

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 6, 2022 MEDIA CONTACT: Nahal Mogharabi, (909) 396-3773, Cell: (909) 837-2431 Kim White, (909) 396-3456, Cell: (909) 323-9479 press@aqmd.gov

South Coast AQMD Issues Smoke Advisory Due to Radford Fire South of Big Bear

Valid Tuesday September 06, 2022 through Wednesday September 07, 2022

This advisory is in effect through 5 PM Wednesday. South Coast AQMD will issue an update if additional information becomes available.

A wildfire named the Radford Fire is burning south of Big Bear Lake in the Barton Flats Area of the San Bernardino National Forest. As of 9 AM on Tuesday, the burn area was reported at 450 acres with 0% containment. See <u>https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/8390/</u> for current information on the Radford Fire.

Current Smoke and Ash Impacts

The Radford Fire is actively producing smoke on Tuesday morning, based on satellite imagery, webcams and social media posts. The smoke plume is rising vertically and moving towards the northwest. At 9 AM on Tuesday, the low-cost sensors and regulatory monitors in the Big Bear area have recorded **Good** Air Quality Index (AQI) levels. Please visit <u>https://www.aqmd.gov/aqimap</u> to view current air quality conditions.

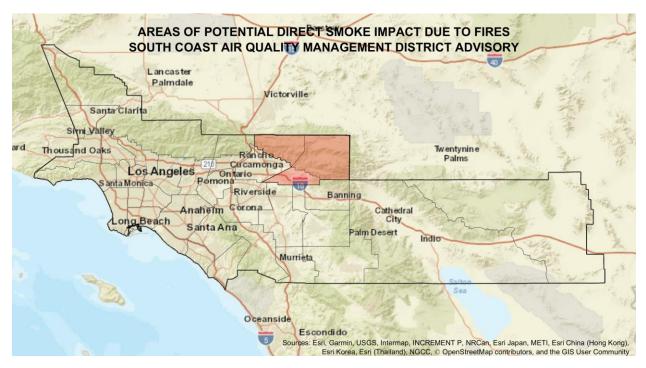
In any area impacted by smoke: If you smell smoke or see ash due to a wildfire, limit your exposure by remaining indoors with windows and doors closed or seeking alternate shelter, and avoiding vigorous physical activity. For more tips on protecting yourself during a wildfire, see South Coast AQMD's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

Forecasted Smoke and Ash Impacts

 Daytime impacts: Despite winds from the southeast and east pushing smoke to the west and northwest, plumes will rise high enough so most smoke will remain aloft. Moderate AQI levels are likely between Big Bear Lake and Lake Arrowhead, except very close to the fire where AQI could be Unhealthy or worse. However, in the afternoon hours, ozone levels unrelated to the fire are expected to be elevated due to the current heat wave, and will likely reach Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups AQI levels or higher in the Central San Bernardino Mountains (Area 37). • Late evening, overnight and early morning impacts: Light winds will keep smoldering plumes close to the ground and there may be some smoke drainage to lower elevations. Air quality may degrade to **Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups** or worse at times.

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

• San Bernardino County: East San Bernardino Valley (Area 35), Central San Bernardino Mountains (Area 37), East San Bernardino Mountains (Area 38)



- South Coast AQMD Advisory updates can be found at the following link: <u>http://www.aqmd.gov/advisory</u>
- To subscribe to air quality alerts, advisories and forecasts by email, go to <u>http://AirAlerts.org</u>
- 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: <u>http://www.aqmd.gov/mobileapp</u>
- 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 regulatory agency responsible for improving air quality for large areas of Los Angeles, Orange County, Riverside and San Bernardino counties, including the Coachella Valley. For

news, air quality alerts, event updates and more, please visit us at <u>www.aqmd.gov</u>, download our award-winning app, or follow us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram.</u>