

**South Coast Air Quality Management District**

(Adopted March 7, 2008)(Amended May 3, 2013)(Amended June 5, 2020)

(Amended October 27, 2020)

(Preliminary Draft Rule Language – Version May 16, 2025)

**RULE 445. WOOD-BURNING DEVICES**

(a) Purpose

The purpose of this rule is to reduce the emission of particulate matter from wood- burning devices and establish contingency measures for applicable ozone standards for the reduction of volatile organic compounds.

(b) Applicability

The provisions of this rule shall apply to specified persons or businesses within the South Coast Air Basin portion of the South Coast Air Quality Management District:

- (1) Any person that manufacturers, sells, offers for sale, or installs a Wwood-Burning Device;
- (2) Any Commercial Wood-Based Fuel~~firewood~~ Seller that sells, offers for sale, or supplies wood or other Wood-Based Fuels intended for burning in a Wood-Burning- Device or Portable Outdoor Wood-Burning Device; and
- (3) Any property owner or tenant that operates a Wood-Burning Device or Portable Outdoor Wood-Burning Device.

(c) Definitions

- (1) COMMERCIAL WOOD-BASED FUEL SELLER means any operation that has a business license that sells, or offers for sale, or supplies packaged, bundled or bulk firewood, Manufactured Firelogs, or wood pellets.
- (2) COOKSTOVE means any wood or Wood-Based Fuel- fired device that is designed and used for cooking food and has the following characteristics as defined in Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations Section 60.531, March 16, 2015, or any subsequent revision:
  - (A) An oven, with a volume of 0.028 cubic meters (1 cubic foot) or greater, and an oven rack;
  - (B) A device for measuring oven temperatures;
  - (C) A flame path that is routed around the oven;
  - (D) A shaker grate;
  - (E) An ash pan;
  - (F) An ash clean-out door below the oven; and
  - (G) The absence of a fan or heat channels to dissipate heat from

the appliance.

- (3) DAILY MAXIMUM 8-HOUR OZONE AIR QUALITY FORECAST means the maximum predicted ambient average ozone concentration, during any rolling eight (8) hour time period for the entire consecutive 24-hour period, beginning at midnight of the current day and ending upon the subsequent midnight.
- (4) DAILY PM2.5 AIR QUALITY FORECAST means the predicted ambient average PM2.5 concentration, for the entire consecutive 24-hour period, beginning at midnight of the current day and ending upon the subsequent midnight.
- (5) DEDICATED GASEOUS-FUELED FIREPLACE means any indoor or outdoor Ffireplace, including, but not limited to, a gas log Ffireplace, either constructed on- site, or factory built, fueled exclusively with a gaseous fuel such that the burner pan and associated equipment are affixed to the masonry or metal base of the Ffireplace.
- (6) FIREPLACE means any pPermanently installed indoor or outdoor masonry or factory-built device used for aesthetic or space-heating purposes and designed to operate with an air-to-fuel ratio greater than or equal to 35-to-1.
- ~~(7) LOW INCOME HOUSEHOLD means any household that receives financial assistance through reduced electric or gas bills from an electric or natural gas utility based on household income levels.~~
- ~~(8)~~(7) MANUFACTURED FIRELOG means a commercial product expressly manufactured for use to simulate a wood burning fire in a Wwood-Burning Device.
- ~~(9)~~(8) MASONRY HEATER means any Ppermanently installed device that meets the definition of a Mmasonry Hheater in ASTM E 1602-03.
- ~~(10)~~(9) NEW DEVELOPMENT means residential or commercial, single or multi-building unit, which begins construction on or after March 9, 2009. For the purposes of this definition, construction has begun when the building permit has been approved or when the foundation for the structure is started, whichever occurs first.
- ~~(11)~~(10) PELLET-FUELED WOOD-BURNING HEATER means any Wwood-bBurning Hheater that is operated on any pellet fuel, and is either U.S. EPA Phase II- certified or exempted under U.S. EPA requirements as defined in Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 60, Subpart AAA, March 16, 2015, or any subsequent revision.
- ~~(12)~~(11) PERMANENTLY INSTALLED means any device built or installed in such a manner that the device is attached to the ground, floor, or wall, and is not readily moveable. A free standing stove that is attached to an exhaust system that is built into or through a wall is considered Ppermanently Installed.

