median concentrations for northerly (“From Landfill”) wind sectors (as displayed in Figure 5-4) for working days (WD) and non-working days (NWD) and for working hours (WH) and non-working hours (NWH) within those days for the Landfill (red) and Community (blue) monitor sites. 95% confidence intervals are shown in black. Note that confidence intervals are a function of the number of data points; fewer data points lead to a wider interval and less certainty about where the median falls.

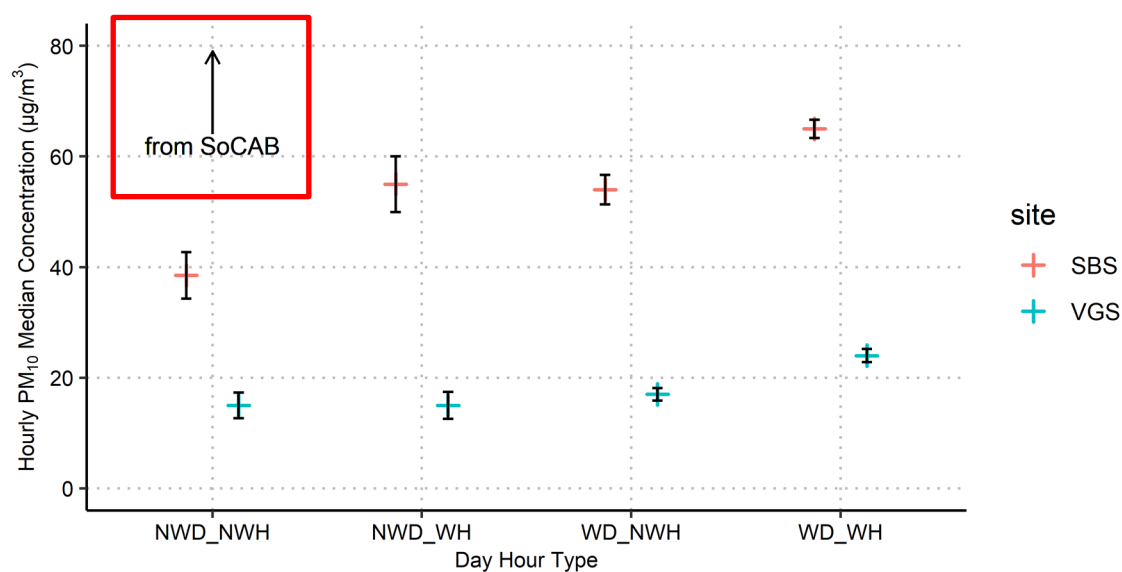


Figure 5-14. Year 13 (2020) hourly PM₁₀ median concentrations for northerly (“From SoCAB”) wind sectors (as displayed in Figure 5-4) for working days (WD) and non-working days (NWD) and for working hours (WH) and non-working hours (NWH) within those days for the Landfill (red) and Community (blue) monitor sites. 95% confidence intervals are shown in black.

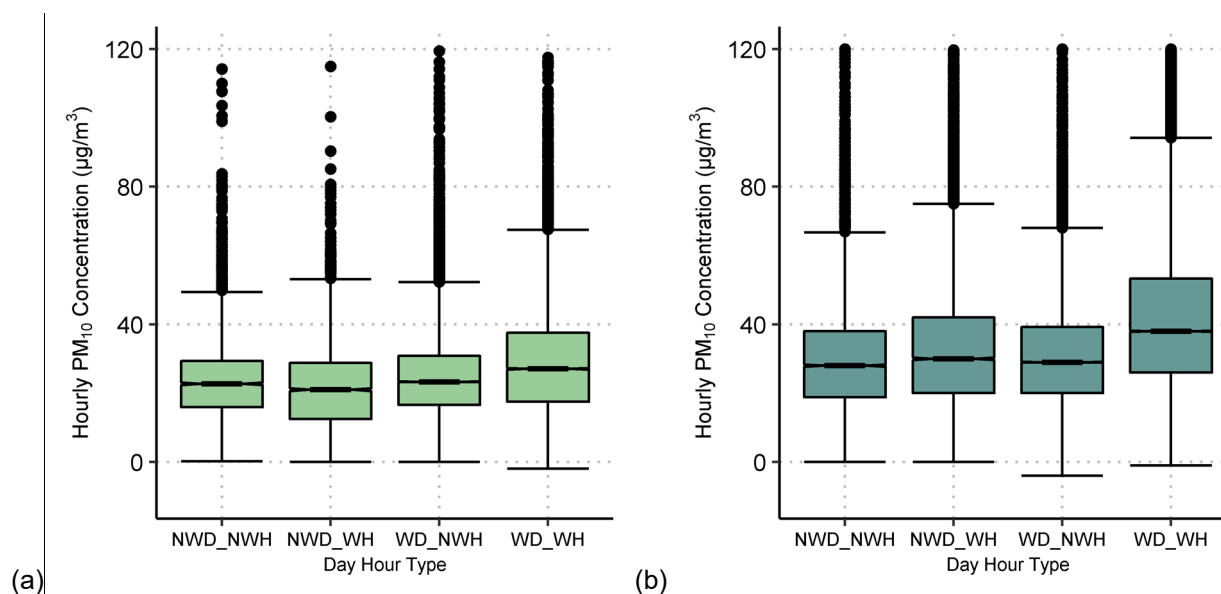


Figure 5-15. Hourly PM_{10} median concentrations for (a) Burbank (2008-2014) and (b) Los Angeles (2008-2020) for working (WD) and non-working days (NWD) and for working (WH) and non-working hours (NWH).

5.5 BC Concentrations

Figures 5-16 through 5-19 summarize the 13-year and Year 13 (2020) hourly average BC concentrations for the northerly and southerly wind sectors during working and non-working days and during working and non-working hours within those days in a notched box-whisker plot. Similar to the PM_{10} concentration section above, **Figures 5-20 through 5-23** illustrate median BC concentrations and 95% confidence intervals for working and non-working days and for working and non-working hours for each wind sector. The following general conclusions are based on the statistical values presented in Figures 5-16 through 5-23:

- During the highest activity levels (working hours on working days):
 - The median concentration of BC measured at both the Landfill and Community monitors are significantly higher when the winds are from the SoCAB than when they are from the landfill. This is true over the 13-year monitoring period and in Year 13 only.
 - Over the 13-year monitoring period, when the wind is from the SoCAB, the Community monitor measures higher levels of BC concentrations than the Landfill monitor. In Year 13, when the wind is from the SoCAB or the landfill, the Landfill monitor measures higher BC concentrations.
 - When the wind is from the SoCAB, the Community monitor measures almost four times the median concentration of BC as when the wind is from the landfill over the 13-year monitoring period. In Year 13, when the wind is from the SoCAB, the Community monitor measures nearly three and a half times the median concentration than when the wind is from the landfill.

- When wind is from the landfill, the Community BC levels are about one half of the BC levels measured at the landfill itself. This is true over the 13-year monitoring period and in Year 13 only.
- During the lowest activity levels (non-working days):
 - The median concentrations of BC are lower on non-working days than on working days in all categories, but the extent of the difference is influenced by wind direction. The proportional decrease in concentrations on non-working days was larger for BC than for PM_{10} . Compared to the median BC concentrations during non-working hours on working days, the median BC concentrations during non-working hours on non-working days decreased by a factor of approximately 1.3 (Community site) to 1.4 (Landfill site) when winds were from the landfill. They decreased by about a factor of roughly 1.2 (both sites) when winds were from the SoCAB.
 - On working days, diesel-powered vehicles (trucks and earth-moving equipment) operating at the landfill appear to increase the ambient concentrations of DPM, as determined by the BC measurements from the Landfill monitor. However, the large metropolitan area of the SoCAB remains the dominant source of DPM. Furthermore, increased BC measurements at the Community monitor on working days versus non-working days (regardless of wind direction) coincide with known metropolitan area DPM source activity patterns.

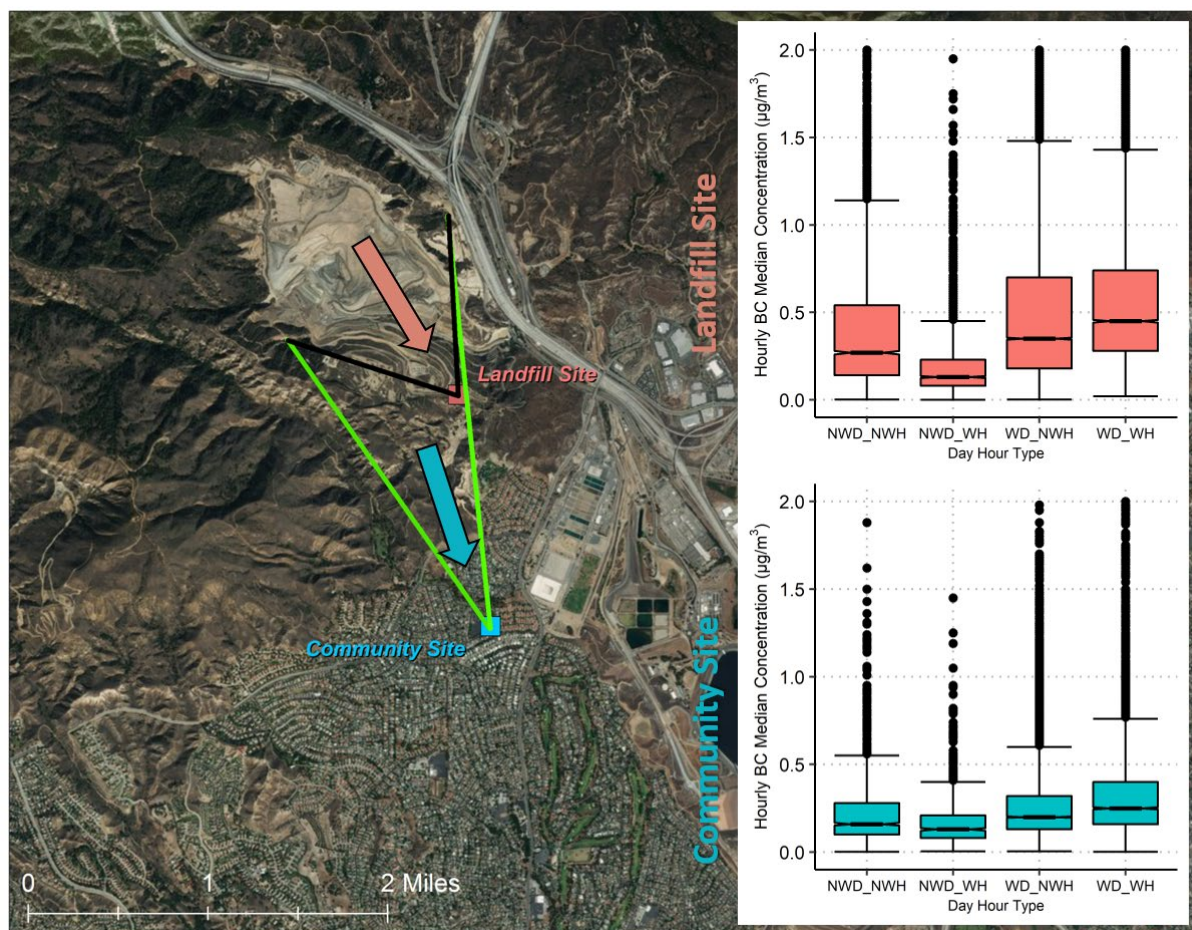


Figure 5-16. Notched box whisker plots of 13-year hourly average BC concentrations for northerly (“From Landfill”) wind sectors (as displayed in Figure 5-4) for working days (WD) and non-working days (NWD) and for working hours (WH) and non-working hours (NWH) within those days for the Landfill (red) and Community (blue) monitor sites. Outliers over $2 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ are not displayed.

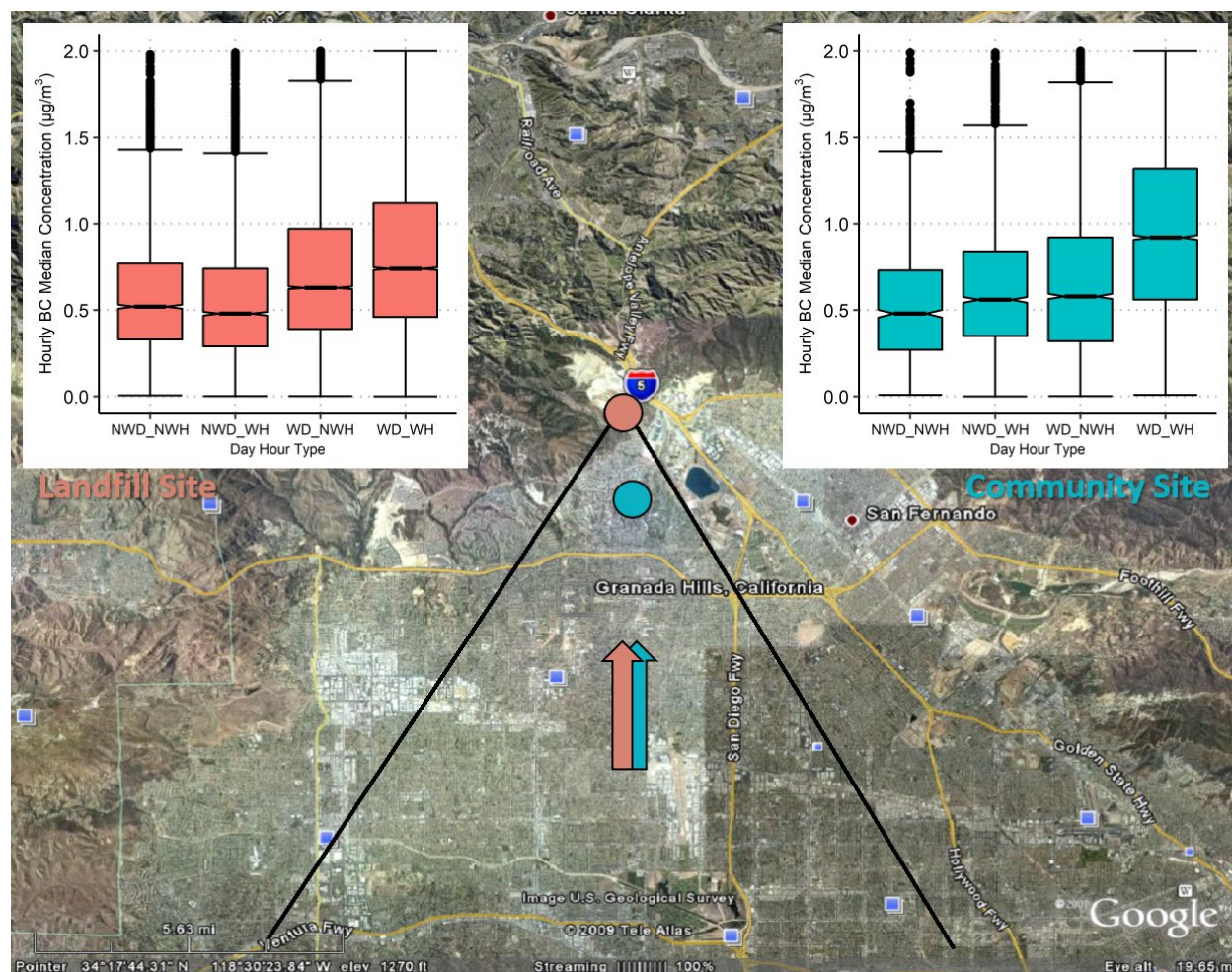


Figure 5-17. Notched box whisker plots of 13-year hourly average BC concentrations for Southerly ("From SoCAB") wind sectors (as displayed in Figure 5-4) for working days (WD) and non-working days (NWD) and for working hours (WH) and non-working hours (NWH) within those days for the Landfill (red) and Community (blue) monitor sites. Outliers over 2 µg/m³ are not displayed.

