



Air Quality Health Advisories, Alerts, and Notifications

**EPA/MJOs Exceptional Events Wildfire and Prescribed Fire Smoke Workshop
February 27-29, 2024**

**Scott A. Epstein PhD
Air Quality Assessment**

**Planning, Rule Development, and Implementation
South Coast Air Quality Management District**

Air Quality Advisories, Alerts, and Notifications

Advisories

- Proactively issued by South Coast AQMD forecasters
- Disseminated at aqmd.gov and linked through Enviroflash
- Press release issued by Media team based on advisory

Alerts

- Issued by South Coast AQMD forecasters simultaneously with advisory
- Relayed by National Weather Service
- Disseminated through official NWS channels and displayed on commercial apps

Notifications

- Automatically pushed to users of the South Coast AQMD App based on real-time AQI
- Users set threshold for notification based on AQI level and locations of interest



General Guidelines when Advisories are Issued

- Goal is to issue advisories proactively rather than reactively
- Forecaster discretion applied based on recent advisories and pollutant levels along with any near-source sensitive impacted areas such as schools

PM10 Dust/Ash



Extended period of elevated PM10 expected that will reach at least USG AQI

Res. No Burn



24-Hour PM2.5 > 29 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ forecasted in the South Coast Air Basin (Nov-Feb)

High Ozone



Widespread areas of unhealthy AQI or higher expected over several days

Wildfire Smoke



Fire greater than 200-400 acres that is expected to persist for several hours or more

Fireworks



July 4th and 5th in areas with historically high PM2.5 levels from fireworks

Salton Sea Odors



Extended episode of persistently high H2S in the Coachella Valley

Language [English](#) [Spanish](#) [Vietnamese](#) [Arabic](#) [Chinese](#) [Hindi](#) [Japanese](#) [Korean](#) [Portuguese](#) [Russian](#) [Tagalog](#) [Thai](#) [Urdu](#) [Vietnamese](#) [Yiddish](#) [Zulu](#) [Afrikaans](#) [Albanian](#) [Armenian](#) [Azerbaijani](#) [Basque](#) [Belarusian](#) [Bengali](#) [Bosnian](#) [Bulgarian](#) [Catalan](#) [Cebuano](#) [Czech](#) [Danish](#) [Dutch](#) [Esperanto](#) [Estonian](#) [Finnish](#) [French](#) [Galician](#) [Georgian](#) [German](#) [Greek](#) [Hebrew](#) [Hmong](#) [Hungarian](#) [Indonesian](#) [Italian](#) [Japanese](#) [Kannada](#) [Kazakh](#) [Korean](#) [Kurdish](#) [Kyrgyz](#) [Lao](#) [Latvian](#) [Lithuanian](#) [Macedonian](#) [Malay](#) [Malayalam](#) [Maltese](#) [Marathi](#) [Mongolian](#) [Moldovan](#) [Mori](#) [Nepali](#) [Norwegian](#) [Persian](#) [Polish](#) [Portuguese](#) [Punjabi](#) [Romanian](#) [Russian](#) [Serbian](#) [Slovak](#) [Slovenian](#) [Spanish](#) [Swedish](#) [Tamil](#) [Telugu](#) [Thai](#) [Turkish](#) [Ukrainian](#) [Urdu](#) [Uyghur](#) [Vietnamese](#) [Welsh](#) [Yiddish](#) [Zulu](#)

SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
Wildfire Smoke Advisory
www.aqmd.gov @SouthCoastAQMD

Valid Saturday 10:00 AM until Sunday 4:00 PM

WILDFIRE SMOKE ADVISORY
 Sat., Jul. 15, 2023 – Su., Jul. 16, 2023

South Coast AQMD Jurisdiction
 Approximate Fire Location
 Areas of Potential Direct Smoke Impact

Current Conditions

- Two large wildfires are actively burning and producing smoke in Riverside County as of Saturday at 9:40 AM:
 - The Rabbit Fire is currently 4,500 acres
 - The Reche Fire is currently 437 acres
- Visit the [Cal FIRE/Riverside County Fire Department Twitter page](#) for more details
- Winds are currently transporting smoke towards the east and southeast into the Moreno Valley, Hemet, Beaumont, Banning, and the Coachella Valley
- Air quality index values reached **Hazardous** levels immediately adjacent to the fire in the overnight hours

Conditions may change quickly due to fire activity and weather. Download the [South Coast AQMD app](#) or visit www.aqmd.gov/AQImap to view current air quality in your neighborhood.

Show recent air quality trends (up to Saturday, 11:00 AM)

Forecasted Smoke and Air Quality Impacts

- Hot and dry conditions will continue throughout the day on Saturday and into Sunday
- Winds from the west will continue to push smoke towards the east and may result in Air Quality index levels that are **Hazardous** in areas impacted by smoke
- Light and variable winds during the overnight hours may result in the highest AQI levels in areas immediately adjacent to the fires
- Note that AQI levels may reach the **Unhealthy** category in the afternoon hours from high levels of ozone (smog) due to the current heat wave and are largely unrelated to the fires. See [South Coast AQMD Ozone Advisory](#).

Detailed Forecast

Saturday	Winds from the west will continue to push smoke towards the east, affecting neighborhoods in the Hemet area, Idyllwild, San Geronimo Pass and Coachella Valley. Ozone (smog) levels will also be elevated due to the heat wave affecting the region.
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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 www.aqmd.gov/smokesafety.

Interactive Air Quality Advisories

- html-based interactive advisories deployed in Summer of 2023
- Replaced PDF advisories
- Mobile friendly with graphics that are responsive to screen width
- Integrated Google Translate tool with 120 languages
- Built advisory generation tool to easily create advisories in MATLAB App Designer

Language ▼

South Coast Air Quality Management District

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Interactive Air Quality Advisories

Select Language ▼

Powered by Google Translate

SOUTH COAST AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

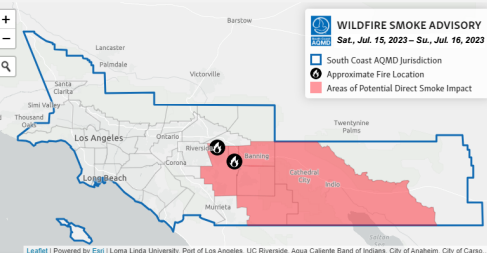
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Google Translate integration

Interactive web map with location search



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Recent Air Quality Index (AQI) Trends at Selected Sites

AQI is calculated using the EPA's NowCast method, which emphasizes recent levels when conditions change rapidly.