- ~~(13)~~(12) PM2.5 means particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter less than 2.5 microns.
- ~~(14)~~(13) PORTABLE OUTDOOR WOOD-BURNING DEVICE means any portable outdoor device burning any ~~W~~wood-~~B~~ased ~~F~~fuel for aesthetic or space heating purposes including, but not limited to, ~~F~~fireplaces, burn bowls, and chimineas located on property zoned for residential uses.
- ~~(15)~~(14) SEASONED WOOD means wood of any species that has been sufficiently dried so as to contain 20 percent or less moisture content by weight as determined by
- (A) ASTM Test Method D 4442-92, Standard Test Method for Use and Calibration of Hand-Held Moisture Meters; or
  - (B) A hand-held moisture meter operated in accordance with ASTM Test Method D 4444-92, Standard Test Methods for Use and Calibration of Hand-Held Moisture Meters; or
  - (C) An alternative method approved by the Executive Officer, the California Air Resources Board, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- ~~(16)~~(15) SOLE SOURCE OF HEAT means the only permanent source of heat that is capable of meeting the space heating needs of a household. This includes loss of a permanent source of heat due to a temporary service outage, for the duration of the service outage, as determined by the gas or electrical utility service.
- ~~(17)~~ SOURCE RECEPTOR AREA (SRA) means ~~any of the numbered areas in the Basin as shown on the map in Attachment 1.~~
- ~~(18)~~(16) SOUTH COAST AIR BASIN means the non-desert portions of Los Angeles, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties and all of Orange County as defined in California Code of Regulations, Title 17, Section 60104.
- ~~(19)~~(17) TREATED WOOD means wood of any species that has been chemically impregnated, painted, coated or similarly modified to improve resistance to insects, wood rot and decay, or weathering.
- ~~(20)~~(18) U.S. EPA CERTIFIED WOOD-BURNING HEATER means any device certified by the U.S. EPA to meet the performance and emission standards as defined in Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 60, Subpart AAA, March 16, 2015, or any subsequent revision.
- ~~(21)~~(19) WOOD-BASED FUEL means any wood, wood-based product, or non-gaseous or non-liquid fuel, including but not limited to ~~M~~manufactured ~~F~~firelogs, wood or pellet products. For the purpose of this rule, charcoal is not considered a ~~w~~Wood-~~B~~ased ~~F~~fuel when used in a Wood-Fired Cooking Device.
- ~~(22)~~(20) WOOD-BURNING DEVICE means any ~~F~~fireplace, ~~W~~wood-~~B~~urning ~~H~~heater, ~~P~~pellet-~~F~~-fueled ~~W~~wood-~~B~~urning ~~H~~heater, or any similarly open or

enclosed, ~~P~~ermanently ~~i~~nstalled, indoor or outdoor device burning any ~~W~~ood-~~B~~ased ~~F~~uel for aesthetic purposes, which has a heat input of less than one million British thermal units- per hour (Btu/hr).

~~(23)~~(21) WOOD-BURNING HEATER means an enclosed, ~~W~~ood-~~B~~urning ~~D~~evice capable of space heating that meets all the criteria defined in Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations Section 60.531, March 16, 2015, or any subsequent revision including, but not limited to, wood stoves and wood-burning ~~F~~ireplace inserts.

~~(24)~~(22) WOOD-BURNING SEASON means for:

- (A) PM2.5, the consecutive entire four (4) months of November, December, January, and February.
- (B) Ozone, upon triggering any one of the ozone contingency provisions in subparagraph (g), the consecutive entire eight (8) months of September, October, November, December, January, February, March and April.

~~(25)~~(23) WOOD-FIRED COOKING DEVICE means any ~~C~~ookstove, wood-fired oven or grill, or any device ~~designed for~~ burning any ~~W~~ood-~~B~~ased ~~F~~uel for cooking purposes.