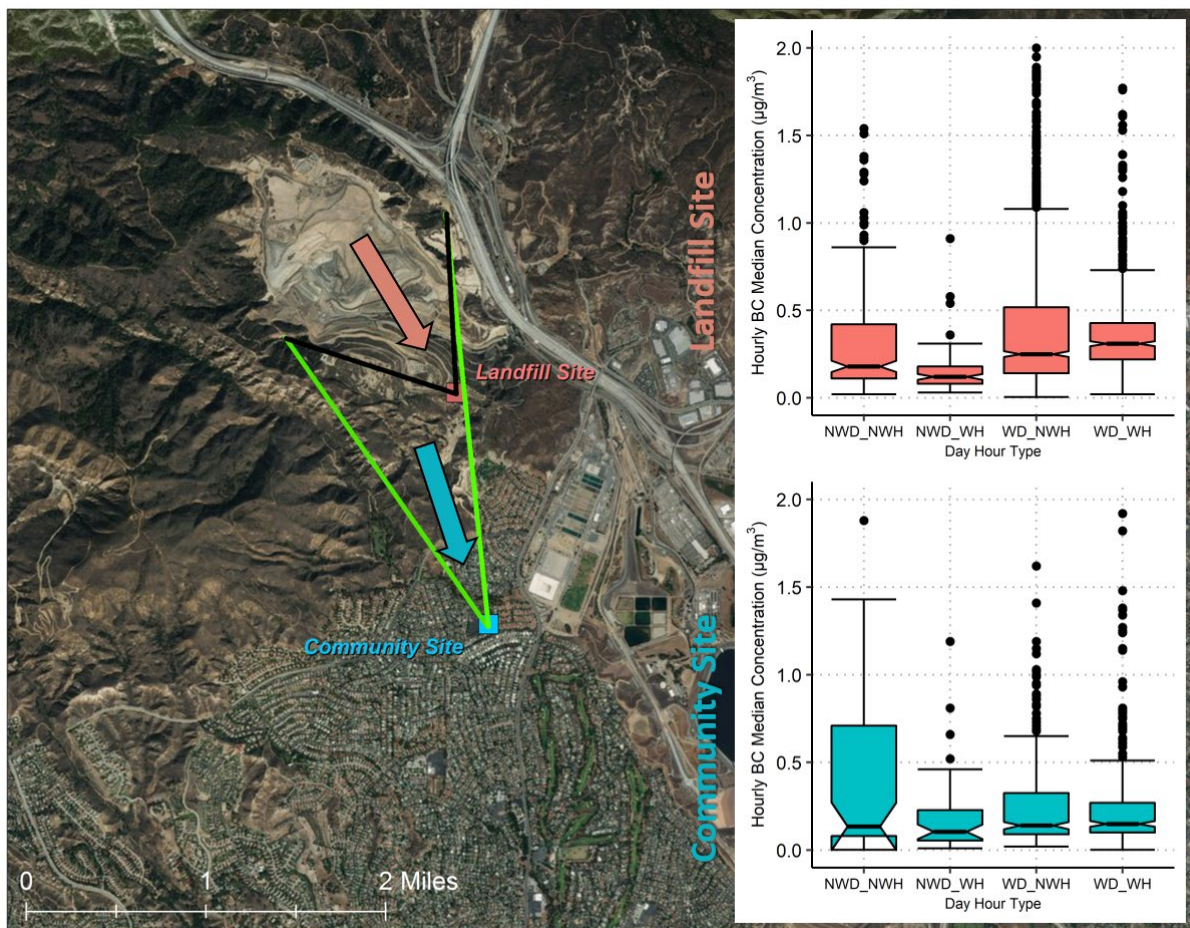


Figure 5-18. Notched box whisker plots of Year 13 (2020) hourly average BC concentrations for northerly (“From Landfill”) wind sectors (as displayed in Figure 5-4) for working days (WD) and non-working days (NWD) and for working hours (WH) and non-working hours (NWH) within those days for the Landfill (red) and Community (blue) monitor sites. Outliers over $2 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ are not displayed.

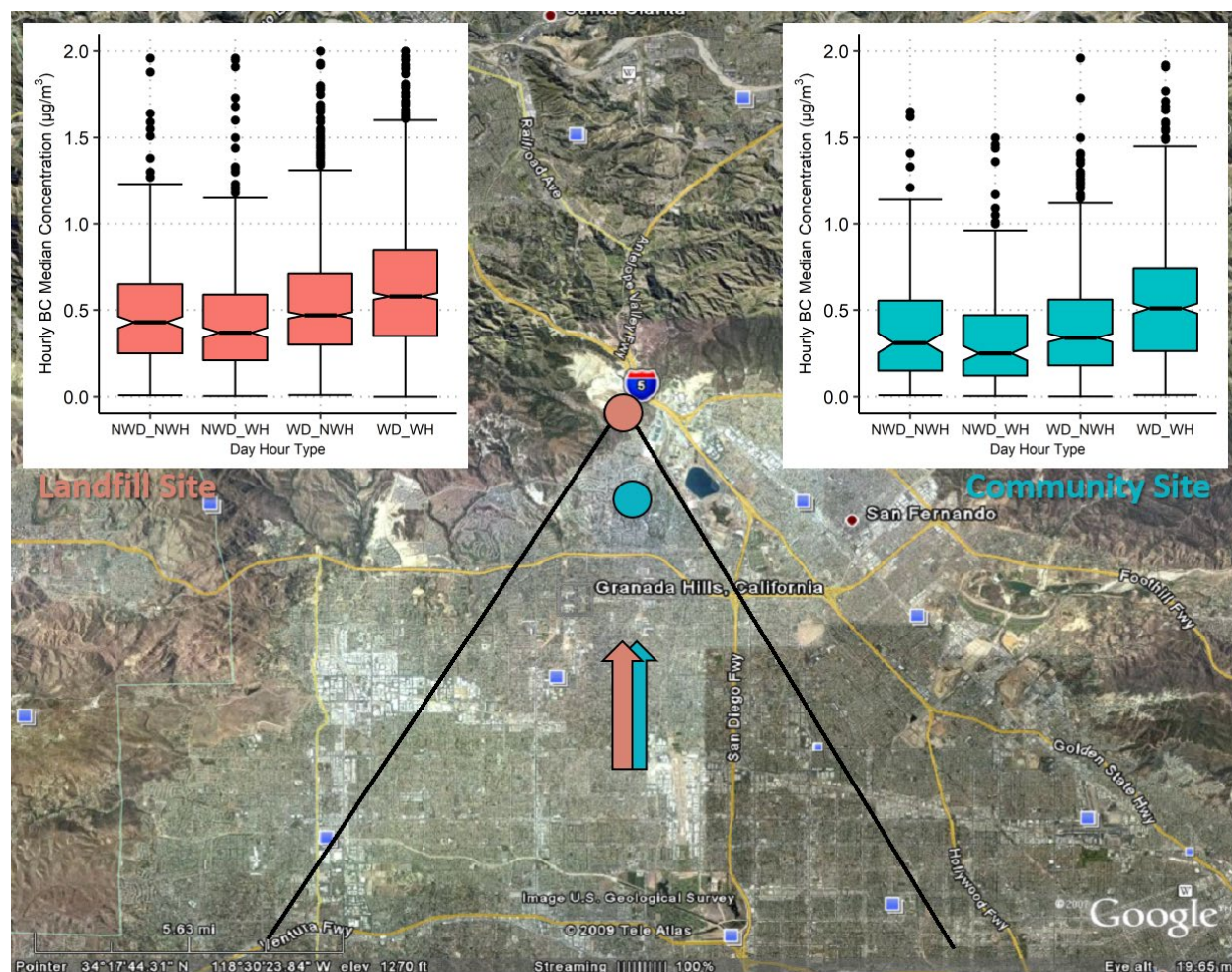


Figure 5-19. Notched box whisker plots of Year 13 (2020) hourly average BC concentrations for Southerly ("From SoCAB") wind sectors (as displayed in Figure 5-4) for working days (WD) and non-working days (NWD) and for working hours (WH) and non-working hours (NWH) within those days for the Landfill (red) and Community (blue) monitor sites. Outliers over 2 µg/m³ are not displayed.

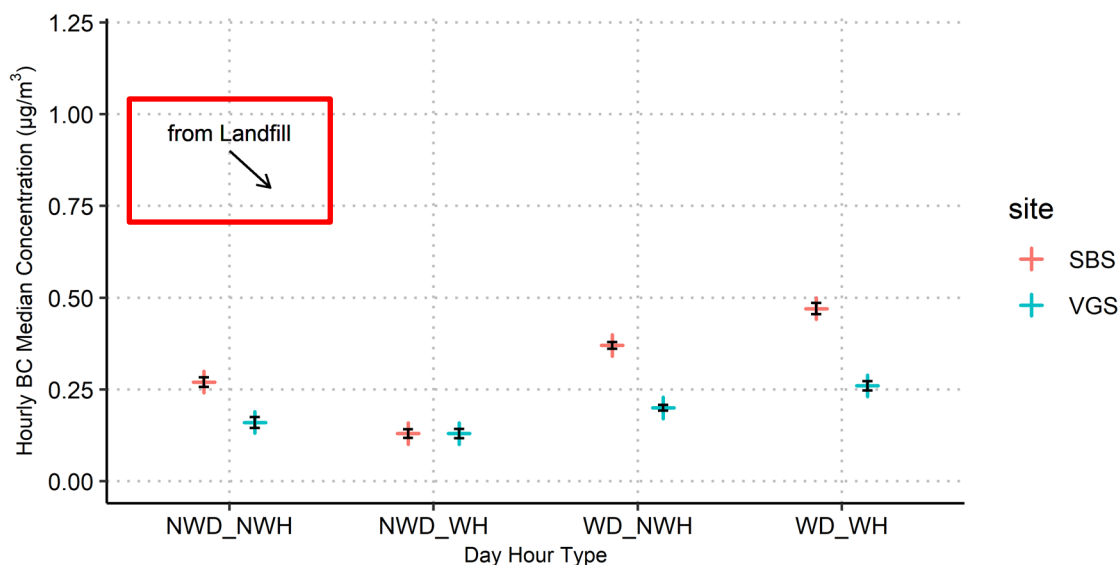


Figure 5-20. Thirteen-year hourly median BC concentrations for northerly (“From Landfill”) wind sectors (as displayed in Figure 5-4) for working days (WD) and non-working days (NWD) and for working hours (WH) and non-working hours (NWH) within those days for the Landfill (red) and Community (blue) monitor sites. 95% confidence intervals are shown in black.

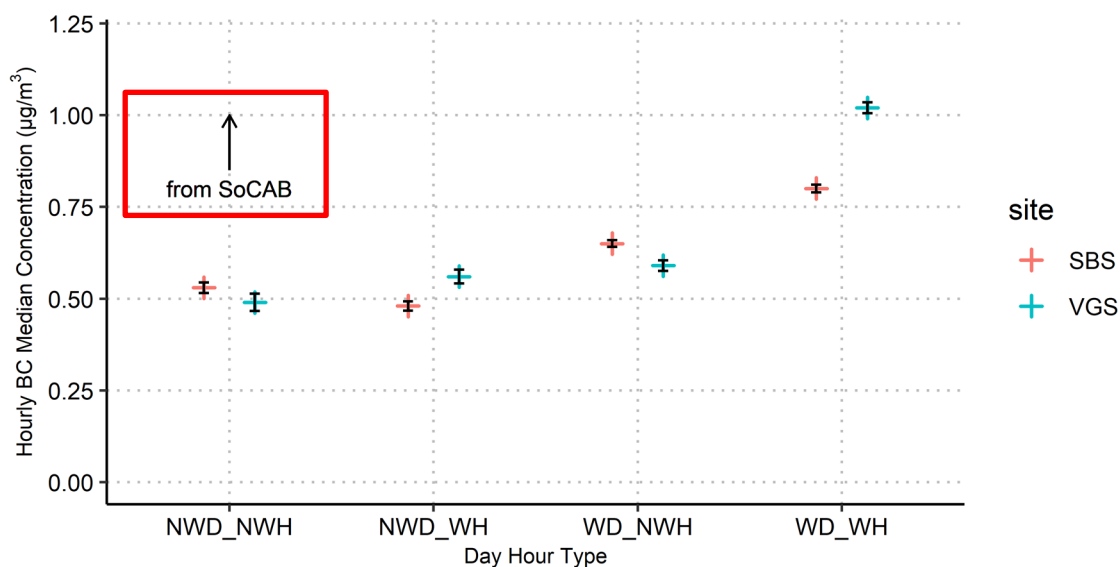


Figure 5-21. Thirteen-year hourly median BC concentrations for northerly (“From SoCAB”) wind sectors (as displayed in Figure 5-4) for working days (WD) and non-working days (NWD) and for working hours (WH) and non-working hours (NWH) within those days for the Landfill (red) and Community (blue) monitor sites. 95% confidence intervals are shown in black.

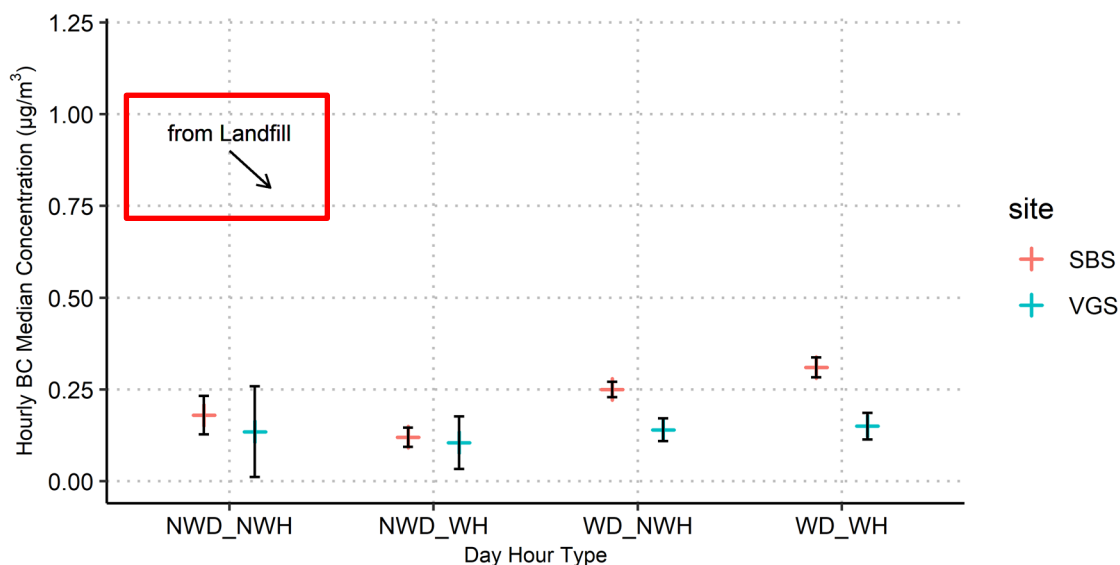


Figure 5-22. Year 13 (2020) hourly median BC concentrations for northerly (“From Landfill”) wind sectors (as displayed in Figure 5-4) for working days (WD) and non-working days (NWD) and for working hours (WH) and non-working hours (NWH) within those days for the Landfill (red) and Community (blue) monitor sites. 95% confidence intervals are shown in black.

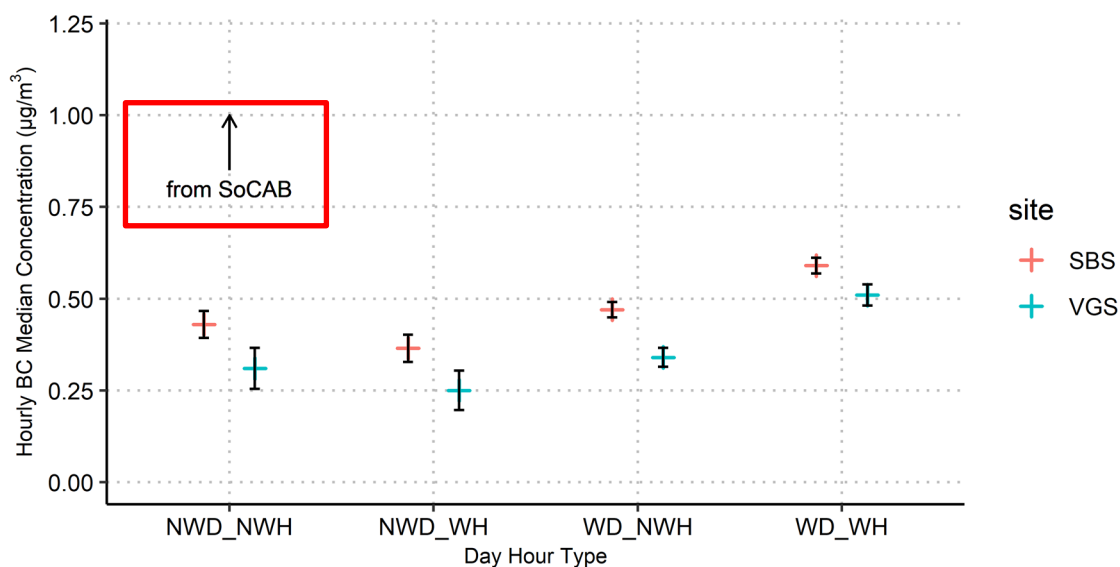


Figure 5-23. Year 13 (2020) hourly median BC concentrations for northerly (“From SoCAB”) wind sectors (as displayed in Figure 5-4) for working days (WD) and non-working days (NWD) and for working hours (WH) and non-working hours (NWH) within those days for the Landfill (red) and Community (blue) monitor sites. 95% confidence intervals are shown in black.