Air Quality Index (AQI)

- Hazardous
- Very Unhealthy
- Unhealthy
- Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups
- Moderate
- Good

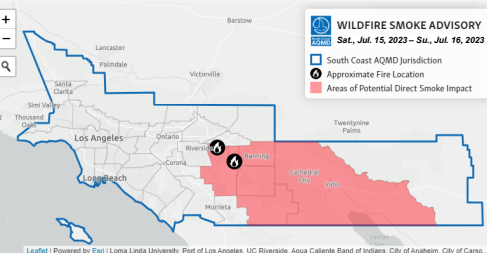
Standard AQI Colors More Accessible AQI Colors

Banning-central

Mecca

Current conditions with expandible and interactive recent air quality trends chart

Forecaster chooses locations to display on bar charts



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Interactive Air Quality Advisories

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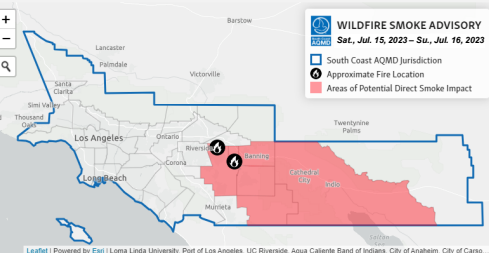
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Impact summary and detailed forecast information



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Interactive Air Quality Advisories

Highlighted health recommendations

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Advisory Generation Tool

SCAQMD Air Quality Analysis System ver 1.7

File Take Screenshot Restart

Tod. PM2.5 Forecast
 Tom. PM2.5 Forecast
 Tod. PM10 Forecast
 Tom. PM10 Forecast
 Tod. NO2 Forecast
 Tom. NO2 Forecast
 Tod. CO Forecast
 Tom. CO Forecast
 Tod. Combined Results
 Tom. Combined Results
 Hourly PM2.5
 Hourly Ozone
 Reporting
 Burning
 Second Day Burn Predi...
 CBYB Prediction
 Final Forecast
 Output Files
 Phone System
 Weekly O3 Report
 POST FORECAST
 Advisories
 General Advisory Generatio...
 Check Before You Burn TES...
 Publish HTML
 Wildfire Smoke A
 Wildfire Smoke B
 Wildfire Smoke C
 Wildfire Smoke D
 Windblown Dust and As...
 Windblown Dust and As...
 Check Before You Burn
 Salton Sea Odor
 Other Air Quality A
 Other Air Quality B

Startup Air Quality Meteorology Fire and Dust Model Setup Model Results Reporting Advisories Exceptional Events
 General Advisory Generation Check Before You Burn TESTING Publish HTML Wildfire Smoke A Wildfire Smoke B Wildfire Smoke C Wildfire Smoke D Windblown Dust and Ash A Windblown Dust and Ash B Check Before You Burn Salton Sea Odor Other Air Q

Advisory Type Smoke Issue Date 29-Jul-2023 1:00 PM Reset All Fields to Default Folder Name C:\Users\sepstein\AppData\Local\Temp\ForecastApp_20231018T135854\advisory1

Forecast Area	#	Selected	Hide Fcst
Central Orange County	17	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
North Coastal Orange County	18	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Saddleback Valley	19	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Central Coastal Orange Co...	20	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Capistrano Valley	21	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Corona-Norco	22	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Metropolitan Riverside County	23	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Perris Valley	24	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lake Elsinore	25	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Temecula Valley	26	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Anza Valley	27	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Hemet-San Jacinto Valley	28	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
San Geronio Pass	29	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Coachella Valley	30	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
East Riverside County	31	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Northwest San Bernardino ...	32	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Southwest San Bernardino ...	33	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Central San Bernardino Valley	34	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
East San Bernardino Valley	35	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
West San Bernardino Mount...	36	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Central San Bernardino Mo...	37	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
East San Bernardino Mount...	38	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Date and Location Current Conditions Current Conditions Plot Forecast

Title
 X Y

Advisory Subtype Wildfire
 Advisory Title Wildfire Smoke Impacts in River
 Description Wildfire smoke will lead to unhealthy air quality in Riverside County. Click the arrow for details.
 Advisory Start Day 29-Jul-2023
 Start Time 1:30 PM
 Advisory End Day 30-Jul-2023
 End Time 8:00 PM

Name	Lat	Lon
Bonny Fire	33.4769	-116.7247
<missing>	NaN	NaN
<missing>	NaN	NaN
<missing>	NaN	NaN
<missing>	NaN	NaN

Fire locations to add to map (optional)
 Put on Map Above to Check Location

Legend:
 Location
 Title
 Start Day and Time
 End Day and Time
 Fire Location
 Current Cond. Text
 Current Cond. Plot
 Fcst. Summary Text
 Detailed Forecast

Open Advisory Files
 Spell Check
 Check Inputs & Make New Advisory
 View Today's Advisory
 Load Advisory
 Revise Advisory

Clear Diary Save Diary
 18-Oct-2023 14:00:40: Finished autosaving all values
 18-Oct-2023 14:00:53: 18-Oct-2023 is not in CBYB period
 18-Oct-2023 14:00:53: 19-Oct-2023 is not in CBYB period
 18-Oct-2023 14:00:53: 20-Oct-2023 is not in CBYB period
 18-Oct-2023 14:02:21: Finished autosaving all values
 18-Oct-2023 14:02:47: Finished autosaving all values
 18-Oct-2023 14:02:48: 18-Oct-2023 is not in CBYB period
 18-Oct-2023 14:02:48: 19-Oct-2023 is not in CBYB period
 18-Oct-2023 14:02:48: 20-Oct-2023 is not in CBYB period

Previous Next



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SCAQMD Air Quality Analysis System ver 1.7

File Take Screenshot Restart

Startup Air Quality Meteorology Fire and Dust Model Setup Model Results Reporting Advisories Exceptional Events

General Advisory Generation Check Before You Burn TESTING Publish HTML Wildfire Smoke A Wildfire Smoke B Wildfire Smoke C Wildfire Smoke D Windblown Dust and Ash A Windblown Dust and Ash B Check Before You Burn Salton Sea Odor Other Air Q

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Date and Location Current Conditions Current Conditions Plot Forecast

Grid Cell Selector (left click to select, right click to zoom)

Restore Default Map Extent

View Station Locations Measuring:

O3

PM2.5

PM10

O3, PM2.5, and PM10

Stations corresponding to the type selected above are shown with circles. When PM2.5 data is selected, grid cells that use Purple Air data are framed in black on the map.

Clear Grid Cells Markdown Guide (For Text)

Location

Title

Start Day and Time

End Day and Time

Fire Location

Current Cond. Text

Current Cond. Plot

Fcst. Summary Text

Detailed Forecast

Open Advisory Files

Spell Check

Check Inputs & Make New Advisory

View Today's Advisory

Load Advisory

Revise Advisory

Current Conditions Text For AQI formatting, use %AQI_category%, e.g. %Moderate%, %Unhealthy%, etc.

