

**North Coast Unified
Air Quality Management District**

707 L Street, Eureka, CA 95501

(707) 443-3093

www.ncuaqmd.org



**Meeting of the
North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District
Governing Board of Directors**

Thursday, July 15, 2021 at 10:30 a.m.,
Via Internet Teleconference – Zoom Video Conferencing

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81279724664>

Meeting ID: 812 7972 4664
Call in option: (669) 900-6833

PUBLIC ADVISORY: The District Office will not be open to the public due to COVID-19 concerns. Consistent with Executive Orders N-25-20, N-29-20 and N-8-21 from the Executive Department of the State of California, the meeting location will not be physically open to the public and Board Members will be teleconferencing into the meeting via Zoom Video Teleconference.

How to Observe the Meeting: To maximize public safety while still maintaining transparency and public access, members of the public can observe the meeting at www.zoom.us – Meeting Code **812 7972 4664**

How to Submit Public Comment: Members of the public may provide public comment before and during the meeting by sending comments to the Clerk of the Board by email at esquire@ncuaqmd.org. Such email comments must identify the agenda item number in the subject line of the email. The comments will be read into the record, with a maximum allowance of three minutes (approximately 500 words) per individual comment, subject to the Board Chair's discretion. If a comment is received after the agenda item is heard, but before the close of the meeting, the comment will still be included as a part of the written record of the meeting but will not be read into the record during the meeting.

Americans with Disabilities Act Accommodations: Any member of the public who needs accommodations should email the Clerk of the Board at support@ncuaqmd.org or by calling (707) 443-3093. The Clerk will use their best efforts to provide reasonable accommodations to provide as much accessibility as possible while maintaining public safety.

AGENDA

1. **10:30 A.M. Call to Order** Board Chair
2. **Roll Call** Clerk
3. **Changes or Deletions to Agenda** Board Chair

CONSENT AGENDA

4. **Consider Approving the Consent Agenda, Items for action, 4.1 through 4.2:** The Board may approve the Consent Agenda by single motion in whole or in part with or without further discussion.
Action Requested: Approve Consent Agenda Items 4.1 through 4.2. Board Chair
- 4.1 By Consent, Approve Minutes of May 20, 2021 Board Meeting
- 4.2 By Consent, Accept and File District Activity Report

REGULAR AGENDA

5. **Public Comment Period** (pursuant to Government Code section 54954.3(a)) Board Chair
6. **Discussion on District Observance of New Federal Holiday** APCO
Action Requested: Provide Guidance to District Staff on Observance of New Federal Holiday
7. **Amend District FY 2021-22 Budget** APCO
Action Requested: Approve Proposed Amendments to FY 2021-22 Budget
8. **Closed Session: Conference for Labor Negotiations** Board Chair
 - a. Discussion concerning OE3 labor negotiations pursuant to Government code 54947.6
Representing District: APCO and District Counsel
9. **Closed Session: Conference for Labor Negotiations** Board Chair
 - a. Personnel Performance Evaluation, APCO - Pursuant to Gov't. Code sec. 54957, and
 - b. Labor Negotiations, Unrepresented Employee, APCO - Pursuant to Gov't Code sec. 54957.6

- | | | |
|------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 10. | Report Out from Closed Session | District Counsel |
| 11. | APCO Report | APCO |
| 12. | Board Member Reports | Board Chair |
| 13. | Adjournment | Board Chair |

The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 16, 2021 at 10:30 a.m. Via Internet Teleconference – Zoom Video Conferencing. Accommodations and access to NCUAQMD meetings for people with special needs must be requested of the Clerk in advance of the meeting.

Agenda Item: 1

Call to Order

Agenda Item: 2

Roll Call

Agenda Item: 3
Changes & Deletions
to the Agenda

Agenda Item: 4

Consent Agenda

Agenda Item: 4.1

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**Minutes of the Special Meeting of the North Coast
Unified Air Quality Management District Governing
Board of Directors Meeting of
May 20, 2021**

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Mike Wilson at 10:31 AM via teleconference on Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81279724664>

Meeting ID: 812 7972 4664, Call in option: (669) 900-6833

The meeting location was made available to the public.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rex Bohn	Humboldt County Supervisor
Chris Howard	Del Norte County Supervisor
Dan Frasier	Trinity County Supervisor
Mike Wilson	Humboldt County Supervisor

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Brett Watson	City of Arcata Councilmember
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STAFF PRESENT:

Brian Wilson	APCO
Jason Davis	Deputy APCO
Erin Squire	Clerk of the Board
Penny Costa	Financial & Admin Services Division Manager

OTHERS PRESENT:

Nancy Diamond	District Counsel
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Agenda Item 1: Call to Order

Agenda Item 2: Roll Call

Agenda Item 3: Changes or Deletions to the Agenda

Due to time constraints, Staff recommended moving Agenda Item 7 - Closed Session, to the following meeting.

Agenda Item 4: Consider Approving the Consent Agenda

4.1: Approve Minutes of April 15, 2021 Board Meeting

4.2: By Consent, Accept and File District Activity Report

4.3: By Consent, Accept and File – Follow Up On Clean Cars 4 All Program Discussion

A motion offered by Supervisor Howard, duly seconded by Supervisor Bohn to Adopt Consent Agenda Items 4.1-4.3 is hereby APPROVED by the North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District Board of Directors on this 20th day of May, 2021 by the following votes:

UNANIMOUS PASS by the following Roll Call vote:

Supervisor Bohn	Aye
Supervisor Howard	Aye
Supervisor Frasier	Aye
Supervisor Wilson	Aye
Councilmember Watson	Absent

There was no public comment.

Agenda Item 5: Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Agenda Item 6: Public Hearing: Proposed FY 2021-22 District Budget

The Continued Public Hearing was opened at 10:33 am. The Chair Closed the Public Hearing at 10:47 am.

The draft budget and a PowerPoint were presented via shared screen by the APCO. The presentation was provided as part of the board packet.

A motion offered by Supervisor Howard, duly seconded by Supervisor Bohn to Close the Public Hearing and Adopt the Proposed FY 2021-22 District Budget is hereby APPROVED by the North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District Board of Directors on this 20th day of May, 2021 by the following votes:

UNANIMOUS PASS by the following Roll Call vote:

Supervisor Bohn	Aye
Supervisor Howard	Aye
Supervisor Frasier	Aye
Supervisor Wilson	Aye

Councilmember Watson Absent

There was no public comment.

Agenda Item 8: APCO Report

The APCO reported out on the following:

- Update on the District’s response to COVID
- Update on PG&E Regular Variance Activity
- Carl Moyer Year 23 State Reserve Awards
- Application Support Letter for HBMWD CAL FIRE Healthy Forest Program Grant
- EPA Notice of Reconsideration of Previous Administration’s Withdrawal of California’s Waiver to Enforce Greenhouse Gas Standards for Cars and Light Trucks

Agenda Item 9: Board Member Reports

There were no Board Member Reports.

Agenda Item 10: Adjournment

The Governing Board Meeting was adjourned at 10:52 am.

I hereby attest that this is a true and correct copy of the action taken by the North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District Board of Directors on May 20, 2021.

_____ Date

_____ Date

The Next Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 15, 2021, at 10:30 am via teleconference. Details to be listed in the Agenda.

The meeting rooms are ADA accessible. Accommodations and access to NCUAQMD meetings for people with special needs must be requested of the Clerk in advance of the meeting.

Agenda Item: 4.2

**North Coast Unified
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TO: North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District Board

FROM: Erin Squire, Administrative Assistant

SUBJECT: District Activity Report

DATE: July 15, 2021

ACTION REQUESTED: By Consent, Accept and File District Activity Reports

SUMMARY:

Attached is a summary of the major District activities logged during the reporting period.

2021 Activity Report

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD Totals	2020 Totals
Complaint Responses - General	1	1	5	1	1	2							11	75
Complaint Responses - Open Burning	7	6	12	1	3	11							40	198
Permissive Burn Days	31	28	31	30	31	22							173	328
Non-Permissive Burn Days ("No Burn Day")	0	0	0	0	0	8							8	37
Permissive Burn Days (%)	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	73.33%								
Standard (Residential) Burn Permits Issued	634	351	379	334	132	67							1,897	4,125
Non-Standard Burn Permits Issued	659	341	346	278	74	36							1,734	3,092
"No Burn Day" Permits Issued	0	0	0	0	0	0							0	0
Smoke Management Plans (SMP) Reviewed	17	15	15	7	0	2							56	108
SMP Burn Authorizations Issued	114	76	104	84	35	15							428	958
Stationary Source Permit Apps. Received	1	3	5	2	1	6							18	27
Stationary Source Permits Issued (new)	3	2	4	2	1	1							13	11
Stationary Source Permits Issued (amended)	0	0	0	6	2	0							8	15
Inspections - Major Sources	0	0	7	1	0	7							15	12
Inspections - Minor Sources	38	13	7	21	6	10							95	260
Inspections - Mobile Sources	0	0	0	0	0	0							0	13
Inspections - Asbestos	1	0	0	0	0	0							1	18
Asbestos Notifications Processed	5	8	2	4	3	3							25	73
Notice(s) of Violation (NOVs) Issued	0	3	1	1	0	2							7	18
Environmental Documents Reviewed	3	3	5	2	4	5							22	227
Grants Paid: Woodstove	1	1	0	0	0	0							2	96
Grants Paid: Moyer	0	0	0	1	1	0							2	4
Grants Paid: FARMER	0	0	0	0	0	0							0	6
Grants Paid: Rural School Bus	4	4	13	6	1	0							28	42

Air Monitoring Report for July 2021

Air Monitoring Data Summary:

The purpose of this status report is to summarize the ambient air quality data available for the period of March-April 2021.

