



air pollution control district  
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

# PRESCRIBED BURN PROGRAM OVERVIEW

## Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District

Our Mission: To protect the people and the environment  
of Santa Barbara County from the effects of air pollution.

Glenn Gazdecki  
Air Quality Specialist  
Compliance Division

March 18, 2021



# TWO AGENCIES, ONE TEAM



Glenn Gazdecki – Smoke Management Coordinator, SBCAPCD

Vince LaRocco – Vegetation Management Coordinator, SBCFD

# WHAT IS PRESCRIBED BURNING?

*“The planned application of fire to vegetation to achieve a specific objective.”*

# WILDFIRE SMOKE > RX FIRE SMOKE

Thomas Wildfire

Pyrocumulus Smoke Clouds



Prescribed Fire

Reduced Smoke



# MORE RX BURNS AHEAD (SB 1260)

## *California Senate Bill (SB) 1260*

- Authored by State Senator Hannah Beth Jackson
- Enacted in September 2018
- Requires CARB-Local Districts Develop and Fund Enhanced Rx Burn Programs including:
  1. Air Quality and Smoke Monitoring
  2. Public Awareness Campaigns

# RX BURNING – DISTRICT OBJECTIVES

- ❖ **Prevent Smoke From Impacting Communities and Sensitive Receptors**
- ❖ **Prevent Exceedances of Federal and State Ambient Air Quality Standards**

# FIRE & SMOKE- FRIEND & FOE



# RX BURNING - ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

- **Prevent Wildfires** (Fuels Reduction) and Create Fuel Breaks (Wildland-Urban Interface)
- Mimic Natural Fire Return Intervals
- Control Plant Diseases and Eliminate Invasive Non-Native Plant Species
- Promote Soil Nutrients, Vegetation Growth, and Enhance Livestock Yields
- Protect Watersheds and Improve Ecosystem Health
- Restore Breeding Habitats for Endemic and Threatened Species (e.g., Western Snowy Plover)
- Promote Carbon Sequestration (Soil Regeneration and Photosynthesis)

## DISTRICT'S JURISDICTION

- **Title 17 California Code of Regulations - Section 80102**: Provides guidelines and flexibility for Air Districts to develop and implement Smoke Management Programs
- **Smoke Management Program and District Rule 401**: Provides a structured program for regulating Rx Burning in Santa Barbara County and specifies requirements for Burn Permits, Burn Registration, Smoke Management Plans, Burn Day Determinations, Ignition Authorization, and Burn Reporting

# ANNUAL REGISTRATION OF RX BURNS

**Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District**  
**260 N. San Antonio Road, Suite A, SB, CA 93110**  
**Year: 2021** - Prescribed Burning Registration Form  
[Title 17 CCR, Article 2, §80160(a)]

Agency: Santa Barbara County Fire Department  
Contact: Captain Vince LaRocco

E-mail: [vince.larocco@sbcfire.com](mailto:vince.larocco@sbcfire.com)  
Phone: 805 451-0161

Burn Name	Proposed Burn Date(s)/Season	Location	Acreage
Bar M RX-South-024-SBC	Summer, Fall, Winter 2021	10150 South Highway 101, Los Alamos CA; 34.7109, -120.2186	98 acres remaining on project
Righetti LE-7	Fall 2021	Brown Rd and Hwy 1, Guadalupe	Approximately 200 acres
Spaulding / Midland RX-South-030-SBC	Summer, Fall, Winter 2021	4000 Blk Tim's Rd & Midland School, Santa Ynez. ; 34.7228 -1200801	1500 acres

**Please return to APCD by January 15, 2021** Attn: Glenn Gazdecki Phone: 961-8880 E-mail: [GazdeckiG@sbcapcd.org](mailto:GazdeckiG@sbcapcd.org)

# PRESCRIBED FIRE INFORMATION REPORTING SYSTEM (PFIRS)

- CARB Burn Day Determinations (Burn, Marginal, No Burn)
- Smoke Management Plans
- Ignition Authorization Requests
- Burn Reports (Acreage)
- Fire Maps

