



air pollution control district
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY



MEDIA ADVISORY
September 2, 2020

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Prescribed Burn near UCSB Lagoon to Occur September 3

WHAT: Prescribed burn of 0.5 acres of grassland and Coastal Sage/Bluff Scrub.

WHEN: September 3, depending on conditions. Burning operations will begin in the late morning and conclude by 4 p.m., on a permissive burn day. The actual burn is likely to last less than one hour.

WHERE: UCSB Lagoon, near Campus Point.

WHY: This one-day burn is part of an ongoing ecological management effort to control non-native grasses and establish native bluff scrub vegetation. Prescribed, or planned, fires typically burn less intensely than wildfires. Prescribed burns can help prevent the spread of wildfires and can reduce impacts to watersheds that can result in soil loss and sedimentation. The burn will be conducted when the meteorological conditions are highly favorable to direct smoke away from population centers.

WHO: This prescribed burn is planned and coordinated by the Santa Barbara County Fire Department with Santa Barbara County APCD, San Luis Obispo County APCD, San Joaquin Valley APCD, Ventura County APCD, and the California Air Resources Board in order to minimize impacts on air quality on surrounding communities.

HEALTH PRECAUTIONS: If you smell smoke, take precautions and use common sense to reduce any harmful health effects by limiting outdoor activities. When you can smell smoke or when it is visible in your area, avoid strenuous outdoor activity and remain indoors as much as possible. These precautions are especially important to children, older adults, and those with heart and lung conditions. If you are sensitive to smoke, consider temporarily relocating and closing all doors and windows on the day of the burn. Symptoms of smoke exposure can include coughing, wheezing, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chest tightness or pain, nausea, and unusual fatigue or lightheadedness. Use caution when driving near prescribed burns.

A portable air monitor will be set up in the area to monitor air quality conditions. Data will be available on the Air Pollution Control District's website: www.OurAir.org/todays-air-quality/.



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This burn depends on weather and air quality conditions that are favorable for smoke dispersal. If the conditions are not as desired, the burn will be rescheduled.

To view a statewide prescribed burn map and other features, visit the Prescribed Fire Information Reporting System (PFIRS) website: <https://ssl.arb.ca.gov/pfirs/firm/firm.php>

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