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Attn: Local news, weather, health and assignment editors

Northern region – Modesto

Anthony Presto (209) 557-6472

Central/Southern regions – Fresno

Heather Heinks (559) 230-5898

Spanish-language contact

Maricela Velasquez (559) 230-5849

Fire impacts northern region *Lodi fire prompts health caution*

A large plastic fire in Lodi has prompted local air officials to issue a health cautionary statement for **San Joaquin County**, particularly the community of **Lodi**. The caution is in place until the fire is extinguished and smoke has dispersed.

Smoke from fires produces fine-particulate matter (PM2.5), which can cause serious health problems including lung disease, asthma attacks, and increased risk of heart attacks and stroke. Where conditions warrant, people with heart or lung disease should follow their doctors' advice for dealing with episodes of particulate exposure. Additionally, older adults and children should avoid prolonged exposure or heavy exertion, depending on their local conditions.

People with existing respiratory conditions, young children and elderly people are especially susceptible to health effects from these pollutants. Air District officials urge residents to follow their doctors' orders when exposed to fire emissions.

Schools that are seeing or smelling the smoke should keep students inside per the Real-time Outdoor Activity Risk (ROAR) Guidelines for a Level 5 <http://www.valleyair.org/Programs/RAAN/documents/RAAN-AQ-activity-guidance-chart.pdf>. For more information on the District's Real-Time Air Advisory Network (RAAN) visit www.valleyair.org/RAAN.

For more information, visit www.valleyair.org or call a District office in Fresno (559-230-6000), Modesto (209-557-6400) or Bakersfield (661-392-5500).