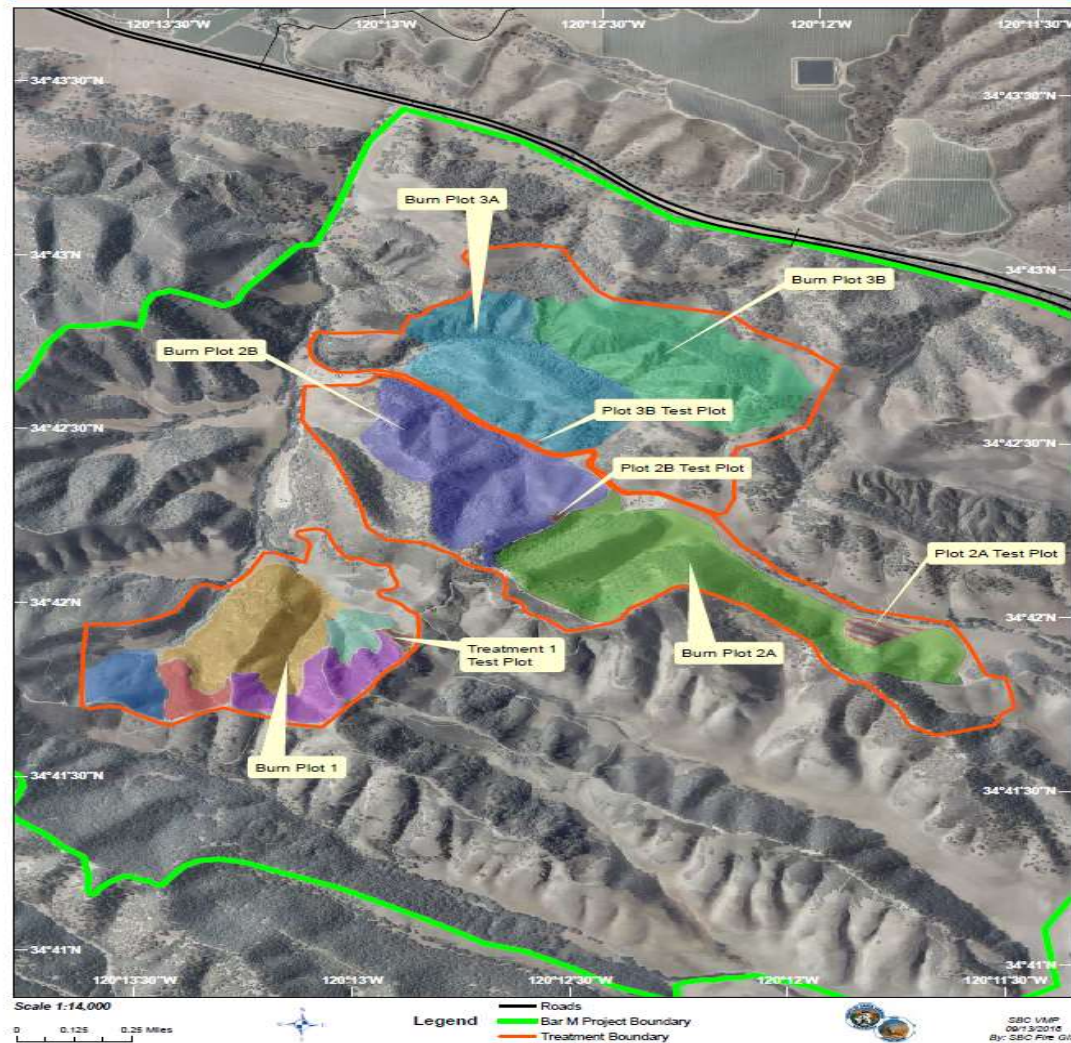
# SMOKE MANAGEMENT PLAN (SMP) – WHAT IS IN IT?

- **Location, Contact Information** (Land Manager and Landowner)
- **Scope of Project** (Total Acres, Timeline)
- **Specific Plot Number and Location, Specific Plot Ignition Prescription**
  - Acres, Cover Type, Tons/Acre, Fuel Arrangement, Fuel Density, Fuel Moisture, Description, Elevations, Slope, Aspect
  - Estimated Emissions and Emission Calculation Method
  - Ignition Prescription (Meteorological Parameters) and Considerations
- **Smoke Sensitive Areas, Public Contact Methods** (2-Step Media Notification)
- **Alternatives to Burning, Smoke Mitigation Measures, SMP Comments, Maps**

