



South Coast
AQMD

SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

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South Coast AQMD Continues Smoke Advisory Due to Silverado and Blue Ridge Fires

Valid: Tuesday October 27, 2020 through Wednesday, October 28, 2020

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

Two major local wildfires are affecting air quality in the region. A wildfire named the Silverado Fire is burning in the foothills of the Santa Ana Mountains in and around Irvine and Lake Forest in Orange County. As of 2:45 p.m. on Tuesday, the burn area was reported at 12,600 acres with 5% containment. Current information on the Silverado Fire can be found on CAL FIRE's website at <https://www.fire.ca.gov/incidents/2020/10/26/silverado-fire/>.

A wildfire named the Blue Ridge Fire is also burning in Yorba Linda and Chino Hills State Park in Orange County. As of 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, the burn area was reported at 15,200 acres with 0% containment. Current information on the Blue Ridge Fire can be found on CAL FIRE's website at <https://www.fire.ca.gov/incidents/2020/10/26/blue-ridge-fire/>.

Information for both the Silverado and the Blue Ridge Fire can also be found on the Orange County Fire Authority's twitter page at: https://twitter.com/OCFA_PIO.

Past and Current Smoke and Ash Impacts

The Silverado and Blue Ridge Fires are producing substantial amounts of smoke on Tuesday morning based on satellite imagery, webcam imagery, and social media posts. Santa Ana winds are moving the smoke plumes towards the south, southwest, and west into Orange County, southern Los Angeles County, the San Gabriel Valley, and Central Los Angeles. South Coast AQMD's monitors at Mission Viejo, Anaheim, South Long Beach, Compton, and Central Los Angeles has measured hourly PM2.5 values in the **Unhealthy** Air Quality Index (AQI) categories since Monday evening. Low-cost PM2.5 sensors in Orange County, Southern Los Angeles County, San Gabriel Valley, and Central Los Angeles have been in

the **Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups** to **Very Unhealthy** AQI categories. Ashfall has also been reported in areas downwind of the fires. 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 Silverado and Blue Ridge Fires will experience the highest AQI levels due to smoke impacts. Smoke and ash impacts will be highly variable in both timing and location through Wednesday.

Orange County

- **Tuesday afternoon:** Winds will be from the north and northwest on Tuesday afternoon, moving smoke from the Silverado Fire into the Saddleback Valley and Coastal Orange County and smoke from the Blue Ridge Fire into Northern and Central Orange County.
- **Tuesday evening through Wednesday morning:** Winds will be from the southeast and east Tuesday evening through Wednesday morning. Areas south and west of the Silverado Fire and Blue Ridge Fire will likely see the highest particulate matter levels overnight as smoke is likely to remain closer to the ground.
- **Wednesday afternoon:** Winds are predicted to be from the southwest and west on Wednesday afternoon, which will push smoke towards the northeast and east towards Saddleback Valley.

Los Angeles County

- **Tuesday afternoon:** Winds will be from the southwest and west on Tuesday afternoon, moving smoke from the Blue Ridge and Silverado Fires out of Los Angeles County.
- **Tuesday evening through Wednesday morning:** Winds will be from the southeast and east Tuesday evening through Wednesday morning, with periods of variable wind direction. This will push smoke into Southern Los Angeles County, the San Gabriel Valley, and Central Los Angeles.
- **Wednesday afternoon:** Winds are predicted to be from the southwest on Wednesday afternoon, which will push smoke towards the northeast into the northern San Gabriel Valley and out of Los Angeles County.

Riverside County

- **Tuesday afternoon:** Winds will be from the north and northwest on Tuesday afternoon, moving smoke from the Blue Ridge Fire to the south and southeast into Corona-Norco, Lake Elsinore, and Perris Valley.
- **Tuesday evening through Wednesday morning:** Winds will be from the south and southeast Tuesday evening through Wednesday morning, which will move smoke to the north and northeast.

- **Wednesday afternoon:** Winds are predicted to be from the west and southwest on Wednesday afternoon, which will push smoke towards the east and northeast towards Corona-Norco, Riverside, and Perris Valley.

San Bernardino County

- **Tuesday afternoon:** Winds will be from the north and northwest on Tuesday afternoon, moving smoke from the Blue Ridge Fire to the south and southeast into Southwest San Bernardino Valley.
- **Tuesday evening through Wednesday morning:** Winds will be from the north and northeast Tuesday evening through Wednesday morning, which will move smoke to the south and southwest and out of San Bernardino County.
- **Wednesday afternoon:** Winds are predicted to be from the west and north on Wednesday afternoon, which will push smoke towards the east and south towards Southwest and Central San Bernardino Valleys.