Current Conditions

- * The Bonny Fire is currently at 2,069 acres with 5% containment as of Saturday at 8:30 AM
- * Visit the [Cal FIRE/Riverside County Fire Department Incident Summary](https://www.fire.ca.gov/incidents/2023/7/27/bonny-fire) for more details
- * As of Saturday at 12:00 PM, smoke production is less than yesterday afternoon with some smoke reaching the ground
- * Smoke is being transported to the northeast toward the Anza area and the San Jacinto mountains

Monitor or Sensor	Default Name	Custom Name
Monitor	Bachelor Mountain	Temecula
Monitor	Mecca	Mecca

Clear Diary Save Diary

18-Oct-2023 14:02:21: Finished autosaving air values

18-Oct-2023 14:02:47: Finished autosaving all values

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18-Oct-2023 16:51:37: Making AQI Plot

18-Oct-2023 16:51:49: Finished Making AQI Plot

18-Oct-2023 16:51:49: Saving Plot as PNG

18-Oct-2023 16:51:57: Finished Saving Plot as C:\Users\sepstein\AppData\Local\Temp\ForecastApp_20231018T135854\advisory1\AQI_trend.png

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Date and Location Current Conditions Current Conditions Plot Forecast

Hours to Plot 24 Make Plot

Good Moderate Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups Unhealthy Very Unhealthy Hazardous

Location	Fri 1 PM	Fri 2 PM	Fri 3 PM	Fri 4 PM	Fri 5 PM	Fri 6 PM	Fri 7 PM	Fri 8 PM	Fri 9 PM	Fri 10 PM	Fri 11 PM	Sat 12 AM	Sat 1 AM	Sat 2 AM	Sat 3 AM	Sat 4 AM	Sat 5 AM	Sat 6 AM	Sat 7 AM	Sat 8 AM	Sat 9 AM	Sat 10 AM	Sat 11 AM	Sat 12 PM
Mecca	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Good	Good	Good	Good
Temecula	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate

Include plot in advisory

- Location
- Title
- Start Day and Time
- End Day and Time
- Fire Location
- Current Cond. Text
- Current Cond. Plot
- Fcst. Summary Text
- Detailed Forecast

Clear Diary Save Diary

18-Oct-2023 14:02:46: 20-Oct-2023 is not in CBYB period
 18-Oct-2023 16:51:37: Making AQI Plot
 18-Oct-2023 16:51:49: Finished Making AQI Plot
 18-Oct-2023 16:51:49: Saving Plot as PNG
 18-Oct-2023 16:51:57: Finished Saving Plot as C:\Users\sepstein\AppData\LocalTemp\ForecastApp_20231018T135854\advisory1\AQI trend.png
 18-Oct-2023 16:54:49: Making AQI Plot
 18-Oct-2023 16:55:00: Finished Making AQI Plot
 18-Oct-2023 16:55:00: Saving Plot as PNG
 18-Oct-2023 16:55:04: Finished Saving Plot as C:\Users\sepstein\AppData\LocalTemp\ForecastApp_20231018T135854\advisory1\AQI trend.png

Previous Next



Advisory Generation Tool

SCAQMD Air Quality Analysis System ver 1.7

File Take Screenshot Restart

Tod. PM2.5 Forecast
 Tom. PM2.5 Forecast
 Tod. PM10 Forecast
 Tom. PM10 Forecast
 Tod. NO2 Forecast
 Tom. NO2 Forecast
 Tod. CO Forecast
 Tom. CO Forecast
 Tod. Combined Results
 Tom. Combined Results
 Hourly PM2.5
 Hourly Ozone

Reporting

- Burning
- Second Day Burn Prediction
- CBYB Prediction
- Final Forecast
- Output Files
- Phone System
- Weekly O3 Report
- POST FORECAST

Advisories

- General Advisory Generation
- Check Before You Burn TESTING
- Publish HTML
- Wildfire Smoke A
- Wildfire Smoke B
- Wildfire Smoke C
- Wildfire Smoke D
- Windblown Dust and Ash A
- Windblown Dust and Ash B
- Check Before You Burn
- Salton Sea Odor
- Other Air Quality A
- Other Air Quality B

Startup | Air Quality | Meteorology | Fire and Dust | Model Setup | Model Results | Reporting | Advisories | Exceptional Events

General Advisory Generation | Check Before You Burn TESTING | Publish HTML | Wildfire Smoke A | Wildfire Smoke B | Wildfire Smoke C | Wildfire Smoke D | Windblown Dust and Ash A | Windblown Dust and Ash B | Check Before You Burn | Salton Sea Odor | Other Air Q

Advisory Type: Smoke | Issue Date: 29-Jul-2023 | 1:00 PM | Reset All Fields to Default | Folder Name: C:\Users\sepstein\AppData\Local\Temp\ForecastApp_20231018T135854\advisory1

Date and Location | Current Conditions | Current Conditions Plot | Forecast

Forecast Summary Text

For AQI formatting, use %%AQI_category%%, e.g. %%Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups%%, %%Unhealthy%%, etc.

Forecasted Smoke and Air Quality Impacts

- * Hot conditions will continue throughout the day on Saturday and into Sunday
- * There is a chance of showers and thunderstorms in the area of the fire this afternoon and Sunday making the smoke forecast more uncertain
- * Winds will push smoke toward the northeast and may result in Air Quality Index levels that are %%Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups%% or higher in the most impacted areas including Anza and Idyllwild
- * Areas further from the fire including Banning, Coachella Valley, and San Bernardino Mountains are expected to have relatively moderate impacts
- * Note that AQI levels may reach the %%Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups%% category in the afternoon hours from high levels of ozone (smog) due to the current heat wave and are largely unrelated to the fire

Detailed Forecast (optional)

Day/time	Forecast description (For AQI formatting, use %%AQI_category%%)
Daytime ▼ Saturday	Winds from the west will continue to push smoke towards the north and northeast, potentially affecting the area near the fire and Coachella Valley. Ozone (smog) levels will also be elevated due to the heat wave affecting the region.
Nighttime ▼ Saturday Evening and Early Sunday Morning	If the fire continues to produce smoke, light and variable winds may lead to increased smoke concentrations in areas immediate adjacent to the fires
Daytime ▼ Sunday	If the fire is still producing smoke, winds will continue to push smoke to the northeast affecting areas near the fire, San Geronio Pass near Banning, and Coachella Valley. Ozone (smog) levels will also be elevated in the afternoon hours.
Nighttime ▼	

Location
 Title
 Start Day and Time
 End Day and Time
 Fire Location
 Current Cond. Text
 Current Cond. Plot
 Fcst. Summary Text
 Detailed Forecast

18-Oct-2023 16:51:37: Making AQI Plot
 18-Oct-2023 16:51:49: Finished Making AQI Plot
 18-Oct-2023 16:51:49: Saving Plot as PNG
 18-Oct-2023 16:51:57: Finished Saving Plot as C:\Users\sepstein\AppData\Local\Temp\ForecastApp_20231018T135854\advisory1\AQI_trend.png
 18-Oct-2023 16:54:49: Making AQI Plot
 18-Oct-2023 16:55:00: Finished Making AQI Plot
 18-Oct-2023 16:55:00: Saving Plot as PNG
 18-Oct-2023 16:55:04: Finished Saving Plot as C:\Users\sepstein\AppData\Local\Temp\ForecastApp_20231018T135854\advisory1\AQI_trend.png