6. Quantitative Estimates of Landfill Impacts on Ambient Concentrations of PM₁₀ and BC

Quantitative estimates of the impact of landfill operations on neighborhood-scale ambient air quality are required by the original Conditions of Approval (C.10.a) and the nearly identical County Condition 81. Specifically, the Conditions require determination of “whether air quality near the Landfill is consistent with the supporting environmental documentation for the City Project (i.e., the City’s Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Report [FSEIR]).” The FSEIR reported the emissions estimates of pollutants likely to result from landfill operations, modeled by the Industrial Source Complex Short Term (ISCST3) regulatory model. Beginning with baseline year data (November 22, 2001–November 21, 2002) and continuing through 2008, no attempt was made to specifically address this requirement, primarily because there is no way to *directly* calculate an appropriate metric. Critically, no pollutant monitoring data were gathered immediately upwind of the landfill to enable accurate estimates of the regional concentrations north of the landfill (and thus unaffected by landfill contributions). While the SCAQMD operates a BAM-1020 monitor at the Santa Clarita station, it is configured for PM_{2.5} sampling; these PM_{2.5} data are not directly comparable to the PM₁₀ data provided by the BAM-1020 instruments currently deployed at the Landfill and Community monitoring sites. The Santa Clarita station does employ FRM measurements of PM₁₀ (integrated 24-hr samples on filters) on a one-in-six-day schedule. While 24-hr averaged data from the Landfill PM₁₀ monitor could be compared with the 24-hr integrated data from the FRM samples every sixth day, the low frequency of sampling supports only minimal statistical power for calculating upwind (background) PM₁₀ concentrations. Additionally, the location of the Santa Clarita station relative to the landfill and nearby freeways further complicates the potential for direct application of that data for calculating landfill contributions of PM₁₀. Furthermore, wind direction often changes during the 24-hour period, meaning the 24-hour averages from Santa Clarita likely confuse any apportionment by wind direction.

In Year 9 (2016) the data collected at the Landfill North site provided the opportunity for a more direct measurement of contributions of PM₁₀ and BC from landfill operations. The hourly PM₁₀ and BC concentration data from the Landfill and Landfill North sites, when the measured winds at the Landfill site were from the landfill or from the SoCAB, were compared by subtracting the Landfill North site values from the Landfill site values to obtain the differences for each wind direction (i.e., from the landfill or from the SoCAB). A similar analysis was conducted for the Landfill and Community sites to determine whether there was any evidence of landfill contribution to the PM₁₀ and BC concentrations at the Community site. The hourly PM₁₀ and BC concentration data from the Landfill and Community sites when the measured winds at the Community site were from the landfill or from the SoCAB were compared by subtracting the Landfill site values from the Community site values to obtain the differences by wind direction (i.e., from the landfill or from the SoCAB). Results from the Year 9 difference analysis can be found in Appendix B, but the key takeaway is that the directly measured contribution is more than two times higher than the estimated contribution resulting from the previous data analysis

method (which began in the Second Annual Report in 2009¹²). The previous estimation method is difficult to clearly describe and resulted in a lower contribution estimate of the impact of landfill operations on neighborhood-scale ambient air quality than the direct measurement method did; therefore, this report uses the same approach as the direct measurement method by comparing the difference between the Landfill and Community sites under the two wind sectors (i.e., from the SoCAB and from the landfill).

The following general conclusions are based on the PM₁₀ difference values presented in **Figures 6-1 through 6-4**:

- The greatest difference in PM₁₀ concentrations between the Landfill and Community sites was observed during periods of highest activity levels (i.e., working hours on working days). Over the 13-year monitoring period, the median PM₁₀ difference was 23 µg/m³ (mean difference of 37 µg/m³) lower at the Community site when the winds were from the landfill. In Year 13, the median PM₁₀ difference was 33 µg/m³ (mean difference of 46 µg/m³) lower at the Community site when the winds were from the landfill.
- When wind was from the landfill, PM₁₀ levels at the Community site were lower than those at the Landfill site for all working categories over the 13 years. Additionally, PM₁₀ concentrations measured at the Community site were lower in each working category when compared to regional PM₁₀ measurements (as shown in Figure 5-15). A landfill contribution to PM₁₀ concentrations at the Community site was not evident under these wind conditions over the 13 years.
- When the wind was from the SoCAB, the PM₁₀ values at the Community site were slightly lower than the values at the Landfill site in the non-working hour categories. The PM₁₀ values at the Community site were only slightly below those at the Landfill site for the highest activity level, indicating a regional contribution of PM₁₀ from the SoCAB to the Community site. On days in the highest activity level category, the regional contribution of PM₁₀ combined with local landfill contributions, increasing PM₁₀ concentrations at the Landfill site. In Year 13, PM₁₀ levels at the Community site were much lower than those at the Landfill site when wind was from SoCAB for all working categories, indicating the combination of increased landfill activity and regional PM₁₀ contribution.

The following general conclusions are based on the BC difference values presented in **Figures 6-5 through 6-8**:

- During the highest activity levels (working hours on working days), the greatest BC differences between observations at the Community site and Landfill site were observed. Over the 13-year monitoring period, the median BC difference was 0.210 µg/m³ (mean difference of 0.323 µg/m³) lower at the Community site when the winds were from the landfill. For observations during non-working hours on working days and non-working days, BC concentrations were lower at the Community site when winds were from the

¹² Vaughn D.L. and Roberts P.T. (2009) Second annual report of ambient air quality monitoring at Sunshine Canyon Landfill and Van Gogh Elementary School. Prepared for the Planning Department, City of Los Angeles, CA, by Sonoma Technology, Inc., Petaluma, CA, STI-907032-3671-AR, August.

landfill, suggesting that a landfill contribution to BC levels at the Community site was not evident (as evident for PM_{10}). BC concentrations during working hours on non-working days were equal between the Community site and Landfill site when winds were from the landfill. During the highest activity levels over Year 13 only, the median BC difference was $0.160 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (mean difference of $0.129 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) lower at the Community site when the winds were from the landfill.

- BC concentrations were higher at the Community site than at the Landfill site when the wind was from the SoCAB in the working hour categories, but they were slightly lower during non-working hour categories. This suggests increased regional BC concentrations contributing to BC levels at the Community site.

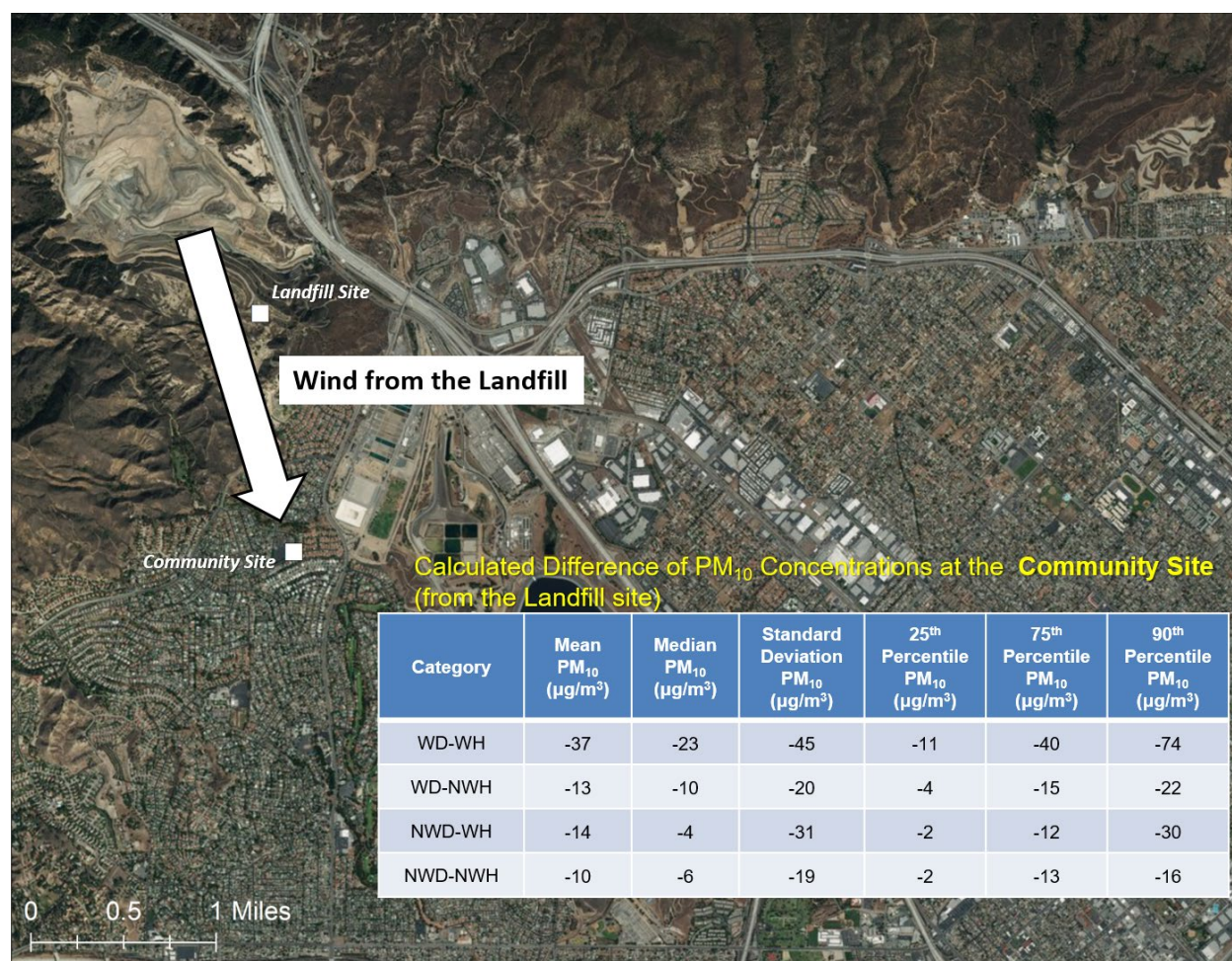


Figure 6-1. Median, mean, and standard deviation of PM_{10} concentration differences at the Community site versus the Landfill site for northerly ("From Landfill") wind sectors (as displayed in Figure 5-4) for working days (WD) and non-working days (NWD) and for working hours (WH) and non-working hours (NWH) based on the 13-year monitoring period dataset. Negative values represent lower PM_{10} concentrations at the Community site.

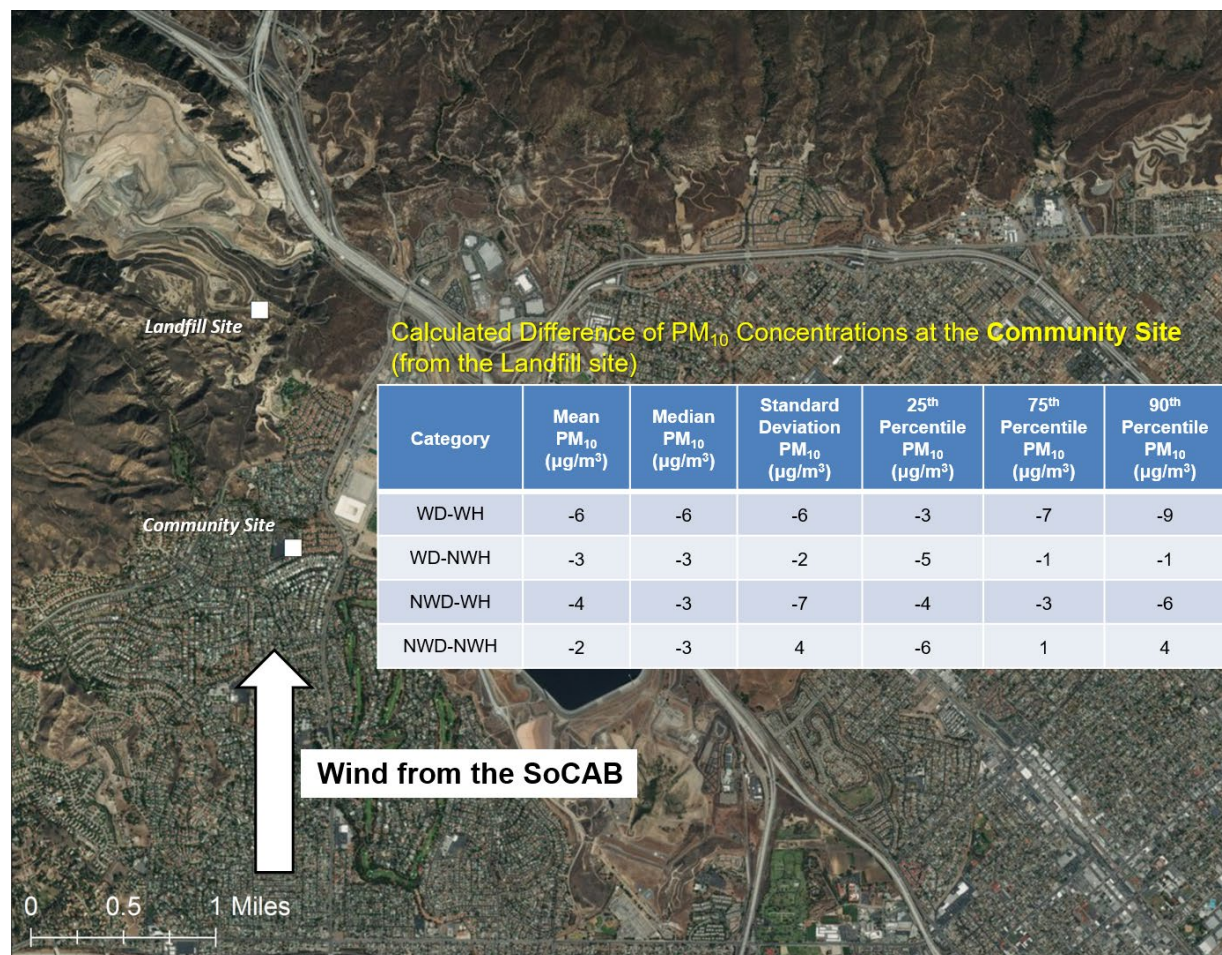


Figure 6-2. Median, mean, and standard deviation of PM₁₀ concentration differences at the Community site versus the Landfill site for southerly ("From SoCAB") wind sectors (as displayed in Figure 5-4) for working days (WD) and non-working days (NWD) and for working hours (WH) and non-working hours (NWH) based on the 13-year monitoring period dataset. Negative values represent lower PM₁₀ concentrations at the Community site, while positive values represent higher PM₁₀ concentrations.

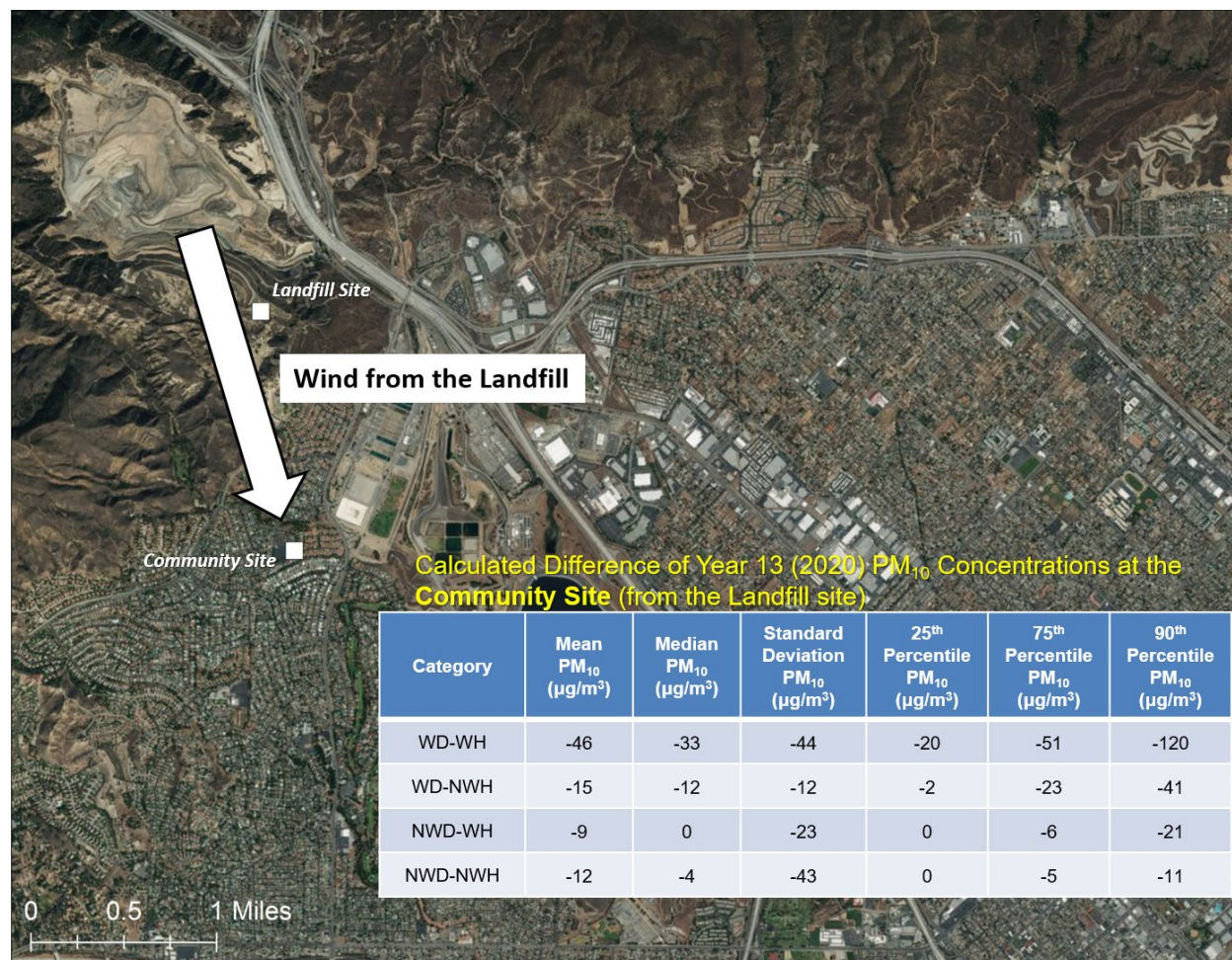


Figure 6-3. Median, mean, and standard deviation of PM₁₀ concentration differences at the Community site versus the Landfill site for northerly (“From Landfill”) wind sectors (as displayed in Figure 5-4) for working days (WD) and non-working days (NWD) and for working hours (WH) and non-working hours (NWH) based on the Year 13 (2020) dataset. Negative values represent lower PM₁₀ concentrations at the Community site.