- There were no Federal Equivalent Method (FEM) PM₁₀ exceedances of the State Ambient Air Quality Standard recorded during the reported period.
- There were no Federal Reference Method (FRM) PM_{2.5} 24 Hour exceedances of the State and Federal Ambient Air Quality Standard recorded during the period of January-March 2021. April data has not yet been received.
- There were no non-FEM PM_{2.5} 24 Hour exceedances of the State and Federal Ambient Air Quality Standard recorded during the period.
- There were no O₃, SO₂, NO₂, or CO exceedances of the State or Federal Ambient Air Quality Standard recorded during the period.

Particulate Levels in Relation to CA Ambient Air Quality Standards

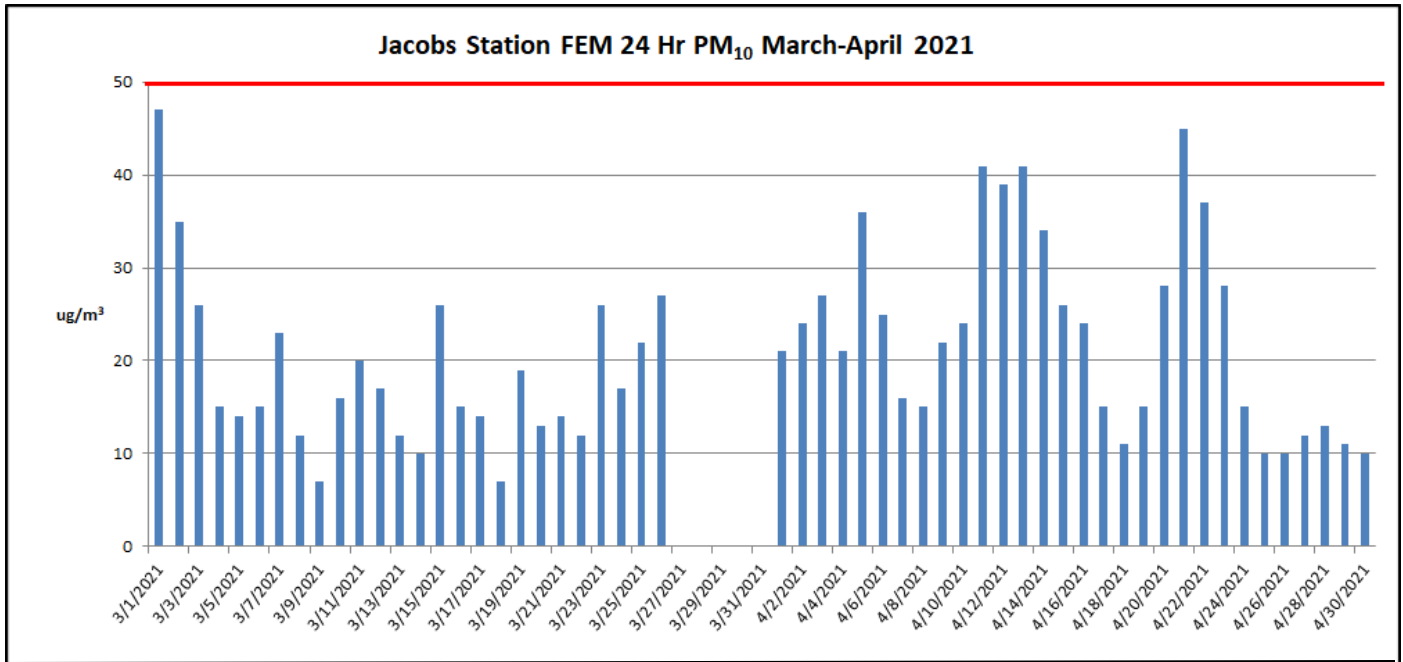
	Jacobs	Crescent City	Weaverville
Max FEM 24-hour PM₁₀ (March-April 2021)	94%	NA	NA
FEM PM₁₀ Rolling Arithmetic Mean (May 2020-April 2021)	109%**	NA	NA
Max FRM 24-hour PM_{2.5} (January-March 2021)	43%	NA	NA
FRM PM_{2.5} Rolling Arithmetic Mean (April 2020 – March 2021)	75%	NA	NA
Max non-FEM 24-hour PM_{2.5} (March-April 2021)	NA	43%*	83%*
Non-FEM PM_{2.5} Rolling Arithmetic Mean (May 2020- April 2021)	NA	89%*	113%**

- Data unavailable

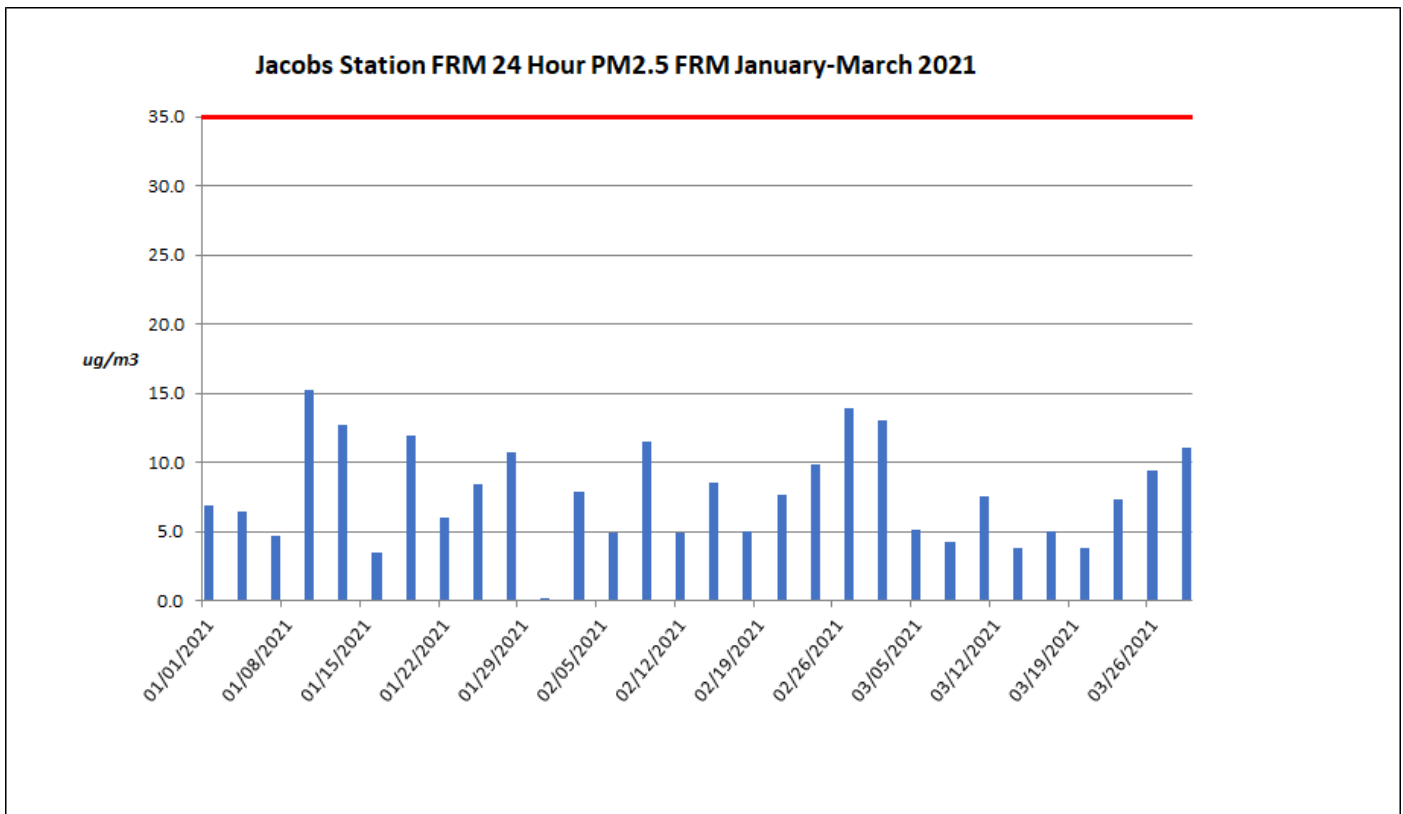
* Instrument not used for Federal Attainment Designation

