



# SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

@SouthCoastAQMD    

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** September 25, 2020

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Bradley Whitaker, (909) 396-3456, Cell: (909) 323-9516

Nahal Mogharabi, (909) 396-3773, Cell: (909) 837-2431

[press@aqmd.gov](mailto:press@aqmd.gov)

## South Coast AQMD Continues Smoke Advisory Due to Bobcat Fire

**Valid: Friday, September 25 through Saturday, September 26, 2020**

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

The Bobcat Fire is burning north of Azusa, Duarte, Monrovia, and Arcadia in the Angeles National Forest and is affecting air quality in the region. As of 8:00 a.m. on Friday, the burn area was reported at 113,986 acres with 55% containment. Current information on the Bobcat Fire can be found on the Incident Information System (InciWeb) at <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7152>.

### Past and Current Smoke Impacts

The Bobcat Fire is producing heavy smoke on Friday morning based on satellite and webcam imagery. Smoke from the Bobcat Fire was slowly spreading to the south and west on Friday morning. Smoke was visible in the San Gabriel River valley and was being transported downslope to the south.

Since Thursday afternoon, monitors and low-cost sensors throughout the South Coast AQMD jurisdiction measured Air Quality Index (AQI) levels in the **Good** to **Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups** categories except the South Coast AQMD's temporary monitor near Azusa, which measured AQI levels in the **Unhealthy** category on Friday morning. Visit <https://www.aqmd.gov/aqdata> to view current air quality conditions.

**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>.

### Forecasted Smoke and Ash Impacts

Areas in direct proximity to the Bobcat Fire will experience the highest AQI levels due to smoke impacts. Smoke and ash impacts will be highly variable in both timing and location through Saturday.

- **Friday afternoon:** Winds will be from the southwest and west and push smoke from the Bobcat Fire to the northeast and east into the San Gabriel Mountains and western San Bernardino Mountains, and then out of the South Coast Air Basin.
- **Friday evening through Saturday morning:** Winds will be light and from the north and west and push smoke from the Bobcat Fire to the south and east into the San Gabriel Mountains, San Gabriel Valley, and Inland Empire. Smoke is likely to remain closer to the ground overnight which can increase ground-level particulate matter levels.
- **Saturday afternoon:** Winds are predicted to be from the southwest and west and move smoke from the Bobcat Fire to the northeast and east into the San Gabriel and San Bernardino Mountains and then out of the South Coast Air Basin.

**Extended Outlook for Bobcat Fire:** Smoke impacts in the South Coast Air Basin will likely continue until fire activity decreases for the Bobcat Fire. South Coast Air Quality Management District will continue to provide daily smoke advisory updates until air quality impacts from smoke subside.

In order to avoid increasing PM2.5 levels even further, South Coast AQMD recommends that the public avoid burning wood during periods of poor air quality.

Areas of direct impacts and poor air quality may include portions of Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties in the South Coast AQMD jurisdiction. **Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups** or higher AQI levels due to PM2.5 concentrations are possible in areas of direct smoke impacts. Impacts will be highly variable throughout the day, impacting different parts of the region at different times.



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

- **Los Angeles County:** West San Gabriel Valley (Area 8), East San Gabriel Valley (Area 9), Pomona-Walnut Valley (Area 10), San Gabriel Mountains (Area 15)
- **San Bernardino County:** Northwest San Bernardino Valley (Area 32), West San Bernardino Mountains (Area 36), Central San Bernardino Mountains (Area 37)
- South Coast AQMD Advisory updates can be found at the following link: [www.aqmd.gov/advisory](http://www.aqmd.gov/advisory)
- To subscribe to air quality alerts, advisories and forecasts by email, go to [www.AirAlerts.org](http://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](http://www.aqmd.gov/mobileapp)
- Air quality forecasts are available at <http://www.aqmd.gov/forecast>
- 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](http://www.aqmd.gov), download our award-winning app, or follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

###