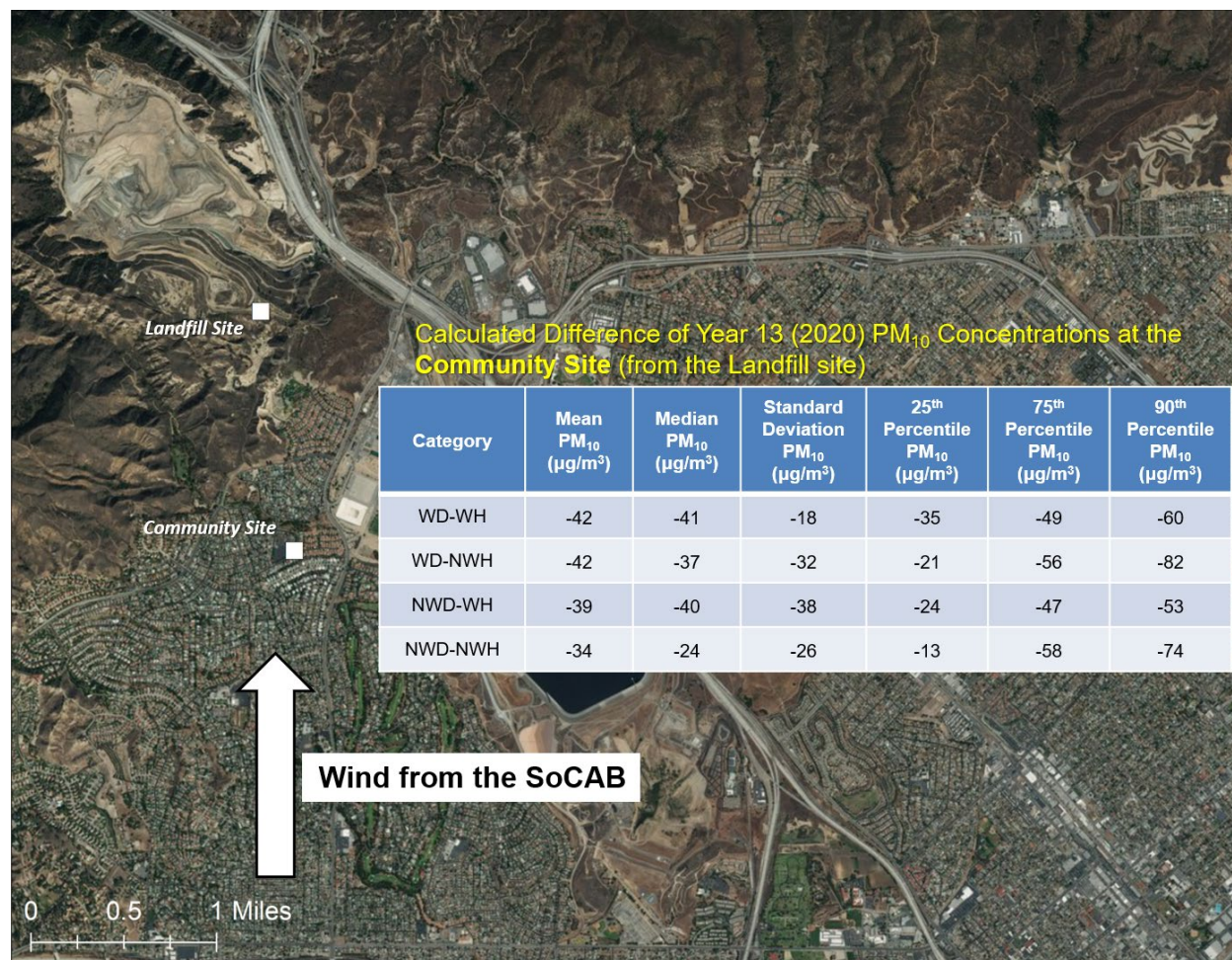


Figure 6-4. Median, mean, and standard deviation of PM₁₀ concentration differences at the Community site versus the Landfill site for southerly (“From SoCAB”) wind sectors (as displayed in Figure 5-4) for working days (WD) and non-working days (NWD) and for working hours (WH) and non-working hours (NWH) based on the Year 13 (2020) dataset. Negative values represent lower PM₁₀ concentrations at the Community site.

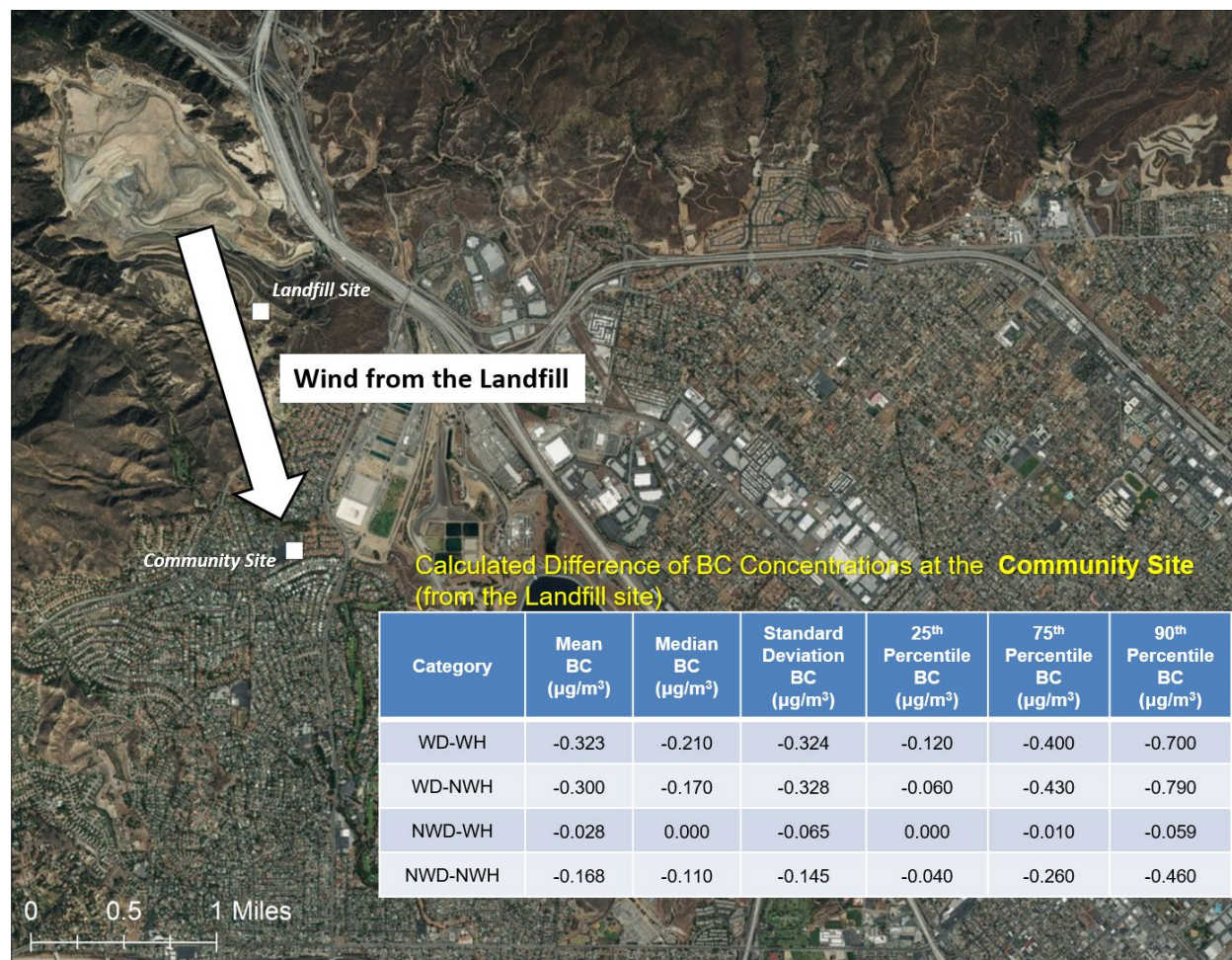


Figure 6-5. Median, mean, and standard deviation of BC concentration differences at the Community site versus the Landfill site for northerly (“From Landfill”) wind sectors (as displayed in Figure 5-4) for working days (WD) and non-working days (NWD) and for working hours (WH) and non-working hours (NWH) based on the 13-year monitoring period dataset. Negative values represent lower BC concentrations at the Community site.

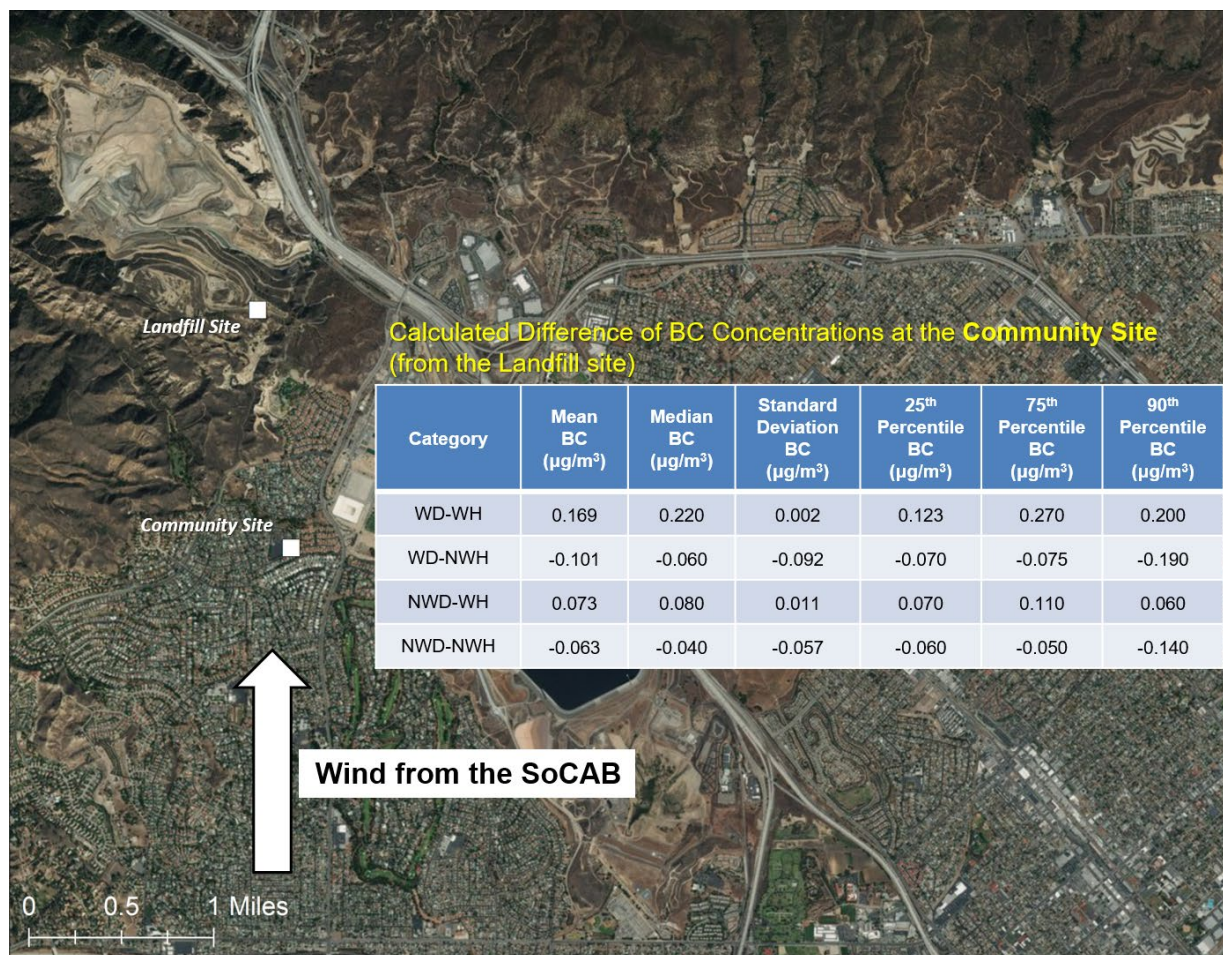


Figure 6-6. Median, mean, and standard deviation of BC concentration differences at the Community site versus the Landfill site for southerly (“From SoCAB”) wind sectors (as displayed in Figure 5-4) for working days (WD) and non-working days (NWD) and for working hours (WH) and non-working hours (NWH) based on the 13-year monitoring period dataset. Positive values represent higher BC concentrations at the Community site.

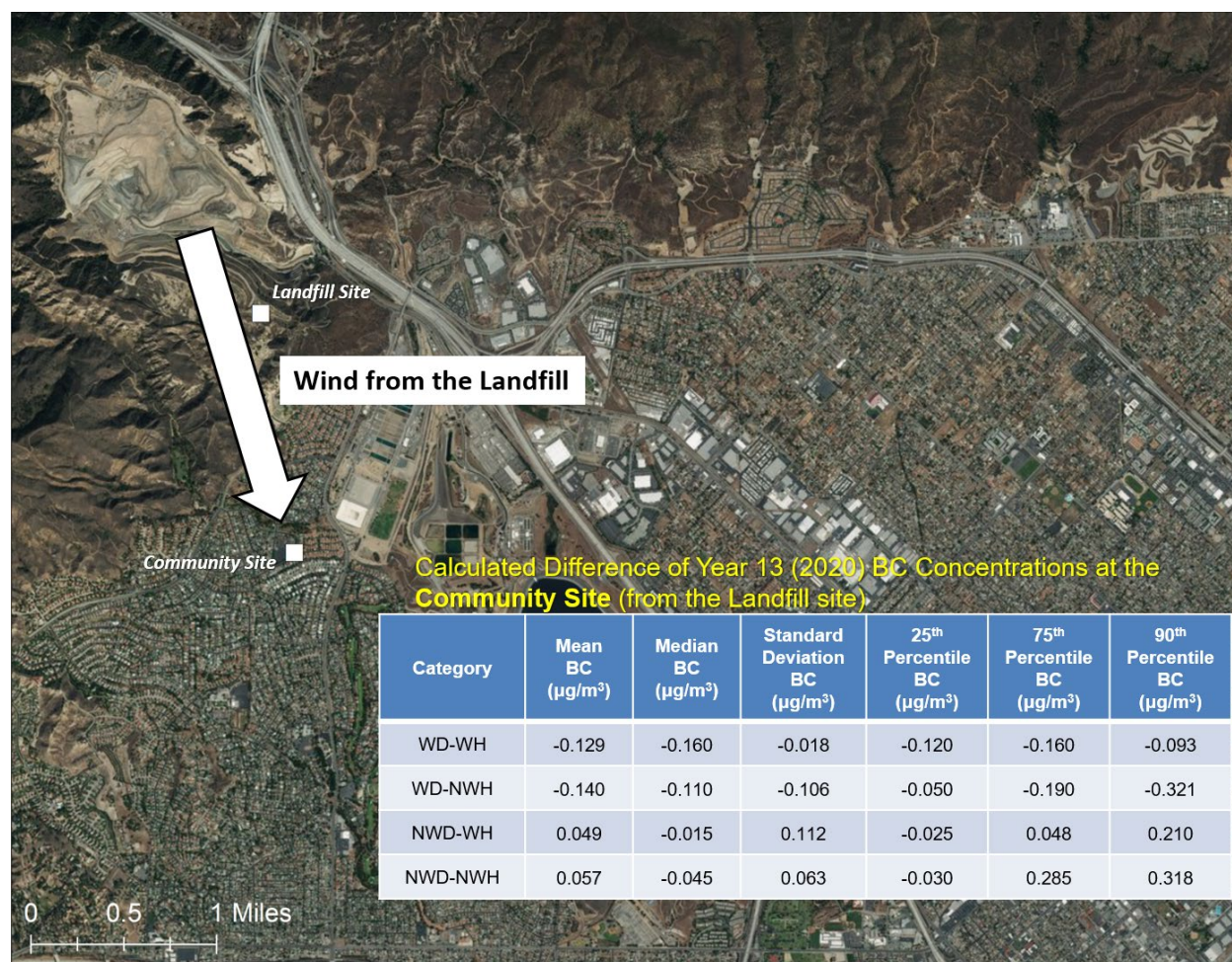


Figure 6-7. Median, mean, and standard deviation of BC concentration differences at the Community site versus the Landfill site for northerly (“From Landfill”) wind sectors (as displayed in Figure 5-4) for working days (WD) and non-working days (NWD) and for working hours (WH) and non-working hours (NWH) based on the Year 13 (2020) dataset. Negative values represent lower BC concentrations at the Community site, while positive values represent higher BC concentrations.