** Includes wildfire data which is excluded from attainment designation decisions

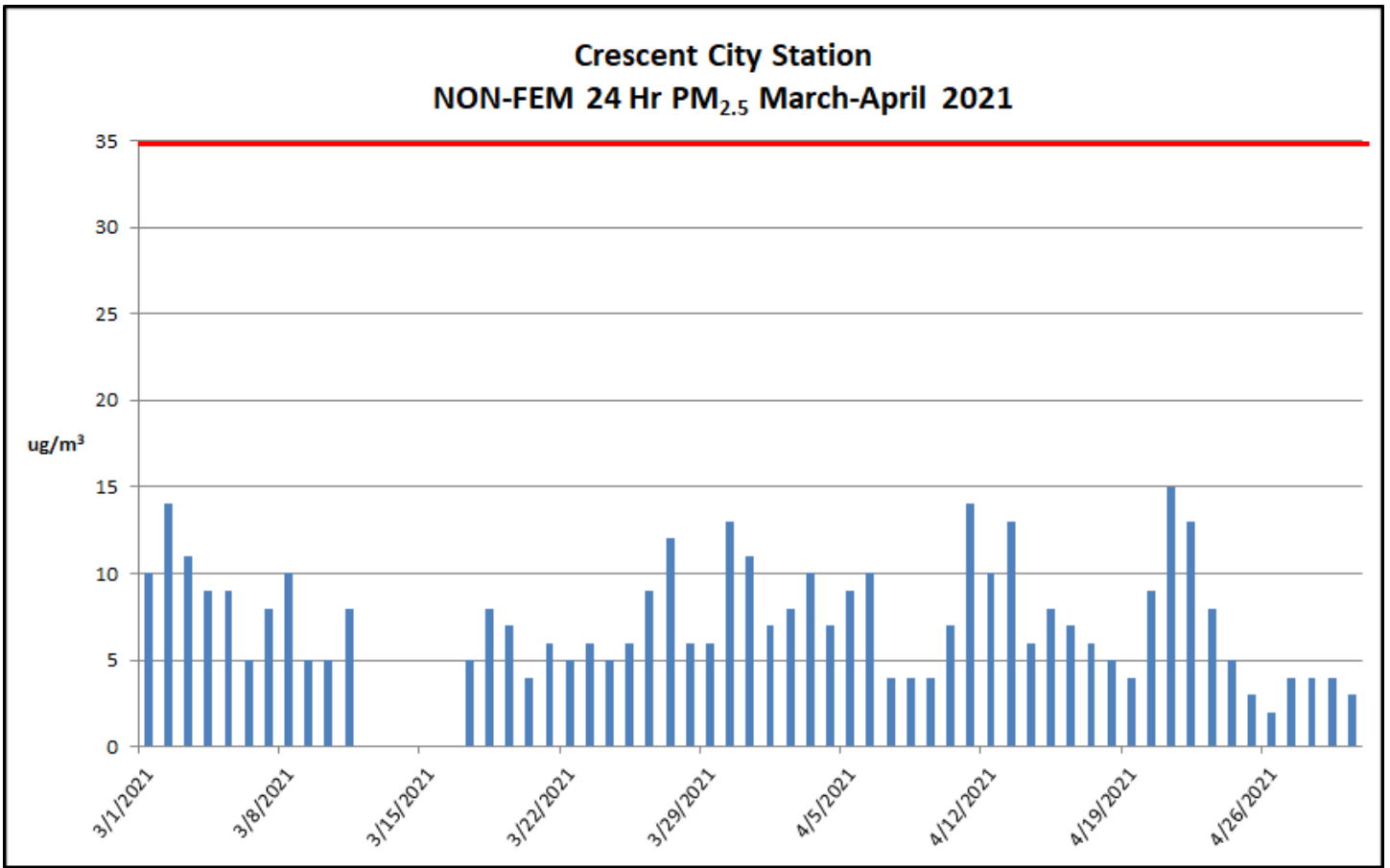
Detailed Graphs:



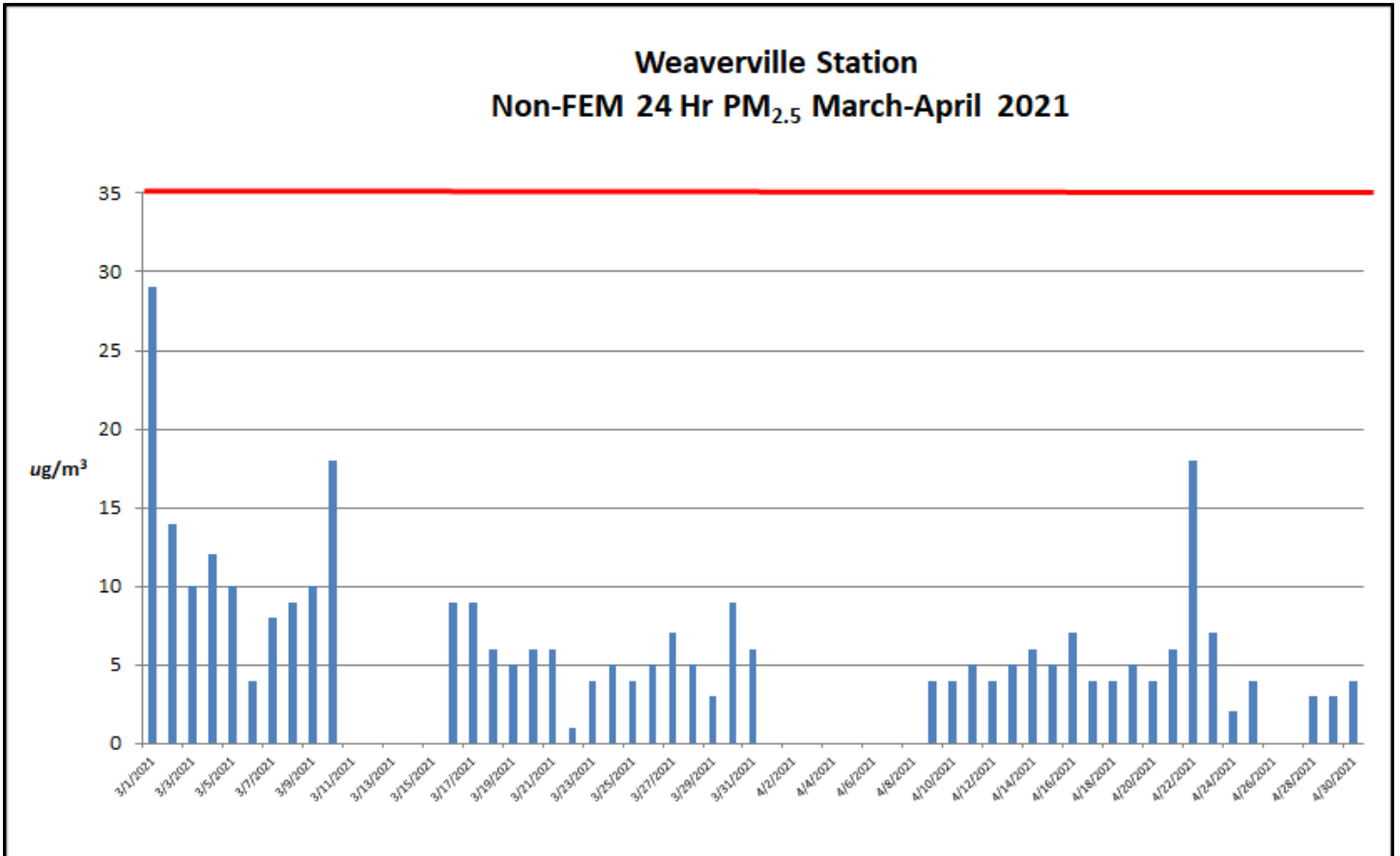
- 24 Hour California AAQS is 50 ug/m³, Federal AAQS is 150 ug/m³.
- California Annual Arithmetic Mean AAQS is 20 ug/m³.
- Humboldt County is classified as non-attainment for this pollutant.



- Federal AAQS is 35 ug/m³. There is no separate state standard.

