



# SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

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## **South Coast AQMD Issues Smoke Advisory Due to Ranch Fire North of Azusa**

***Valid: Thursday, August 13, through Friday, August 14, 2020***

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

A wildfire named the Ranch Fire is burning north of Azusa in Los Angeles County, within the Angeles National Forest. As of 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, the burn area was 600 acres with 0% containment. Current information on the Ranch Fire can be found at the County of Los Angeles Fire Department's website <https://fire.lacounty.gov/>.

### **Past and Current Smoke Impacts**

The Ranch Fire is producing heavy smoke this afternoon based on webcam imagery and social media posts. Intense fire activity is currently generating large vertical smoke plumes, which is mainly concentrated to higher altitudes and moving to the northeast into the Angeles National Forest, and out of South Coast AQMD's jurisdiction. PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations at the South Coast AQMD's monitors in Glendora and Upland as well as low-cost sensors south of the Ranch Fire have been within the **Good to Moderate** Air Quality Index (AQI) index levels since Thursday at noon. Visit <https://www.aqmd.gov/aqdata> to view current air quality conditions.

### **Forecasted Smoke Impacts**

- On Thursday afternoon winds are predicted to be from the southwest and will push smoke to the northeast out of South Coast AQMD's jurisdiction.
- On Thursday evening after 8 pm through Friday morning, winds will shift to come from the northwest, north, and northeast. During this time, it is possible that some smoke may be transported down from the higher elevations to areas south, southeast and southwest of the fire, such as Azusa, Pasadena, El Monte, West Covina, Pomona, Ontario, and Rancho

Cucamonga. Elevated ground level concentrations of PM2.5 are expected overnight as the smoke is likely to remain closer to the ground.

- On Friday afternoon, winds near the fire will shift to come from the southwest and blow any smoke to the northeast into the Angeles National Forest and out of South Coast AQMD's jurisdiction.

Overall, meteorological conditions may bring smoke and ash into portions of Los Angeles and San Bernardino counties. **Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups or higher** AQI levels are possible in areas of direct smoke impacts.

**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>.

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

- **Los Angeles County:** West San Gabriel Valley (Area 8), East San Gabriel Valley (Area 9), Pomona-Walnut Valley (Area 10), South San Gabriel Valley (Area 11), San Gabriel Mountains (Area 15)
- **San Bernardino County:** Northwest San Bernardino Valley (Area 32), Southwest San Bernardino Valley (Area 33), Central San Bernardino Valley (Area 34), West San Bernardino Mountains (Area 36)



- South Coast AQMD Advisory updates can be found at the following link: [www.aqmd.gov/advisory](http://www.aqmd.gov/advisory)
- To subscribe to air quality alerts, advisories and forecasts by email, go to [www.AirAlerts.org](http://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](http://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](http://www.aqmd.gov), download our award-winning app, or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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