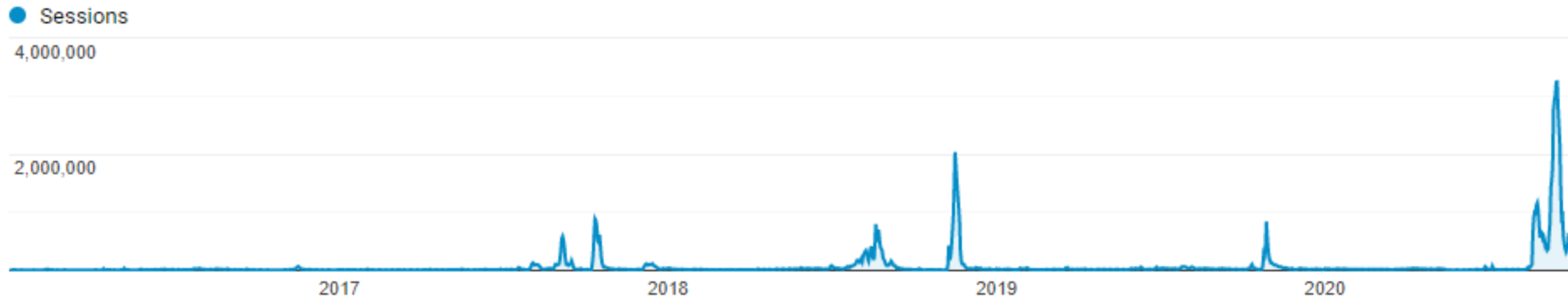




NASA ACCP Air Quality Workshop

March 16-18, 2021

Fires Are Increasingly Driving Traffic



Key AirNow Take-Aways from 2020 Fire Season

- Fire events were larger and of longer duration than the “benchmark” Camp Fire event of November 2018
- Our cloud.gov-based infrastructure is incredibly resilient; it did not crash and did not slow down
- The Sensor Pilot provided useful and much appreciated information for the public
- We learned more and have more to do

AirNow Sensor Data Pilot

- Created a map with traditional monitors, but added a PurpleAir sensor layer
- Soft launch on August 14th, no significant media outreach
- Release coincided with large number of fires in the West
- Since release, over seven million pageviews of the sensor fire map, a peak of nearly 400 thousand one day, currently between 30 and 40 thousand per day

NASA focused issues

- How are you using or assimilating NASA datasets (particularly aerosol data) within your organization?
 - Right now, using MODIS AOD to provide a once-daily estimated PM_{2.5} surface
 - Used for forecasting and event analysis, not publicly available
- Which NASA datasets do you find most useful or are of interest to you?
 - At present, aerosol products. However, any product that informs the levels of EPA's criteria pollutants could be useful, particularly ozone, NO₂, and SO₂.

NASA focused issues, cont'd

- Where do you see some existing gaps in information your organization has that may be addressed with future satellite data?
 - The AirNow vision: “AirNow is the authoritative source for reliable, accurate, clear and actionable air quality and health information.”
 - There are not enough in-situ monitors to meet that goal
 - Adding sensors was well-received, but still mostly in urban areas
 - Fire is driving our high-traffic times and satellite products could help in many ways
 - Smoke plumes
 - Aerosols
 - Ozone?