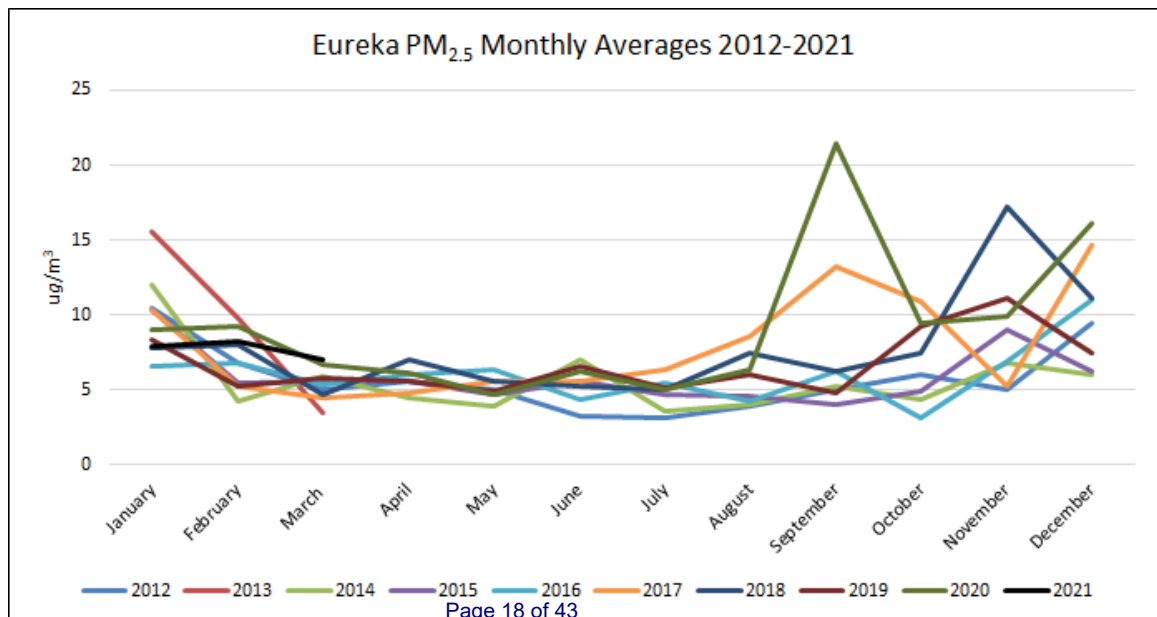
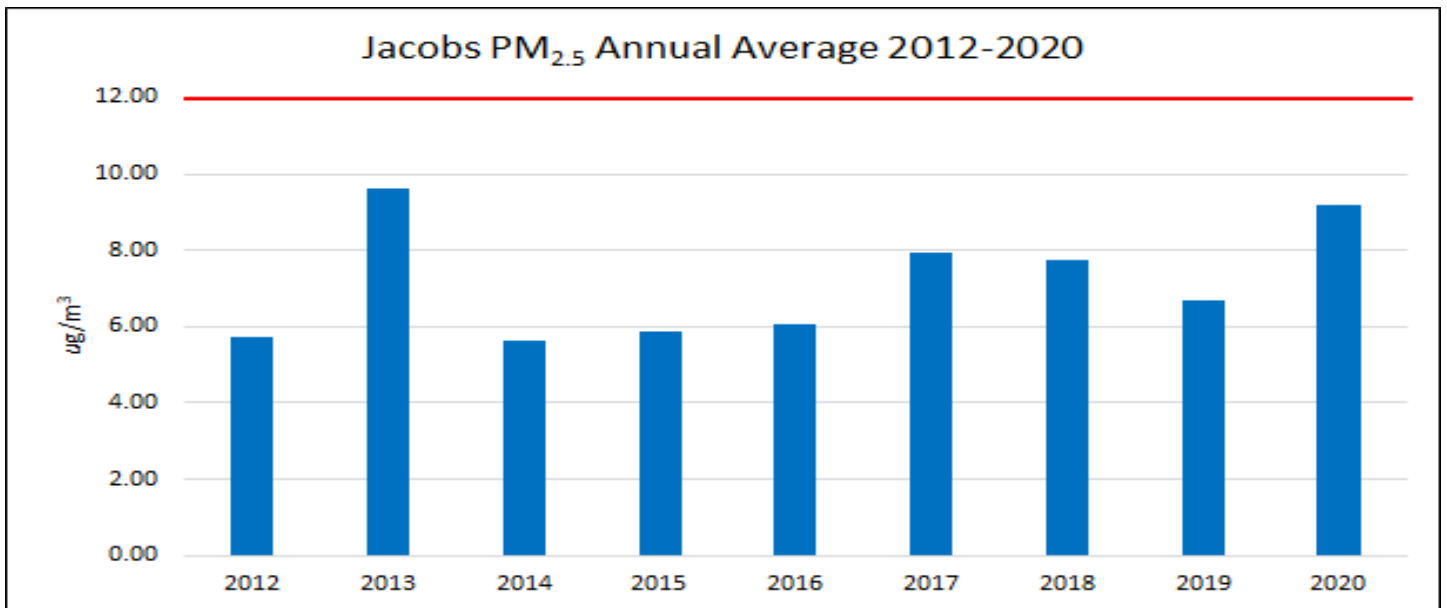
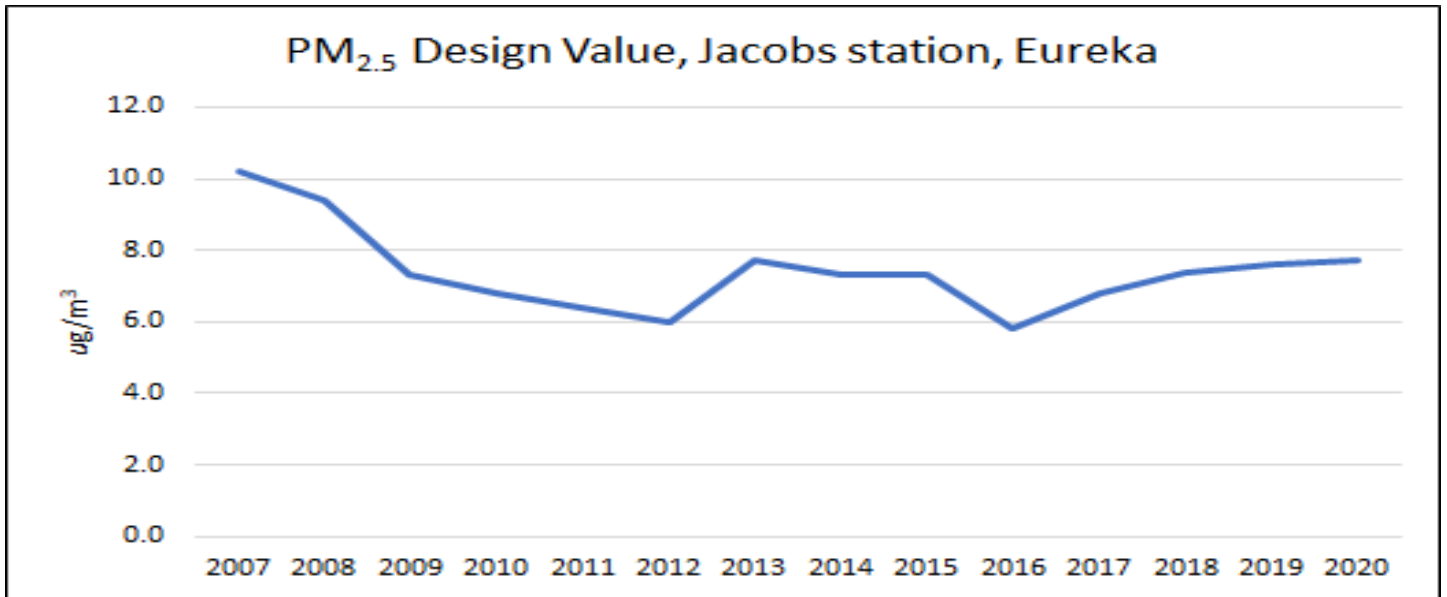


- Federal AAQS is 35 ug/m3. There is no separate state standard.

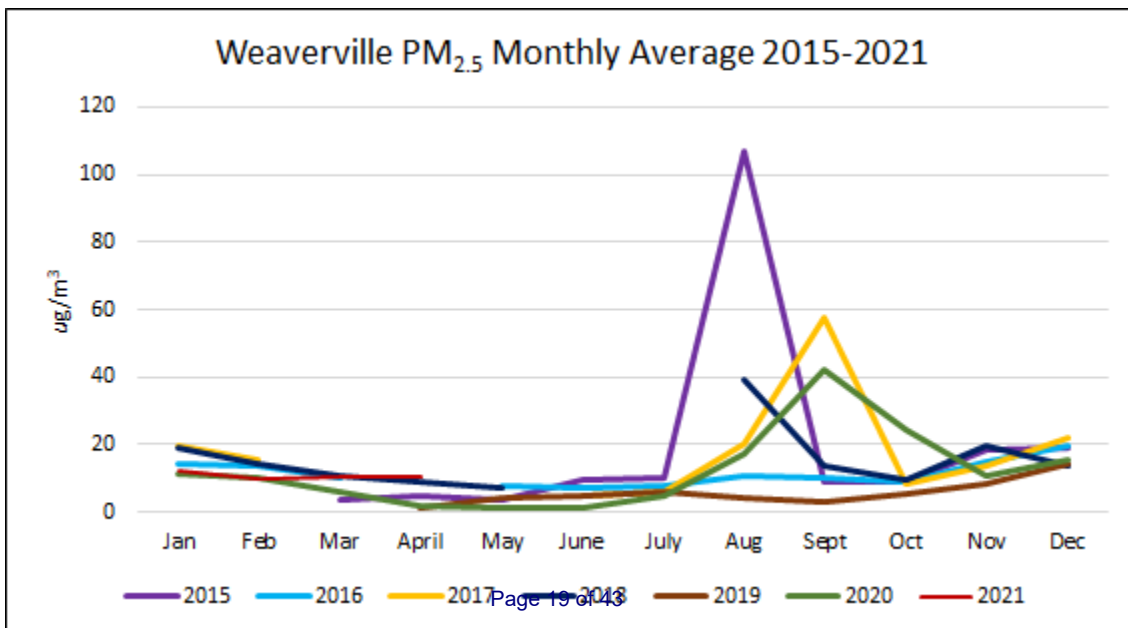
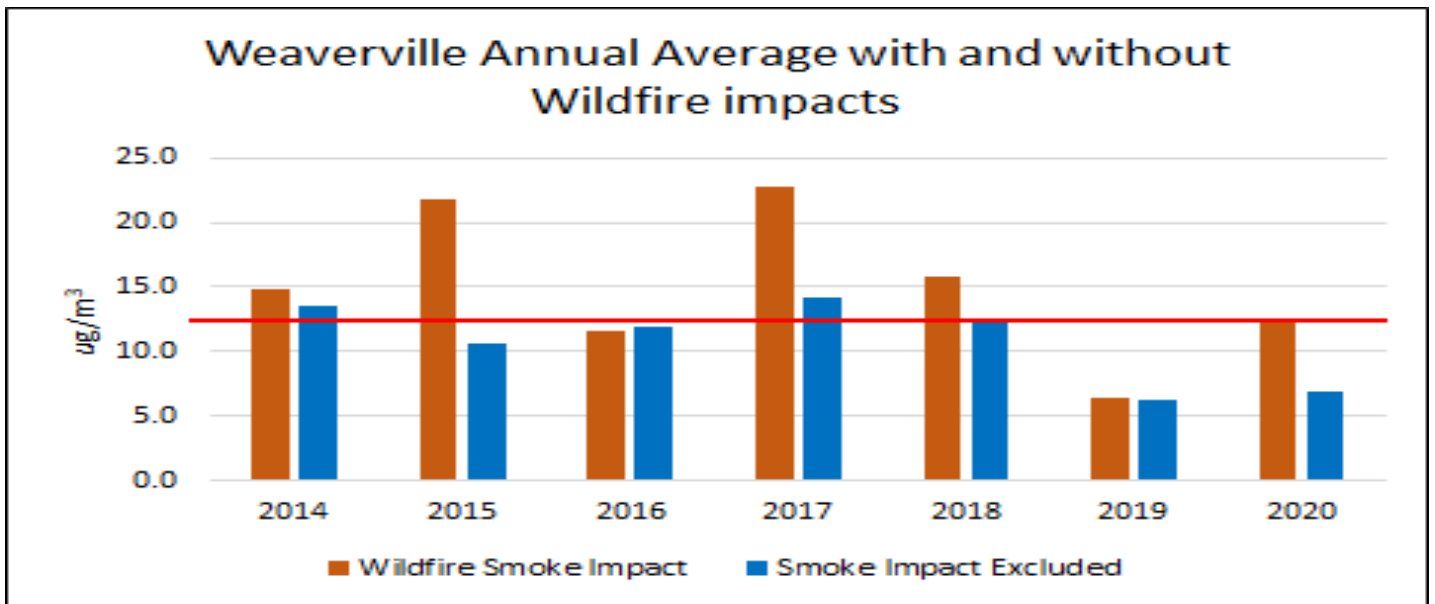
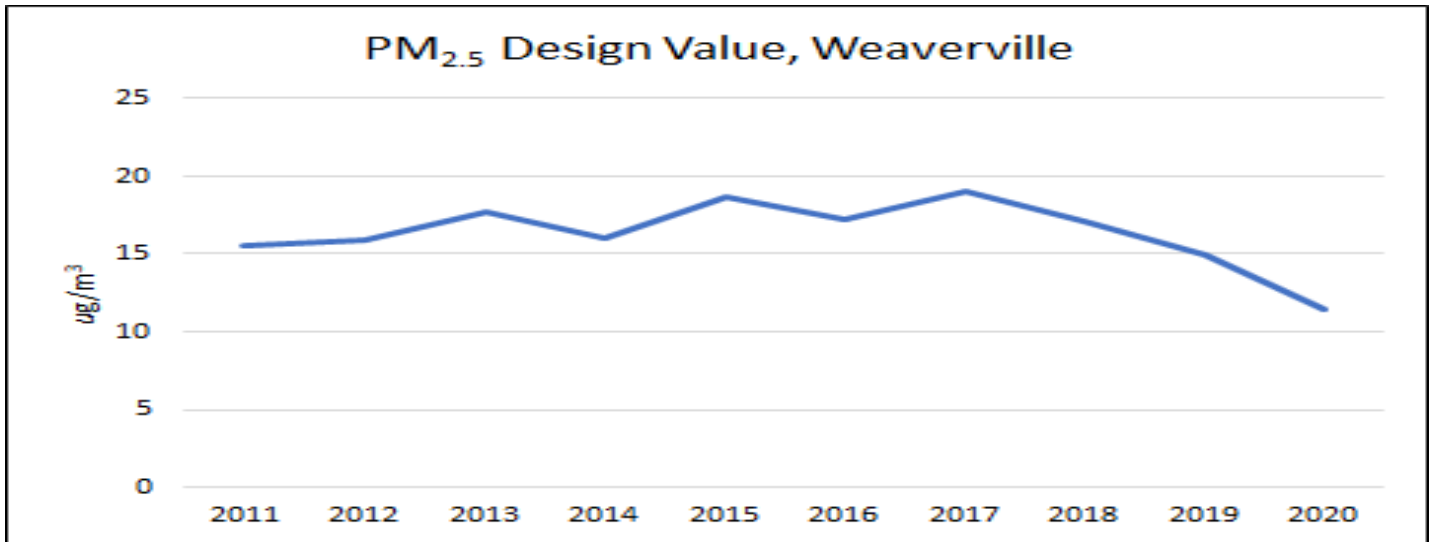


