



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION IX

75 Hawthorne Street

San Francisco, CA 94105-3901

DEC 20 2017

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
Governor of California
State Capitol Building, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Brown:

Thank you for your recommendation dated October 3, 2016, on air quality designations for the revised 2015 National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for ozone throughout California. I appreciate the information California shared with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as we move forward to improve ozone air quality. This letter is to notify you of the EPA's preliminary response to California's recommendations and to inform you of our approach for completing designations for the revised ozone standards. After considering California's October 3, 2016 ozone designation recommendations, which were based on 2013-2015 air quality data, as well as other relevant technical information, the EPA intends to agree with the State's recommendation and designate the areas listed in Enclosure 1 as Nonattainment. The EPA also intends to designate all other areas in the State not previously designated in November 2017 as Attainment/Unclassifiable.

On October 1, 2015, the EPA lowered the primary 8-hour ozone standard from 0.075 parts per million (ppm) to 0.070 ppm to provide increased protection of public health. The EPA revised the secondary 8-hour ozone standard, making it identical to the primary standard, to protect against welfare effects, including impacts on sensitive vegetation and forested ecosystems. Working closely with the states and tribes, the EPA is implementing the standards using a common sense approach that improves air quality and minimizes the burden on state and local governments. As part of this routine process, the EPA is working with the states to identify areas in the country that meet the standards and those that need to take steps to reduce ozone pollution.

As a first step in implementing the 2015 ozone standards, the EPA asked states to submit in the fall of 2016 their designation recommendations, including appropriate area boundaries. A first round of designations was published on November 16, 2017. Consistent with states' recommendations, the EPA designated most of the country as Attainment/Unclassifiable, with limited areas designated as Unclassifiable. Further, consistent with EPA's "Policy for Establishing Separate Air Quality Designations for Areas of Indian Country" (December 20, 2011), the EPA designated two areas of Indian country as separate Attainment/Unclassifiable areas.

As required by the Clean Air Act, the EPA will designate an area as Nonattainment if there are certified, quality-assured air quality monitoring data showing a violation of the 2015 ozone standards or if the EPA makes a determination that the area is contributing to a violation of the standards in a nearby area.


Areas designated Attainment/Unclassifiable are not measuring or contributing to a violation of the standards.

A Technical Support Document, available on the EPA ozone designations website at www.epa.gov/ozone-designations/, provides a detailed analysis to support our preliminary decisions for the areas of the State not previously designated. In order for the EPA to consider more current (i.e., 2015-2017) air quality data in the final designation decisions for any area, California must submit certified, quality-assured 2015-2017 air quality monitoring data for the area to the EPA by February 28, 2018.

The EPA will continue to work with state officials regarding the appropriate boundaries for the Nonattainment areas in California. If California has additional information that you would like the EPA to consider, please submit it to us by February 28, 2018. Please submit additional information by sending it to the EPA's public docket for these designations, EPA-HQ-OAR-2017-0548, located at www.regulations.gov, and sending a copy to EPA Region 9. The EPA will also make its preliminary designation decisions and supporting documentation available to the general public for review and comment. We will be announcing a 30-day public comment period shortly in the *Federal Register*. After considering additional information we receive, the EPA plans to promulgate final ozone designations in the spring of 2018.

The EPA is committed to working with the states and tribes to reduce ozone air pollution. We look forward to a continued dialogue with you and your staff as we work together to implement the 2015 ozone standards. Should you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at 415-947-8702 or have a member of your staff contact Meredith Kurpius at 415-947-4534.

Sincerely,


Alexis Strauss 20 December 2017
Acting Regional Administrator

Enclosure

cc (via e-mail): Matthew Rodriguez, Secretary, California Environmental Protection Agency
Mary Nichols, Chairman, California Air Resources Board (CARB)
Richard Corey, Executive Officer, CARB

Enclosure 1

California State and Tribal Recommended Nonattainment Areas and the EPA's Intended Designated Nonattainment Areas for the 2015 Ozone NAAQS.