(d) Requirements

- (1) No person shall permanently install a ~~W~~ood-~~B~~urning ~~D~~evice into any ~~N~~ew ~~D~~evelopment.
- (2) ~~Notwithstanding the requirements of paragraph (d)(1), n~~No person shall sell, offer for sale, supply, or install, a new or used ~~P~~ermanently ~~i~~nstalled indoor or outdoor ~~W~~ood-~~B~~urning ~~D~~evice or gaseous-fueled device unless it is one of the following:
  - (A) A U.S. EPA Certified ~~W~~ood-~~B~~urning ~~H~~heater; or
  - (B) A ~~P~~ellet-~~F~~fueled ~~W~~ood-~~B~~urning ~~H~~heater; or
  - (C) A ~~M~~masonry ~~H~~heater; or
  - (D) A ~~D~~edicated ~~G~~gaseous-~~F~~fueled ~~F~~fireplace.
- (3) No person shall burn any product not intended for use as fuel in a ~~W~~ood-~~B~~urning ~~D~~evice including, but not limited to, garbage, ~~T~~reated ~~W~~ood, particle board, plastic products, rubber products, waste petroleum products, paints, coatings or solvents, or coal.
- (4) A Commercial Wood-Based Fuel Seller ~~commercial firewood seller~~ shall only sell ~~S~~seasoned ~~w~~Wood from July 1 through the end of February the following year. Any Commercial Wood-Based Fuel Seller ~~commercial firewood seller~~ may sell seasoned as well as non-seasoned wood during the remaining months.
- (5) Labeling and Sell-Through Provision

No Commercial Wood-Based Fuel Seller ~~commercial firewood seller~~ shall sell, offer for sale, or supply Wood-Based Fuel without first attaching a permanently affixed indelible label to each package or providing written notice to each buyer at the time of purchase of bulk firewood that at a minimum that states the following:

Use of this and other solid fuel products may be restricted at times by law. Please check (1-877-4NO-BURN) or (www.8774NOBURN.org) before burning.

- (A) Alternative language, toll-free telephone number or web address for the information specified in subdivision (j) may be used, subject to Executive Officer approval.
  - (B) The Executive Officer shall specify guidelines for the aforementioned labeling requirements.
- (e) **Wood-Burning Season PM2.5 Mandatory Burning Curtailment (No-Burn day)**  
 No person shall operate an indoor or outdoor Wood-Burning Device, Portable Outdoor Wood-Burning Device, or Wood-Fired Cooking Device on a calendar day during the wood-burning season for PM2.5 so declared to the public by the Executive Officer to be a mandatory wood-burning curtailment (No-Burn) day based on the specified geographic area below 3,000 feet above mean sea level and applicable Daily PM2.5 Air Quality Forecast as follows:
- (1) Basin-wide if the Daily PM2.5 Air Quality Forecast for any Source Receptor Area exceeds 2530  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ , or
  - (2) subsequent to a determination by U.S. EPA, pursuant to 40 CFR § 51.1014(a) of a failure to comply with either a referenced PM2.5 standard or reporting requirement; the applicable Daily PM2.5 Air Quality Forecast as set forth in subdivision (f) PM2.5 Contingency Measures.
- (f) **PM2.5 Contingency Measures**
- (1) Upon the issuance of a final determination by U.S. EPA, pursuant to 40 CFR § 51.1014(a), that the South Coast Air Basin has failed to comply with the following requirements by the applicable date to:
    - (A) meet any Reasonable Further Progress (RFP) requirement in an attainment plan approved in accordance with § 51.1012;
    - (B) meet any quantitative milestone in an attainment plan approved in accordance with § 51.1013;
    - (C) submit a quantitative milestone report required under § 51.1013(b); or,
    - (D) attain the applicable PM2.5 NAAQS by the applicable attainment date,

the contingency measure(s) specified in paragraph (f)(2) shall be implemented, sequentially and in the order of stringency.