Advisory Generation Tool

SCAQMD Air Quality Analysis System ver 1.7

File Take Screenshot Restart

Startups Air Quality Meteorology Fire and Dust Model Setup Model Results Reporting Advisories Exceptional Events

General Advisory Generation Check Before You Burn TESTING Publish HTML Wildfire Smoke A Wildfire Smoke B Wildfire Smoke C Wildfire Smoke D Windblown Dust and Ash A Windblown Dust and Ash B Check Before You Burn Salton Sea Odor Other Air Q

Select advisories to publish on South Coast AQMD website

advisoryid	advisorytype	title	issuedatetime	URL	final	active
93	93 Windblown Dust	Windblown Dust Advisory	11-Oct-2023 16:37:11	https://xapp.aqmd.gov/advisories/Home/Details/db2...	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
92	92 Windblown Dust	Windblown Dust Advisory	11-Oct-2023 16:15:13	https://xapp.aqmd.gov/advisories/Home/Details/b77...	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
91	91 Windblown Dust	Windblown Dust Advisory	09-Oct-2023 19:34:24	https://xapp.aqmd.gov/advisories/Home/Details/25b...	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
90	90 Windblown Dust	Windblown Dust Advisory	09-Oct-2023 19:18:21	https://xapp.aqmd.gov/advisories/Home/Details/9d3...	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
89	89 Windblown Dust	Windblown Dust Advisory	29-Sep-2023 18:48:45	https://xapp.aqmd.gov/advisories/Home/Details/ad2...	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
88	88 Windblown Dust	Windblown Dust Advisory	29-Sep-2023 18:26:10	https://xapp.aqmd.gov/advisories/Home/Details/f3a...	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
87	87 Windblown Dust	Windblown Dust Advisory	29-Sep-2023 18:23:47	https://xapp.aqmd.gov/advisories/Home/Details/389...	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Refresh View Advisory Web Page Copy URLs Publish or Remove Advisories on Website Export Archive URLs

Create Enviroflash email for all advisories except CBYB. Embed the advisory URL in the enviroflash message.

Copy Enviroflash Message Open Enviroflash

Transmit Advisories to NWS

NWS Advisory Tool

Notify (Send message to interested parties in EmailAddresses.xlsx)

Subject: Advisories Have Been Published

Body: The following advisories are now published to the South Coast AQMD website
 - [Windblown Dust Advisory](https://xapp.aqmd.gov/advisories/Home/Details/db268691-18bd-4988-852b-1ba30a1c4a2d) Advisory Description: High winds will cause dust events in the Coachella Valley and Banning Pass.

Populate Email Send Email Markdown Guide (For Email Body)

The following advisories are now published to the South Coast AQMD website

- [Windblown Dust Advisory](#)

Update Forecast (Yellow buttons are required steps)

Append to .ca3 Generate Daily/Hourly Message Preview Forecast Upload Forecast Files Publish Forecast

Adds to AirNow For smoke, dust, ash advisory To FORECAST machine To aqmd website

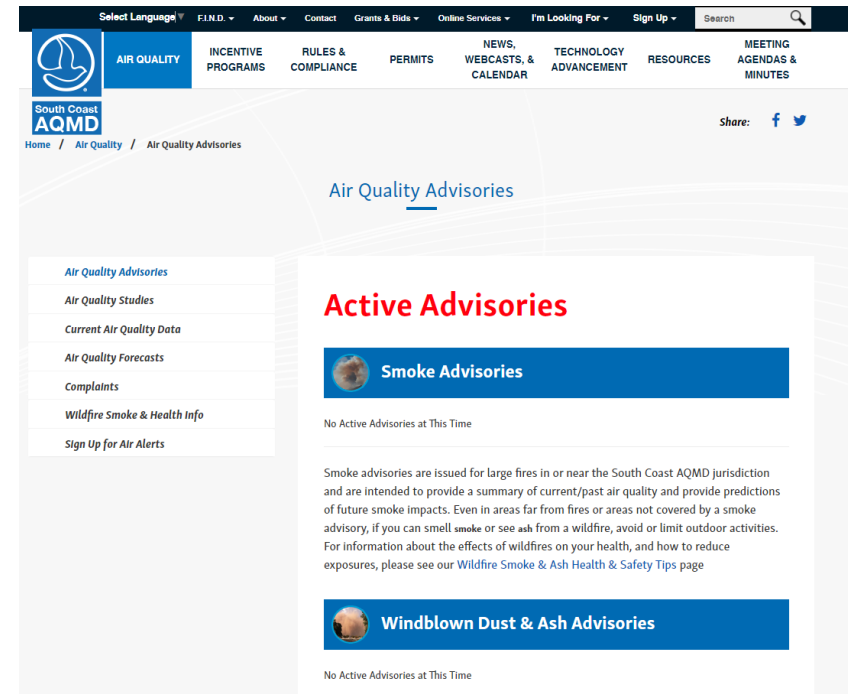
Clear Diary Save Diary

18-Oct-2023 16:51:57: Finished Saving Plot as C:\Users\sepstein\AppData\Local\Temp\ForecastApp_202310181135854\advisory1\AQIrend.png
 18-Oct-2023 16:54:49: Making AQI Plot
 18-Oct-2023 16:55:00: Finished Making AQI Plot
 18-Oct-2023 16:55:00: Saving Plot as PNG
 18-Oct-2023 16:55:04: Finished Saving Plot as C:\Users\sepstein\AppData\Local\Temp\ForecastApp_202310181135854\advisory1\AQIrend.png
 18-Oct-2023 16:56:26: Finished autosaving all values
 18-Oct-2023 16:56:28: Finished autosaving all values
 18-Oct-2023 16:56:33: Finished autosaving all values
 18-Oct-2023 16:56:38: Finished autosaving all values



Dissemination of Air Quality Advisories

- Hosted at www.aqmd.gov/advisory
- Linked from the aqmd.gov homepage and on the South Coast AQMD mobile app
- Sent to 33,000 Enviroflash subscribers
- Extensive Media outreach
 - Press release issued from advisory
 - Impacted areas automatically sent to media in kmz file



Los Angeles Times
Smoke forecast to clear in L.A. area

Low-pressure cold front to improve air quality and reduce heat this weekend.

