



AIR QUALITY SMOKE ADVISORY

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

Press release issued: August 5, 2021
Advisory updated as conditions change

In Western Trinity County, the Monument Fire (Between Del Loma and Big Bar) and the McFarland Fire (S/E of Hayfork) are the main fires that are very active and creating significant smoke impacts to areas adjacent to the fires. **Air quality monitors and the current Air Quality Index (AQI) for communities should be viewed at <https://fire.airnow.gov>.** USFS Air Resource Advisors (ARAs) have been assigned to the Monument and McFarland fires and will be onsite in the next day or so. Once the ARA is onsite you can view the daily ARA Smoke Outlook Forecasts at (<https://wildlandfiresmoke.net/outlooks/>).

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

- None

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

- Weaverville, Trinity Center, Lewiston – Very Unhealthy to Hazardous conditions
- Burnt Ranch, Junction City – Unhealthy with periods of Very Unhealthy to Hazardous conditions
- Hayfork - Unhealthy with periods of Very Unhealthy to Hazardous conditions
- Douglas City – Unhealthy with periods of Very Unhealthy to Hazardous conditions
- Platina – Very Unhealthy with periods of Hazardous conditions

Regional Smoke Outlooks – Good, Moderate, to USG Conditions (AQI 0-150 range):

Humboldt County:

- Eureka (including Scotia to Trinidad) – Good conditions
- Willow Creek – Good to Moderate with periods of Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups (USG)
- Hoopa – Good to Moderate with periods of USG
- Orleans – Good to Moderate with periods of USG
- Weitchpec – Good to Moderate with periods of USG
- Garberville – Good air quality conditions
- Redway – Good air quality conditions

Del Norte County:

- Crescent City – Good air quality conditions
- Gasquet – Good to Moderate with periods of USG
- Klamath – Good with periods of Moderate

Trinity County:

- (see Advisory above)

U.S. EPA AIR QUALITY INDEX (<https://www.airnow.gov/aqi/aqi-basics/>)

Action	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 reduce prolonged or heavy outdoor exertion
Advisory	Unhealthy (UH)	151 - 200	People within USG should avoid all prolonged or heavy outdoor exertion
	Very Unhealthy (VUH)	201 - 300	Everyone should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion
Alert	Hazardous (HAZ)	> 301	Everyone should avoid any outdoor activity

Smoke Impact Summary

The Monument (Between Del Loma and Big Bar) and McFarland Fires (S/E of Hayfork) in Trinity County are very active and will continue to produce heavy smoke impacts. The River Complex at the Trinity-Siskiyou border (in the Salmon mountains) is also producing smoke. The shift to N to NW winds early Thursday has begun to provide relief to areas west of the fires. Smoke is expected to continue impacting areas close to the fires and enter drainages in the night and early morning hours. Areas to the East of the fires will see the most impact and this trend is expected to continue through the weekend.

Particulate Matter (PM2.5) monitors are located in Crescent City, Weitchpec, Hoopa, Willow Creek, Weaverville, and Eureka. **Air quality monitors and the current Air Quality Index (AQI) for communities should be viewed at <https://fire.airnow.gov>**

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 & 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.ncuaqmd.org or call the District’s Wildfire Response Coordinator at (707) 443-3093 x122.

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