Area	California's or Tribe's Recommended Nonattainment Counties [or Areas of Indian Country]	EPA's Intended Nonattainment Counties [or Areas of Indian Country]
Amador County, CA*	Amador County	Amador County
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buena Vista Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians of California 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buena Vista Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians of California
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jackson Band of Miwuk Indians 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jackson Band of Miwuk Indians
Butte County, CA*	Butte County	Butte County
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Berry Creek Rancheria of Maidu Indians of California 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Berry Creek Rancheria of Maidu Indians of California
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enterprise Rancheria of Maidu Indians of California 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enterprise Rancheria of Maidu Indians of California
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mechoopda Indian Tribe of Chico Rancheria 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mechoopda Indian Tribe of Chico Rancheria
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mooretown Rancheria of Maidu Indians of California 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mooretown Rancheria of Maidu Indians of California
Calaveras County, CA*	Calaveras County	Calaveras County
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • California Valley Miwok Tribe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • California Valley Miwok Tribe
Imperial County, CA*	Imperial County	Imperial County
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians (partial)
Kern County (Eastern Kern), CA	Kern County (partial)	Kern County (partial)

Area	California's or Tribe's Recommended Nonattainment Counties [or Areas of Indian Country]	EPA's Intended Nonattainment Counties [or Areas of Indian Country]
Los Angeles-San Bernardino Counties (West Mojave Desert), CA*	Los Angeles County (partial) San Bernardino County (partial)	Los Angeles County (partial) San Bernardino County (partial)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians of California 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians of California (partial)
Los Angeles-South Coast Air Basin, CA*	Los Angeles County (partial) Orange County Riverside County (partial) San Bernardino County (partial)	Los Angeles County (partial) Orange County Riverside County (partial) San Bernardino County (partial)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cahuilla Band of Indians 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cahuilla Band of Indians
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians 	Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians **	Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians (partial)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ramona Band of Cahuilla 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ramona Band of Cahuilla
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • San Manuel Band of Mission Indians 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians
Mariposa County, CA	Mariposa County	Mariposa County
Morongo Band of Mission Indians	Morongo Band of Mission Indians	Morongo Band of Mission Indians
Nevada County (Western part), CA	Nevada County (partial)	Nevada County (partial)
Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians	Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians**	Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians (partial)
Riverside County (Coachella Valley), CA*	Riverside County (partial)	Riverside County (partial)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cabazon Band of Mission Indians 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cabazon Band of Mission Indians
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians (partial)

Area	California's or Tribe's Recommended Nonattainment Counties [or Areas of Indian Country]	EPA's Intended Nonattainment Counties [or Areas of Indian Country]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians of California 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians of California (partial)
Sacramento Metro, CA*	El Dorado County (partial) Placer County (partial) Sacramento County Solano County (partial) Sutter County (partial) Yolo County	El Dorado County (partial) Placer County (partial) Sacramento County Solano County (partial) Sutter County (partial) Yolo County
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians, Shingle Springs Rancheria 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians, Shingle Springs Rancheria
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria of California 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria of California
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wilton Rancheria 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wilton Rancheria
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation
San Diego County, CA*	San Diego County	San Diego County
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barona Group of Capitan Grande Band of Mission Indians 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barona Group of Capitan Grande Band of Mission Indians
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Campo Band of Diegueno Mission Indians 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Campo Band of Diegueno Mission Indians
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capitan Grande Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of California 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capitan Grande Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of California
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ewiiapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ewiiapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inaja Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of the Inaja and Cosmit Reservation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inaja Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of the Inaja and Cosmit Reservation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jamul Indian Village of California 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jamul Indian Village of California