BY HAYLEY SMITH

Residents in Los Angeles County can breathe a little easier this weekend, as air



Air Quality Alerts Relayed by the National Weather Service

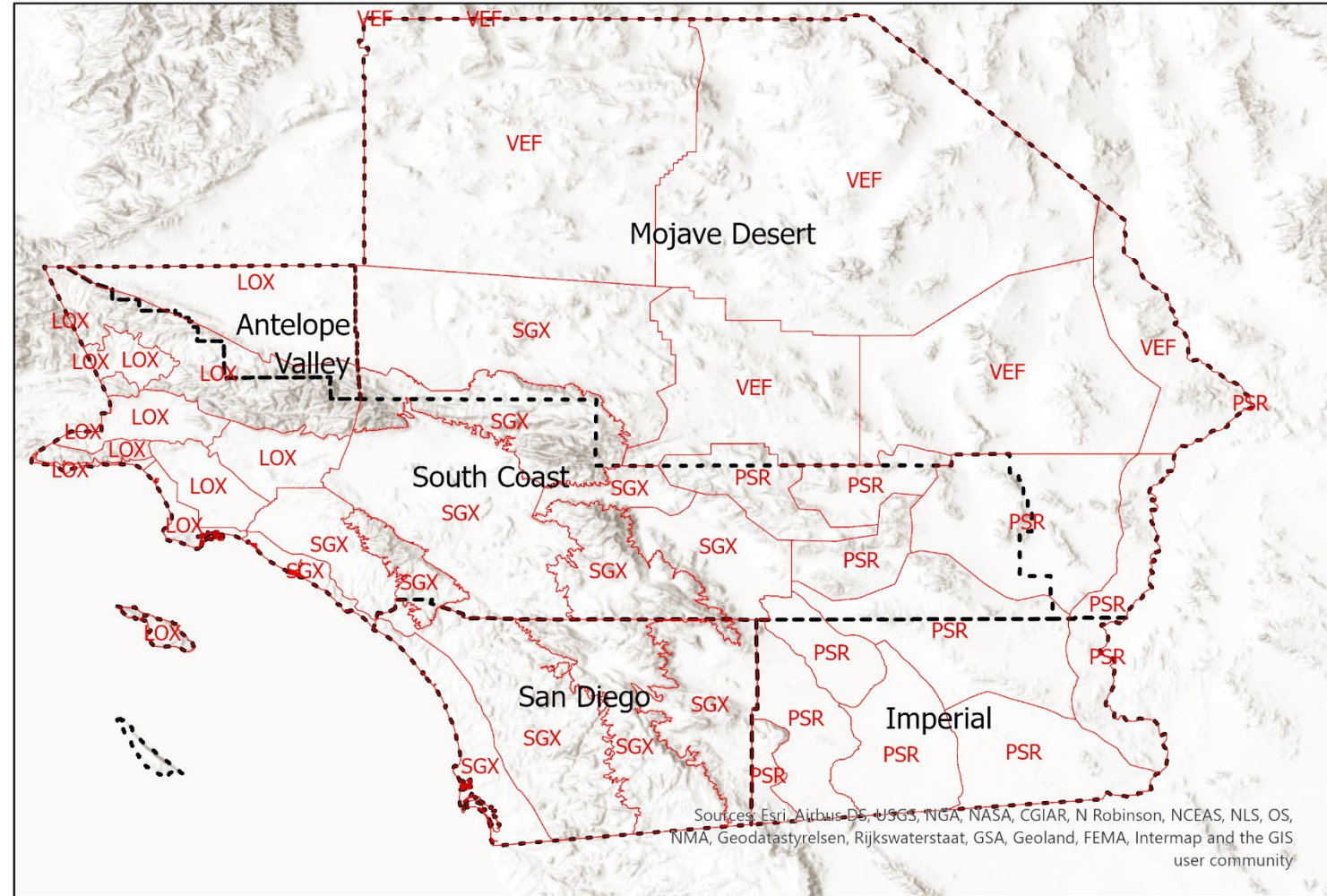
- Collaboration with Southern California Air Districts and NWS offices to deploy air quality alerts through official NWS channels

Air Districts

- South Coast AQMD
- Imperial County APCD
- San Diego APCD
- Mojave Desert AQMD
- Antelope Valley AQMD

NWS Offices

- NWS Los Angeles/Oxnard (LOX)
- NWS San Diego (SGX)
- NWS Phoenix (PSR)



Software for Deployment of Air Alerts

- Developed software in-house using MATLAB App Designer
- Alerts are generated easily with dropdown menus
- Maintains consistency among agencies and avoids errors

South Coast Air Quality Management District

Software for Deployment of Air Alerts

- Developed software in-house using MATLAB App Designer
- Alerts are generated easily with dropdown menus
- Maintains consistency among agencies and avoids errors

Tools to fill data in template

Advisory Type: PM10 DUST
Issue Date: 01-Apr-2022
Issue Time: 15:45
Expire Date: 02-Apr-2022
Expire Time: 23:59
Expiration date and time: tomorrow
Primary Issuer: South Coast AQMD
Issue/update/extend: Issue

Footer: Use Default Footer
To view current and forecasted air quality levels, visit the South Coast Air Quality Management District website at aqmd.gov or download the mobile app at www.aqmd.gov/mobileapp. Additional details for this air quality alert are available at www.aqmd.gov/advisory.

Cities: Los Angeles County San Gabriel Valley
Pasadena, San Gabriel, and Pomona

Advisory Folder: E:\MET\Forecast_Files\FcstMgs\ADVISORIES\20220401

Actions: Show in Explorer, Open Advisory, Help, Simulate publish failure, Test Publish (To Developer), Test Publish (To NWS Offices), Send Error Log to Developer

Advisory Text: LOX
AEUS76 KLOX 011545
AQALOX
Air Quality Alert Message
Relayed by National Weather Service Los Angeles/Onard CA
345 PM PDT Fri Apr 1 2022
CAZ548-022359
Los Angeles County San Gabriel Valley-
Including the cities of Pasadena, San Gabriel, and Pomona
345 PM PDT Fri Apr 1 2022
...AIR QUALITY ALERT DUE TO ELEVATED PARTICULATE MATTER LEVELS FROM WINDBLOWN DUST...
The South Coast AQMD has issued an air quality alert due to increased particulate matter from blowing dust. The air quality alert is in effect until tomorrow.
In areas directly impacted by high levels of windblown dust, limit your exposure by remaining indoors with windows and doors closed and avoiding vigorous physical activity. Run your air conditioner or an air purifier. If temperatures allow, avoid using whole house fans or swamp coolers that bring in outside air.
Exposure to high particle pollution levels can cause serious health problems, including asthma attacks, heart and lung disease symptoms, and increased risk of respiratory infections. People with heart or lung diseases should follow their doctor's advice for dealing with episodes of unhealthy air quality. Children, older adults, and people with respiratory or heart disease should avoid prolonged exposure and strenuous activities when particle pollution levels are high.
To help minimize outdoor particulate levels:
Carpool, telecommute, reduce trips, or take public transportation

Publish

Distribution Contact Information

Software for Deployment of Air Alerts

- Developed software in-house using MATLAB App Designer
- Alerts are generated easily with dropdown menus
- Maintains consistency among agencies and avoids errors

Interactive
NWS Zone
Selection

The screenshot displays the 'Air Alert Broadcaster' software interface. The central focus is the 'Zones' map, which is highlighted with a red border and a blue callout bubble containing the text 'Interactive NWS Zone Selection'. The map shows the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) area, with a red outline indicating the selected zone. To the right of the map is a text area for 'Advisory Text' containing a sample alert message for Los Angeles County San Gabriel Valley. The interface includes various input fields and buttons for configuring and publishing alerts.

