



# SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

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@SouthCoastAQMD    

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** August 7, 2026

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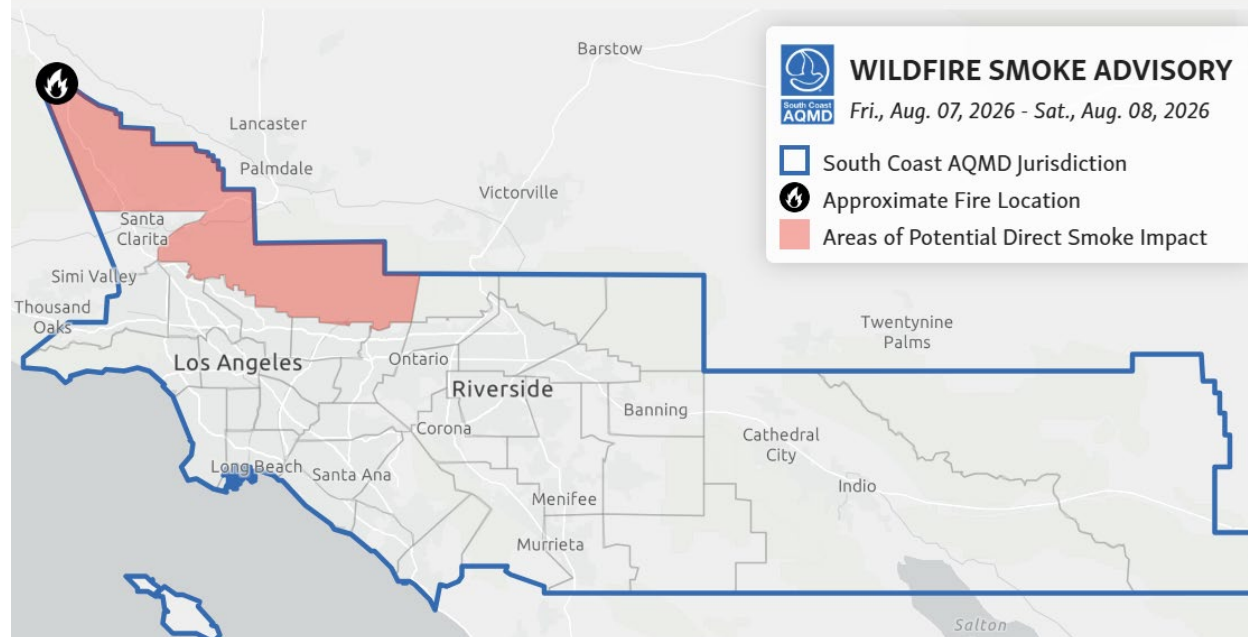
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## South Coast AQMD Issues Wildfire Smoke Advisory

*Valid until Saturday at 2:00 PM*

**Valid this Friday 5:00 PM until Saturday 2:00 PM**



### Current conditions

- The Ridge Fire near Gorman began at 2:30 PM and has burned approximately 1000 acres as of 5:30 PM on Friday, August 7.
- The fire is burning on both sides of Interstate 5 (I-5) and spreading rapidly.
- More information is available on [WatchDuty](#) and the [CALFIRE website](#).

Conditions may change quickly due to fire activity and weather. Download the [South Coast AQMD app](#) or visit [www.aqmd.gov/AQImap](http://www.aqmd.gov/AQImap) to view current air quality in your neighborhood.

### Forecasted Smoke and Air Quality Impacts

Wildfire impacts are expected along the I-5 corridor between Castaic Lake and Lebec. Smoke impacts depend on the extent of the fire's spread.

### Detailed Forecast

|                              |                                                                                                                                                                 |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Friday afternoon and evening | Wildfire smoke is impacting the region around Gorman, including the I-5. The Air Quality Index (AQI) may reach <b>Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups</b> or higher. |
| Friday nighttime             | The AQI may reach <b>Unhealthy</b> or higher along the I-5 corridor reaching the Castaic Lake area.                                                             |
| Saturday morning             | The AQI may reach <b>Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups</b> or higher along the I-5 corridor reaching the Castaic Lake area.                                        |

*South Coast AQMD will issue an update if additional information becomes available.*

### 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 [www.aqmd.gov/smokesafety](http://www.aqmd.gov/smokesafety).

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 [www.aqmd.gov](http://www.aqmd.gov), download our award-winning app, or follow us on [Facebook](#), [X](#) (formerly known as Twitter) and [Instagram](#).