

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 14, 2023

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

### Valid from July 14, 2023 to July 15, 2023

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

#### **Current Conditions**

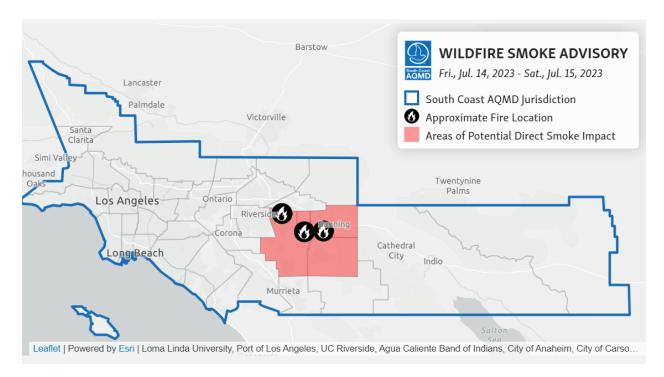
- Three wildfires are actively burning and producing smoke in Riverside County as of Friday at 4:50 PM:
  - The Reche Fire is currently 340 acres
  - The Highland Fire is currently 150 acres
  - The Rabbit Fire is currently 600 acres
- Visit the Cal FIRE/Riverside County Fire Department Twitter page for more details
- Winds are currently transporting smoke towards the east and southeast into the Moreno Valley,
   Beaumont, and Banning area

Conditions may change quickly due to fire activity and weather. Download the <u>South Coast 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 Friday and during the day on Saturday
- Winds from the west will continue to push smoke towards the east and may result in Air Quality Index levels that are Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups or worse 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**

Friday Afternoon	Winds from the west with gusts to 25 mph will continue to push smoke towards the east, affecting neighborhoods in the Moreno Valley, Beaumont, and possibly Banning. Ozone (smog) levels will also be elevated due to the heat wave affecting the region.
Friday Evening/Saturday Morning	Light and variable winds may lead to increased smoke concentrations in areas immediate adjacent to the fires
Saturday	If the fires are still producing smoke, winds from the west with gusts to 30 mph in the afternoon 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>.