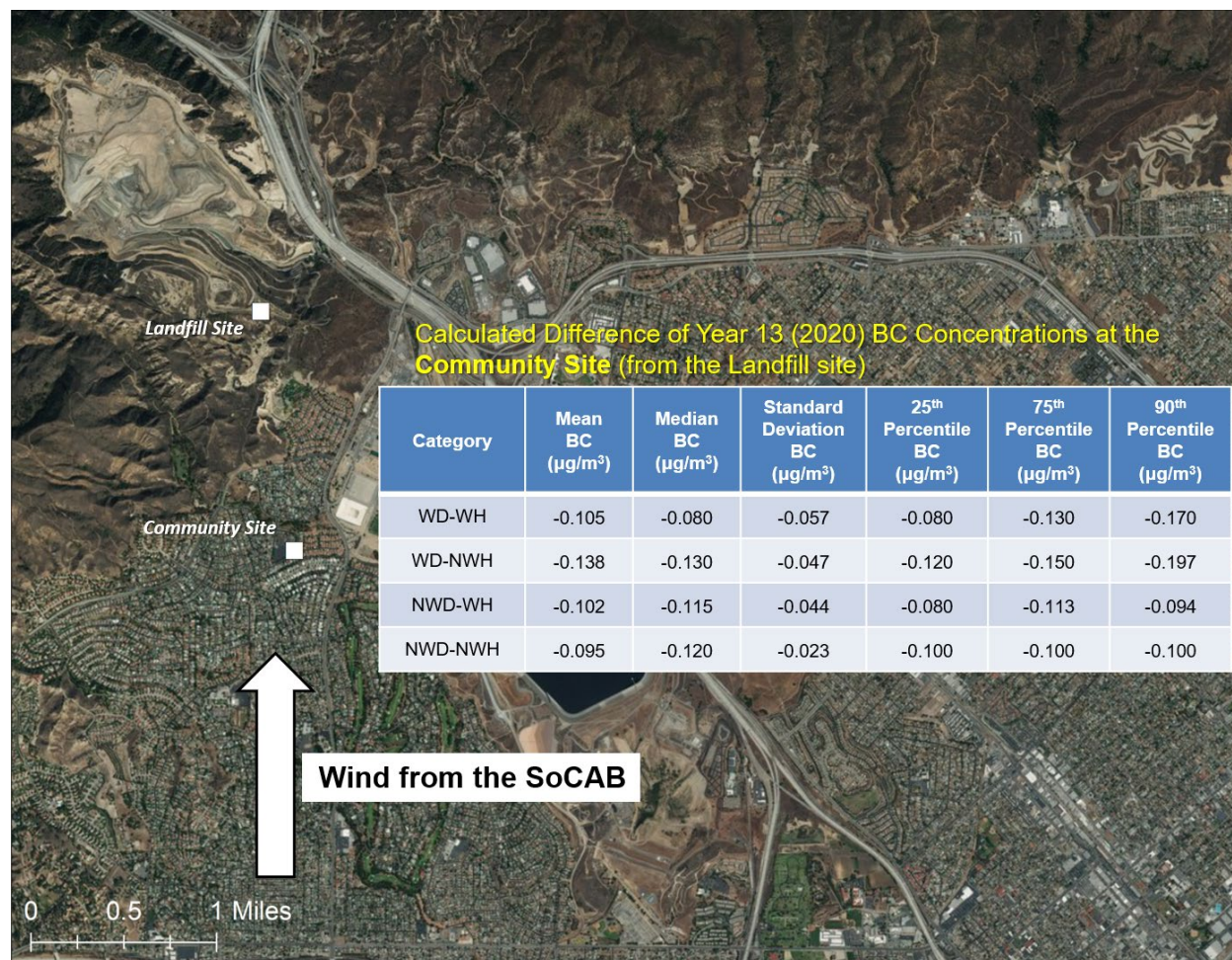


Figure 6-8. Median, mean, and standard deviation of BC concentration differences at the Community site versus the Landfill site for southerly (“From SoCAB”) wind sectors (as displayed in Figure 5-4) for working days (WD) and non-working days (NWD) and for working hours (WH) and non-working hours (NWH) based on the Year 13 (2020) dataset. Negative values represent lower BC concentrations at the Community site, while positive values represent higher BC concentrations.

7. Routine Field Operations

Field operations include regular visits to both monitoring sites. During the first four years of the study, these visits were scheduled at two-week intervals. We changed this to monthly intervals because experience demonstrated that monthly visits suffice to meet the routine maintenance operations associated with the Beta Attenuation Monitor (BAM) and the Aethalometer. This protocol is in keeping with the maintenance schedule recommended by Met One (manufacturer of the BAM) and Magee Scientific (manufacturer of the Aethalometer). This protocol is accompanied by daily review of data that allows problems to be detected quickly. Many times, the detected problems can be addressed remotely via cellular connection to the site instruments. Occasionally, non-scheduled onsite visits by an STI technician are required and occur as soon as reasonably possible.

Each quarterly report contains tables with the dates and times of each site visit and a summary of activities that took place. Consult these reports for a summary of field activities that occurred in Years 1 through 13. **Tables 7-1 and 7-2** summarize all visits during Year 13 for the monitoring sites.

Table 7-1. Sunshine Canyon Landfill monitoring site visits and field maintenance and operations in Year 13.

Date of Site Visit	Description of Work
December 18, 2019	Collected PM ₁₀ and BC data. Spooled new roll of tape for Aethalometer. Restarted Aethalometer. Checked BAM tape supplies. Cleaned BAM roller, vane, and nozzle, and performed leak check. Performed flow check on Aethalometer and BAM samplers.
January 24, 2020	Collected PM ₁₀ and BC data. Restarted Aethalometer. Checked Aethalometer tape supplies. Cleaned BAM roller, vane, and nozzle, and spooled new roll of tape. Performed leak check on BAM sampler. Performed flow check on Aethalometer and BAM samplers.
February 27, 2020	Collected PM ₁₀ and BC data. Restarted Aethalometer. Checked Aethalometer and BAM tape supplies. Cleaned BAM roller, vane, and nozzle, and performed leak check. Performed flow check on Aethalometer and BAM samplers. MET tower leaning ~10° northwest due to soil erosion at base (ongoing).
March 24, 2020	Collected PM ₁₀ and BC data. Restarted Aethalometer and BAM. Checked Aethalometer and BAM tape supplies. Noted possible moisture damage to Aethalometer tape. Replaced Aethalometer tape. Cleaned BAM roller, vane, and nozzle.

Date of Site Visit	Description of Work
May 1, 2020	Gap in access to site due to COVID-19. Collected PM ₁₀ and BC data. Restarted Aethalometer. Checked Aethalometer and BAM tape supplies. BAM found with no tape. Replaced BAM tape. Performed flow check on Aethalometer and BAM samplers. Cleaned Aethalometer roller and cleaned dust from chamber. Cleaned BAM roller, vane, and nozzle. Performed self-test and leak test on BAM. Self-test and leak test passed.
May 21, 2020	Collected PM ₁₀ and BC data. Restarted Aethalometer. Checked Aethalometer and BAM tape supplies. Cleaned Aethalometer roller. Performed flow check on Aethalometer and BAM. Cleaned BAM roller, vane, and nozzle. Performed self-test and leak test on BAM. Self-test and leak test passed.
July 2, 2020	Collected PM ₁₀ and BC data. Restarted Aethalometer. Checked Aethalometer and BAM tape supplies. Performed flow check on Aethalometer and BAM. Cleaned BAM roller, vane, and nozzle. Performed leak test on BAM. Leak test passed.
August 10, 2020	Investigated data telemetry issue. Found DRD crashed. Rebooted PC and restarted Envidas viewer and reporter. Verified remote access to PC.
September 22, 2020	Annual met. calibration. Aethalometer tape jammed and not feeding properly with overlapping measurements, likely caused by excessive moisture. Cut off deteriorated tape and re-spoiled remaining tape. Backed up BC data and replaced data card. Verified flow.
October 23, 2020	Collected PM ₁₀ and BC data. Performed flow check on Aethalometer and BAM. Cleaned BAM roller, vane, and nozzle. Performed leak test on BAM and passed.
November 27, 2020*	Changed BAM tape.

*The next site visit that occurred after the current year is included in this report. The information from this site visit is used to assess the quality of the last portion of data from the current year.

Table 7-2. Community monitoring site visits and field maintenance and operations in Year 13.

Date of Site Visit	Description of Work
December 18, 2019	Collected PM ₁₀ and BC data. Restarted Aethalometer. Checked Aethalometer and BAM tape supplies. Cleaned BAM roller, vane, and nozzle, and performed leak check. Performed flow check on Aethalometer and BAM samplers.
January 8, 2020	Rebooted MET logger, and restored communications.
January 24, 2020	Collected PM ₁₀ and BC data. Restarted Aethalometer. Checked Aethalometer and BAM tape supplies. Cleaned BAM roller, vane, and nozzle, and performed leak check. Performed flow check on Aethalometer and BAM samplers. Restarted DR DAS.
February 27, 2020	Collected PM ₁₀ and BC data. Restarted Aethalometer. Checked Aethalometer and BAM tape supplies. Cleaned BAM roller, vane, and nozzle, and performed leak check. Performed flow check on Aethalometer and BAM samplers.
March 25, 2020	Remote PM ₁₀ data collected. No access to site due to COVID-19.
May 21, 2020	Collected PM ₁₀ and BC data. Restarted Aethalometer. BAM not running. BAM returned to normal operation. Checked Aethalometer and BAM tape supplies. BAM out of tape. Replaced BAM tape. Cleaned Aethalometer roller. Performed flow check on Aethalometer and BAM. Performed self-test and leak test on BAM. Self-test and leak test passed.
May 29, 2020	Failed HVAC unit changed. Note recent inside temperatures reached 40°C.
July 2, 2020	Collected PM ₁₀ and BC data. Restarted Aethalometer. Checked Aethalometer and BAM tape supplies. Aethalometer tape loose. Aethalometer tap re-tensioned and tested. Performed flow test on Aethalometer and BAM. Cleaned BAM roller, vane, and nozzle. Performed leak test on BAM. Leak test passed.

Date of Site Visit	Description of Work
August 7, 2020	Changed BAM tape.
September 21, 2020	Annual MET calibration. Collected PM ₁₀ and BC data. Restarted Aethalometer. Checked Aethalometer and BAM tape supplies. Performed flow test on Aethalometer and BAM. Cleaned BAM roller, vane, and nozzle. Performed leak test on BAM. Leak test passed.
October 23, 2020	Changed BAM tape. Investigated blue screen PC issue. Restarted PC and advised IT.
December 9, 2020*	Investigated communication issue. Rebooted proxy. Found PC infected with Trojan virus. Advised IT to fix. Restarted Envidas.

* The next site visit that occurred after the current year is included in this report. The information from this site visit is used to assess the quality of the last portion of data from the current year.

Appendix A: Regional Concentrations of BC

This Appendix contains an analysis of regional concentrations of BC that was previously included in past annual reports. MATES V data are not available to the public at the time of the 13th Annual Report, but should be available for the 14th Annual Report.

Concentrations of black carbon by month and time of day, and a differential between the Landfill and Community sites, are shown in **Figure A-1**. These data are from the time period of the MATES IV study in 2012-2013. Concentrations of BC are highest in the summer, with a maximum median concentration occurring at both sites in August. While Figure A-1 represents only one year of data, this seasonal trend is consistent across all eight years of monitoring data with one exception: the very high variability in February concentrations is a one-year issue that was not seen in the other eight years of monitoring data.¹ Concentrations of BC are highest in the early morning hours (Figure A-1, bottom). The big diurnal dip in the differential in the early morning hours at 6:00 a.m. LST is consistent across years. This indicates a clear pattern of higher local concentrations at the landfill station in the early morning hours.

¹ Year 10 data are not included in this analysis but will be used in analyses of the MATES V study (<http://www.aqmd.gov/home/air-quality/air-quality-studies/health-studies/mates-v>).

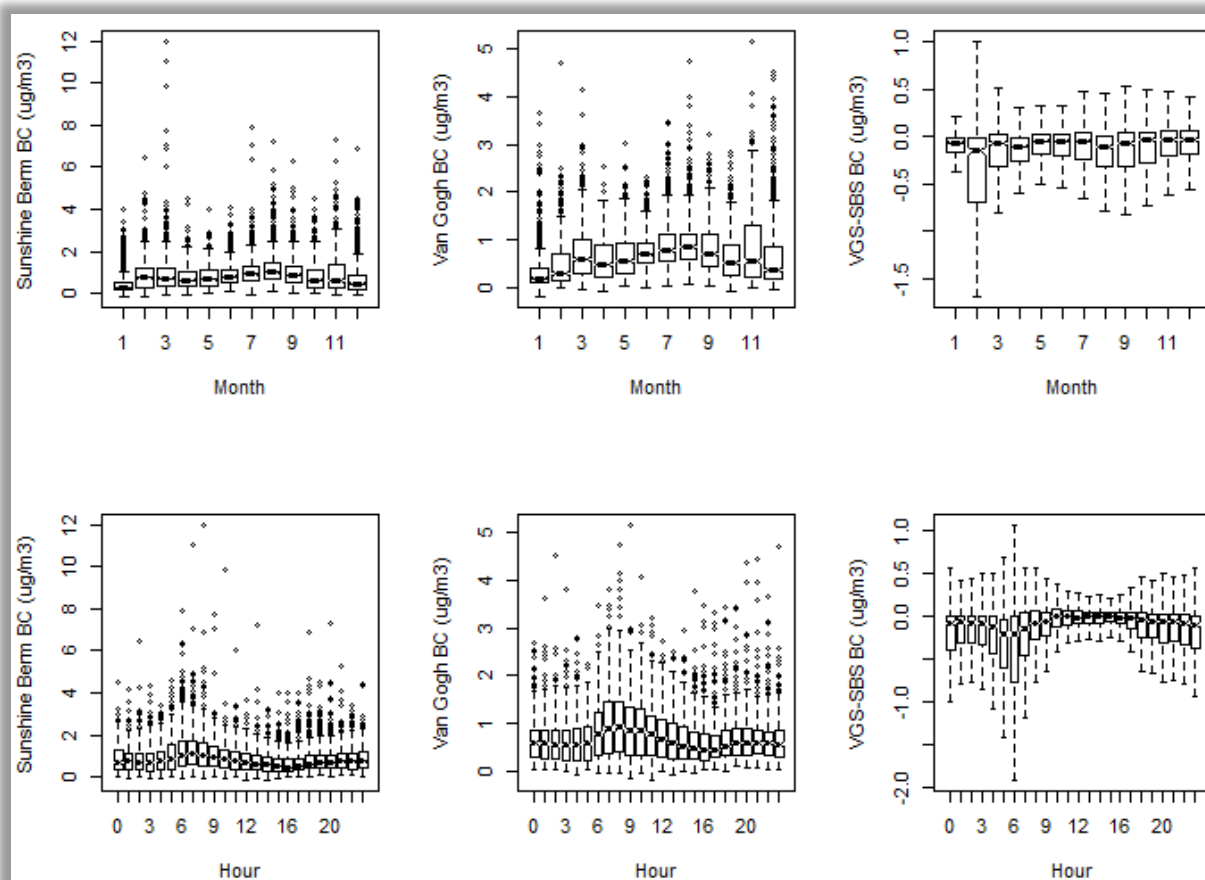


Figure A-1. Concentrations of black carbon at the two stations by month (top three figures) and time of day (bottom three figures) for the time period of the MATES IV study (July 2012–June 2013). Differentials are shown on the far right; concentrations below zero indicate that concentrations were higher at the Sunshine site than at the Community site. Note that the scale for the Landfill site (far left) is higher.

