



WILDFIRE SMOKE INFORMATION

A joint message from the North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District (NCUAQMD) and partners

Issued: November 2, 2020
Updated as conditions change

Updated Air Quality Public Service Announcement

Smoke impacts from the Red Salmon Complex (<https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6891>) have moderated greatly from previous levels. Areas nearest the fire will continue to see moderated smoke impacts until the forecast weather event later in the week.

On-going operations and continued burning in the wilderness portion of the fire continue to produce smoke impacting the Hoopa Valley, Orleans and Klamath. Beginning today, in and around the Orleans area, the Mid Klamath Watershed Center and the Yurok Tribe will be conducting a Prescribed Burning Training Exchange project (TRES) in collaboration with CAL FIRE, USFS, the NCUAQMD, and others. The smoke from the TRES burning is expected to be of short duration and levels should remain below Unhealthy conditions. Air quality may be in the Moderate to Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups range in Orleans, Weitchpec, and Hoopa. Smoke may settle in low lying valleys and drainages during the night and morning hours. More active fire behavior may create more smoke increasing localized impacts.

Humboldt County – No ADVISORY issued today.

- Orleans – Overall Good to Moderate conditions with likely periods Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups.
- Weitchpec – Overall Good to Moderate conditions with possible periods Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups.
- Hoopa – Overall Good to Moderate conditions with possible periods Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups.
- Willow Creek – Overall Good to Moderate conditions.

Del Norte County – No ADVISORY issued today.

Trinity County – No ADVISORY issued today.

Air Quality Index (AQI Value)	PM 2.5 24hr avg (ug/m ³)	Actions to Protect Yourself
Good (0-50)	0-12	None
Moderate (51-100)	12-35	Sensitive individuals should consider limiting prolonged or heavy exertion
Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups [USG] (101-150)	35-55	People within USG should reduce prolonged or heavy outdoor exertion
Unhealthy (151-200)	55-150	People within USG should avoid all prolonged or heavy outdoor exertion
Very Unhealthy (201-300)	150-250	Everyone should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion
Hazardous (>300)	250-500	Everyone should avoid any outdoor activity

Particulate Matter (PM2.5) monitors are located in Crescent City, Orleans, Hoopa, Willow Creek, Eureka, Weaverville, and Trinity Center. Updates will be provided as conditions change.

Fire information can be found at <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/> or <https://fire.airnow.gov/>. Current weather information can be found at www.wrh.noaa.gov.

As with all wildfires, ash fallout is possible depending on fire activity and proximity to the fires. Ash fallout information can be found in the Wildfire Smoke Resources section of our webpage at www.ncuaqmd.org.

Health Information for Smoke Impacts

Concentrations of smoke may vary depending upon location, weather, and distance from the fire. Smoke from wildfires and structure fires contain harmful chemicals that can affect your health. Smoke can cause eye and throat irritation, coughing, and difficulty breathing. People who are at greatest risk of experiencing symptoms due to smoke include: those with respiratory disease (such as asthma), those with heart disease, young children, and older adults.

These sensitive populations should stay indoors and avoid prolonged activity. All others should limit prolonged or heavy activity and time spent outdoors. Even healthy adults can be affected by smoke. Seek medical help if you have symptoms that worsen or become severe.

Follow these general precautions to protect your health during a smoke event:

- Minimize or stop outdoor activities, especially exercise.
- Stay indoors with windows and doors closed as much as possible.
- Do not run fans that bring smoky outdoor air inside – examples include swamp coolers, whole-house fans, and fresh air ventilation systems.
- Run your air-conditioner only if it does not bring smoke in from the outdoors. Change the standard air conditioner filter to a medium or high efficiency filter. If available, use the “re-circulate” or “recycle” setting on the unit.
- Do not smoke, fry food, or do other things that will create indoor air pollution.

If you have lung disease (including asthma) or heart disease, closely monitor your health and contact your doctor if you have symptoms that worsen. Consider leaving the area until smoke conditions improve if you have repeated coughing, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, wheezing, chest tightness or pain, palpitations, nausea, unusual fatigue, lightheadedness.

Updated guidance from the CDC is available on reducing wildfire smoke exposure given COVID-19 considerations: https://www.cdc.gov/disasters/covid-19/reduce_exposure_to_wildfire_smoke_covid-19.html.

For further information, visit the District’s website at www.ncuaqmd.org or call the District’s Wildfire Response Coordinator at (707) 443-3093, x122.

**NORTH COAST UNIFIED
AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**
707 L Street, Eureka, CA 95501
(707) 443-3093
www.ncuaqmd.org