- (2) A Basin-wide, mandatory wood-burning curtailment during the ~~W~~wood-~~B~~burning ~~S~~season if the ~~D~~daily PM2.5 ~~A~~air ~~Q~~uality ~~F~~forecast for any ~~SRA~~-area of the South Coast Air Basin exceeds:

- (A) ~~29-23~~  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ , upon a final determination of a failure to comply with any of the provisions of paragraph (f)(1); and
- (B) ~~28-21~~  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ , upon a final determination of a failure to comply with any two or more of the provisions in paragraph (f)(1);
- ~~(C) 27  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ , upon a final determination of a failure to comply with any three of the provisions in paragraph (f)(1); and~~
- ~~(D) 26  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ , upon a final determination of a failure to comply with any four of the provisions in paragraph (f)(1).~~

(g) Ozone Contingency Measures

- (1) Upon the issuance of a final determination by U.S. EPA, that the South Coast Air Basin has failed to comply with the following requirements by the applicable date to:

- (A) meet a Reasonable Further Progress (RFP) requirement in an approved attainment plan for an applicable ozone NAAQS; or
- (B) attain an applicable ozone NAAQS by the applicable attainment date, the applicable contingency measure(s) specified in paragraph (g)(2) shall be implemented, sequentially and in the order of stringency.

- (2) Basin-wide, below 3,000 feet above mean sea level, no person shall operate an indoor or outdoor ~~w~~Wood-~~B~~burning ~~D~~device, ~~P~~portable ~~O~~utdoor ~~W~~wood-~~b~~burning ~~D~~device, or ~~W~~wood-~~F~~ired ~~C~~ooking ~~D~~device on a calendar day during the ~~W~~wood-~~B~~burning ~~S~~season for ozone, so declared by Executive Officer to be a curtailment (No-Burn) day due to forecasted ambient ozone concentration levels, if the ~~D~~daily ~~M~~maximum 8- hour ~~O~~zone ~~A~~air ~~Q~~uality ~~F~~forecast for any ~~SRA~~ area of the South Coast Air Basin exceeds:

- (A) 80 ppb, upon a final determination of a first failure to comply with any of the provisions of paragraph (g)(1);
- (B) 75 ppb, upon a final determination of a second failure to comply with any of the provisions of paragraph (g)(1); and
- (C) 70 ppb, upon a final determination of a third failure to comply with any of the provisions of paragraph (g)(1).

- (h) Prohibitions on Permissive Burn Days as described in Rule 444(c)(25)(C) or restrictions on Marginal Burn Days as described in Rule 444 (c)(21)(D) shall be in effect only if a No-Burn day is declared during any of the consecutive months of November, December, January or February.
- (i) Exemptions
  - (1) The provisions of this rule shall not apply to ~~W~~wood-~~F~~ired ~~C~~ooking ~~D~~evices designed and used for commercial purposes.
  - (2) The provisions of paragraph (d)(1) shall not apply to ~~N~~ew ~~D~~evelopments where there is no existing infrastructure for natural gas service within 150 feet of the property line or those 3,000 or more feet above mean sea level.
  - (3) ~~The provisions of paragraph (d)(2) shall not apply to an indoor or outdoor wood-burning device that is P~~ermanently ~~I~~nstalled and included in the sale or transfer of any existing development.
  - (4) The provisions of paragraph (d)(1) or (d)(2) shall not apply to a Wood-Burning Device that is replacing a previously installed Wood-Burning Device at a property damaged or destroyed by a natural disaster declared as a State of Emergency, as defined in Rule 118 - Emergencies, provided either:
    - (A) The New Wood-Burning Device is constructed under like-for-like rebuild or replacement, as established by the applicable local government entity;
    - or
    - (B) Dimensions of the New Wood-Burning Device do not exceed the dimensions of the previously installed Wood-Burning Device.
  - (5) The provisions of (d)(2) shall not apply to properties that are registered as a historical site, or are contributing structures located in a Historic Preservation Overlay Zone, as determined by the applicable, federal, State, or local agency. Contributing structures are those buildings which are examples of the predominate styles of the area, built during the time period when the bulk of the structures were built in the Historic Preservation Overlay Zone.
  - (6) The provisions of (d)(3) shall not apply to ~~M~~anufactured ~~F~~ire ~~L~~ogs.
  - (7) The provisions of (d)(5) shall not apply to ~~W~~ood-~~B~~ased ~~F~~uel intended for the cooking, smoking, or flavoring of food.
  - (8) The provisions of subdivisions (e), (f), and (g), shall not apply under the following circumstances:
    - (A) Residential or commercial properties where a ~~W~~ood-~~B~~urning ~~D~~evice is the ~~S~~ole ~~S~~ource ~~O~~f ~~H~~eat; or
    - ~~(B)~~ ~~A low income household; or~~
    - ~~(C)~~(B) Residential or commercial properties where there is no existing

