

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: December 11, 2024 MEDIA CONTACT: Nahal Mogharabi, (909) 396-3773, Cell: (909) 837-2431 Kim White (909) 396-34569, Cell: (909) 323-9479 press@aqmd.gov

South Coast AQMD Extends Smoke Advisory for Northwest Los Angeles County Due to the Franklin Fire

Valid Wednesday 10:00 a.m. until Thursday 7:00 p.m.



Current Conditions

- The Franklin Fire is burning in Malibu Creek State Park. As of 9 a.m. Wednesday, the fire has burned 3,983 acres and is 7% contained. For more information about the Franklin Fire, visit <u>CALFIRE</u>.
- Based on webcam imagery, the Fire is actively producing smoke on Wednesday morning, with northeasterly winds pushing smoke to the southwest towards Malibu.
- Between 2 a.m. and 8 a.m. Wednesday, low cost sensors in Malibu measured PM2.5 levels due to smoke in the **Unhealthy** to **Moderate** Air Quality Index (AQI) category.

Conditions may change quickly due to fire activity and weather. Download the <u>South Coast AQMD</u> app or visit <u>www.aqmd.gov/AQImap</u> to view current air quality in your neighborhood.

Forecasted Smoke and Air Quality Impacts

- Smoke from the Franklin Fire is expected to most heavily impact Northwest coastal Los Angeles County including Malibu and areas near the fire on Wednesday and through Thursday evening. PM2.5 levels due to smoke may reach the **Unhealthy** AQI category or higher in these areas, with the highest AQI levels expected immediately adjacent to the fire.
- Some smoke impacts may occur in parts of Santa Monica, Downtown Los Angeles, and nearby areas on Wednesday evening and night as winds shift to come from the southwest. These areas may reach the **Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups** AQI category or higher.
- Smoke impacts will depend on fire activity and containment efforts.

Wednesday morning and afternoon	Northeasterly Santa Ana Winds will push smoke from the fire to the southwest towards Malibu and the Pacific Ocean. PM2.5 levels due to smoke may reach the Unhealthy AQI category or higher in Malibu and parts of Northwest coastal Los Angeles County, with the highest AQI levels in areas immediately adjacent to the fire.
Wednesday night	Winds will begin pushing smoke toward the east and southeast starting around 6:00 PM. PM2.5 levels due to smoke may continue to reach the Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups AQI category or higher in Malibu and parts of Southwest coastal Los Angeles County with a nearby city and Downtown Los Angeles, with the highest AQI levels in areas immediately adjacent to the fire.
Thursday morning and afternoon	Winds will shift to the Southwest on Thursday morning. Depending on fire activity, winds may push smoke to the northeast and east towards Santa Monica, the Santa Monica Mountains, and Downtown Los Angeles. PM2.5 levels may reach the Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups AQI category or higher in these areas. PM2.5 levels may continue to reach the Unhealthy AQI category or higher in Malibu and parts of Northwest coastal Los Angeles County with the highest AQI levels immediately adjacent to the fire.

Detailed Forecast

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 <u>www.aqmd.gov/smokesafety</u>.

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 <u>www.aqmd.gov</u>, download our award-winning app, or follow us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>X</u> (formerly known as Twitter) and <u>Instagram</u>.

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