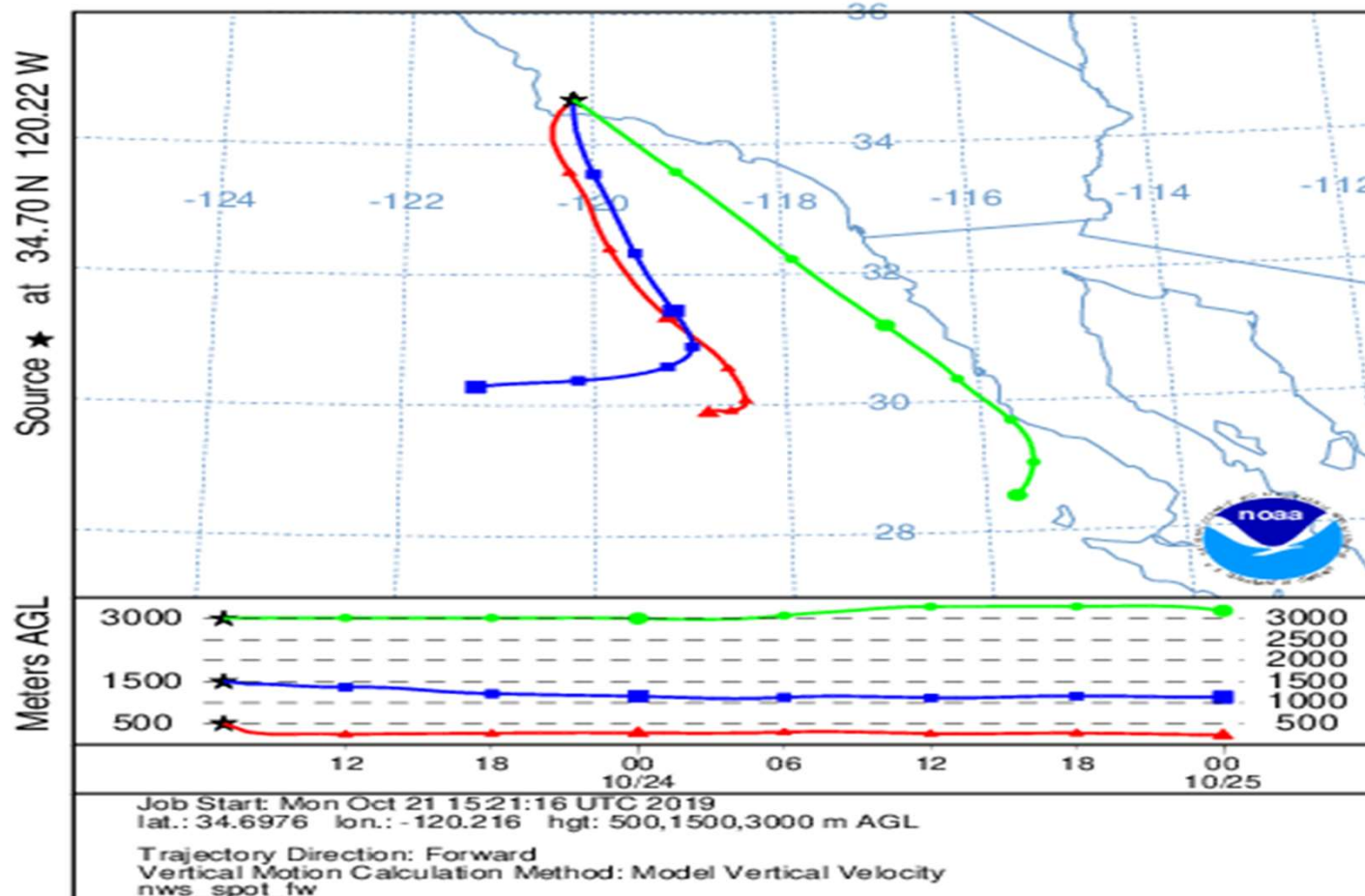
# Bar M VMP Project

Santa Barbara County Fire Department - Vegetation Management

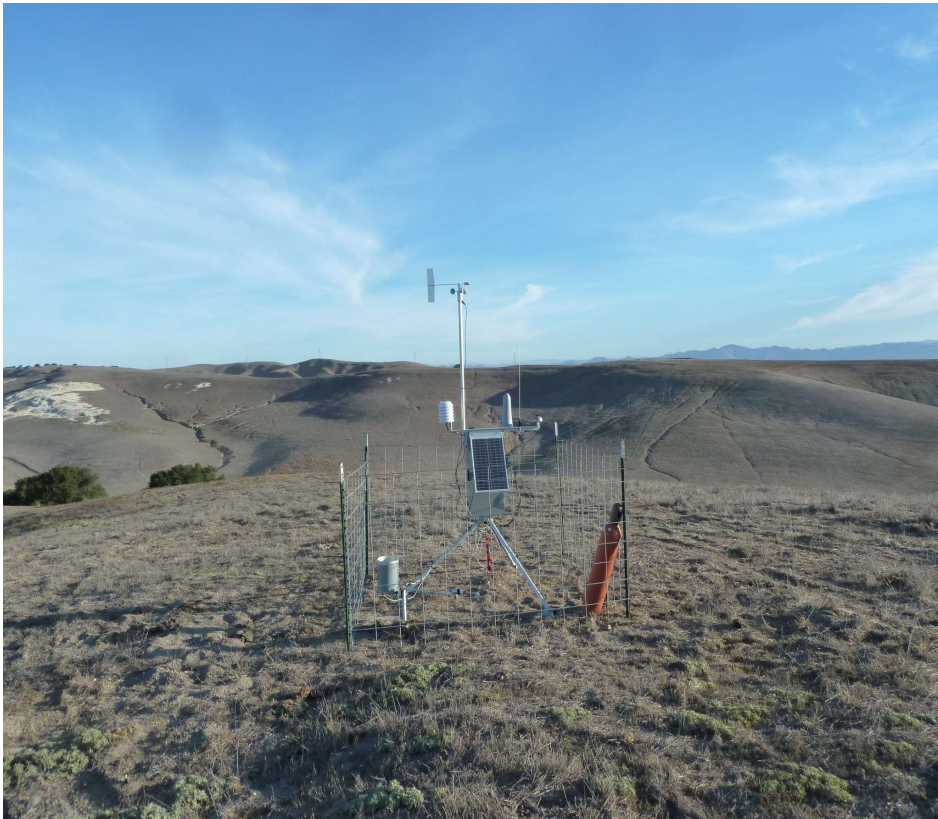
RX-South-024-SBC  
Burn Units Map



NOAA HYSPLIT MODEL  
 Forward trajectories starting at 0700 UTC 23 Oct 19  
 12 UTC 21 Oct NAM Forecast Initialization



# REMOTE AUTOMATED WEATHER STATIONS (RAWS)



# ENVIRONMENTAL BETA ATTENUATING MONITOR (EBAM)



# PFIRS – IGNITION AUTHORIZATION REQUEST

**From:** [PFIRS](#)  
**To:** [Glenn G. Gazdecki](#)  
**Subject:** PFIRS Ignition Authorization Request Received  
**Date:** Monday, November 11, 2019 11:28:23 AM

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## PFIRS Ignition Authorization Request by Vincent LaRocco

SMP Name	<a href="#">RX-South-024-SBC</a>
Unit Name	<a href="#">Plot 1</a>
Requested Date	<a href="#">11/12/2019</a>
Planned Acres	<a href="#">119</a>
Tons/Acre	<a href="#">13</a>

Please [log in to PFIRS](#) to review this request.

PFIRS Administrator

# CARB – BURN DAY DETERMINATION

## South Central Coast

Basin	24-hr Decision Sun Mar 14	48-hr Forecast Mon Mar 15	72-hr Outlook Tue Mar 16	96-hr Trend Wed Mar 17
South Central Coast above 3000 feet	Burn	Favorable (High Confidence)	Favorable	Favorable
South Central Coast - South below 3000 feet	Burn	Favorable (High Confidence)	Favorable	Favorable
South Central Coast - North Coastal below 3000 feet	Burn	Favorable (High Confidence)	Favorable	Favorable
South Central Coast - North Inland below 3000 feet	Burn	Favorable (High Confidence)	Favorable	Favorable

## For More Information



### San Luis Obispo County APCD

Phone: (805) 781-5912  
 Fax: (805) 781-1002  
[Website](#)  
 Burn Line: (800) 834-2876