- Federal AAQS is 35 ug/m3. There is no separate state standard.

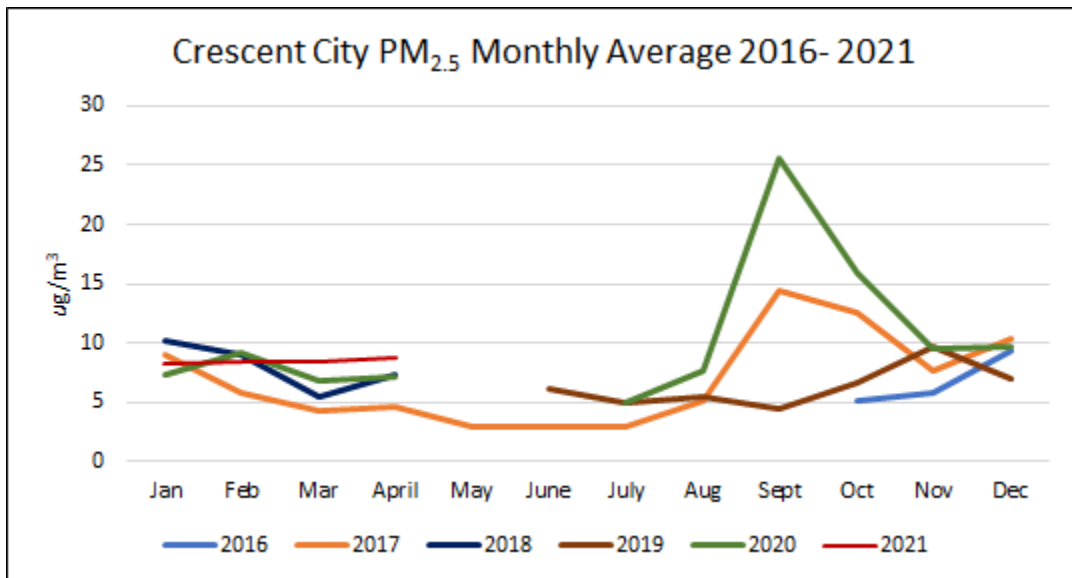
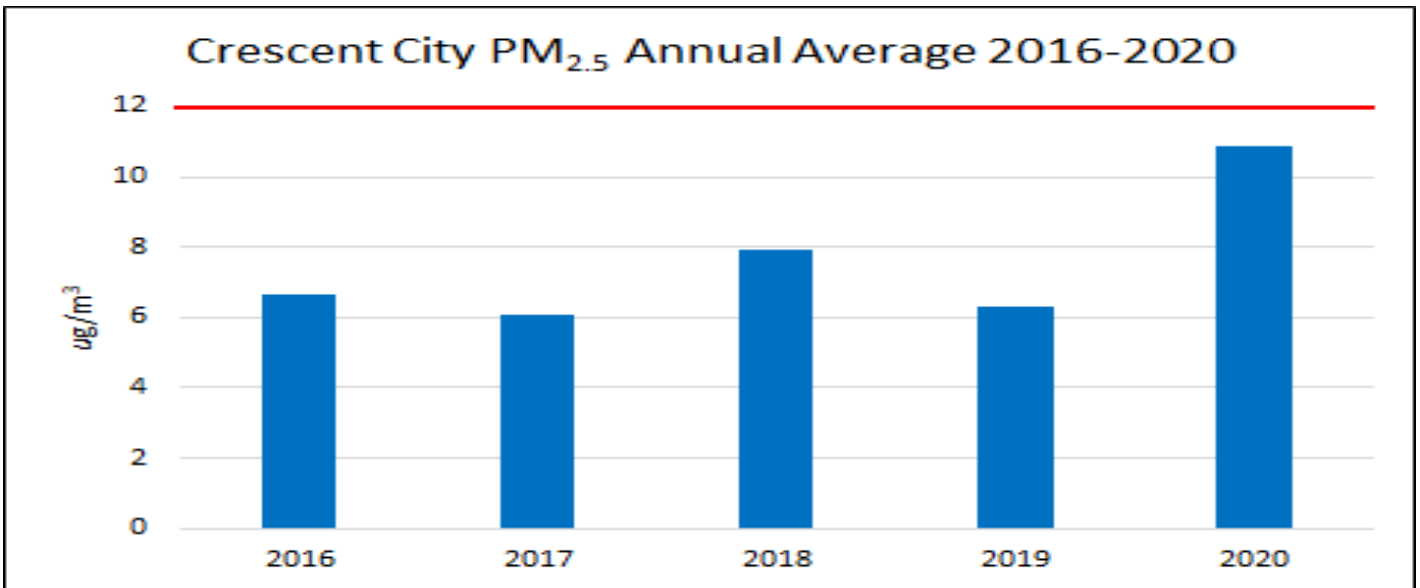
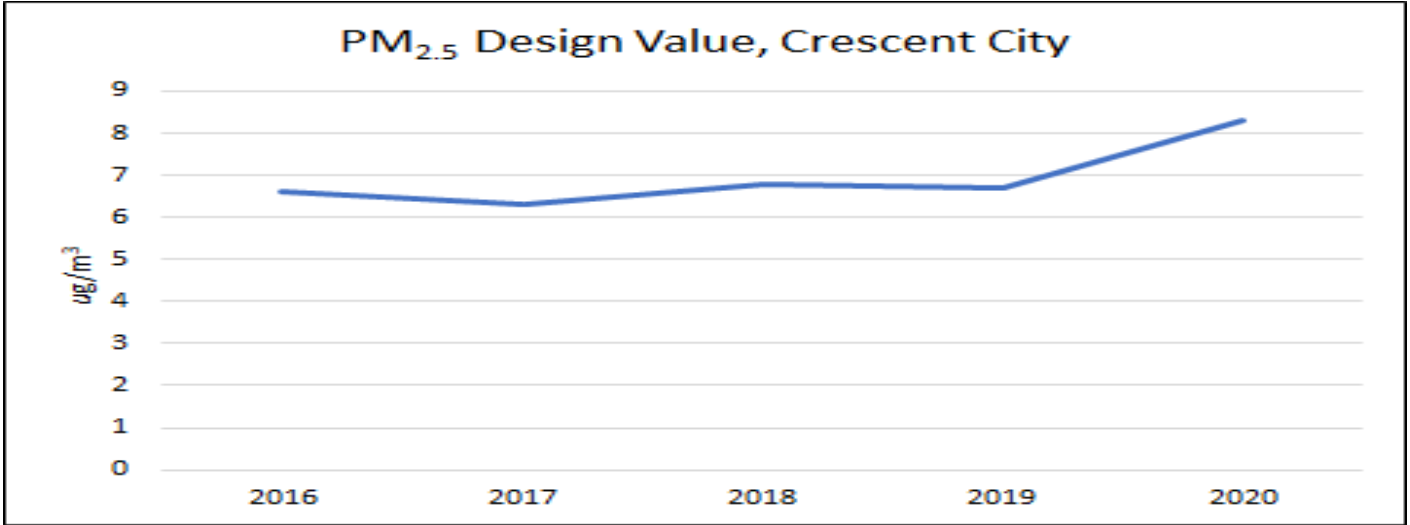
Eureka PM_{2.5} Trends



Weaverville PM_{2.5} Trends



Crescent City PM_{2.5} Trends



Agenda Item: 5

Public Comment Period

Agenda Item: 6

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TO: North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District Board

FROM: Brian Wilson, APCO

SUBJECT: Discussion on District Observance of New Federal Holiday

DATE: July 15, 2021

ACTION REQUESTED: Provide Guidance to District Staff on Observance of New Federal Holiday

SUMMARY:

On June 17, 2021, President Joe Biden signed the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act, establishing June 19 as a federal holiday. June 19 holds special meaning for the African American community known as Juneteenth. Juneteenth is the oldest known celebration commemorating the ending of slavery in the United States, celebrating that day in history, June 19, 1865. President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, declaring the slaves in Confederate territory free, paving the way for the passing of the 13th Amendment, which formally abolished slavery in the United States of America. However, after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation, it took almost two and a half years, to June 19, 1865, for the declaration to reach authorities and Black/African American individuals in the South and Southwestern United States.