Software for Deployment of Air Alerts

- Developed software in-house using MATLAB App Designer
- Alerts are generated easily with dropdown menus
- Maintains consistency among agencies and avoids errors

The screenshot displays the 'Air Alert Broadcaster' software interface. On the left, there are configuration fields for 'Advisory Type' (PM10 DUST), 'Issue Date' (01-Apr-2022), 'Issue Time' (15:45), 'Expire Date' (02-Apr-2022), 'Expire Time' (23:59), 'Expiration date and time' (tomorrow), 'Primary Issuer' (South Coast AQMD), and 'Issue/update/extend' (Issue). A central map shows the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) area with a red outline. On the right, a preview window titled 'Alert Preview' shows the final alert text, including the header 'AEUS76 KLOX 011545 AQALOX', the message 'Air Quality Alert Message Relayed by National Weather Service Los Angeles/Onard CA 345 PM PDT Fri Apr 1 2022', and the advisory text: '...AIR QUALITY ALERT DUE TO ELEVATED PARTICULATE MATTER LEVELS FROM WINDBLOWN DUST...'. The preview also includes instructions for affected areas and health advice. At the bottom right, there is a yellow 'Publish' button and a 'Distribution Contact Information' button.

Software for Deployment of Air Alerts

- Developed software in-house using MATLAB App Designer
- Alerts are generated easily with dropdown menus
- Maintains consistency among agencies and avoids errors

The screenshot shows the 'Air Alert Broadcaster' software interface. The main window is divided into several sections:

- Advisory Type:** PM10 DUST
- Issue Date:** 01-Apr-2022
- Issue Time:** 15:45
- Expire Date:** 02-Apr-2022
- Expire Time:** 23:59
- Expiration date and time:** tomorrow
- Primary Issuer:** South Coast AQMD
- Issue/update/extend:** Issue

The **Zones** section displays a map of the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) area, with a red outline indicating the alert zone.

The **Footer** section includes a checkbox for 'Use Default Footer' and a text box containing the following text: 'To view current and forecasted air quality levels, visit the South Coast Air Quality Management District website at aqmd.gov or download the mobile app at www.aqmd.gov/mobileapp. Additional details for this air quality alert are available at www.aqmd.gov/advisory.' Below this is a red note: 'Add geographic specific footer text when issuing for multiple districts'.

The **Cities** section includes a dropdown menu with 'Los Angeles County San Gabriel Valley' selected, and a text box containing 'Pasadena, San Gabriel, and Pomona'.

The **Advisory Folder** section includes a text box with the path 'E:\MET\Forecast_Files\FcstMg\ADVISORIES\20220401'.

The **Actions** section includes buttons for 'Show in Explorer', 'Open Advisory', 'Help', 'Simulate publish failure', 'Test Publish (To Developer)', 'Test Publish (To NWS Offices)', and 'Send Error Log to Developer'.

The **Advisory Text** section includes a dropdown menu with 'LOX' selected and a text area containing the following text: 'AEUS76 KLOX 011545
AQALOX
Air Quality Alert Message
Relayed by National Weather Service Los Angeles/Onard CA
345 PM PDT Fri Apr 1 2022
CAZ548-022359
Los Angeles County San Gabriel Valley-
Including the cities of Pasadena, San Gabriel, and Pomona
345 PM PDT Fri Apr 1 2022
...AIR QUALITY ALERT DUE TO ELEVATED PARTICULATE MATTER LEVELS FROM WINDBLOWN DUST...
The South Coast AQMD has issued an air quality alert due to increased particulate matter from blowing dust. The air quality alert is in effect until tomorrow.
In areas directly impacted by high levels of windblown dust, limit your exposure by remaining indoors with windows and doors closed and avoiding vigorous physical activity. Run your air conditioner or an air purifier. If temperatures allow, avoid using whole house fans or swamp coolers that bring in outside air.
Exposure to high particle pollution levels can cause serious health problems, including asthma attacks, heart and lung disease symptoms, and increased risk of respiratory infections. People with heart or lung diseases should follow their doctor's advice for dealing with episodes of unhealthy air quality. Children, older adults, and people with respiratory or heart disease should avoid prolonged exposure and strenuous activities when particle pollution levels are high.
To help minimize outdoor particulate levels:
· Carpool, telecommute, reduce trips, or take public transportation'

A blue callout bubble points to the 'Transmit Alert & Contact Info' section, which contains a 'Publish' button and a 'Distribution Contact Information' button.

Dissemination of Air Alerts

- Relayed through official NWS channels
- Appears on various commercial weather apps and Amazon Alexa
- Additional visibility for the media

Air Quality Alert Message
Relayed by National Weather Service San Diego CA
945 AM PDT Wed Oct 11 2023

CAZ061-065-121300-
Coachella Valley-
Including the cities of Indio, Palm Springs, Cathedral City, Palm Desert, Palm Desert Country, La Quinta, and Coachella
San Geronio Pass Near Banning-
Including the cities of Banning and Desert Hot Springs

945 AM PDT Wed Oct 11 2023

...AIR QUALITY ALERT DUE TO ELEVATED PARTICULATE MATTER LEVELS FROM WINDBLOWN DUST...

The South Coast AQMD has issued an air quality alert due to increased particulate matter from blowing dust. The air quality alert is in effect until 6AM on Thursday.

In areas directly impacted by high levels of windblown dust, limit your exposure by remaining indoors with windows and doors closed and avoiding vigorous physical activity. Run your air conditioner or an air purifier. If temperatures allow, avoid using whole house fans or swamp coolers that bring in outside air.

Exposure to high particle pollution levels can cause serious health problems, including asthma attacks, heart and lung disease symptoms, and increased risk of respiratory infections. People with heart or lung diseases should follow their doctor's advice for dealing with episodes of unhealthy air quality. Children, older adults, and people with respiratory or heart disease should avoid prolonged exposure and strenuous activities when particle pollution levels are high.

To help minimize outdoor particulate levels:

- Carpool, telecommute, reduce trips, or take public transportation
- Slow down if driving on dirt roads
- Stabilize loose soils

Levels of particulate matter can vary hour by hour and by location depending on wind conditions.

To view current and forecasted air quality levels, visit the South Coast Air Quality Management District website at aqmd.gov or download the mobile app at www.aqmd.gov/mobileapp. Additional details for this air quality alert may be available at www.aqmd.gov/advisory.