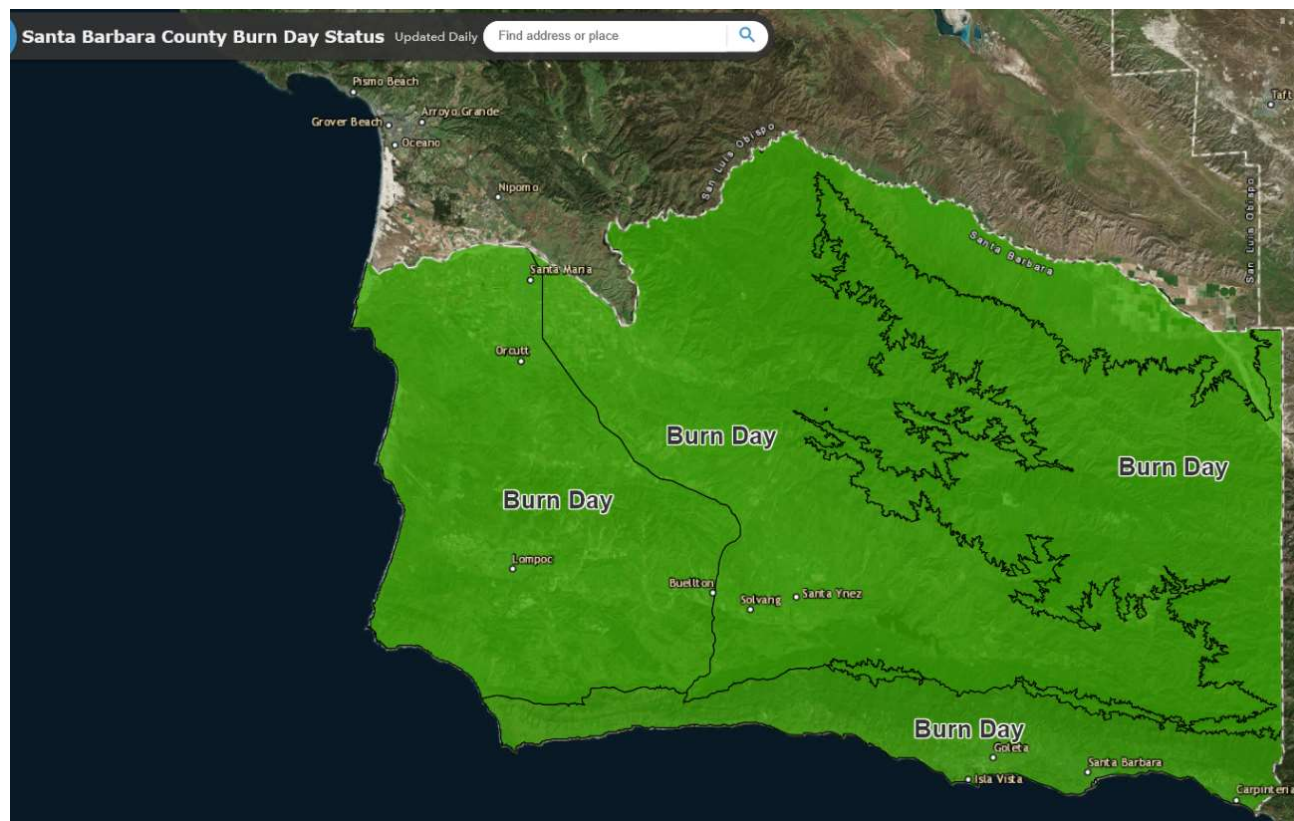
### Santa Barbara County APCD

Phone: (805) 961-8800  
 Fax: (805) 961-8801  
[Website](#)  
 Burn Line: (805) 686-8177

### Ventura County APCD

Phone: (805) 645-1400  
 Fax: (805) 645-1444  
[Website](#)  
 Burn Line: (805) 654-2807

# SB COUNTY FIRE DEPT – BURN DAY DETERMINATION



# KESTREL 3000 WEATHER METER



# BALLOON – MIXING HEIGHTS, TRANSPORT WINDS



# SAFETY TAILGATE & BURN PLAN REVIEW

## Hazards, Contingencies, Contacts and Roles, Radio Communications, Emergency Response

## Burn Groups, Strategies, Tactics, Logistics, Resources, Fuels, Ignition, Fire Sequencing



# ASSESSING SMOKE DISPERSION DOWNWIND



# AERIAL DRONE – ASSESS FIRE & SMOKE BEHAVIOR



# SMOKE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM ON THE RISE & GOING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION



## CONTACT INFORMATION

Glenn G. Gazdecki

Air Quality Specialist (Compliance Division)

(805) 961-8880

[GazdeckiG@sbcapcd.org](mailto:GazdeckiG@sbcapcd.org)



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