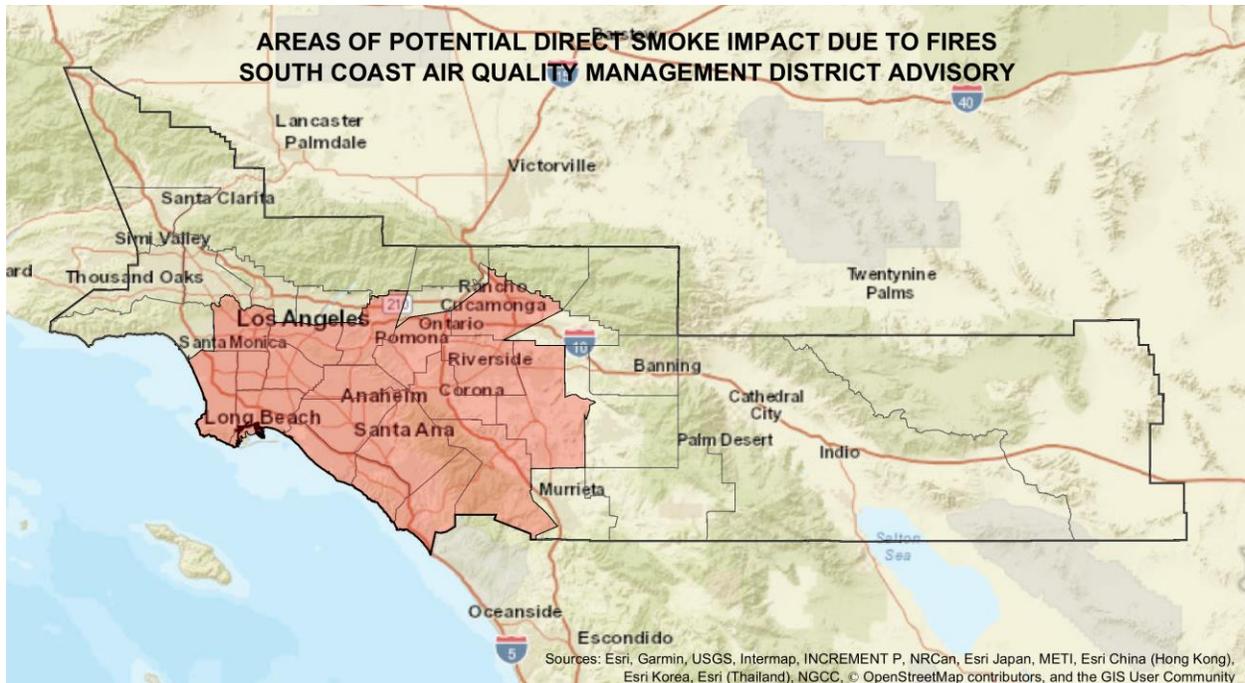
Extended Outlook for All Fires: Smoke impacts in the South Coast Air Basin will likely continue until fire activity decreases for the Blue Ridge and Silverado Fires. The South Coast Air Quality Management District will continue to provide daily smoke advisory updates until air quality impacts from smoke 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. Per South Coast AQMD Rule 444, burning wood on the beach is prohibited on Wednesday October 28, 2020 due to forecasted AQI values above 100 in coastal areas.

Overall, meteorological conditions will bring smoke and ash into portions of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino 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), Southwest Coastal LA County (Area 3), South Coastal LA (Area 4), Southeast LA County (Area 5), Pomona-Walnut Valley (Area 10), South San Gabriel Valley (Area 11), South Central Los Angeles County (Area 12)
- **Orange County:** Northern Orange County (Area 16), Central Orange County (Area 17), North Coastal Orange County (Area 18), Saddleback Valley (Area 19), Central Coastal Orange County (Area 20), Capistrano Valley (Area 21)
- **Riverside County:** Corona-Norco (Area 22), Metropolitan Riverside County (Area 23), Perris Valley (Area 24), Lake Elsinore (Area 25)
- **San Bernardino County:** Southwest San Bernardino Valley (Area 33), Central San Bernardino Valley (Area 34)



- 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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