infrastructure for natural gas service within 150 feet of the property line;  
or

~~(D)(C)~~ Residential or commercial properties located 3,000 or more feet above  
mean sea level; or

~~(E)(D)~~ Ceremonial fires exempted under Rule 444 - Open Burning.

(j) Administrative Requirements

The Executive Officer will provide public notice of a mandatory wood-burning curtailment through one or more of the following methods:

- (1) A recorded telephone message;
- (2) Messages posted on the South Coast Air Quality Management District web site;
- (3) Electronic mail messages to persons or entities that have requested such notice;
- (4) Notifying broadcast and print media operating within the boundaries of the South Coast Air Basin; and
- (5) Any additional method that the Executive Officer determines is appropriate.

(k) Penalties

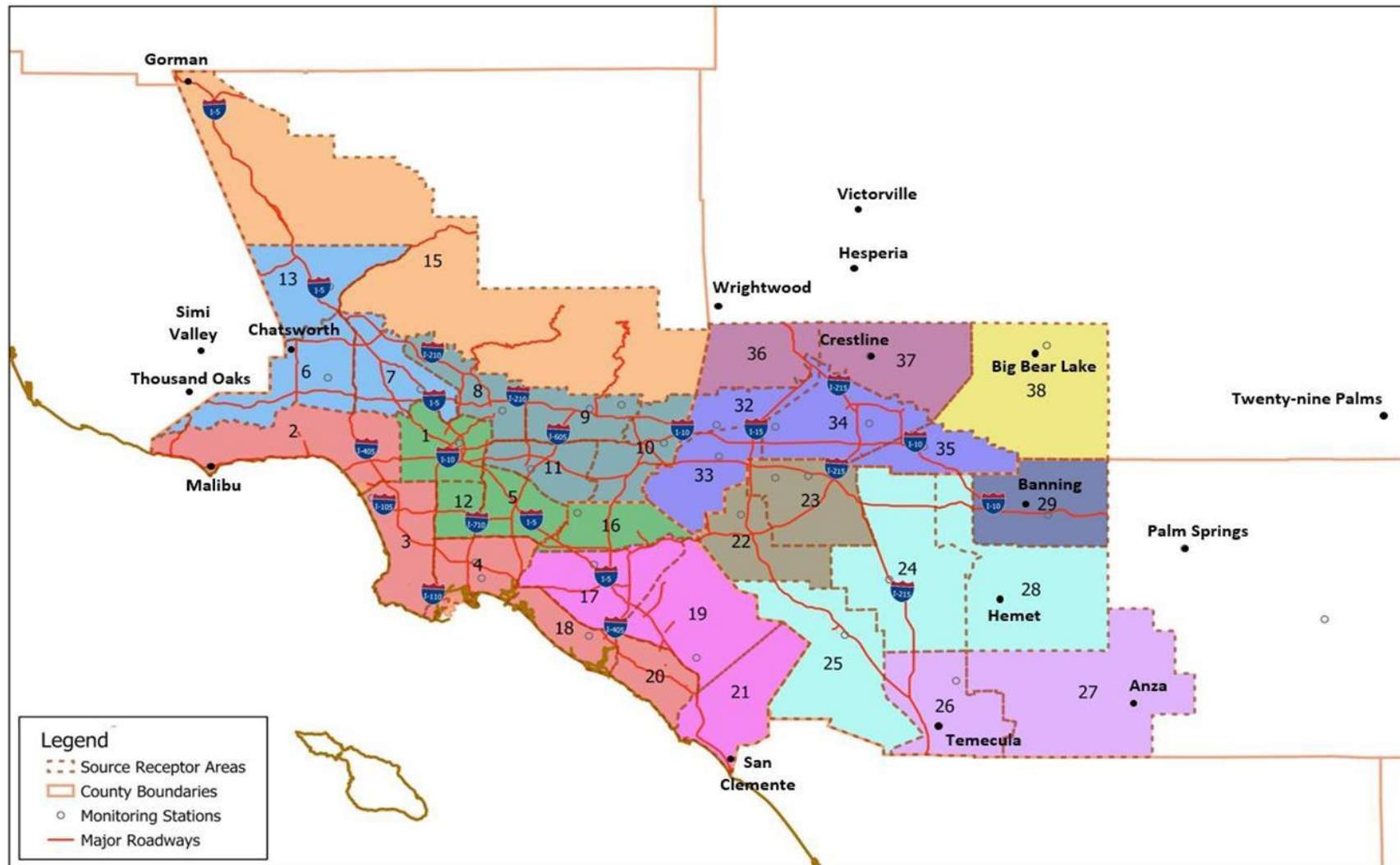
Any person that violates the provisions of subdivision (e) is subject to the following:

- (1) For first time violators during each ~~w~~Wood-~~B~~Burning Sseason, completion of a wood smoke awareness course that has been approved by the Executive Officer or payment of a penalty of \$50;
- (2) For second time violators during each Wwood-~~B~~Burning Sseason, payment of a penalty of \$150 or submission of proof of installation of a Dedicated Gaseous-~~F~~Fueled Ffireplace within 90 days after receiving the Notice of Violation; and
- (3) For third time violators during each Wwood-~~B~~Burning Sseason, payment of a penalty of \$500 or implementation of an environmentally beneficial project as derived through the mutual settlement process.


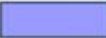


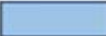
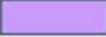

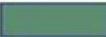
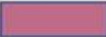



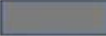
(l) Severability

If any provision of this rule is held by judicial order to be invalid, or invalid or inapplicable to any person or circumstance, such order shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this rule, or the validity or applicability of such provision to other persons or circumstances.



**Attachment 1—Source Receptor Areas (SRAs) in the South Coast Air Basin (unshaded areas are outside the Basin)**

**Source Receptor Area (SRA) Map Index**

	<b>Coastal</b>			<b>San Bernardino Valley</b>	
	Northwest Los Angeles County Coastal	2		Northwest San Bernardino Valley	32
	Southwest Los Angeles County Coastal	3		Southwest San Bernardino Valley	33
	South Los Angeles County Coastal	4		Central San Bernardino Valley	34
	North Orange County Coastal	18		East San Bernardino Valley	35
	Central Orange County Coastal	20			
	<b>Metropolitan</b>			<b>Hemet/Elsinore Area</b>	
	Central Los Angeles County	1		Perris Valley	24
	Southeast Los Angeles County	5		Lake Elsinore	25
	South Central Los Angeles County	12		Hemet-San Jacinto Valley	28
	Northern Orange County	16			
	<b>San Fernando Valley</b>			<b>Temecula/Anza Area</b>	
	West San Fernando Valley	6		Temecula Valley	26
	East San Fernando Valley	7		Anza Area	27
	Santa Clarita Valley	13		<b>San Gabriel Mountain</b>	
				San Gabriel Mountains	15
	<b>San Gabriel Valley</b>			<b>San Bernardino Mountain</b>	
	West San Gabriel Valley	8		West San Bernardino Mountains	36
	East San Gabriel Valley	9		Central San Bernardino Mountains	37
	Pomona-Walnut Valley	10			
	South San Gabriel Valley	11		<b>Big Bear Lake</b>	
	<b>Inland Orange County</b>			Big Bear Lake	38
	Central Orange County	17		<b>Banning Pass Area</b>	
	Saddleback Valley	19		Banning Pass Area	29
	Capistrano Valley	21			
	<b>Riverside Valley</b>				
	Corona-Norco Area	22			
	Metropolitan Riverside	23			