Area	California's or Tribe's Recommended Nonattainment Counties [or Areas of Indian Country]	EPA's Intended Nonattainment Counties [or Areas of Indian Country]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> La Jolla Band of Luiseno Indians 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> La Jolla Band of Luiseno Indians
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> La Posta Band of Diegueno Mission Indians 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> La Posta Band of Diegueno Mission Indians
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeno Indians 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeno Indians
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manzanita Band of Diegueno Mission Indians 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manzanita Band of Diegueno Mission Indians
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mesa Grande Band of Diegueno Mission Indians 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mesa Grande Band of Diegueno Mission Indians
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pala Band of Mission Indians 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pala Band of Mission Indians
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pauma Band of Luiseno Mission Indians of the Pauma and Yuima Reservation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pauma Band of Luiseno Mission Indians of the Pauma and Yuima Reservation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rincon Band of Luiseno Mission Indians 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rincon Band of Luiseno Mission Indians
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> San Pasqual Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of California 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> San Pasqual Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of California
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Viejas (Baron Long) Group of Capitan Grande Band of Mission Indians 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Viejas (Baron Long) Group of Capitan Grande Band of Mission Indians
San Francisco Bay Area, CA*	Alameda County Contra Costa County Marin County Napa County San Francisco County San Mateo County Santa Clara County Solano County (partial) Sonoma County (partial)	Alameda County Contra Costa County Marin County Napa County San Francisco County San Mateo County Santa Clara County Solano County (partial) Sonoma County (partial)

Area	California's or Tribe's Recommended Nonattainment Counties [or Areas of Indian Country]	EPA's Intended Nonattainment Counties [or Areas of Indian Country]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lytton Rancheria of California 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lytton Rancheria of California
San Joaquin Valley, CA*	Fresno County Kern County (partial) Kings County Madera County Merced County San Joaquin County Stanislaus County Tulare County	Fresno County Kern County (partial) Kings County Madera County Merced County San Joaquin County Stanislaus County Tulare County
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Big Sandy Rancheria of Western Mono Indians of California 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Big Sandy Rancheria of Western Mono Indians of California
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cold Springs Rancheria of Mono Indians of California 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cold Springs Rancheria of Mono Indians of California
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northfork Rancheria of Mono Indians of California 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Northfork Rancheria of Mono Indians of California
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Picayune Rancheria of Chukchansi Indians of California 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Picayune Rancheria of Chukchansi Indians of California
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Santa Rosa Indian Community of the Santa Rosa Rancheria 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Santa Rosa Indian Community of the Santa Rosa Rancheria
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Table Mountain Rancheria of California 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Table Mountain Rancheria of California
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tule River Indian Tribe of the Tule River Reservation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tule River Indian Tribe of the Tule River Reservation
San Luis Obispo (Eastern part), CA	San Luis Obispo County (partial)	San Luis Obispo County (partial)
Sutter Buttes, CA	Sutter County (partial)	Sutter County (partial)
Tuolumne County, CA*	Tuolumne County	Tuolumne County
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chicken Ranch Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians of California 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chicken Ranch Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians of California

Area	California's or Tribe's Recommended Nonattainment Counties [or Areas of Indian Country]	EPA's Intended Nonattainment Counties [or Areas of Indian Country]
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians of the Tuolumne Rancheria of California 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> did not submit recommendation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians of the Tuolumne Rancheria of California
Tuscan Buttes, CA	Tehama County (partial)	Tehama County (partial)
Ventura County, CA	Ventura County (partial)	Ventura County (partial)

EPA modifications to state or tribal recommendations are shown in **bold**.

*The areas noted are multi-jurisdictional nonattainment areas that include areas of Indian country of federally-recognized tribes. The areas of Indian country of each tribe that the EPA intends to designate as part of the nonattainment area are discussed in the Technical Support Document for California, which is available on the EPA ozone designations website at <https://www.epa.gov/ozone-designations/>.

**The Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians of the Pechanga Reservation recommended that their lands be designated as two separate nonattainment areas. We are designating a portion of these lands as the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians, CA nonattainment area, and a portion as part of the Los Angeles-South Coast Air Basin, CA nonattainment area. Additional discussion is found in the Technical Support Document for California.