In Humboldt County, the Board of Supervisors on June 15, 2021 adopted a proclamation declaring June 19 as Juneteenth Day in Humboldt County to bring awareness and to celebrate this historical day of freedom and county offices were closed in observance.

The District Personnel Manual has a schedule of Board-approved holidays listed in Chapter II – Employee Benefits and Compensation, Section II – Holidays:

All regular employees shall be entitled to the following paid holidays:

- 1. New Year's Day (January 1)*
- 2. Martin Luther King Day (3rd Monday in January)*
- 3. Lincoln's Birthday (February 12)*
- 4. Washington's Birthday (3rd Monday in February)*

5. *Memorial Day (Last Monday in May)*
6. *Independence Day (Fourth of July)*
7. *Labor Day (First Monday in September)*
8. *Columbus Day (Second Monday in October)*
9. *Veteran's Day (November 11)*
10. *Thanksgiving Day (Fourth Thursday in November)*
11. *Friday after Thanksgiving*
12. *Christmas Eve (December 24)*
13. *Christmas Day (December 25)*

District Staff recommends the Board consider the above information and discuss any actions it would like to take in regards to District observance of the new federal Juneteenth holiday. Any changes to the District Personnel Manual would require a Board action.

Agenda Item: 7

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TO: North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District Board

FROM: Brian Wilson, APCO

SUBJECT: Amend District FY 2021-22 Budget

DATE: July 15, 2021

ACTION REQUESTED: Approve Proposed Amendments to the District FY 2021-22 Budget

SUMMARY:

The District's FY2021-22 Budget was approved on May 20, 2021, however there are three budget amendments that are now needed as relevant information was not known at that time:

a) Purchase of District vehicle -

The District's current vehicle used for purposes of air monitoring was scheduled to be replaced. The District had received Subvention Funding from the State that was earmarked for the replacement and had tentative arrangements to purchase a Ford Transit Connect Cargo Van from a local Ford dealer at fleet/government pricing. However, the District was unable to finalize the financial purchase transaction in the last fiscal year due the fact that Ford was significantly cutting its North American vehicle production due to an ongoing shortage of semiconductor chips impacting the global automotive industry. To accommodate, the unspent funding for the vehicle in last year's budget (\$35,000) simply needs to be moved into this current year's budget. Since these funds will be coming from Reserve, the overall bottom line of the budget will reflect a \$35,000 negative balance.

b) State Prescribed Fire Program Support Grant funding -

The Board adopted Resolution 2019-2 which authorized APCO to enter into Grant Agreement(s) with the State to accept any associated funding for the State Prescribed Fire Program Support Grant. The main use of the funds has been to cover allowable costs of its smoke management program (applicable burn permits, smoke management plans, monitoring, and outreach) consistent with SB 901 and SB 1260. The District has been submitting grant disbursement requests to the State on a quarterly basis for reimbursement. However, the state needed to provide the

remainder of the unspent grant funds (\$50,753) for the first/initial grant agreement term by June 30, 2021 as advance payment, rather than through disbursement requests. These funds received should be included in this year’s current budget.

c) Additional AB617 Community Air Protection Grant funding –

On May 16, 2019, the District Governing Board approved Resolution 2019-3 which authorized the APCO to sign CARB Community Air Protection Grant Agreement(s) and to accept any associated grant funding. In late May 2021, the District was again approved for a grant by CARB under CARB’s FY 2020-21 AB617 Community Air Protection Program. The District was awarded \$14,169 consistent with the funding allocation approved by CAPCOA, under a Grant Agreement that starts June 1, 2021 and ends June 30, 2023. The grant agreement was signed May 27, 2021 and funds are to be received in the District’s current FY 2021-22. The current District budget was approved prior to receiving this additional Grant Agreement funding, and therefore needs to be amended to reflect these funds.

In order to spend the funds outlined above, the Board will need to approve and accept the funding into the current fiscal year budget as follows:

Budget Line Item	Proposed
<u>Income</u>	
47060 - CARB AB 617 Community Air Protection Grant Agreement Funding	\$ 14,169
47315 - CARB Prescribed Burn Grant Program	\$ 150,753
<u>Expense</u>	
66105 Air Monitoring Fixed Assets >\$5000	\$ 35,000
67630 - CARB Prescribed Burn Grant Program	\$ 60,753
68410 - CARB AB 617 Community Air Protection Grant Agreement Funding	\$ 14,169

In summary, Staff recommends the Board approve the above modifications to the FY 2021-22 Budget as outlined above.

Agenda Item: 8

Closed Session

Agenda Item: 9

Closed Session

Agenda Item: 10

**Report Out from Closed
Session**

Agenda Item: 11

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TO: North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District Board

FROM: Brian Wilson, APCO

SUBJECT: APCO Report

DATE: July 15, 2021

ACTION REQUESTED: Accept and File

The following information is provided as a summary of items of interest to the Board and District. Staff solicits and appreciates any feedback concerning these items or other items of interest from the Board.

1. Wildfire Smoke Update

So far for the 2021 Wildfire season, there have primarily been large smoke impacts east of our jurisdiction in Siskiyou and Shasta Counties from the Lava, Salt, and Tennant Fires.

The District in coordination with the Public Health Departments of Humboldt, Del Norte, Trinity Counties and regional Tribal Health Departments, provides Air Quality Smoke Advisories as needed during wildfire events. This year, the District will issue a single combined Air Quality (AQ) Smoke Advisory notification document during wildfire events (see attached), rather than the separate documents (e.g., the PSA, Advisory, Alert) done in prior years. This comprehensive AQ Smoke Advisory will indicate the Air Quality Index (AQI) levels of concern (Hazardous, Unhealthy, Moderate, etc.) for communities for which there is acceptable forecast information. During wildfire events, AQ Smoke Advisories will be updated as conditions change.

The District maintains an email distribution list for sending AQ Smoke Advisory notifications. AQ Smoke Advisories are sent to media sources, schools and the general public. The District, California Air Resources Board (CARB), and the EPA highly recommend using the EPA's Fire & Smoke Map (<https://fire.airnow.gov>) for air quality smoke impacts and current AQI information. Although there are alternative websites with similar information, this website provides the best information for viewing smoke maps, deployed PM2.5 wildfire monitors, and corrected sensor information. The District website also provides links to the latest and most accurate information available on wildfire smoke impacts and actions to protect yourself from smoke.

The District also provides a Wildfire Smoke Guidance and Recommended Activity Guide for Schools During Wildfires for schools when there is wildfire smoke, which has been sent to the schools and is available on the District website. This guide is based upon the California Department of Education's (CDE's) air quality guidance template for schools, which provides recommendations for schools and others responsible for children during a wildfire smoke and other air quality event(s). The guidance provides health recommendations for schools, coaches, and event coordinators regarding student exposure to wildfire smoke.

2. Yurok Project Application for EPA Grant: Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem Solving

The District was pleased to provide a letter of support to the EPA's Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem Solving (EJCPS) - Cooperative Agreement Program on behalf of the Yurok Tribe and Karuk Tribe. The Tribes recently submitted a project application for the "Climate Resiliency in Yurok and Karuk Ancestral Territories – Creating a Data Collection Plan for Prescribed and Cultural Burns to Combat Catastrophic Wildfires and to Support and Strengthen Cultural Resources and Traditional Food Systems." The District will also be contributing within an Air Quality Working Group as a project collaborator.

3. Prescribed Burning in California

Data is now available for prescribed burning occurring in California air districts. Attached are two charts indicating the amount of prescribed burning that occurred for the FY 2020-21 period by acreage and by number of prescribed burns. The District remains as one of the main jurisdictions that approve the most prescribed burning (acreage and number of burns) in California.

4. 2022 Health Benefit Costs

CalPERS will be changing its rating methodology for group medical plans in 2022 (see attached). In 2022, CalPERS medical plans will be rated on value, not on risk. This means more credibility will be given to the actuarial value of a health plan than to the claims cost per employee enrolled in the plan. This change is forecast to yield rate changes in 2022 in excess of more than 20% for some CalPERS plans.

CalPERS will be publishing preliminary 2022 rate changes, and rate and plan offerings will be finalized in July with a limited time period to consider options. The District currently provides PERS Choice PPO which will be eliminated, and either PERS Select (Gold) or PERS Care (Platinum) will need to be chosen as replacement options. District staff will bring this item forth as an agenda item when more information is known.

5. Update on PG&E Regular Variance Activity

On February 3, 2020, the District's Hearing Board approved the Regular Variance for PG&E as proposed, and the Regular Variance Order 2020-01 was subsequently signed on February 28, 2020.

The Regular Variance was to provide relief from permit conditions and permit emission limitations (until June 30, 2020) to allow the HBGS to conduct the emission (source testing) and other operational testing necessary to confirm their readiness to operate in an island mode or as a black start unit to serve area load. In addition to the short-term emission testing performed last December 2019, PG&E finished operational testing of Ammonia Injection Load Point Determinations (i.e. fine tuning the emission control SCR system) for loads less than 50% in April. The variance also allowed for island operational testing to determine the actual ability of the plant to achieve real-world operation similar to PSPS conditions, which PG&E completed on May 9, 2020.

