

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 15, 2021

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**SLO County Air Pollution Control District** 

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WEBSTER VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROJECT

BURN WINDOW: January 18 through February 28, 2021

## **BURNING WILL NOT OCCUR IF WEATHER CONDITIONS ARE NOT FAVORABLE**

San Luis Obispo, CA - The SLO County Air Pollution Control District (SLO County APCD) is issuing this press release to provide the public with information in preparation for a prescribed burn located near Highway 229 (between Santa Margarita and Creston). The prescribed burn will most likely be the week of January 18, 2021, weather permitting, but may be extended out through the burn window to accommodate the most favorable weather conditions.

The Webster Vegetation Management Project is a Governor's priority burn for fire hazard reduction aimed to protect fire vulnerable communities. The burn will be approximately 400 acres. Prescribed burning is an important tool used to minimize fire hazards and minimize the likelihood of uncontrolled future wildfires that would have the potential to induce significant air quality impacts on the local community.

Smoke will be present on the day of the prescribed burn, and the SLO County APCD will be working collaboratively with all involved agencies to ensure up-to-date air quality information is provided to the public. Children, the elderly, and individuals with a respiratory condition are the most susceptible to the health impacts of wood smoke and should use caution if they smell smoke. The burn is dependent on weather and air quality conditions that are favorable for smoke dispersal. If the conditions are not as desired, the burn will be rescheduled.

SLO County APCD will continue to closely monitor air pollution levels throughout the region. Visit the APCD website slocleanair.org/air-quality/air-forecasting-map.php to see current air quality conditions and forecasts for SLO County. Sign up to receive air quality text messages through our AirAware text notification system at <a href="https://www.slocleanair.org/air-quality-alerts.php">https://www.slocleanair.org/air-quality-alerts.php</a>.

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