



# SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** September 5, 2019

## **South Coast AQMD Continues Smoke Advisory Due to Tenaja Fire in Murrieta**

***Valid Thursday, September 5 through Friday September 6, 2019***

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

A wildfire, called the Tenaja Fire, is burning near Murrieta and La Cresta. As of 2:56 pm on Thursday, the Tenaja Fire area was reported at 2,000 acres with 7% containment by CAL FIRE and the Riverside County Fire Department. Overnight and today the fire has been producing heavy smoke, which has led to periods of elevated PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations at South Coast AQMD's Lake Elsinore and Temecula monitors and at low-cost sensors along the I-15 corridor and in the Inland Empire.

Gusty winds from the southwest this afternoon and evening are expected to transport smoke into the Inland Empire. Wind speeds will decrease to become light and from the north starting around midnight on Friday morning. Light winds are expected to continue through Friday morning, which may transport smoke into the Temecula and Capistrano Valleys. Strong winds from the southwest are expected again on Friday starting around noon. If the Tenaja Fire continues to generate smoke on Friday afternoon, smoke may again impact the Inland Empire.

Overall, meteorological conditions may bring smoke into portions of Riverside and Orange Counties. Air quality may reach Unhealthy or higher levels in areas directly impacted by smoke.

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

- **Orange County:** Capistrano Valley (Area 21)
- **Riverside County:** Corona-Norco (Area 22), Metropolitan Riverside County (Area 23), Perris Valley (Area 24), Lake Elsinore (Area 25), Temecula Valley (Area 26), Hemet-San Jacinto Valley (Area 28)



***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>.*

- 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 [www.aqmd.gov/aqimap](http://www.aqmd.gov/aqimap)
- 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](#).

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