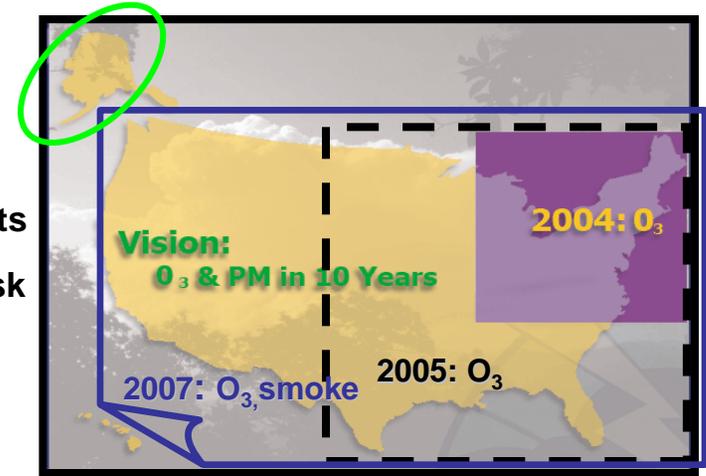


National Air Quality Forecast Capability

- Improving the Basis for AQ Alerts
- AQ Information for People at Risk



	Current AQ Alerts	NOAA's Operational Capability		
		Current (Feb 08)	Next (2010)	10-Year Vision
Purpose: Limit adverse effects from poor AQ, by providing:	Next-day warnings for large cities	State-of-the-science ozone and smoke forecast guidance	State-of-the-science ozone and smoke forecast guidance	State-of-the-science ozone and particulate matter forecast guidance
Products for Public	Daily AQ alerts; predicted interpretive AQ Index category	Hour-by-hour predictions of air pollutant concentrations in digital & graphical formats	Hour-by-hour predictions of air pollutant concentrations in digital & graphical formats	Hour-by-hour predictions of air pollutant concentrations in state-of-the-art formats
Coverage	Approx 300 cities	Coast-to-Coast United States	Nationwide	Nationwide
Pollutants Forecasted	AQ Index for ozone; some cities include particulate matter	Ground-level ozone and smoke	Ground-level ozone and smoke	Ground level ozone, particulate matter, possibly others
Forecast Period	Next-day; also through weekends	Forecast guidance through midnight next day	Forecast guidance through midnight next day	Forecast guidance extended to 2 days or beyond
Spatial Resolution	Alerts are community-wide; little/no other spatial information	12 kilometer grid	5 km grid	2.5 kilometer grid
Temporal Resolution	Daily	1-hr and 8-hr averages each hour		