To place the data in a regional context, Landfill and Community BC concentrations during the MATES IV period (July 2012–June 2013) are shown in comparison to MATES IV BC measurements that were made at Burbank, Los Angeles, Pico Rivera, and Huntington Park.

Figure A-2 shows a comparison of concentrations for the days and hours when each of the sites had valid BC data available during this time period. Concentrations at the Sunshine Berm site (SBS, the Landfill site) and Van Gogh site (VGS, the Community site) are shown in blue, while other nearby Los Angeles sites are shown in gray. Median concentrations at the Landfill and Community sites are significantly lower than those measured at the other four sites during the same time period. Moreover, 75th percentile (top of the box) and upper percentile concentrations (indicated by error bars) are also significantly lower at the Landfill and Community sites than at other sites in the Los Angeles Basin. Diurnal differences in concentrations are greatest during early morning rush hours, and concentrations across the basin are most similar during afternoon and early evening hours.

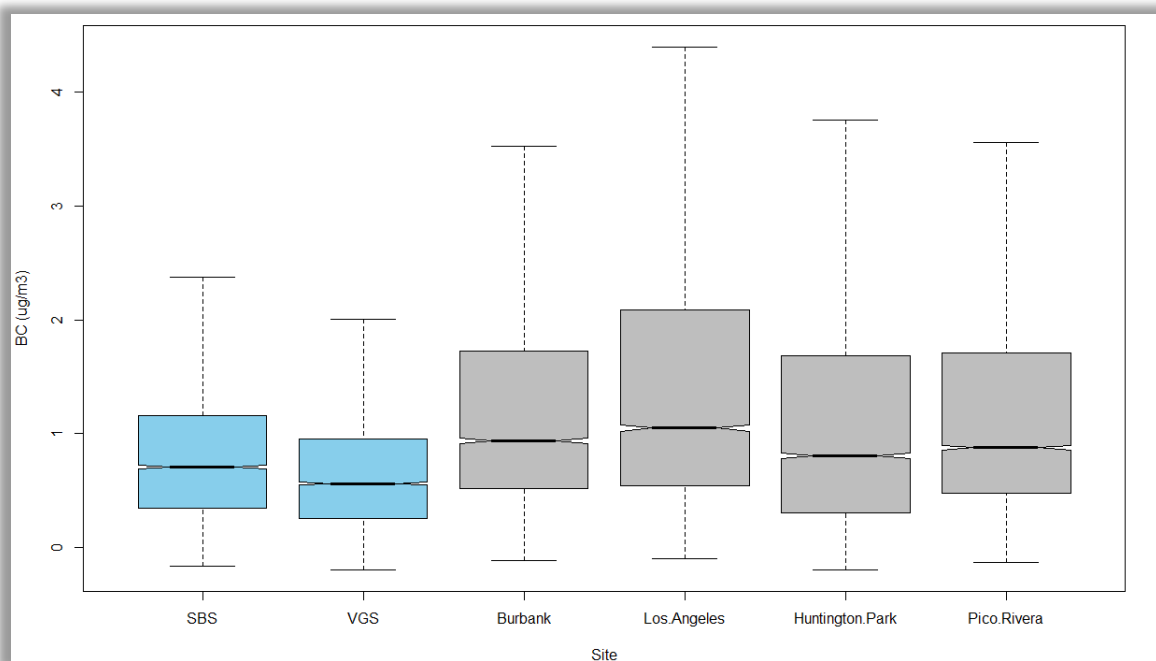


Figure A-2. A comparison of regional BC concentrations from July 2012 through June 2013 at landfill sites (blue) and MATES IV monitoring stations (gray). In MATES IV documentation, Los Angeles is referred to as “Central LA.”

Appendix B: Additional Analyses

This appendix contains discussions of the temporal variability in BC, PM₁₀, and wind direction (Section B.1), and of the effects of wind direction and work activity on BC and PM₁₀ (Section B.2). Section B.3 provides information about the Landfill North site, as previously reported in Section 5.6 of the Ninth Annual Report.

B.1 Temporal Variability in BC, PM₁₀, and Wind Direction

As shown in **Figure B-1**, the diurnal profiles of BC and PM₁₀ are characterized by a morning peak in concentrations at both monitoring locations. The peak in BC occurs between 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m., while the peak in PM₁₀ is broader, occurring between 6:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Overall, the mean hourly concentrations of both BC and PM₁₀ are lower at the Community monitor than at the Landfill monitor.

As shown in the box-whisker plots (**Figure B-2**), median concentrations of BC and PM₁₀ are higher during the warm season (approximately May through September) at both the Community and the Landfill sites. Figure B-2 shows the percent of time during which winds at the Landfill and Community sites originated from each wind direction sector, South Coast Air Basin, Landfill, or Other during each month of the 13 years.

Figures B-3 through B-5 show seasonal wind roses of hourly wind data collected at the Landfill and Community sites. At the Landfill site, winds are predominantly from the northerly and southerly directions during all seasons, with a larger proportion of winds from the north during the winter and from the south during the summer (Figures B-3 and B-4). At the Landfill North site, the prevailing winds are northwesterly in the winter, southerly in the spring and summer, and a mix of northwesterly and southerly in the fall (not shown). The prevailing wind direction at the Community site varies during all seasons (Figure B-5).

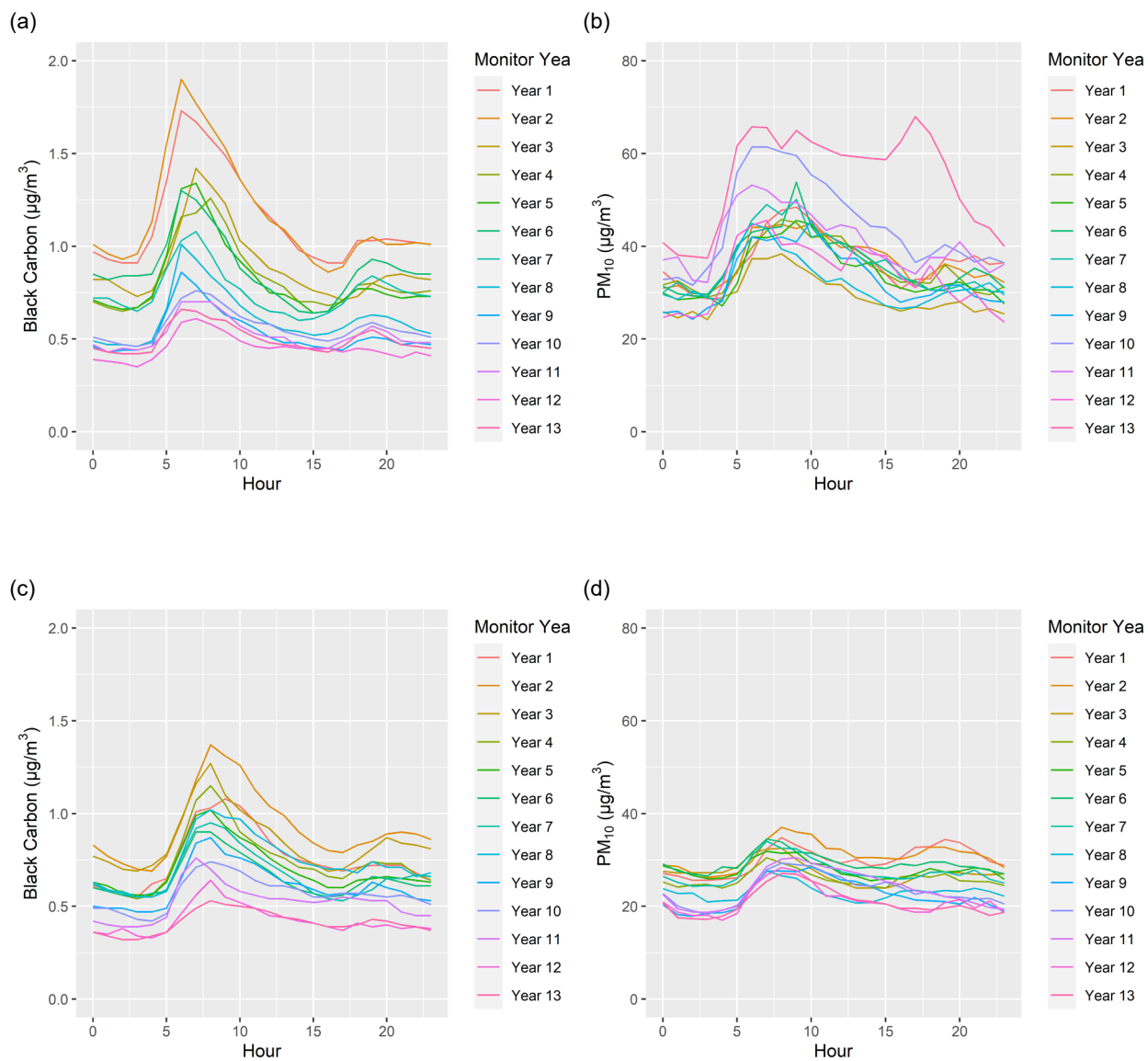


Figure B-1. Mean BC and PM₁₀ concentrations by hour for the 13 monitoring years at the Landfill (a, b) and Community (c, d) sites.

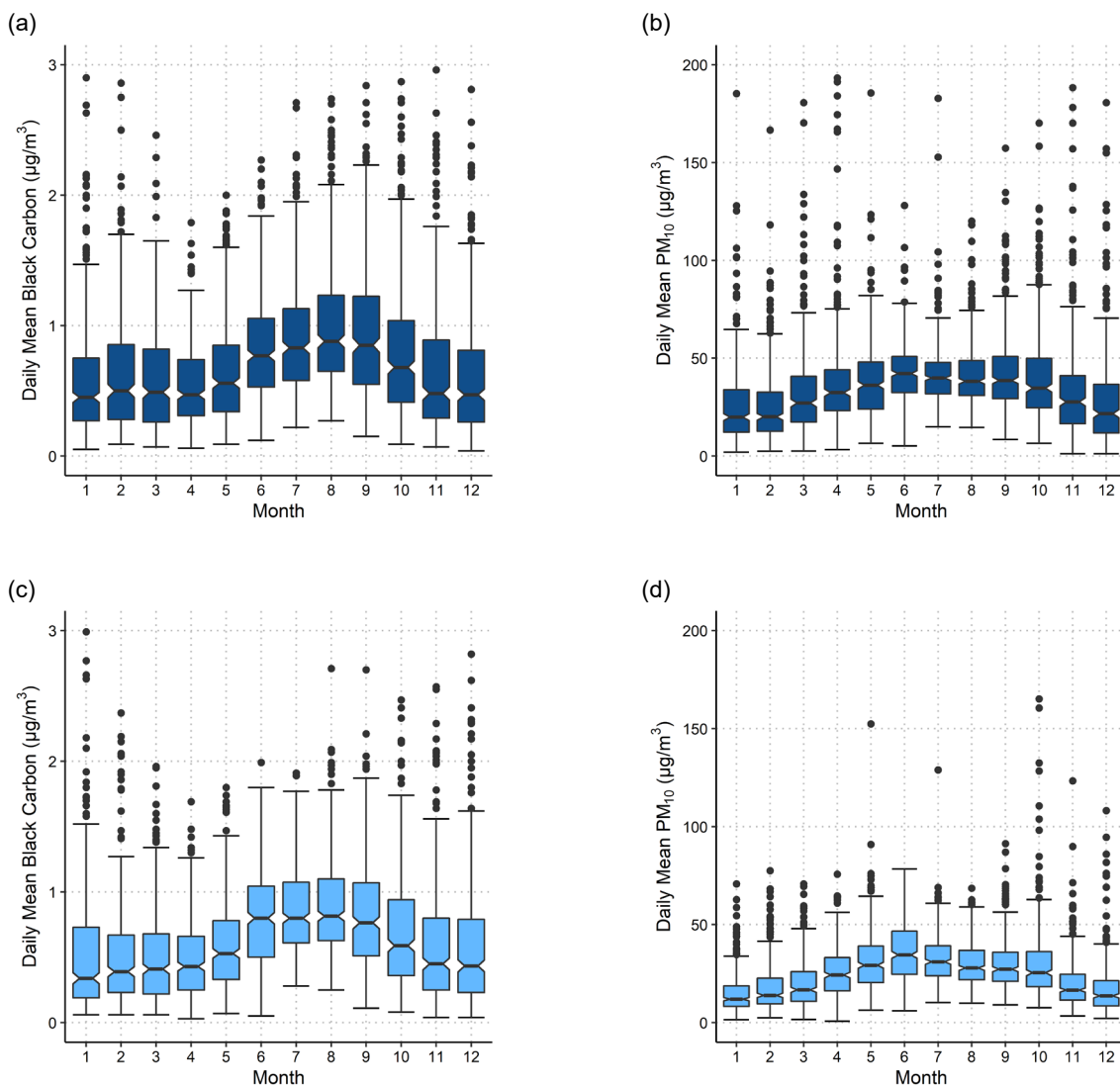


Figure B-2. Distribution of daily mean BC and PM_{10} concentrations by month across all 13 monitor years (2007–2020) at the Landfill (a, b) and Community (c, d) sites. BC outlier data greater than $3 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ and PM_{10} outlier data greater than $200 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ are excluded.

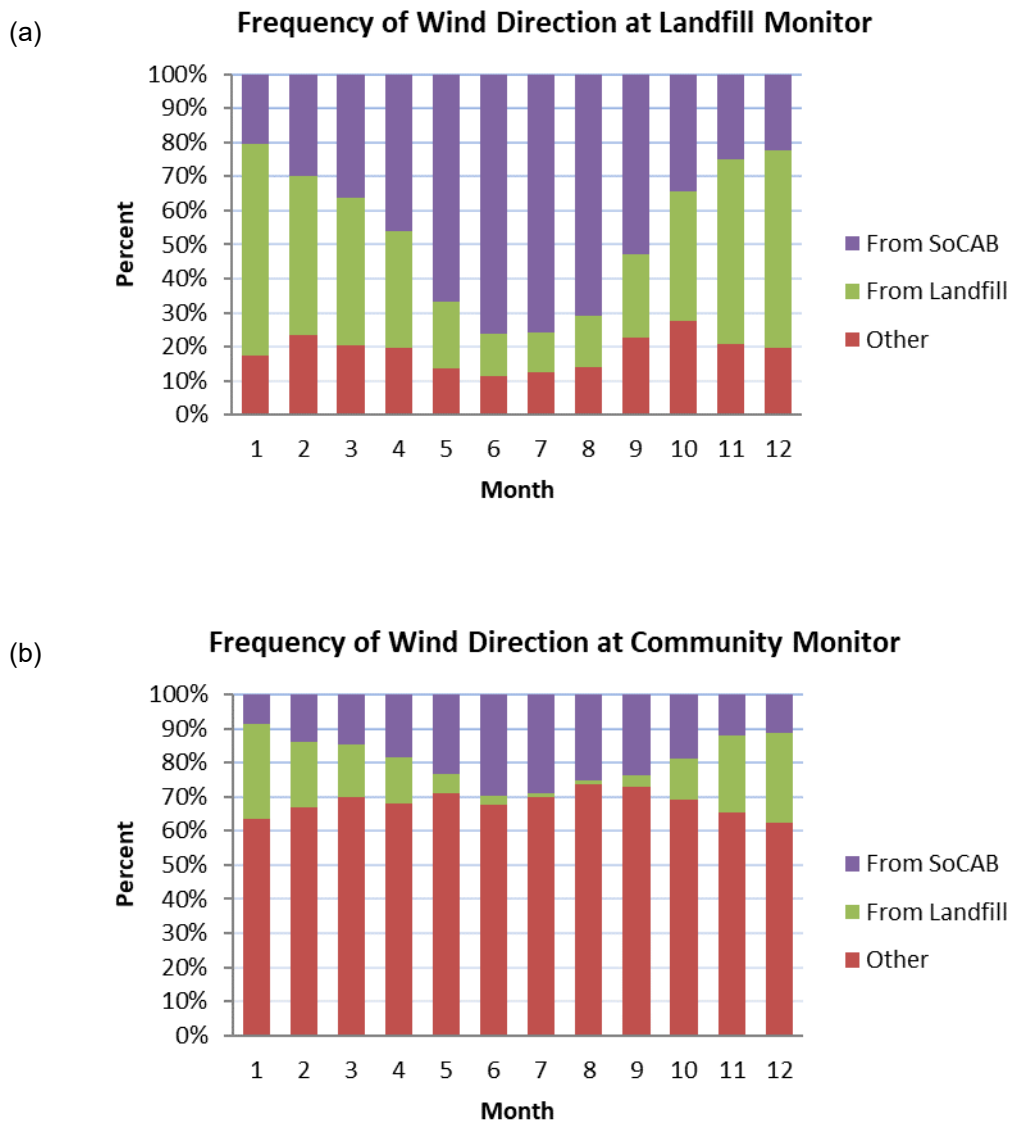


Figure B-3. Percent of time during which winds at the Landfill (a) and Community (b) monitoring sites originated from each wind direction sector (South Coast Air Basin, Landfill, Other) during each month across all 13 years (2007–2020).