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE
NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

News Headlines
• [Wet Water Year Oct 2022-Sep 2023 Across SW California](#)
• [Read our Forecast Discussion Here](#)

Your local forecast office is **Los Angeles/Oxnard, CA**

Hazardous Weather Conditions

- [Air Quality Alert until July 22, 8:00 PM PDT](#)

En Español

Current conditions at **Los Angeles / USC Campus Downtown (KCQT)**
Lat: 34.02355°N Lon: 118.29122°W Elev: 179.0ft.

Fog
NA° F
11°C

Humidity NA
Wind Speed N 0 MPH
Barometer 29.94 in (1013.89 mb)
Dewpoint N/A
Visibility 0.25 mi

Click a location below for detailed forecast.

Watches, Warnings & Advisories

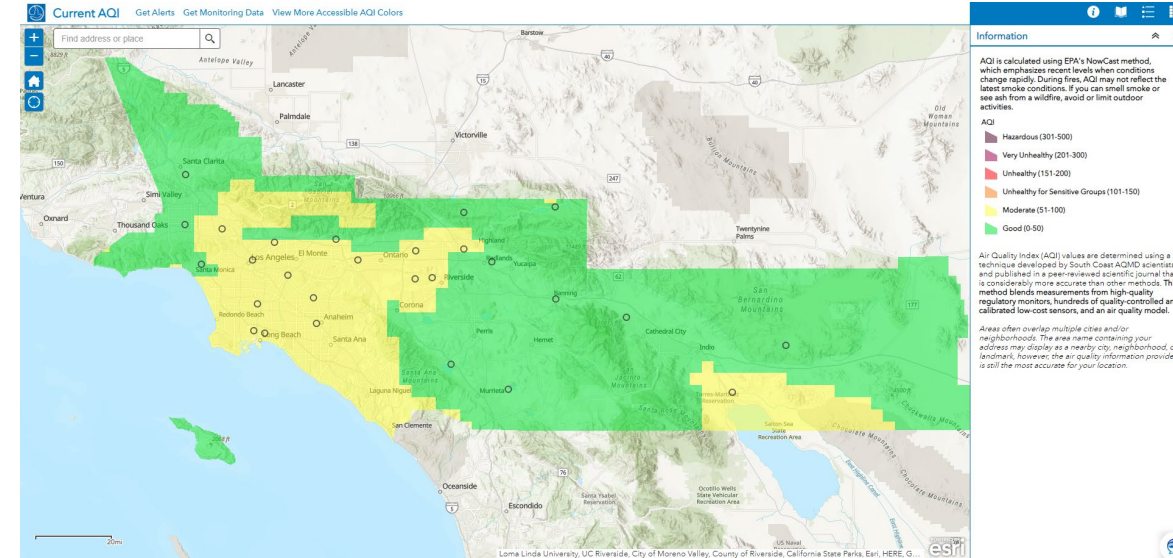
- Small Craft Advisory
- Beach Hazards Statement
- Air Quality Alert

Last Map Update: Wed, Dec. 21, 2022 at 7:57:12 pm PST



Air Quality Notifications

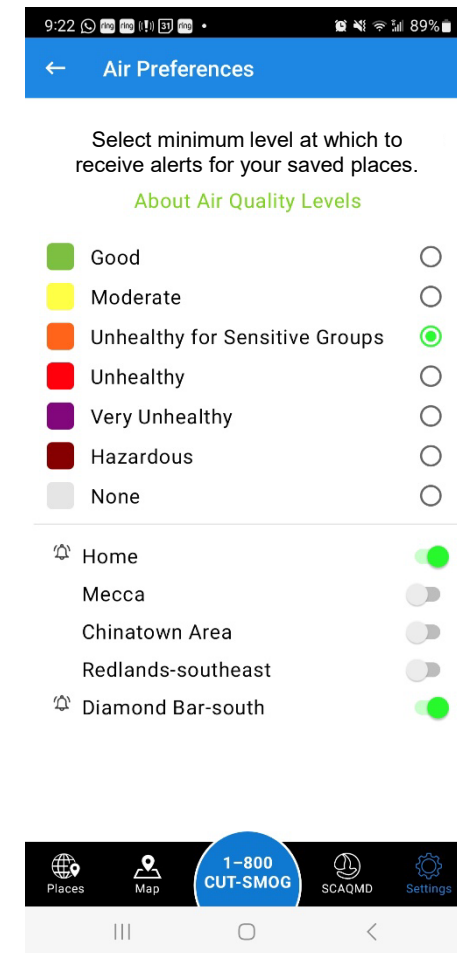
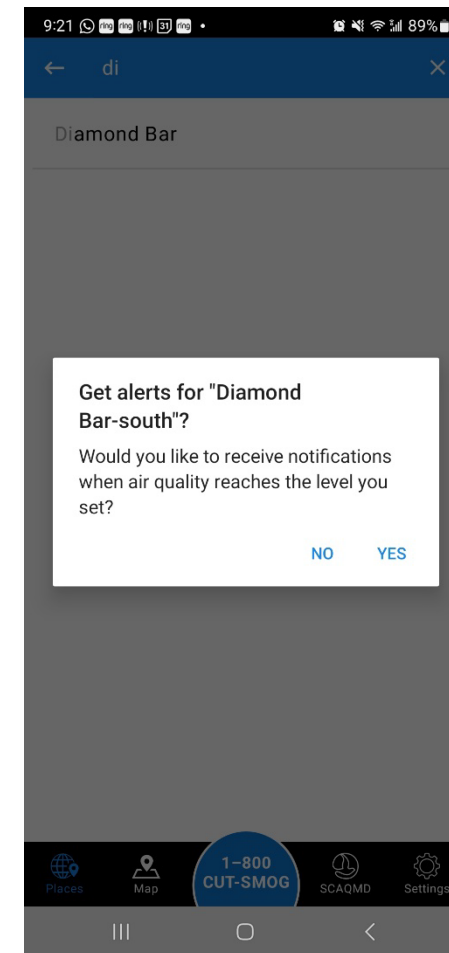
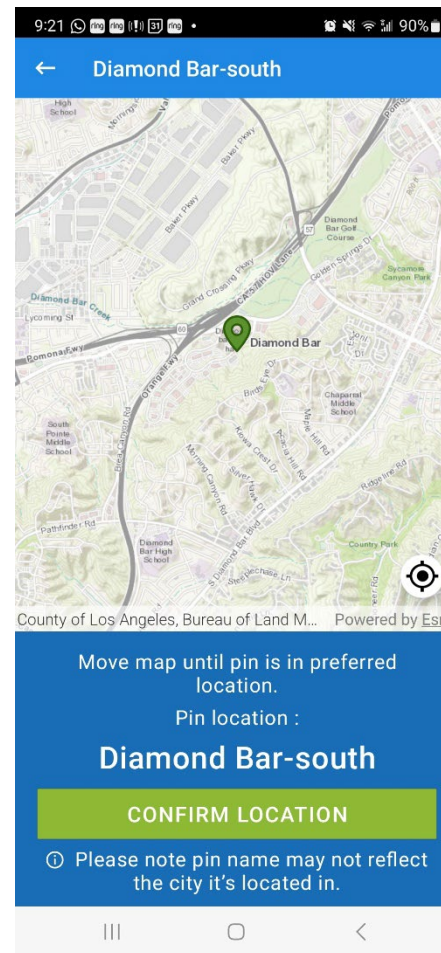
- Developed real-time air quality map for website and mobile app (deployed Nov. 2020)
- Map combines regulatory monitors, low-cost sensor data, and AQ model outputs (NAQFC) weighted by their relative uncertainties
- AQI map has high level of accuracy when compared to other methods and avoids common public misunderstandings of AQ data



