



SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

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South Coast AQMD Issues Smoke Advisory Due to Bobcat Fire and El Dorado Fire

Valid: Monday, September 7, 2020 through Tuesday, September 8, 2020

This advisory is in effect through Tuesday evening. South Coast AQMD will issue an update if additional information becomes available.

Two major wildfires are affecting air quality in the region. A wildfire named the Bobcat Fire began at 12:21 PM on Sunday north of Azusa and Glendora in the Angeles National Forest. As of 7:55 AM on Monday, the burn area was approximately 4900 acres with 0% containment. Current information on the Bobcat Fire can be found on the Incident Information System (InciWeb) at <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7152>. A wildfire named the El Dorado Fire is currently burning in the San Bernardino Mountains above Yucaipa in San Bernardino County. As of 4:00 PM on Monday, the burn area was reported at 8,600 acres with 7%. Current information on the El Dorado Fire can be found on the Incident Information System at: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7148/>.

Current Smoke Impacts

Both the Bobcat Fire and the El Dorado Fires are producing heavy smoke on Monday afternoon based on satellite imagery, social media posts, and local webcams. In the past 24 hours, smoke impacts have occurred in Yucaipa, the western Coachella Valley, Santa Clarita, the Santa Monica Mountains, the San Gabriel Mountains, and cities such as Crestline, Running Springs, Lake Arrowhead, and Big Bear in the San Bernardino Mountains. Many areas of the South Coast Basin have reported falling ash and reduced visibility on Monday due to smoke higher up in the atmosphere, but ground-level PM2.5 concentrations have remained in the **Good** and **Moderate** air quality index (AQI) category.

On Monday afternoon, smoke impacts are mainly occurring in the San Gabriel and San Bernardino Mountains; regulatory monitors and low-cost sensors in the San Bernardino Mountains are reporting **Unhealthy** air quality index (AQI) values. Visit <https://www.aqmd.gov/aqdata> to view current air quality conditions.

Forecasted Smoke Impacts

San Gabriel and San Bernardino Mountains and the cities of Crestline, Running Springs, and the Big Bear area: Significant smoke impacts with **Unhealthy** AQI levels are expected to continue until at least mid-day on Tuesday when Santa Ana winds will start transporting smoke towards the southwest. On Tuesday afternoon, these areas may see some gradual clearing, but smoke transport from other fires in Central and Northern California may still produce smoky skies. Air quality in areas within direct proximity to the Bobcat and El Dorado fires will likely remain poor.

The Coachella Valley and Eastern Riverside County: Some smoke impacts are expected overnight and into the morning hours on Tuesday. The smoke will likely be heaviest in the Western Coachella Valley and the higher elevation areas in Eastern Riverside County such as Joshua Tree National Park. AQI levels could reach **Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups** or higher. Most of the smoke should be transported out of the area mid-day on Tuesday when the Santa Ana winds pick up.

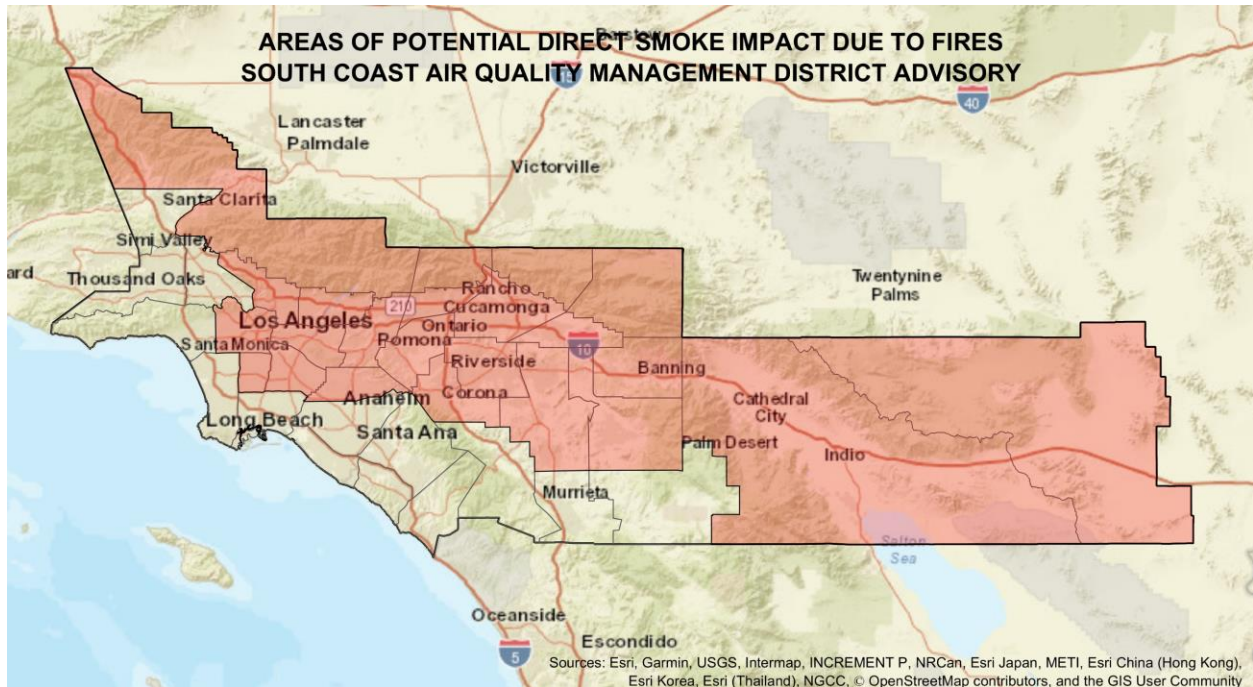
Cities in direct proximity to the fires such as Sierra Madre, Monrovia, Duarte, Azusa, Glendora, Yucaipa, Mentone, and Redlands: During the overnight hours, downslope winds may bring smoke into these areas. Mid-day on Tuesday, Santa Ana winds may push smoke towards the southwest and into these regions. Air quality could reach **Unhealthy** AQI levels in these cities.