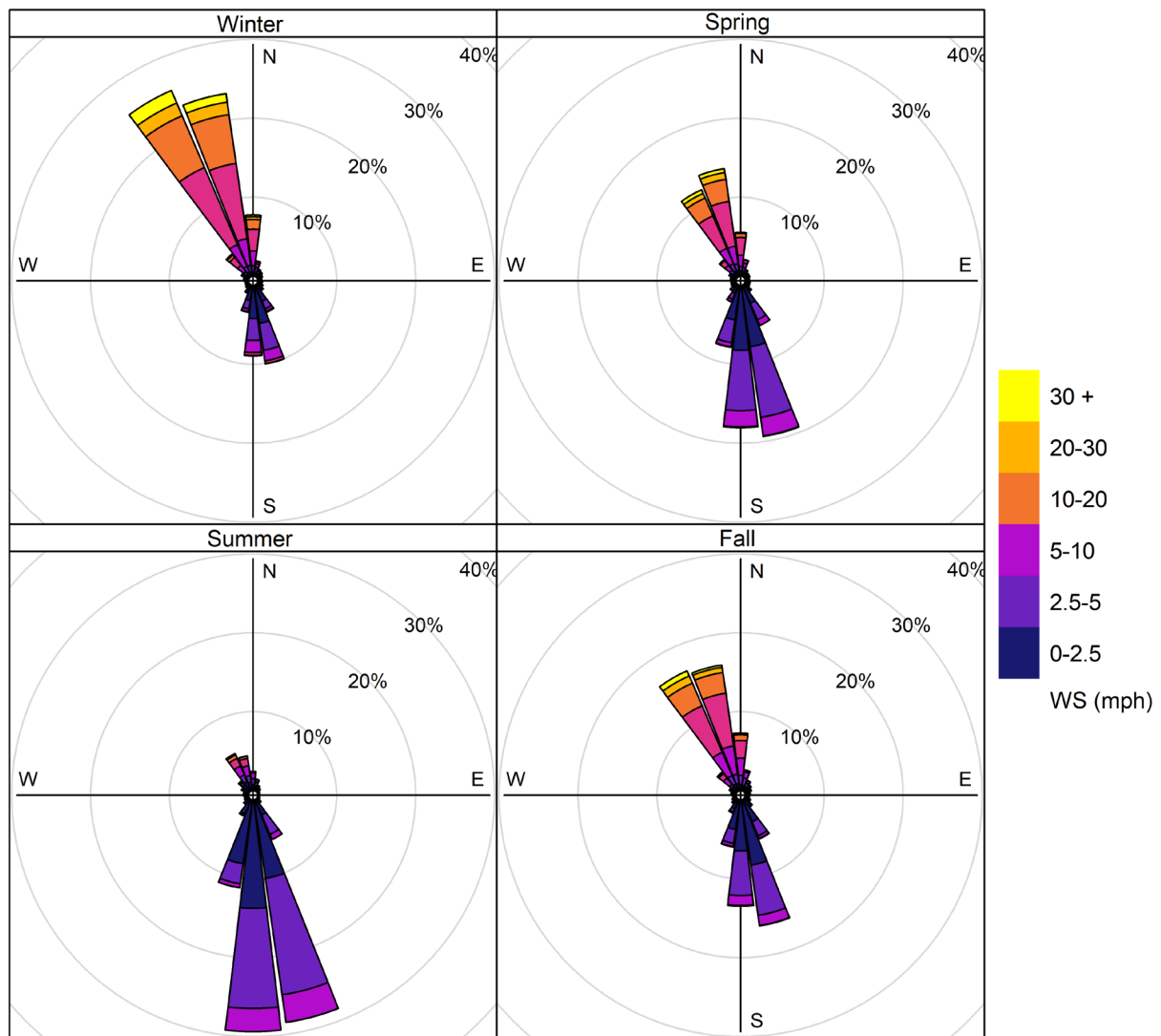


Figure B-4. Seasonal wind roses based on hourly data collected at the Landfill monitor during 2007-2020.

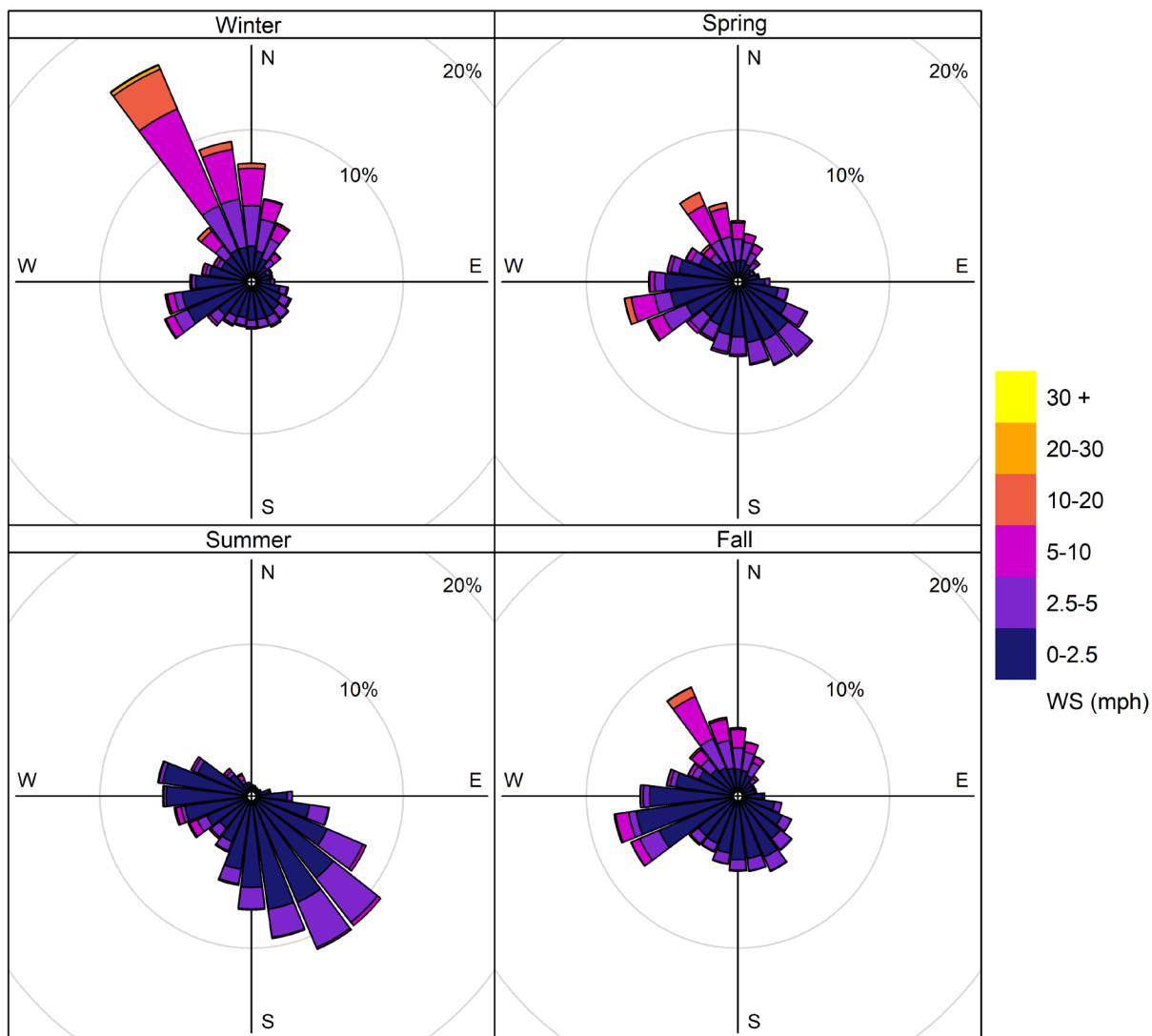


Figure B-5. Seasonal wind roses based on hourly data collected at the Community monitor during 2007-2020. Data since the 11th report year are replaced with wind data from the Reseda site.

B.2 BC and PM₁₀: Effects of Wind Direction and Work Activity Levels

As shown in **Figure B-6**, concentrations of BC and PM₁₀ are higher on weekdays than weekends. Higher concentrations are consistent with greater activity at the landfill during the week, as well as with more vehicles on the roads throughout the SoCAB. Concentrations of BC and PM₁₀ are higher on Saturdays than Sundays at the Landfill site. Activity occurs at the landfill on some Saturdays, but not on Sundays.

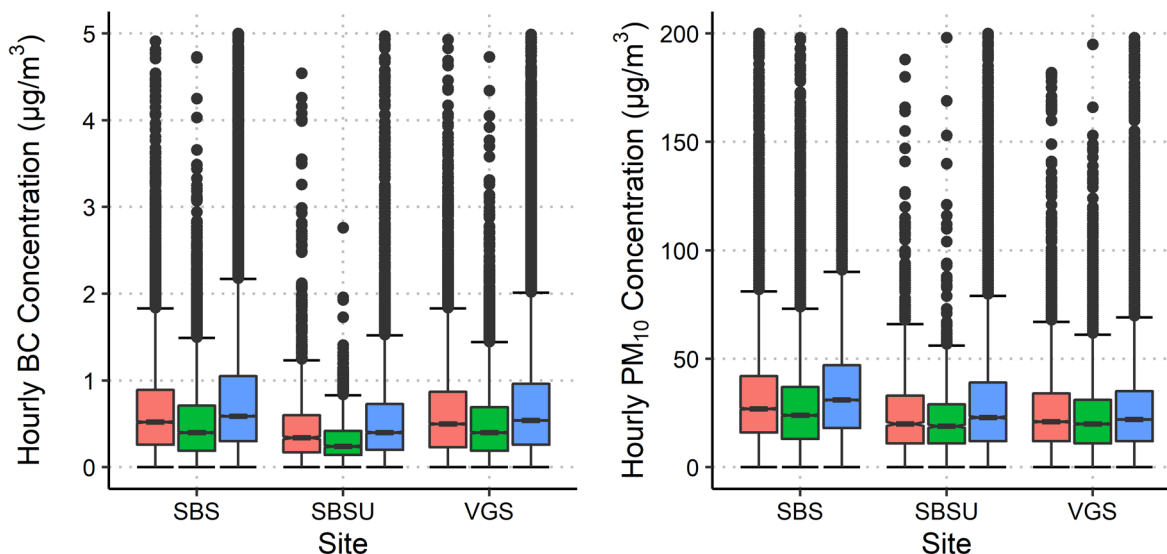


Figure B-6. Hourly BC (left) and PM₁₀ (right) concentrations at the Landfill (SBS), Landfill North (SBSU), and Community (VGS) monitoring sites on weekdays (blue), Saturdays (pink), and Sundays (green) from November 22, 2007, through November 21, 2020. Note that this plot includes the Landfill North site, which closed in May 2017. BC data greater than 5 µg/m³ and PM₁₀ data greater than 200 µg/m³ are excluded.

As shown in **Figure B-7**, concentrations of BC and PM₁₀ are several times greater when winds come from the south than from the north. In addition, concentrations are typically similar between the Landfill and Community sites when winds are from the SoCAB direction. Concentrations are greater at the Landfill site than the Community site when winds are from the north.

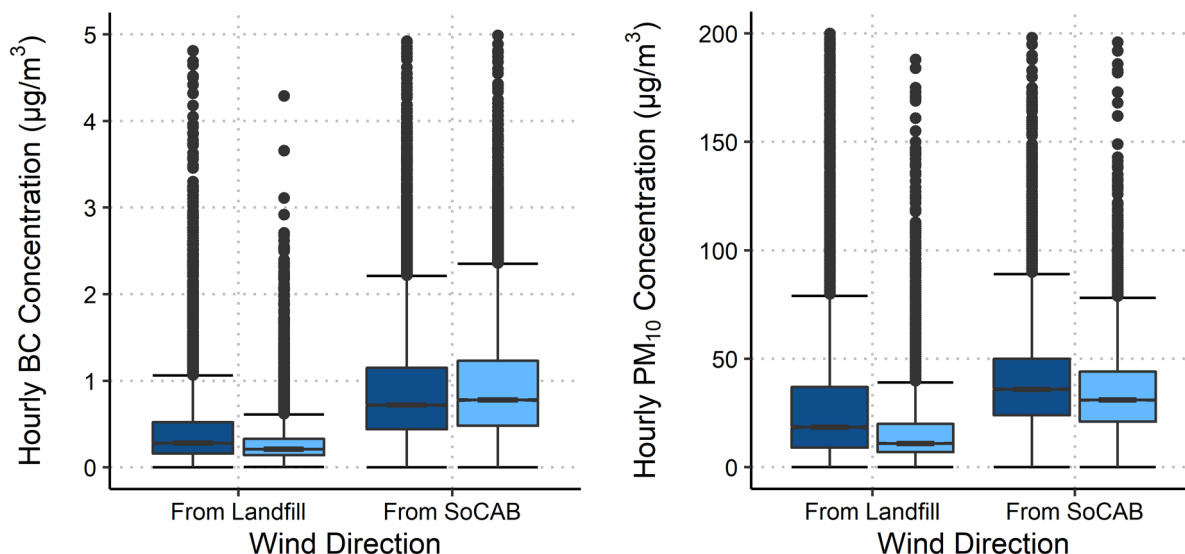


Figure B-7. BC (left) and PM₁₀ (right) concentrations at the Landfill (dark blue) and Community (light blue) monitors during November 22, 2007, through November 21, 2020, when winds originate from the Landfill versus when they originate from the SoCAB. Results are based on hourly data points where both sites experienced winds from the same sector. BC data greater than 5 µg/m³ and PM₁₀ data greater than 200 µg/m³ are excluded.

B.3 PM₁₀ and BC: Landfill vs. Landfill North and Community Sites

The data collected at the new Landfill North site in the ninth and tenth monitoring years provided an opportunity to further investigate and characterize the impacts of wind direction and landfill work activity levels on the measured PM₁₀ and BC concentrations at the Landfill site. The hourly PM₁₀ and BC concentration data from the Landfill and Landfill North sites when the measured winds at the Landfill site were from the landfill and from the SoCAB were compared by subtracting the Landfill North site values from the Landfill site values to obtain the differences. The results for PM₁₀ and BC are shown in Figures B-8 and B-9, respectively.

The following general conclusions are based on the median PM₁₀ difference values presented in **Figure B-8**:

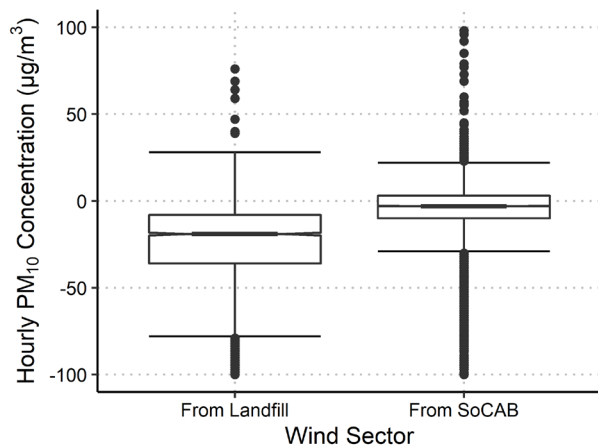
- The greatest difference between the Landfill and Landfill North sites was observed during the periods of highest activity (i.e., working hours on working days, panel [a]). The PM₁₀ differences were 22 and -26 µg/m³ when the winds were from the landfill and from the SoCAB respectively, suggesting a consistent localized PM₁₀ contribution of 20 to 25 µg/m³ from the landfill to the landfill monitors downwind.
- When the wind was from the landfill, the PM₁₀ values were higher at the Landfill site (downwind) than the values at the Landfill North site (upwind) in all working categories, indicating a localized contribution of PM₁₀ from the landfill to the Landfill site.
- When the wind was from the SoCAB, the PM₁₀ values were higher at the Landfill North site (downwind) than the values at the landfill site (upwind) in all but the non-working

hours on non-working days' category, indicating a localized contribution of PM₁₀ from the landfill to the Landfill North site. The median difference for the non-working hours on non-working days' category was zero with a negative mean of -0.2 µg/m³.