Schulte, N., Li, X., Ghosh, J.K., Fine, P.M., Epstein, S.A. **Responsive High-Resolution Air Quality Index Mapping Using Model, Regulatory Monitor, and Sensor Data in Real-Time**, 2020, *Environmental Research Letters*, **15** 1040a7

Air Quality Notifications

- App users can set favorite places
- Notifications can be turned on for each place
- If AQI reaches selected category, a notification is pushed to the user's device.
- A second notification is sent if AQI goes back below threshold.



Conclusions

- Combination of proactive (Advisories & Alerts) and reactive (Notifications) in addition to daily air quality forecast help the public reduce their exposure to poor air quality
- In-house tools to issue advisories & alerts help reduce staff time requirements, improve accuracy, and increase responsiveness



South Coast AQMD Air Quality Assessment Group



Program Supervisor
Scott Epstein, PhD



Senior Meteorologist
Ranil Dhammapala,
PhD



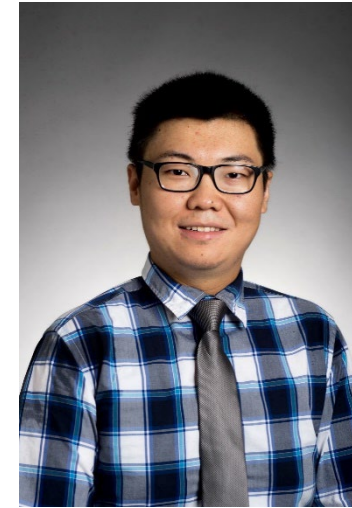
Air Quality Specialist
Nico Schulte , PhD



Air Quality Specialist
Melissa Maestas,
PhD



Air Quality Specialist
Qijing (Emily) Bian,
PhD



Air Quality Specialist
Xiang Li , PhD
(now QA Supervisor
at South Coast
AQMD)



Air Quality Specialist
Kyrstin Fornace , PhD
(now at Univ. of
Hawaii)

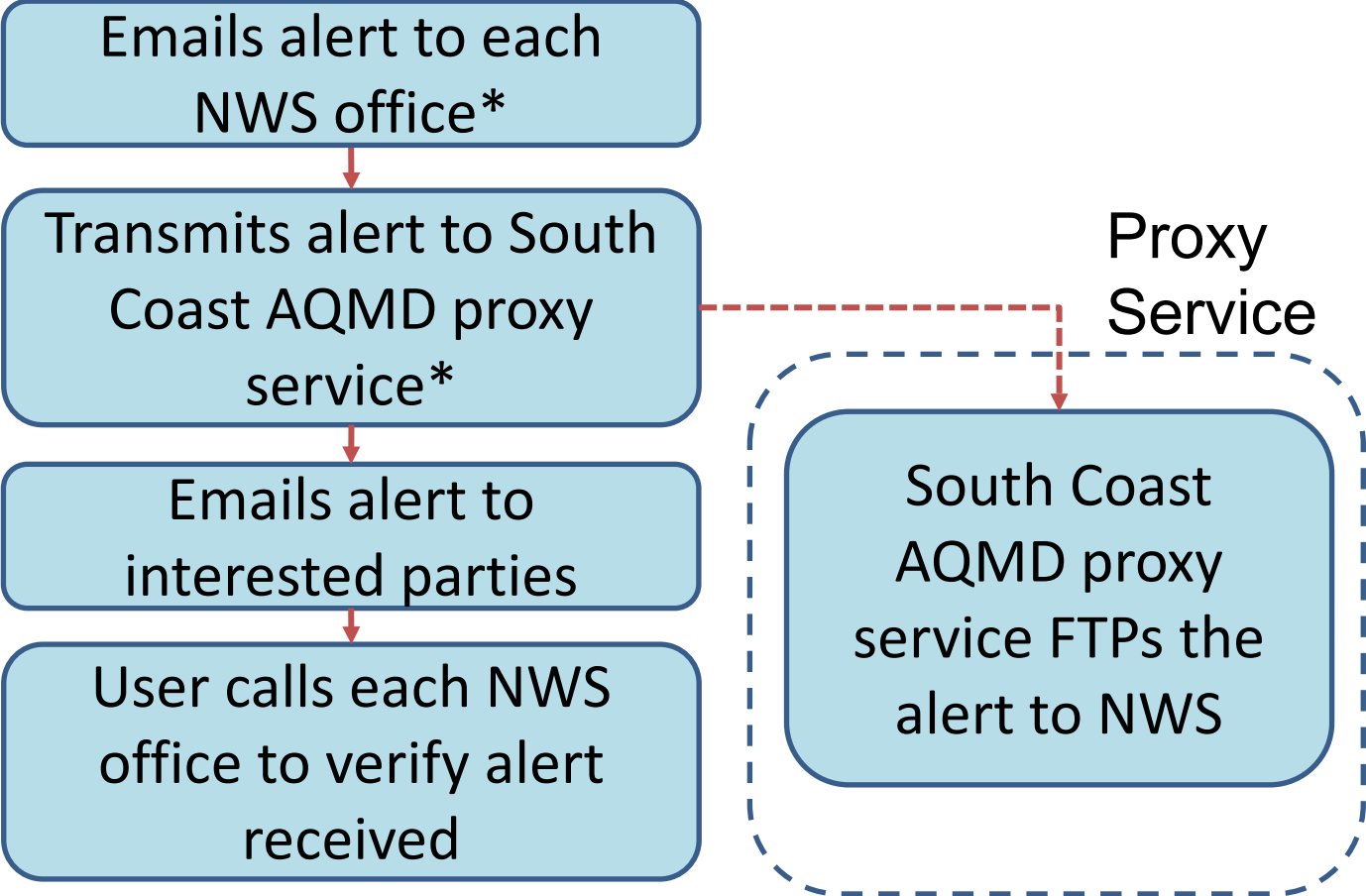
Thank You!

sepstein@aqmd.gov



South Coast
Air Quality Management District

NWS Air Alert Software Data Transmission



*Emails and FTP sent to all NWS offices with zones selected in the alert

