



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
Buena Vista Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians of California	did not submit recommendation	Buena Vista Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians of California
Jackson Band of Miwuk Indians	did not submit recommendation	Jackson Band of Miwuk Indians
Butte County, CA*	Butte County	Butte County
Berry Creek Rancheria of Maidu Indians of California	did not submit recommendation	Berry Creek Rancheria of Maidu Indians of California
Enterprise Rancheria of Maidu Indians of California	did not submit recommendation	Enterprise Rancheria of Maidu Indians of California
Mechoopda Indian Tribe of Chico Rancheria	did not submit recommendation	Mechoopda Indian Tribe of Chico Rancheria
Mooretown Rancheria of Maidu Indians of California	did not submit recommendation	Mooretown Rancheria of Maidu Indians of California
Calaveras County, CA*	Calaveras County	Calaveras County
California Valley Miwok Tribe	did not submit recommendation	California Valley Miwok Tribe
Imperial County, CA*	Imperial County	Imperial County
Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation	did not submit recommendation	Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	did not submit recommendation	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)
Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians of California	did not submit recommendation	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)
Cahuilla Band of Indians	did not submit recommendation	Cahuilla Band of Indians
Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians	Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians **	Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians (partial)
Ramona Band of Cahuilla	did not submit recommendation	Ramona Band of Cahuilla
San Manuel Band of Mission Indians	did not submit recommendation	San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians	did not submit recommendation	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)
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians	did not submit recommendation	Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians	did not submit recommendation	Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians
Cabazon Band of Mission Indians	did not submit recommendation	Cabazon Band of Mission Indians
Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians	did not submit recommendation	Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians	did not submit recommendation	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]
Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians of California	did not submit recommendation	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
Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians, Shingle Springs Rancheria	did not submit recommendation	Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians, Shingle Springs Rancheria
United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria of California	did not submit recommendation	United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria of California
Wilton Rancheria	did not submit recommendation	Wilton Rancheria
Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation	did not submit recommendation	Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation
San Diego County, CA*	San Diego County	San Diego County
Barona Group of Capitan Grande Band of Mission Indians	did not submit recommendation	Barona Group of Capitan Grande Band of Mission Indians
Campo Band of Diegueno Mission Indians	did not submit recommendation	Campo Band of Diegueno Mission Indians
Capitan Grande Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of California	did not submit recommendation	Capitan Grande Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of California
Ewiiapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians	did not submit recommendation	Ewiiapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians
Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel	did not submit recommendation	Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel
Inaja Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of the Inaja and Cosmit Reservation	did not submit recommendation	Inaja Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of the Inaja and Cosmit Reservation
Jamul Indian Village of California	did not submit recommendation	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]
La Jolla Band of Luiseno Indians	did not submit recommendation	La Jolla Band of Luiseno Indians
La Posta Band of Diegueno Mission Indians	did not submit recommendation	La Posta Band of Diegueno Mission Indians
Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeno Indians	did not submit recommendation	Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeno Indians
Manzanita Band of Diegueno Mission Indians	did not submit recommendation	Manzanita Band of Diegueno Mission Indians
Mesa Grande Band of Diegueno Mission Indians	did not submit recommendation	Mesa Grande Band of Diegueno Mission Indians
Pala Band of Mission Indians	did not submit recommendation	Pala Band of Mission Indians
Pauma Band of Luiseno Mission Indians of the Pauma and Yuima Reservation	did not submit recommendation	Pauma Band of Luiseno Mission Indians of the Pauma and Yuima Reservation
Rincon Band of Luiseno Mission Indians	did not submit recommendation	Rincon Band of Luiseno Mission Indians
San Pasqual Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of California	did not submit recommendation	San Pasqual Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of California
Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation	did not submit recommendation	Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation
Viejas (Baron Long) Group of Capitan Grande Band of Mission Indians	did not submit recommendation	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]
Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria	did not submit recommendation	Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria
Lytton Rancheria of California	did not submit recommendation	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
Big Sandy Rancheria of Western Mono Indians of California	did not submit recommendation	Big Sandy Rancheria of Western Mono Indians of California
Cold Springs Rancheria of Mono Indians of California	did not submit recommendation	Cold Springs Rancheria of Mono Indians of California
Northfork Rancheria of Mono Indians of California	did not submit recommendation	Northfork Rancheria of Mono Indians of California
Picayune Rancheria of Chukchansi Indians of California	did not submit recommendation	Picayune Rancheria of Chukchansi Indians of California
Santa Rosa Indian Community of the Santa Rosa Rancheria	did not submit recommendation	Santa Rosa Indian Community of the Santa Rosa Rancheria
Table Mountain Rancheria of California	did not submit recommendation	Table Mountain Rancheria of California
Tule River Indian Tribe of the Tule River Reservation	did not submit recommendation	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
Chicken Ranch Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians of California	did not submit recommendation	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]
Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians of the Tuolumne Rancheria of California	did not submit recommendation	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.