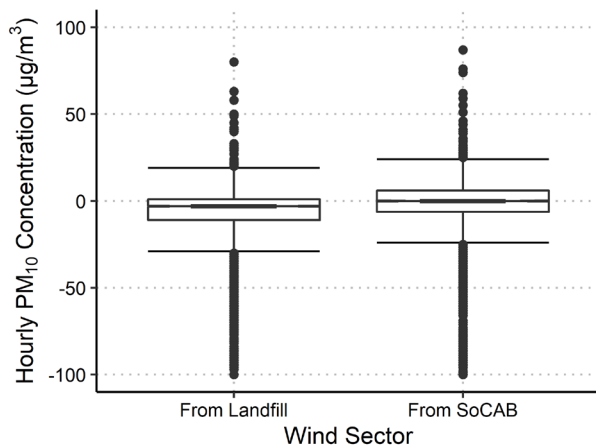
The following general conclusions are based on the median BC difference values presented in **Figure B-9**:

- During the highest activity levels (working hours on working days, panel (a)), the greatest BC differences were observed. The BC differences were 0.1 and -0.3 µg/m³ when the winds were from the landfill and from the SoCAB, respectively, suggesting a localized BC contribution from activities at the landfill to the landfill monitors downwind. This is the only category where the downwind monitor showed higher BC concentrations than the upwind monitor.
- During the time periods of the other working categories, although the median concentrations were slightly higher at the upwind monitor, the BC levels between the two sites were mostly very similar regardless of wind direction. The only exception is that the Landfill site measured notably higher BC when the wind came from SoCAB during non-working hours on non-working days (panel (d)).

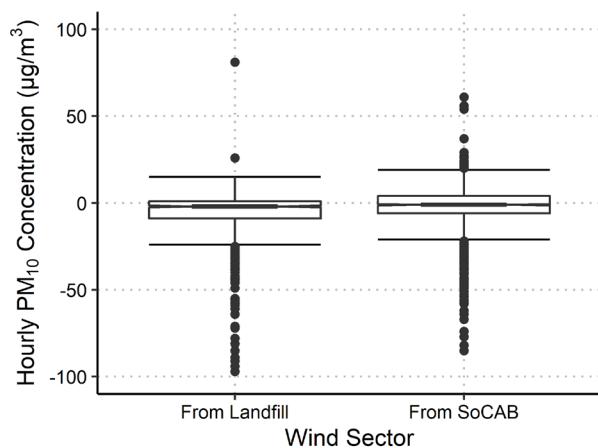
Figure B-10 provides an illustration of landfill impact on PM₁₀ and BC concentrations at the downwind site when wind is from either the landfill or the SoCAB as measured at the Landfill site during working hours on working days.



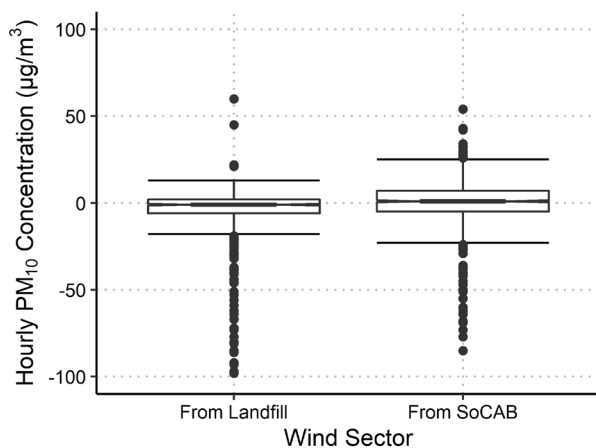
(a) Working hours on working days



(b) Non-working hours on working days

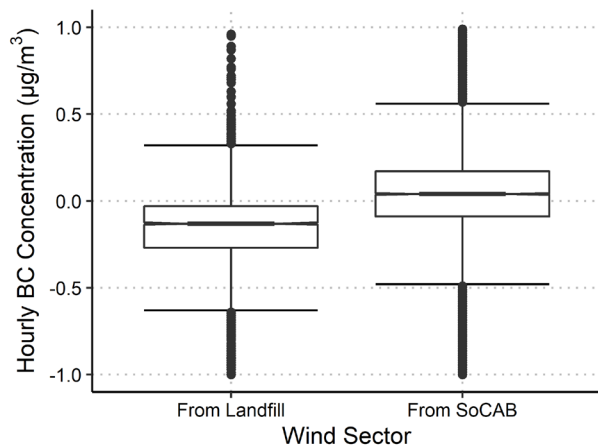


(c) Working hours on non-working days

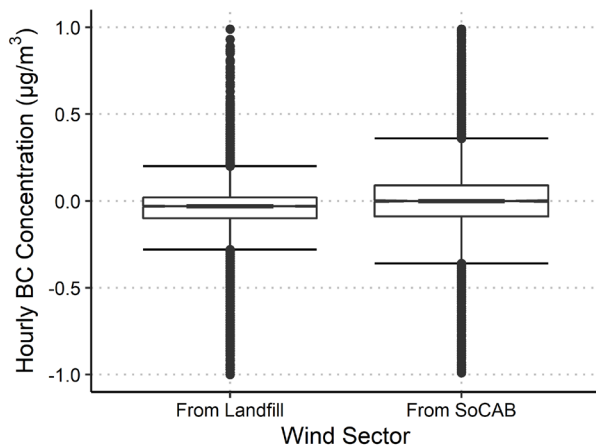


(d) Non-working hours on non-working days

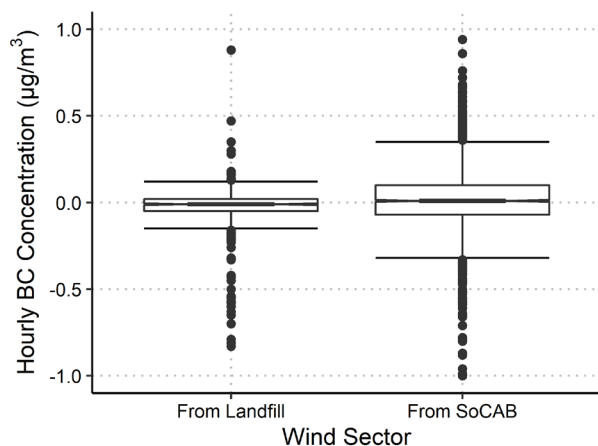
Figure B-8. Notched box plots of the differences in PM_{10} concentrations between the Landfill North and the Landfill sites (Landfill site values–Landfill North site values) for northerly and southerly wind sectors for working and non-working days and for working and non-working hours within those days. Outliers over $\pm 100 \mu g/m^3$ are not displayed.



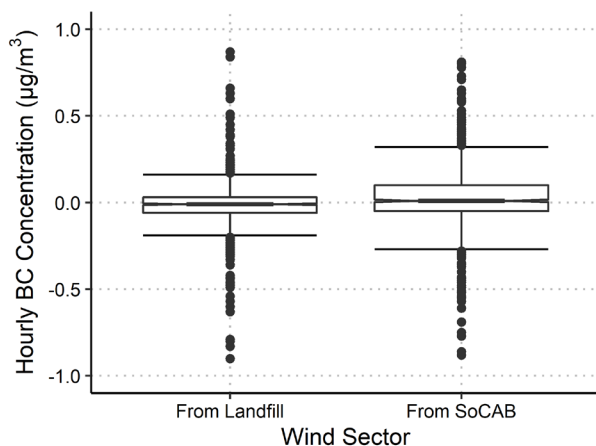
(a) Working hours on working days



(b) Non-working hours on working days



(c) Working hours on non-working days



(d) Non-working hours on non-working days

Figure B-9. Notched box plots of the differences in BC concentrations between the Landfill North and the Landfill sites (Landfill site values–Landfill North site values) for northerly and southerly wind sectors for working and non-working days and for working and non-working hours within those days. Outliers over $\pm 1 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ are not displayed.

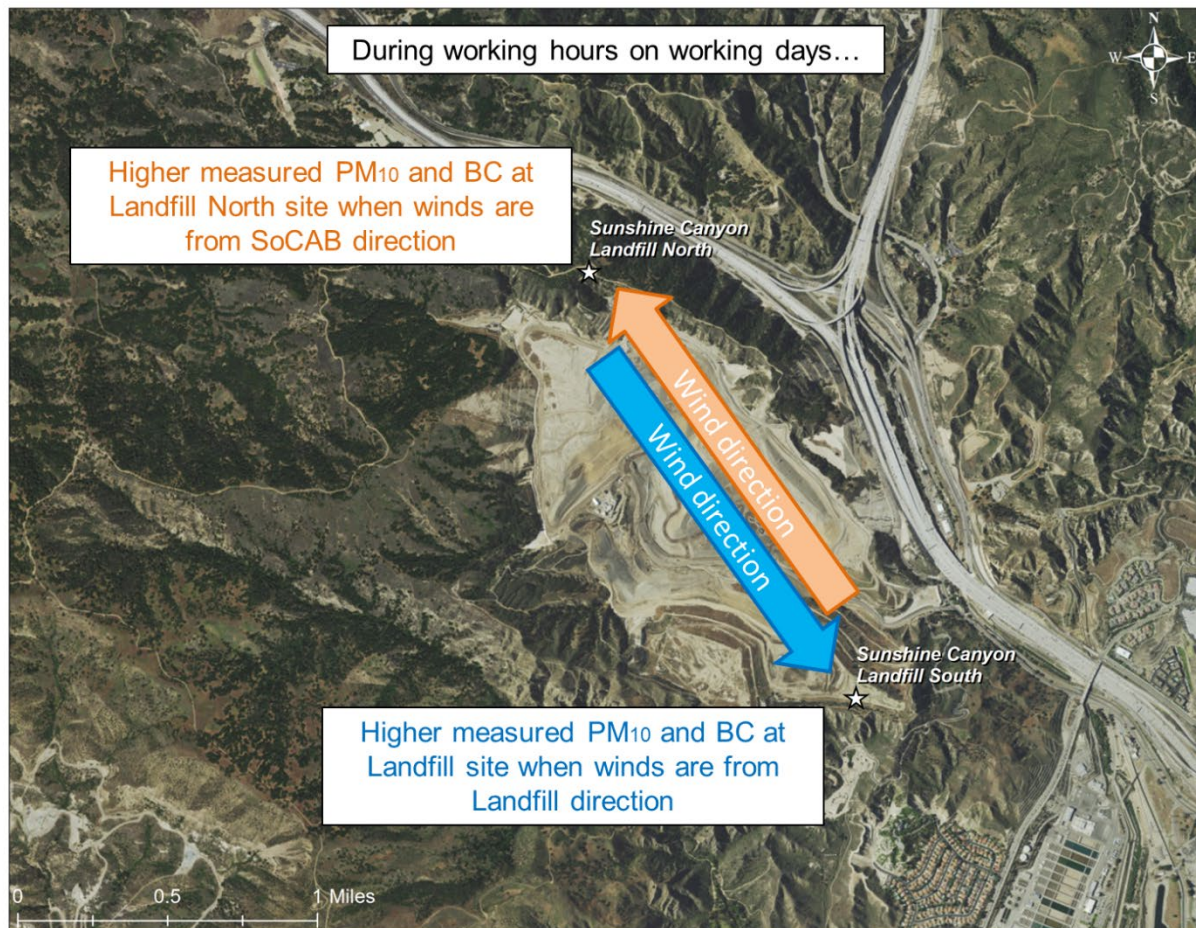


Figure B-10. Map depicting the localized impact of the landfill on PM₁₀ and BC concentrations when the wind is from the landfill or the SoCAB as measured at the Landfill site during working hours on working days.

Appendix C: Comparison of Ambient Air Toxics Concentrations to the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Report

The City's Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Report (FSEIR) reported emissions estimates of pollutants likely to result from landfill operations, modeled by the Industrial Source Complex Short Term (ISCST3) regulatory model. The reported pollutants included a number of hazardous air pollutants (HAPs) but did not include criteria pollutants such as PM_{2.5} or DPM. One year of HAPs measurements were collected at the Landfill and Community sites on a one-in-six-day EPA sampling schedule from July 2016 through June 2017. Target HAPs included key air toxics in the MATES IV protocol, such as benzene, tetrachloroethene, 1,3-butadiene, carbon tetrachloride, dichloromethane, ethylbenzene, xylenes, toluene, and trichloroethene, as well as tracers of landfill emissions such as chlorobenzene, dichlorobenzenes, and vinyl chloride.¹

Table C-1 shows the average concentrations (ppb) measured at both sites during the HAPs measurement campaign. It also shows the average difference between the two sites and the percent difference; in both cases, a negative number indicates the Community site had a higher average concentration than the Landfill site. The FSEIR annual increment shows the modeled annual increment of each pollutant at the "Maximum exposed individual" residence in units of ppb. In almost all cases, the concentration differences and increments are small in absolute terms, with concentrations at or below a few parts per trillion (ppt). The increment is typically much less than 10% of the Community site average. Given the method detection limit of the sampling and analytical methodology of ~6-10 ppt, differences of a few ppt are too small to reliably detect because the sensitivity of the instrument is a few times larger than the value we are trying to detect. The overall concentrations of HAPs in the Sunshine Canyon area are lower than those in most other places in the Los Angeles basin.

¹ McCarthy M.C., O'Brien T.E., Vaughn D.L., Penfold B.M., and Hafner H.R. (2017) Sunshine Canyon VOC and carbonyl monitoring report. Final report prepared for the City of Los Angeles Planning Department, Los Angeles, CA, and the Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning, Los Angeles, CA, by Sonoma Technology, Inc., Petaluma, CA, STI-916007-6823-FR, November.

Table C-1. Summary statistics for average concentrations (ppb) and differences between the two monitoring sites for HAPs with at least one measurement above detection at the Landfill and Community sites from July 2016 through June 2017. Negative differences indicate values at the Community site are higher than those at the Landfill site. N/A indicates that the HAP is not modeled or reported in the FSEIR.

Parameter	Landfill Site Avg. (ppb)	Community Site Avg. (ppb)	Average Difference (ppb)	% Difference	FSEIR annual increment (ppb)
1,2-Dibromoethane	0.009	0.005	0.003	47.2	0.0000013
1,2-Dichlorobenzene	0.009	0.008	0.001	13.6	0.0018 ^a
1,2-Dichloropropane	0.005	0.005	0	-1.9	N/A
1,3-Dichlorobenzene	0.007	0.006	0.001	11.6	0.0018 ^a
1,4-Dichlorobenzene	0.013	0.014	0	-3.3	0.0018 ^a
Benzene	0.171	0.154	0.017	10.2	0.0019
Benzyl chloride	0.005	0.005	0	-1	0.00029
Carbon tetrachloride	0.104	0.106	-0.003	-2.4	0.000013
Chlorobenzene	0.006	0.006	0	-2.2	0.00060
Chloroform	0.017	0.022	-0.006	-28.4	0.0001
Dichloromethane	0.059	0.057	0.002	3.5	0.0043
Ethylbenzene	0.051	0.06	-0.009	-15.4	N/A
Formaldehyde	2.166	2.087	0.079	3.7	N/A
m,p-Xylenes	0.17	0.195	-0.026	-14	0.033 ^b
o-Xylene	0.051	0.06	-0.009	-16.5	0.033 ^b
Styrene	0.028	0.025	0.003	13.1	N/A
Tetrachloroethene	0.019	0.012	0.007	44.4	0.0022
Toluene	0.295	0.285	0.01	3.5	0.042
Trichloroethene	0.007	0.006	0.001	16.1	0.000066

^a FSEIR reported only dichlorobenzene without specifying the isomer; here, we report the sum of dichlorobenzene isomers as shown in FSEIR, but it may be more appropriate to divide the reported 0.0018 ppb increment by 3 to indicate the individual isomer contributions if they occur in equal portions.

^b FSEIR reported the sum of o, m, and p-xylene isomers as 0.033 ppb. A better estimate is the contribution is 2/3 m- and p-xylene, and 1/3 o-xylene.