



# AIR QUALITY SMOKE ADVISORY

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

Press release issued: September 22, 2023 (Advisory updated as conditions change)

The Six Rivers Forest (SRF) Lightning Complex, Happy Camp Complex, and the Anvil Fire in Oregon, remain active generating smoke in the region. Coastal communities will again see some diminished air quality again today, bringing varying periods of Moderate to USG air quality conditions with improvement over the day. Communities along the Klamath River and Trinity River drainage should have generally Moderate to USG conditions with increased impacts as smoke settles along the river corridor. Periods of heavier smoke are possible in river drainages, particularly in the morning with some improvement by afternoon as the morning inversion lifts. Overall air quality conditions should slowly improve as the wind direction changes given the changing weather pattern of showers on Sunday with rain on Monday, bringing a clean out of smoke and reduction of fire activity.

USFS Air Resource Advisors (ARAs) are assigned to certain fires impacting our area and daily Smoke Outlook Forecasts on one or more of these fires (<https://outlooks.wildlandfiresmoke.net/outlook>). **Air quality monitors and the current Air Quality Index (AQI) should be viewed on the EPA Fire & Smoke Map at <https://fire.airnow.gov>.**

**ALERT – Hazardous** ■ (AQI 301 and higher, 24 hr avg.):

None

**ADVISORY – Unhealthy** ■ **to Very Unhealthy** ■ (AQI 151-300 range, 24 hr avg.):

Humboldt County:

- Orleans – Overall Unhealthy, with some improvement in the afternoon/evening

**Regional Smoke Outlooks – Good** ■, **Moderate** ■, **to Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups** ■ (AQI 0-150 range):

Humboldt County:

- Eureka area (including Scotia to Trinidad) – Overall Moderate, improvement to Good toward evening
- Weitchpec – Overall USG, with periods of heavy smoke in the morning
- Hoopa – USG in morning clearing to Moderate by afternoon
- Willow Creek – USG in morning clearing to Moderate by afternoon
- Orick – Overall Moderate, with periods of smoke possible
- Garberville, Redway – Overall Moderate, with improvement toward evening

Del Norte County:

- Crescent City – Overall Moderate
- Klamath – Overall USG, improvement toward evening
- Gasquet – Overall Moderate, with smoke increasing overnight

Trinity County:

- Weaverville area – Overall Good, with periods of Moderate
- Hayfork – Overall Good, with periods of Moderate
- Trinity Center – Overall Good
- Burnt Ranch – Overall Moderate, with some improvement by afternoon
- Hyampom – Overall Moderate

U.S. EPA AIR QUALITY INDEX ( <a href="https://www.airnow.gov/aqi/aqi-basics/">https://www.airnow.gov/aqi/aqi-basics/</a> )			
Notice	Level of Concern	AQI Value	Actions to Protect Yourself
	Good	0 - 50	None, air quality is satisfactory and poses little or no risk
	Moderate	51 - 100	Sensitive individuals should limit prolonged or heavy exertion
	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups (USG)	101 - 150	People within USG should <b>reduce</b> prolonged or heavy outdoor exertion
<b>Advisory</b>	Unhealthy (UH)	151 - 200	People within USG should <b>avoid all</b> prolonged or heavy outdoor exertion
	Very Unhealthy (VUH)	201 - 300	Everyone should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion
<b>Alert</b>	Hazardous (HAZ)	> 301	Everyone should avoid any outdoor activity

**Air quality monitors and the current Air Quality Index (AQI) for communities should be viewed at <https://fire.airnow.gov>.** Additional Particulate Matter (PM2.5) monitors have been deployed in Eureka, Crescent City, Hoopa, Willow Creek, Klamath, Weaverville, Orleans, Hayfork, and Mad River.

USFS Air Resource Advisors (ARAs) are assigned to certain fires impacting our area and are providing daily Smoke Outlook Forecasts on one or more of these fires (<https://outlooks.wildlandfiresmoke.net/outlook>).

Fire information can be found at <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/> or <https://fire.airnow.gov/> or [app.watchduty.org](http://app.watchduty.org). Current weather information can be found at [www.wrh.noaa.gov](http://www.wrh.noaa.gov). As with all wildfires, ash fallout is possible. Ash fallout information can be found in the Wildfire Smoke Resources section of our webpage at [www.ncuagmd.org](http://www.ncuagmd.org).

### **Health Information & Actions to Protect Yourself from 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.

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.

**For further information, visit the District’s website at [www.ncuagmd.org](http://www.ncuagmd.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.ncuagmd.org](http://www.ncuagmd.org)