On July 10, 2020, the Hearing Board issued Hearing Order No. 2020-02 for a Regular Variance to PG&E (see attached Order and Staff Report). The regular variance granted to PG&E provided relief from permit conditions and permit emission limitations for a period of up to one year, while allowing the HBGS to potentially operate in island mode during upcoming emergencies such as Public Safety Power Shutdown (PSPS) events and to conduct engine tuning at loads less than 50%. HBGS will also be submitting an application to modify its Title V Operating Permit. The proposed variance will be in effect for a period of up to one year or until a modified Operating Permit and other applicable modified licensing is effective, whichever date is sooner.

On June 18, 2021, PG&E submitted a variance application request to extend the expiration date of the Hearing Order by one year to allow the HBGS to continue to operate in low load and in Island Mode during PSPS and other events. The District is currently making arrangements for a Variance Hearing Board meeting on July 26, 2021 that will consider extending the Variance Order.

6. Staff Training

Here is a brief list of the main training staff has participated since the last Board Meeting:

- CARB - *CA Climate Investments: Webinar: Funding for Farmers* - Chrystal Ales
- US EPA - *AirNow Fire & Smoke Map Demo Webinar* - Wendy Caruso
- CalPERS- *Employee Certification Functionality in MyCalPERS* - Penny Costa
- USBank- *CalCard Access Online System Enhancements* - Penny Costa
- Shaw Law Group- *Top 10 Covid-19 Return to Work Challenges* - Penny Costa
- PRISM- *CalPERS Health Insurance Update* - Penny Costa
- CARB - *Essentials for Air District Inspectors (AP 109)* – Michelle Hanson



AIR QUALITY SMOKE ADVISORY

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

Press release issued: June X, 2021

Advisory updated as conditions change

Several wildfires continue to impact the air district region of Humboldt, Del Norte, and Trinity Counties. Smoke impact conditions may reach unhealthy conditions in the communities as indicated below. **Air quality monitors and the current Air Quality Index (AQI) for communities should be viewed at <https://fire.airnow.gov>.** USFS Air Resource Advisors (ARAs) may be assigned to certain fires impacting our area and may also provide daily Smoke Outlook Forecasts these fires (<https://wildlandfiresmoke.net/outlooks/>).

ALERT – Hazardous ■ **Conditions (AQI 301 and higher) over the next 24 hours:**

- Hoopa Hazardous
- Willow Creek Hazardous
- Residents should plan to continue to take measures to protect their health, such as staying indoors as much as possible to avoid exposure to smoke

ADVISORY – Unhealthy ■ **to Very Unhealthy** ■ **Conditions (AQI 151-300 range):**

- Weaverville Very Unhealthy
- Hayfork Very Unhealthy
- Bridgeville Unhealthy to Very Unhealthy
- Weitchpec Unhealthy
- Orleans Unhealthy

Regional Smoke Outlooks – Good, Moderate, to USG Conditions (AQI 0-150 range):

Humboldt County

- Eureka (including Scotia to Trinidad) – Good conditions expected, smoke possible starting afternoon.
- Willow Creek – Good conditions expected during the day, smoke overnight.
- Garberville – Good to Moderate conditions expected during the day, potential to worsen.
- Redway – Good conditions expected during the day, smoke overnight.

Del Norte County

- Gasquet – Generally Good air quality with potential periods of Moderate.
- Klamath – Good air quality conditions.

Trinity County

- Weaverville and surrounding communities – Generally Good air quality today.
- Hayfork – Generally Good air quality today.
- Trinity Center – Good air quality today.
- Ruth, Zenia-Kettenpom – Moderate conditions expected during the day, potential to worsen given fire behavior.
- Trinity Pines – Moderate conditions expected during the day, depending on fire behavior.

U.S. EPA AIR QUALITY INDEX (<https://www.airnow.gov/aqi/aqi-basics/>)

Action	Level of Concern	AQI Value	Actions to Protect Yourself
	Good	0 - 50	None, air quality is satisfactory and poses little or no risk
	Moderate	51 - 100	Sensitive individuals should limit prolonged or heavy exertion
	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups (USG)	101 - 150	People within USG should reduce prolonged or heavy outdoor exertion
Advisory	Unhealthy (UH)	151 - 200	People within USG should avoid all prolonged or heavy outdoor exertion
	Very Unhealthy (VUH)	201 - 300	Everyone should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion
Alert	Hazardous (HAZ)	> 301	Everyone should avoid any outdoor activity

Smoke Impact Summary

The ARA on the Red Salmon Fire indicates that wind and smoke patterns are expected to be SW today. The day will start off with mostly good air quality near Hoopa Valley and Willow Creek, but concentrations of smoke will increase late in the day. Depending on how much smoke is produced, it may travel to Eureka.

The Slater and Devil fires in Eastern Del Norte and along the Oregon border will be affected by strong NE winds today and tonight before becoming easterly on Monday. Smoke transport should generally be to the SW/W. Northern coastal areas should continue to see Good air quality; however, offshore flow could potentially bring smoke to the coast if smoke production increases. A strong ridge of high pressure will be affecting this area, and we will see increased temperatures and decreasing wind speeds by midweek.

The ARA on the August Complex Fire also forecasts NE winds continue into Monday, pushing smoke to the south and southwest, affecting southern Humboldt. Hot, dry, and windy conditions will lead to an increase in smoke production and allow smoke from other fires to move into the region. Due to the elevated winds across the ridges, smoke may not settle into valleys as it typically does. However by early this upcoming week, strong high pressure will create a stagnant pattern resulting in worsening air quality for Southern Humboldt and Mendocino.

Particulate Matter (PM2.5) monitors are located in Crescent City, Gasquet, Eureka, Weaverville, Hoopa, Weitchpec, Willow Creek, Klamath, Trinity Center, Bridgeville, and Garberville.

Fire information can be found at <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/> or <https://fire.airnow.gov/>. Current weather information can be found at www.wrh.noaa.gov. As with all wildfires, ash fallout is possible depending on fire activity and proximity to the fires. Ash fallout information can be found in the Wildfire Smoke Resources section of our webpage at www.ncuaqmd.org.

Health Information & Actions To Protect Yourself From 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.

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.

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 further information, visit the District’s website at www.ncuaqmd.org or call the District’s Wildfire Response Coordinator at (707) 443-3093 x122.

**NORTH COAST UNIFIED
AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT**
707 L Street, Eureka, CA 95501
(707) 443-3093
www.ncuaqmd.org



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Air Quality Management District**

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May 26, 2021

U.S Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Office of Environmental Justice (OEJ)
Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem Solving (EJCPS)
Cooperative Agreement Program
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20460

**RE: Application - Climate Resiliency in Yurok and Karuk Ancestral Territories –
Creating a Data Collection Plan for Prescribed and Cultural Burns to Combat
Catastrophic Wildfires and to Support and Strengthen Cultural Resources and
Traditional Food Systems**

Dear Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem Solving (EJCPS) - Cooperative Agreement Program Staff:

The North Coast Unified Air Quality Management District (“North Coast AQMD”) is a regional environmental regulatory agency that is a Special District of the State of California whose jurisdiction is Humboldt, Del Norte, and Trinity counties in Northern California. The North Coast AQMD is pleased to provide this letter of support and to demonstrate our commitment to the “*Climate Resiliency in Yurok and Karuk Ancestral Territories – Creating a Data Collection Plan for Prescribed and Cultural Burns to Combat Catastrophic Wildfires and to Support and Strengthen Cultural Resources and Traditional Food Systems*” project application, submitted by the Yurok Tribe.

We believe that the unique opportunity to have experts from various Tribal Governments, Federal agencies, State agencies, local agencies, non-profits, and academia collaborate to create a Data Collection Plan will lead to greater resources and support for the communities within Yurok and Karuk ancestral territory to conduct restorative and healing cultural and prescribed burns. The resulting environmental impacts, most notably improved air quality due to the decrease in frequency and intensity of catastrophic wildfires and increased access to local traditional foods and cultural resources, will benefit everyone in the region and beyond.

While our formal role in the project is still under development, we can commit to at least one staff person attending the Quarterly Project Meetings and Working Group Meetings related to air quality. We may be able to have more than one staff member participate in the project, in order to better represent the scope of our work in prescription burns and smoke management, ongoing monitoring, and data information.

The creation of a collaborative, adaptable, and scalable Data Collection Plan for prescribed and cultural burns by the many stakeholders involved in this project will be an invaluable resource for all stakeholders who are already or hope to conduct prescribed and cultural burns in the region. The partnerships resulting from this work will be a great asset for pooling resources and collaboration on future projects.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions about our involvement or commitment to this project proposal. We hope that you will consider funding this project that has the opportunity to have an impact on our region in such a meaningful way.

