



Public Health Brief

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Potential Wildland Fire Smoke Impact on the Death Ride

As of 2 PM today, smoke from several fires is clearly visible over Markleeville, Monitor Pass, and Ebbetts Pass areas. The fires include the Henry Fire, which is now reported to be >1,000 acres, and a smaller fire burning in the Pleasant Valley area. Air quality sensors in Markleeville report P 2.5 levels between 50-100, which puts these levels in the "Moderate" range. Actual levels at higher elevations over the passes are likely to be higher. It is difficult to predict conditions for the race tomorrow. However, it is safe to say there will still be smoke at some level still blowing through the area on Saturday.

What advice do we have for participants and spectators?

At these current levels, unusually sensitive persons should consider reducing prolonged or heavy exertion. This is typically a very small group of people and may not include anyone who is a participant in the Death Ride. However, spectators and volunteers are more likely to fit into this category.

To view current data, go to:

[Real-time air quality map | PurpleAir](#)

<https://fire.airnow.gov/?lat=38.905446399999995&lng=-119.7473792&zoom=10>

Henry Fire: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7639/>



Public Health

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Alpine County Health Department, 75-B Diamond Valley Rd., Markleeville, CA 96120

Alpine County Board of Supervisors, Phone: (530) 694-2281

District 1: January Riddle, District 2: Ron Hames, District 3: Irvin Jim,

District 4: Terry Woodrow, District 5: David Griffith

Since most persons will not have access to current air quality readings during the Death Ride, the following chart can be helpful in visually assessing current conditions and recommendations.

Recommendations for Outdoor Physical Activity during Smoky Conditions

This guide is intended to help you make decisions on outdoor activities when it's smoky outside.
Group information is listed below.

Length of Outdoor Physical Activity	Good for Groups (1 – 3)	Moderate for Group 1 Individuals	Unhealthy for Group 1 & 2 Individuals	Unhealthy for Group 1 - 3 Individuals	Very Unhealthy for Group 1 - 3 Individuals	Hazardous for Group 1 – 3 Individuals
	Visibility > 11 miles	Visibility 6 - 10 miles	Visibility 3 – 5 miles	Visibility 1.5 – 2.75 miles	Visibility 1 – 1.25 miles	Visibility < 1 mile
30 Minutes	No Restrictions	Group 1 Individuals should monitor or reduce physical activity.	Groups 1 & 2 should limit time spent outdoors or reduce physical activity.	Groups 1 & 2 should avoid the outdoors and Group 3 should reduce physical activity.	All Groups should avoid the outdoors and physical activity.	All Groups should avoid the outdoors and physical activity.
1 Hour	No Restrictions	Group 1 Individuals should monitor or reduce physical activity.	Groups 1 & 2 should considerably limit time spent outdoors and reduce physical activity.	All Groups should avoid the outdoors and physical activity.		
2 Hours or More	No Restrictions	Group 1 Individuals should limit prolonged physical activity.	Groups 1 & 2 should avoid the outdoors and Group 3 should reduce physical activity.	All Groups should avoid the outdoors and physical activity.		

WHICH GROUP ARE YOU IN?		
Group 1 Individuals	Group 2 Individuals	Group 3 Individuals
This group includes those with respiratory or heart disease, angina, pulmonary disease, asthma, emphysema or any other disease that may be impacted by any level of smoke.	This group includes those with asthma, or recent respiratory infections, those who experience seasonal allergies, work outside, or in general are more sensitive to the acute effects of smoke.	This group includes those who are more resistant to the short term effects of smoke. Healthy people may also experience adverse effects of smoke depending on duration and exposure.

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In addition, I have also attached an additional document titled “Levels of Health Concern from smoke (PM 2.5) in the air”, which outlines clear guidelines based on hourly and daily readings of air quality.

We wish all a safe and enjoyable day at the Death Ride!



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