



SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

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South Coast AQMD Continues Smoke Advisory Due to El Dorado Fire Near Yucaipa

Valid: Sunday, September 6, 2020 through Monday, September 7, 2020

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

A wildfire named the El Dorado Fire is burning in the San Bernardino Mountains above Yucaipa in San Bernardino County. As of 4:30 PM on Sunday, the burn area was reported at 3,010 acres with 5% containment and a rapid rate of spread. Current information on the El Dorado Fire can be found on the Incident Information System at: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7148/>.

Current Smoke Impacts

The El Dorado Fire is producing heavy smoke on Sunday afternoon based on satellite imagery, social media posts, and local webcams. Fire activity is currently generating a smoke plume, which is mainly concentrated to higher altitudes, that is moving towards the southwest on Sunday afternoon. The San Bernardino Valley is currently experiencing smoke and ash impacts, but South Coast AQMD PM2.5 monitors and low-cost sensors have not exceeded the **Moderate** Air Quality Index (AQI) category. Smoke impacts have been minimal in higher elevation cities such as Crestline, Lake Arrowhead, and Running Springs as intense fire behavior generated a high elevation plume that did not appreciably reach the surface. Visit <https://www.aqmd.gov/aqdata> to view current air quality conditions.

Forecasted Smoke Impacts

- From Sunday afternoon until Monday morning, winds from the southeast and east are expected to continue, which will push smoke into the Yucaipa Valley and the San Bernardino area and may affect cities such as Yucaipa, Redlands, San Bernardino, and Fontana. Ground-level smoke impacts will be a strong function of how high the fire plume rises in the atmosphere. During overnight hours, downslope winds and reduced atmospheric mixing may lead to increased smoke impacts in the valleys.

- On Monday, winds near the fire will shift to come from the west and northwest and blow any smoke to the east and southeast through the San Gorgonio Pass and into the San Jacinto Mountains. Depending on fire behavior, Idyllwild, Banning, and the Western Coachella Valley may experience smoke impacts.

Overall, meteorological conditions may bring smoke and ash into portions of the San Bernardino Mountains and the San Bernardino Area. **Unhealthy** or higher AQI levels due to PM2.5 concentrations are possible in areas of direct smoke impacts. Ozone levels not directly associated with the fire are expected to reach **Very Unhealthy** AQI levels in some areas of the South Coast Basin on Sunday and Monday afternoons. See www.aqmd.gov/advisory and www.aqmd.gov/forecast for details on the expected ozone levels.

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

- **Riverside County:** Hemet-San Jacinto Valley (Area 28), San Gorgonio Pass (Area 29), Coachella Valley (Area 30)
- **San Bernardino County:** Central San Bernardino Valley (Area 34), East San Bernardino Valley (Area 35), East San Bernardino Mountains (Area 38)



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>

- 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 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, download our award-winning app, or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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