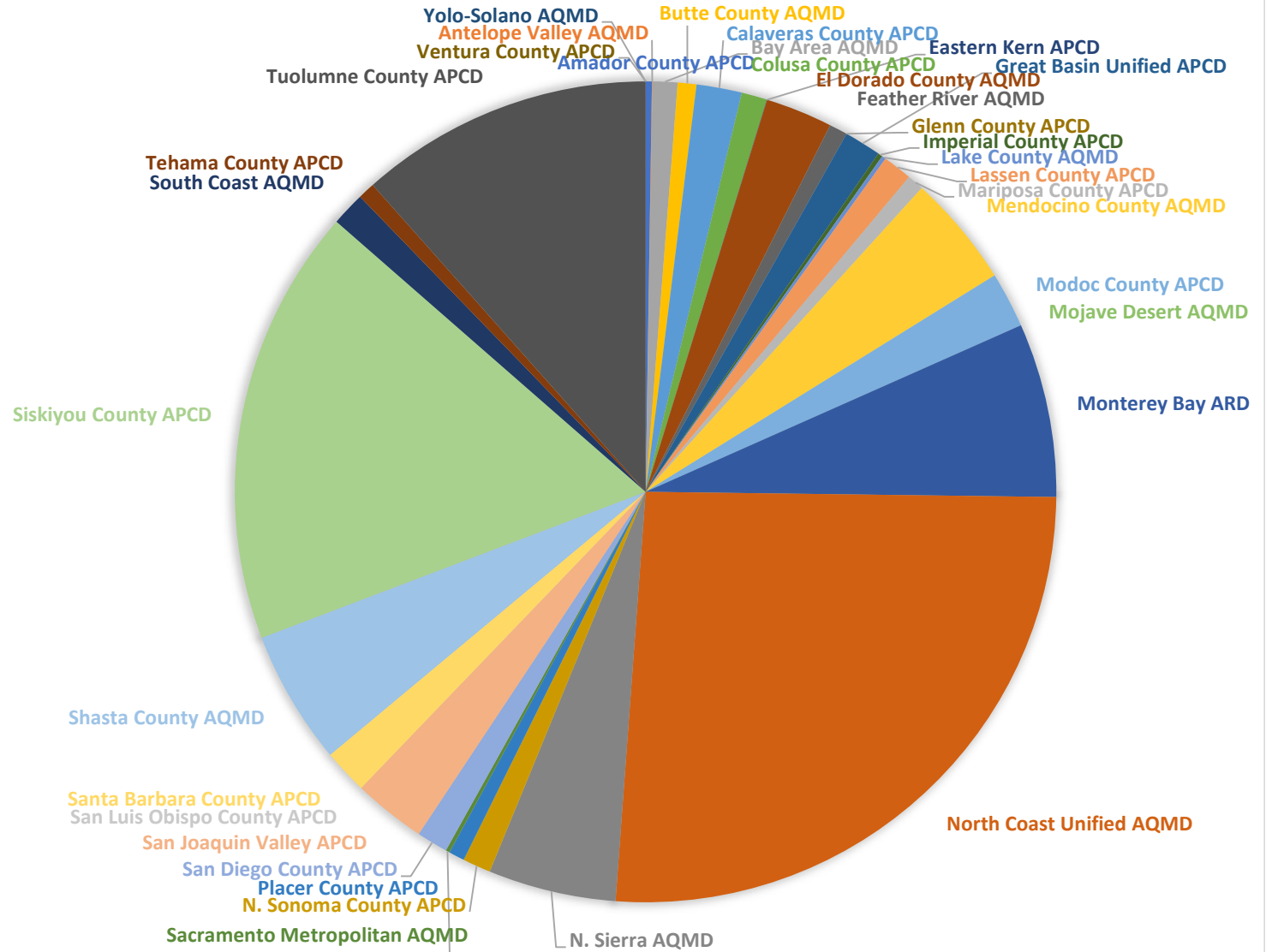
Sincerely,



Brian Wilson
Air Pollution Control Officer
North Coast Unified AQMD

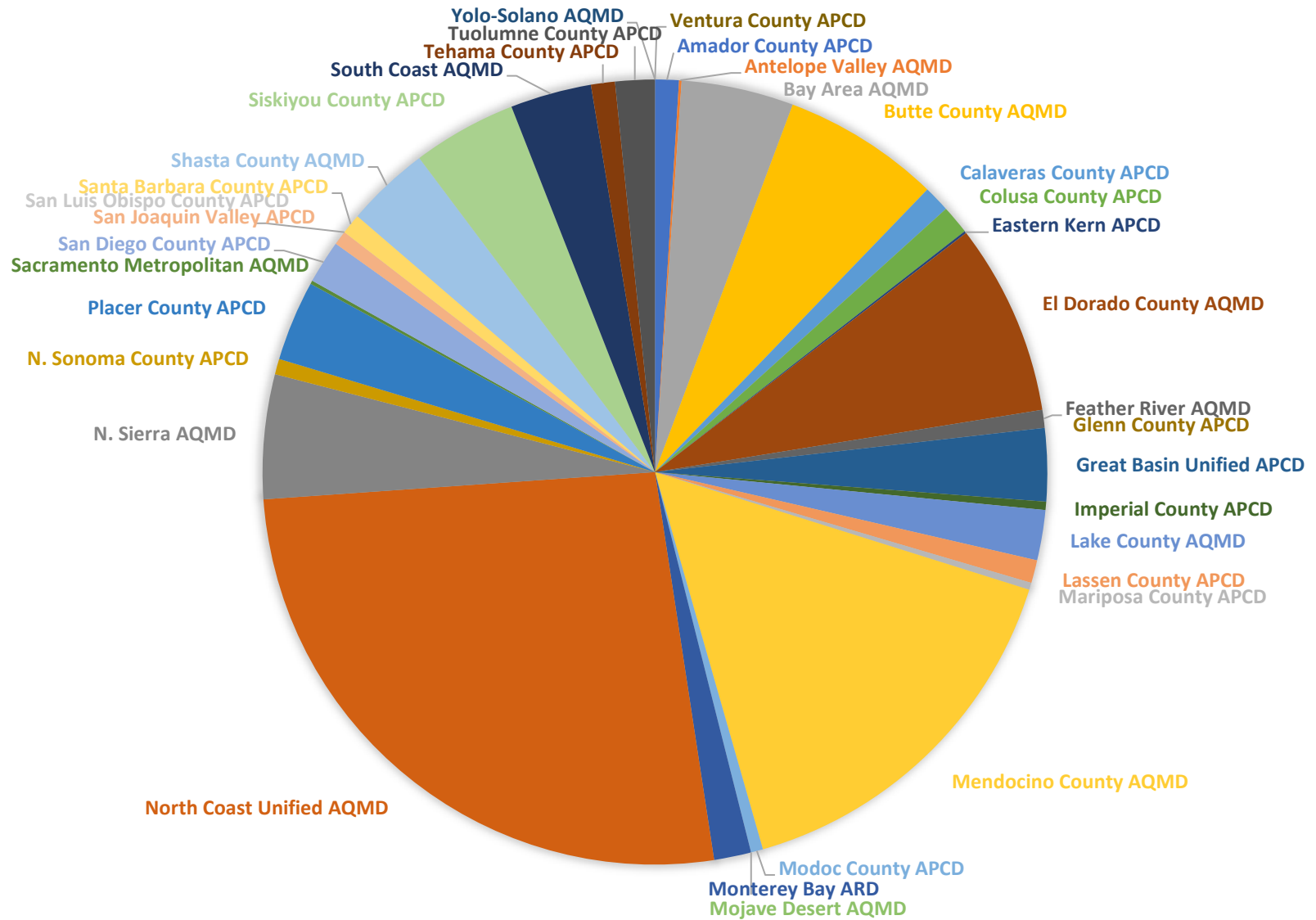
c: Taylor Thompson, Yurok Tribe Environmental Program

AMOUNT OF OPEN BURNING APPROVED/BURNED (ACREAGE) CHART BY AIR DISTRICT FOR FY20-21 (AS OF 3/21)



Source: CARB & CAPCOA

AMOUNT OF OPEN BURNS APPROVED/BURNED BY AIR DISTRICT FOR FY20-21 (AS OF 3/21)



Source: CARB & CAPCOA

Preparing for 2022 Health Benefits Costs

With CalPERS changing its rating methodology for group medical plans in 2022, CalPERS members may be looking for alternative providers such as SDRMA's Health Benefits Program.

According to Alliant Insurance Services, in 2022, CalPERS medical plans will be rated on value, not on risk. This means more credibility will be given to the actuarial value of a health plan than to the claims cost per employee enrolled in the plan. This change is forecast to yield rate changes in 2022 in excess of more than 20% for some CalPERS plans.

In a public meeting on November 17, 2020, CalPERS staff forecast plan and rate changes for 2022. Listed below are the key changes described at that CalPERS Pension and Health Benefits Committee meeting:

- The PERS Choice PPO will be eliminated. Enrollees who wish to retain CalPERS PPO coverage in 2022 may move to PERS Care or PERS Select.
- PERS Select will be re-named PERS Gold, and PERS Care will be re-named PERS Platinum.
- 2022 rates for PERS Select (Gold) are forecast to increase more than 20%, while for PERS Care (Platinum) rates are forecast to decrease by slightly more than 10%.
- CalPERS has suggested that benefits for PERS Select (Gold) will be reduced in 2023 to further differentiate the plan from PERS Care (Platinum). This change will be discussed further and is expected to be finalized by the CalPERS Pension and Health Benefits Committee in Fall 2021.
- 2022 rates for the CalPERS broad network HMOs Anthem Traditional and Blue Shield Access+ will change slightly. Rates for the United Healthcare Alliance HMO are forecast to increase more than 8%.
- In November 2020, it was estimated that Kaiser's 2022 rates might be as much as 3% higher than their 2021 rates.
- Some health plans will expand their service areas and other new models of narrow network plans will be offered, mostly in Southern California.

On June 15th, CalPERS published preliminary 2022 rate changes. Rates and plan offerings will be finalized in mid-July, with a limited time period to consider options.

The PRISM Health Program, which is administered by SDRMA for smaller agencies, welcomes you to attend a webinar on CalPERS plan updates and changes on June 29th at 1:00pm. [Click here](#) to register.

In contrast to the CalPERS 2022 rate forecast, SDRMA's Medical Benefits Program anticipates a 3.3% rate increase in 2022. Our Health Benefits Program includes medical, dental, vision, basic life and AD&D, short term disability, long term disability, and an employee assistance program. For additional details and complete rate information, please contact Alana Little at alittle@sdrma.org or 800.537.7790.

Please note we are offering our understanding of the CalPERS health plan changes. If your agency is currently a member of CalPERS please confirm the health plan changes with CalPERS directly.

Agenda Item: 12

Board Member Reports

Agenda Item: 13

Adjournment