

AIR QUALITY ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 14, 2020 CONTACT: Tina Landis, 415.940.3585

Air quality advisory for smoke from Mineral Fire on Wednesday

Smoky skies expected In Bay Area due to fire in Fresno County

SAN FRANCISCO – The Bay Area Air Quality Management District is issuing an air quality advisory for Wednesday due to smoke from the Mineral Fire that started Monday evening in Fresno County.

Smoke from the fire is expected impact the Bay Area starting tomorrow morning when winds are predicted to shift, bringing smoke into the South Bay and moving north later Wednesday. At the surface, winds are expected to remain onshore across the Bay Area. Smoke will likely remain aloft resulting in smoky, hazy skies **but air quality is not expected to be impacted**. 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.

#

Air District Communications Office 375 Beale Street, Suite 600, San Francisco, CA 94105 - (415) 749-4900 <u>Air District Homepage | News Releases</u>