



WILDFIRE SMOKE INFORMATION

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

November 14, 2018

Air Quality Public Service Announcement

Depending on weather conditions, smoke impacts from the Camp Fire in Butte County may occur in areas of Humboldt, Del Norte and Trinity County. This fire is currently at 135,000 acres with 35% containment.

Humboldt, Del Norte County & Trinity County

Increasing smoke impacts from the Camp Fire have been present in coastal areas of Humboldt and Del Norte County. Overall smoke impacts are forecast to be “Moderate” to “Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups” with periods of “Unhealthy” depending on weather and location. Weather forecasts indicate light northerly wind late this evening which should help bring some improvement in conditions.

It is anticipated that smoke will continue to linger in the area until conditions change. Smoke levels will vary depending on weather conditions and fire activity. As is typical for this time of year, overnight inversions will limit smoke dispersion until the day starts to warm up.

- Coastal Areas (Crescent City to Shelter Cove) - overall “Moderate” to “Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups” with brief periods of “Unhealthy” depending on conditions
- Southern Humboldt – “Moderate” to “Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups” with periods of “Unhealthy” depending on conditions
- Inland Humboldt and Del Norte County – “Moderate” to “Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups”
- Trinity County – “Moderate” with periods of “Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups”

Air Quality Index (AQI Value)	PM 2.5 24hr avg (ug/m ³)	Actions to Protect Yourself
Good (0-50)	0-12	None
Moderate (51-100)	12-35	Sensitive individuals should consider limiting prolonged or heavy exertion
Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups [USG] (101-150)	35-55	People within USG should reduce prolonged or heavy outdoor exertion
Unhealthy (151-200)	55-150	People within USG should avoid all prolonged or heavy outdoor exertion
Very Unhealthy (201-300)	150-250	Everyone should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion
Hazardous (>300)	250-500	Everyone should avoid any outdoor activity

Particulate Matter (PM2.5) monitors are presently in Crescent City, Gasquet, Eureka, and Weaverville. Updates will be provided as conditions change. For 24-hour Air Quality Advisory Information, call toll-free at 1-866-BURN-DAY (1-866-287-6329).

Fire information can be found at <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/> or at www.calfire.ca.gov. Current weather information can be found at www.wrh.noaa.gov.

Health Information for 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.

If you can see, taste, or feel smoke, contact your local health department and/or primary healthcare provider. This is especially important if you have health concerns, are elderly, are pregnant, or have a child in your care.

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.

If you have lung disease (including asthma) or heart disease, closely monitor your health and contact your doctor if you have symptoms that worsen.

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 24-hour Air Quality Advisory Information, call toll-free at 1-866-BURN-DAY (1-866-287-6329). For further information, visit the District’s website at www.ncuaqmd.org.

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