

News Release

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CAMP ROBERTS PRESCRIBED BURN SCHEDULED FOR MAY 2015

To Be Scheduled, Weather and Conditions Permitting, between May 18 and March 29, 2015

San Luis Obispo, CA – The California Army National Guard has tentatively scheduled a Fire Hazard Abatement burn at Camp Roberts with a tentative burn window set between May 18 and May 29. The goal of this one-day burn is to reduce the risk of a wildland fire during troop training activities and will be comprised of approximately 8,000 acres of grassland. The burn is scheduled to begin at 9:00 a.m. and conclude at 7:00 p.m. on a permissive burn day. The San Luis Obispo County Air Pollution Control District staff have reviewed the Camp Roberts Smoke Management Plan and provided conditions to ensure air quality is preserved in San Luis Obispo County. The burn will be conducted when the meteorological conditions are highly favorable to direct smoke away from potential population centers.

This prescribed burn is planned and coordinated with the Monterey Bay Unified APCD, San Luis Obispo County APCD, California Army National Guard, Camp Roberts Emergency Services, and the California Air Resources Board in order to minimize the smoke impacts on surrounding communities. 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.

Due to changing winds and weather conditions, it is difficult to predict which areas of the county, if any, may be most affected by smoke from the fire. If you smell smoke, County officials urge you to take precautions and use common sense to reduce any harmful health effects by limiting outdoor activities. When you can smell smoke or it is visible in your surroundings, officials recommend avoiding strenuous outdoor activity and remaining indoors as much as possible. These precautions are especially important for children, the elderly and people with respiratory and heart conditions. If you are smoke sensitive, please consider relocating your activities and closing all doors and windows on the day of the burn. ***Please use extreme caution while driving near prescribed fire operations.***

County officials will continue to closely monitor air pollution levels throughout our region and provide updated forecasts on the APCD website. For more information regarding air quality and related issues, please go to the SLO APCD website at: www.slocleanair.org or call (805) 781-5912.

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