

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 15, 2023

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# South Coast AQMD Extends Smoke Advisory Due to Moreno Valley Fire

### Valid from July 15, 2023 to July 16, 2023

This advisory is in effect from Saturday 10:00 a.m. through Sunday 4:00 p.m. South Coast AQMD will issue an update if additional information becomes available.

#### **Current Conditions**

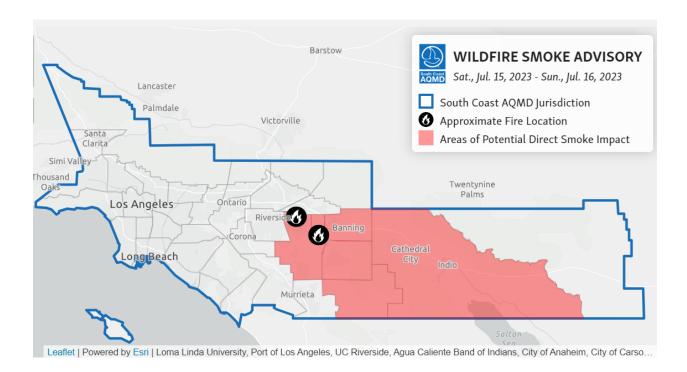
- Two large wildfires are actively burning and producing smoke in Riverside County as of Saturday at 9:40 AM:
  - The Rabbit Fire is currently 4,500 acres
  - The Reche Fire is currently 437 acres
- Visit the Cal FIRE/Riverside County Fire Department Twitter page for more details
- Winds are currently transporting smoke towards the east and southeast into the Moreno Valley, Hemet, Beaumont, Banning, and the Coachella Valley
- Air quality index values reached Hazardous levels immediately adjacent to the fire in the overnight hours

Conditions may change quickly due to fire activity and weather. Download the <u>South Coast</u> <u>AQMD app</u> or visit <u>www.aqmd.gov/AQImap</u> to view current air quality in your neighborhood.

## **Forecasted Smoke and Air Quality Impacts**

- Hot and dry conditions will continue throughout the day on Saturday and into Sunday
- Winds from the west will continue to push smoke towards the east and may result in Air Quality Index levels that are <u>Hazardous</u> in areas impacted by smoke

- Light and variable winds during the overnight hours may result in the highest AQI levels in areas immediately adjacent to the fires
- Note that AQI levels may reach the Unhealthy category in the afternoon hours from high levels of ozone (smog) due to the current heat wave and are largely unrelated to the fires. See South Coast AQMD Ozone Advisory.



#### **Detailed Forecast**

| Saturday                           | Winds from the west will continue to push smoke towards the east, affecting neighborhoods in the Hemet area, Idyllwild, San Gorgonio Pass and Coachella Valley. Ozone (smog) levels will also be elevated due to the heat wave affecting the region. |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Saturday<br>Evening/Sunday Morning | Light and variable winds may lead to increased smoke concentrations in areas immediate adjacent to the fires   |
| Sunday                             | If the fires are still producing smoke, winds from the west will continue to push smoke to the east. Ozone (smog) levels will also be elevated in the afternoon hours.   |

### If you are in an area impacted by smoke:

- Limit your exposure by remaining indoors with windows and doors closed or seeking alternate shelter.
- Avoid vigorous physical activity.
- Run your air conditioning and/or an air purifier. If possible, do **not** use swamp coolers or whole house fans that bring in outside air.
- Avoid burning wood in your fireplace or firepit and minimize sources of indoor air pollution such as candles, incense, pan-frying, and grilling.
- If you must be outside, a properly fit N95 or P100 respirator may provide some protection.

For more information, visit <a href="https://www.aqmd.gov/smokesafety">www.aqmd.gov/smokesafety</a>.

South Coast AQMD is the regulatory agency responsible for improving air quality for large areas of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties, including the Coachella Valley. For news, air quality alerts, event updates and more, please visit us at <a href="https://www.aqmd.gov">www.aqmd.gov</a>, download our award-winning app, or follow us on <a href="facebook">Facebook</a>, <a href="mailto:Twitter">Twitter</a> and <a href="mailto:Instagram">Instagram</a>.