Portions of Los Angeles County south of the 210 Freeway, Northern Orange County, and the Inland Empire: Smoke impacts are possible starting mid-day on Tuesday when moderate Santa Ana winds enter the region. There is still considerable forecast uncertainty in the strength of the onshore winds relative to the Santa Anas in the valleys. If the onshore winds are strong enough, smoke from the El Dorado and Bobcat fires will largely be isolated to higher altitudes, yet ashfall may still occur. If the onshore winds are not strong enough, air quality could reach **Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups** AQI levels in these regions.

Overall, meteorological conditions will bring smoke and ash into portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino, and Orange Counties. **Unhealthy** or higher AQI levels due to PM2.5 concentrations are possible in areas of direct smoke impacts.

Areas of direct impacts and poor air quality may include portions of:

- **Los Angeles County:** Central Los Angeles (Area 1), Southeast LA County (Area 5), West San Gabriel Valley (Area 8), East San Gabriel Valley (Area 9), Pomona-Walnut Valley (Area 10), South San Gabriel Valley (Area 11), South Central Los Angeles County (Area 12), San Gabriel Mountains (Area 15)
- **Orange County:** Northern Orange County (Area 16)
- **Riverside County:** Corona-Norco (Area 22), Metropolitan Riverside County (Area 23), Perris Valley (Area 24), Hemet-San Jacinto Valley (Area 28), San Gorgonio Pass (Area 29), Coachella Valley (Area 30), East Riverside County (Area 31)
- **San Bernardino County:** Northwest San Bernardino Valley (Area 32), Southwest San Bernardino Valley (Area 33), Central San Bernardino Valley (Area 34), East San Bernardino Valley (Area 35), West San Bernardino Mountains (Area 36), Central San Bernardino Mountains (Area 37), East San Bernardino Mountains (Area 38)



In any area impacted by smoke: If you smell smoke or see ash due to a wildfire, limit your exposure by remaining indoors with windows and doors closed or seeking alternate shelter, and avoiding vigorous physical activity. For more tips on protecting yourself during a wildfire, see South Coast AQMD’s Wildfire Smoke & Ash Health & Safety Tips page: <http://www.aqmd.gov/wildfire-health-info-smoke-tips>

- South Coast AQMD Advisory updates can be found at the following link: www.aqmd.gov/advisory
- To subscribe to air quality alerts, advisories and forecasts by email, go to www.AirAlerts.org
- To view current air quality conditions by region in an interactive map, see <http://www.aqmd.gov/aqimap>
- For real-time air quality information, maps, notifications and health alerts in your area, download our award-winning South Coast AQMD app at: www.aqmd.gov/mobileapp
- Air quality forecasts are available at <http://www.aqmd.gov/forecast>
- For South Coast AQMD Daily Rule 403.1 High Wind Forecasts for the Coachella Valley call (909) 396-2399 or 1-800-CUT-SMOG
- For a map of South Coast AQMD Forecast Areas, see <http://www.aqmd.gov/ForecastAreas>.

South Coast AQMD is the air pollution control agency for Orange County and major portions of Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Riverside counties, including the Coachella Valley. For news, air quality alerts, event updates and more, please visit us at www.aqmd.gov, download our award-winning app, or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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