



SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

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South Coast AQMD Continues Smoke Advisory Due to Bobcat Fire

Valid: Saturday, September 26 through Sunday, September 27, 2020

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

The Bobcat Fire is burning north of Azusa, Duarte, Monrovia, and Arcadia in the Angeles National Forest and is affecting air quality in the region. As of 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, the burn area was reported at 114,004 acres with 61% containment. Current information on the Bobcat Fire can be found on the Incident Information System (InciWeb) at <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7152>.

Past and Current Smoke Impacts

The Bobcat Fire is producing heavy smoke on Saturday morning based on satellite and webcam imagery. Smoke from the Bobcat Fire was slowly spreading to the south and west on Saturday morning. Smoke was visible in the San Gabriel River valley and was being transported downslope to the south. Since Friday afternoon, monitors and low-cost sensors throughout the South Coast AQMD jurisdiction measured Air Quality Index (AQI) levels in the **Good** to **Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups** categories. 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 in direct proximity to the Bobcat 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 Sunday. Smoke from fires burning in Central California could be present in the upper atmosphere at times during the forecast period.

- **Saturday afternoon:** Winds will be from the southwest and west and push smoke from the Bobcat Fire to the northeast and east into the San Gabriel Mountains and western San Bernardino Mountains, and then out of the South Coast Air Basin.
- **Saturday evening through Sunday morning:** Winds will be light and from the north and west and push smoke from the Bobcat Fire to the south and east into the San Gabriel Mountains, San Gabriel Valley, and Inland Empire. Smoke is likely to remain closer to the ground overnight which can increase ground-level particulate matter levels.
- **Sunday afternoon:** Winds are predicted to be from the northeast and east and move smoke from the Bobcat Fire to the southwest and west into the San Gabriel and San Fernando Valleys and then out of the South Coast Air Basin.

Extended Outlook for Bobcat Fire: Smoke impacts in the South Coast Air Basin will likely continue until fire activity decreases for the Bobcat Fire. South Coast Air Quality Management District will continue to provide daily smoke advisory updates until air quality impacts from smoke subside.

In order to avoid increasing PM2.5 levels even further, South Coast AQMD recommends that the public avoid burning wood during periods of poor air quality.

Areas of direct impacts and poor air quality may include portions of Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties in the South Coast AQMD jurisdiction. **Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups** or higher AQI levels due to PM2.5 concentrations are possible in areas of direct smoke impacts. Impacts will be highly variable throughout the day, impacting different parts of the region at different times. Ozone levels not directly associated with the fire are expected to reach **Unhealthy** AQI levels in some areas of the South Coast Basin on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. See www.aqmd.gov/forecast for details on the expected ozone levels.



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

- **Los Angeles County:** West San Fernando Valley (Area 6), East San Fernando Valley (Area 7), West San Gabriel Valley (Area 8), East San Gabriel Valley (Area 9), San Gabriel Mountains (Area 15)
- 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 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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