



SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

www.aqmd.gov

@SouthCoastAQMD    

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 25, 2021

MEDIA CONTACTS:

Bradley Whitaker, (909) 396-3456, Cell: (909) 323-9516

Nahal Mogharabi, (909) 396-3773, Cell: (909) 837-2431

press@aqmd.gov

South Coast AQMD Issues Smoke Advisory Due to South Fire Near Lytle Creek

Valid: Wednesday August 25, 2021 through Thursday August 26, 2021

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

A wildfire named South Fire is burning in the Lytle Creek area. As of 4:00 PM on Wednesday, the burn area was reported at 300 acres with 0% containment. Current information on the South Fire can be found on CAL FIRE at <https://www.fire.ca.gov/incidents/2021/8/25/south-fire/>.

Past and Current Smoke and Ash Impacts

The South Fire is actively producing smoke on Wednesday evening based on satellite imagery, webcam imagery, and social media posts. Winds are transporting the smoke plume towards the northeast and into the San Bernardino Mountains. At 4:00 PM on Wednesday, South Coast AQMD's regulatory PM2.5 monitors in Upland and Crestline and low-cost PM2.5 sensors in Rancho Cucamonga, Fontana, San Bernardino, and Crestline recorded **Moderate** Air Quality Index (AQI) levels. Visit <https://www.aqmd.gov/aqdata> to view current air quality conditions.

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>

Forecasted Smoke and Ash Impacts

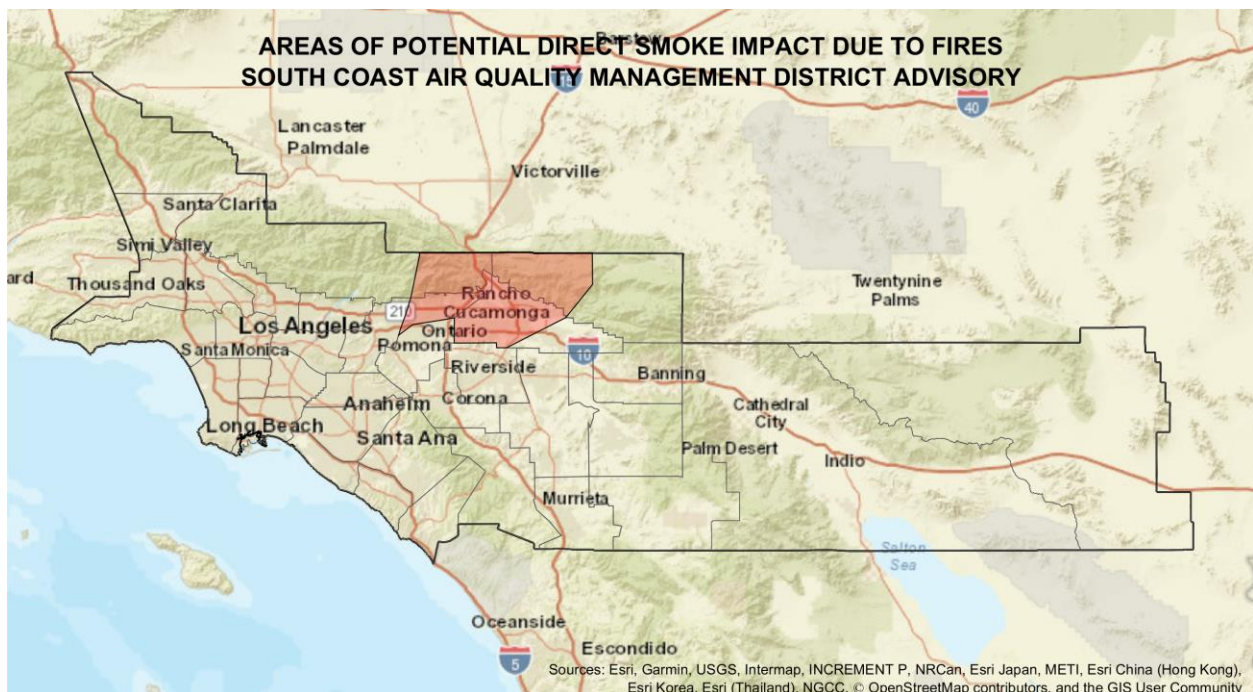
Areas downwind of the South Fire will experience the highest AQI levels due to smoke impacts. Smoke and ash impacts will be highly variable in both timing and location through Thursday.

- **Wednesday afternoon:** Winds from the southwest will push smoke towards the northeast into the San Bernardino Mountains.
- **Wednesday evening through Thursday morning:** Winds from the north will carry the smoke to the southwest and southeast. PM2.5 concentration may be elevated in areas near Rancho Cucamonga and Fontana. Areas in direct proximity to the South Fire will likely see the highest particulate matter levels overnight as smoke is likely to remain closer to the ground.
- **Thursday afternoon:** If the fire continues to produce smoke, the southwest wind near the South Fire will push smoke towards the northeast and into the San Bernardino Mountains. PM2.5 concentrations in Crestline may increase on Thursday afternoon.

Overall, meteorological conditions will bring smoke and ash into portions of San Bernardino County with more significant impacts near the South Fire. **Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups** or higher AQI levels due to PM2.5 concentrations are possible in areas of direct smoke impacts. Afternoon ozone levels, the predominant summertime pollutant, will also be elevated throughout the Inland Empire and the San Bernardino Mountains with **Unhealthy** AQI levels possible.

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

- **San Bernardino County:** Northwest San Bernardino Valley (Area 32), Central San Bernardino Valley (Area 34), West San Bernardino Mountains (Area 36), Central San Bernardino Mountains (Area 37)



- 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 a map of South Coast AQMD Forecast Areas, see <http://www.aqmd.gov/ForecastAreas>.

South Coast AQMD is the air pollution control agency for major portions of Los Angeles, Orange, 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](#).

###