

AIR QUALITY ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 19, 2020 CONTACT: Tina Landis, 415.940.3585

Air quality advisory for wildfire smoke extended through Monday

Smoky skies expected to continue in Bay Area due to Mineral Fire and several fires in northern California

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is extending the air quality advisory through Monday due to smoke from the Mineral Fire in Fresno County in addition to other new fires in the region.

Smoke from the fires is expected to impact the Bay Area through Monday. At the surface, winds are forecast to remain onshore across the Bay Area. Smoke will likely remain aloft resulting in smoky and hazy skies, but **PM**_{2.5} is not expected to exceed the national 24-hour standard. The Air District will be closely monitoring air quality throughout the region for smoke impacts from the fire.

If the smell of smoke is present, it is important that Bay Area residents protect their health by avoiding exposure. If possible, stay inside with windows and doors closed until smoke levels subside, if temperatures allow. It is also recommended that those impacted by smoke set their air conditioning units and car vent systems to re-circulate to prevent outside air from moving inside.

Smoke can irritate the eyes and airways, causing coughing, a dry scratchy throat and irritated sinuses. Elevated particulate matter in the air can trigger wheezing in those who suffer from asthma, emphysema or COPD. Elderly persons, children and individuals with respiratory illnesses are particularly susceptible to elevated air pollution levels and should take extra precautions to avoid exposure.

Check here for real-time air quality readings: https://bit.ly/2p7UFgs.

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality in the nine-county Bay Area. Connect with the Air District via Twitter, Facebook, and YouTube.

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