

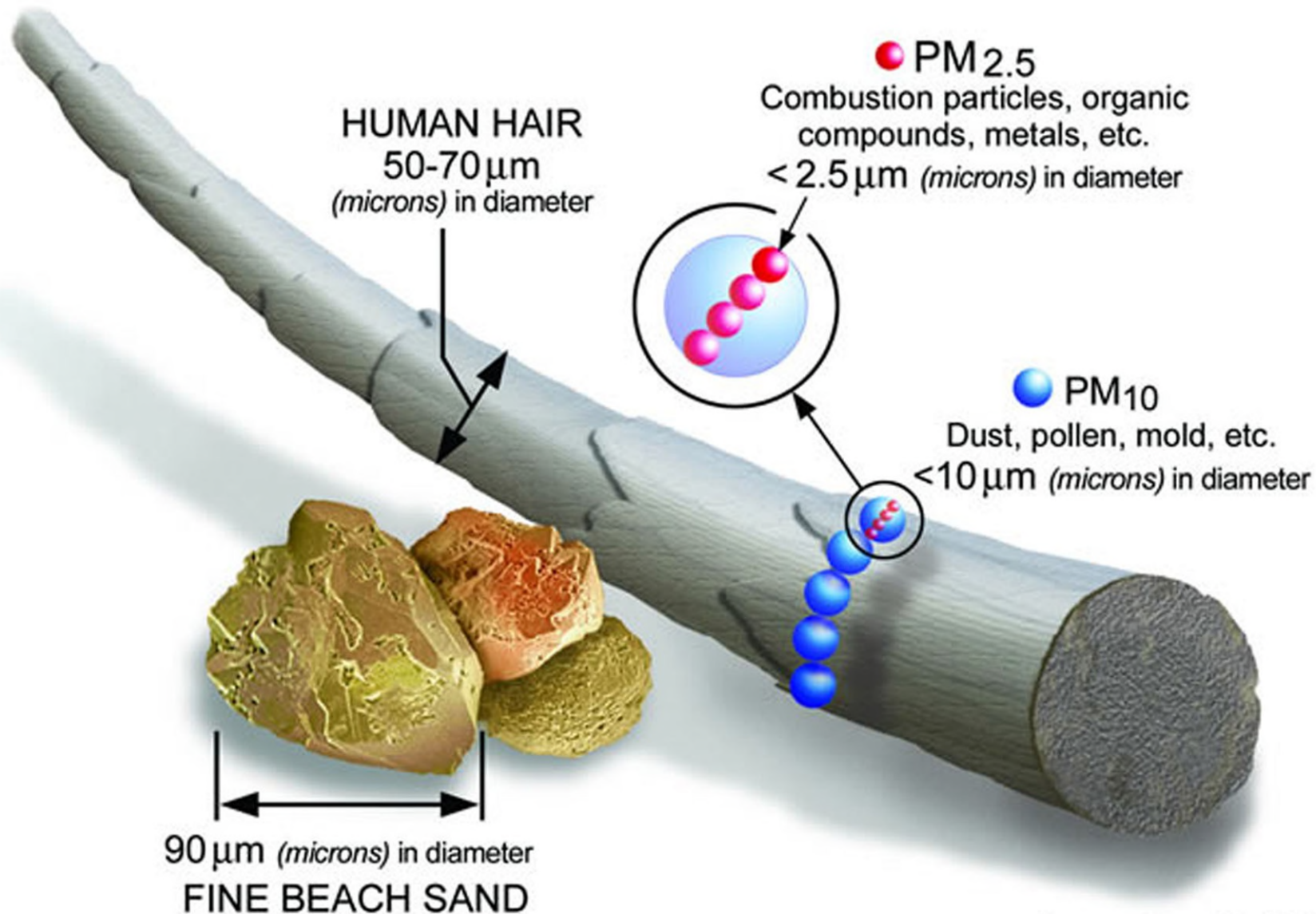


# **Proposed Revisions to the Federal Fine Particulate Matter Standard**

Ali Adams, Manager

Air Quality Planning and Science Division

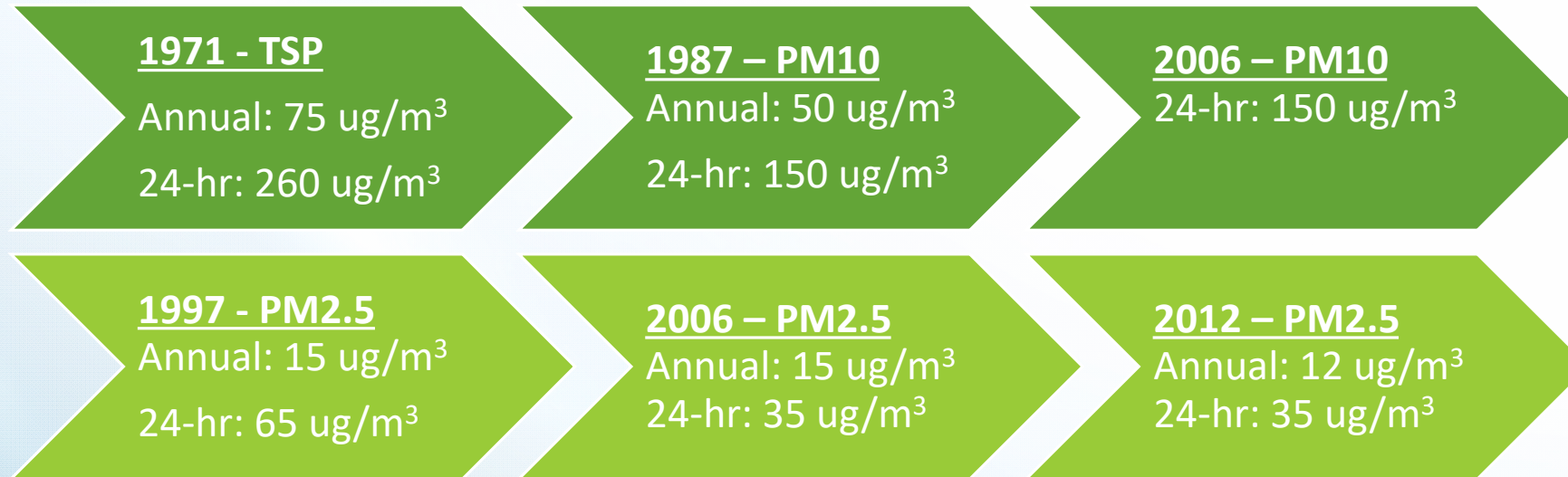
October 5, 2023



# PM<sub>2.5</sub> PM<sub>10</sub>

Image courtesy of U.S. EPA

# Federal Standards for PM2.5 and PM10



National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)

# EPA Proposes to Strengthen PM2.5 NAAQS

## PM2.5 (Annual)

- Range of 9.0 to 10.0  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
- Comments on range of 11.0 to 8.0  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

## PM2.5 (24-hour)

- Retain standard of 35  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
- Comments on revision as low as 25  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

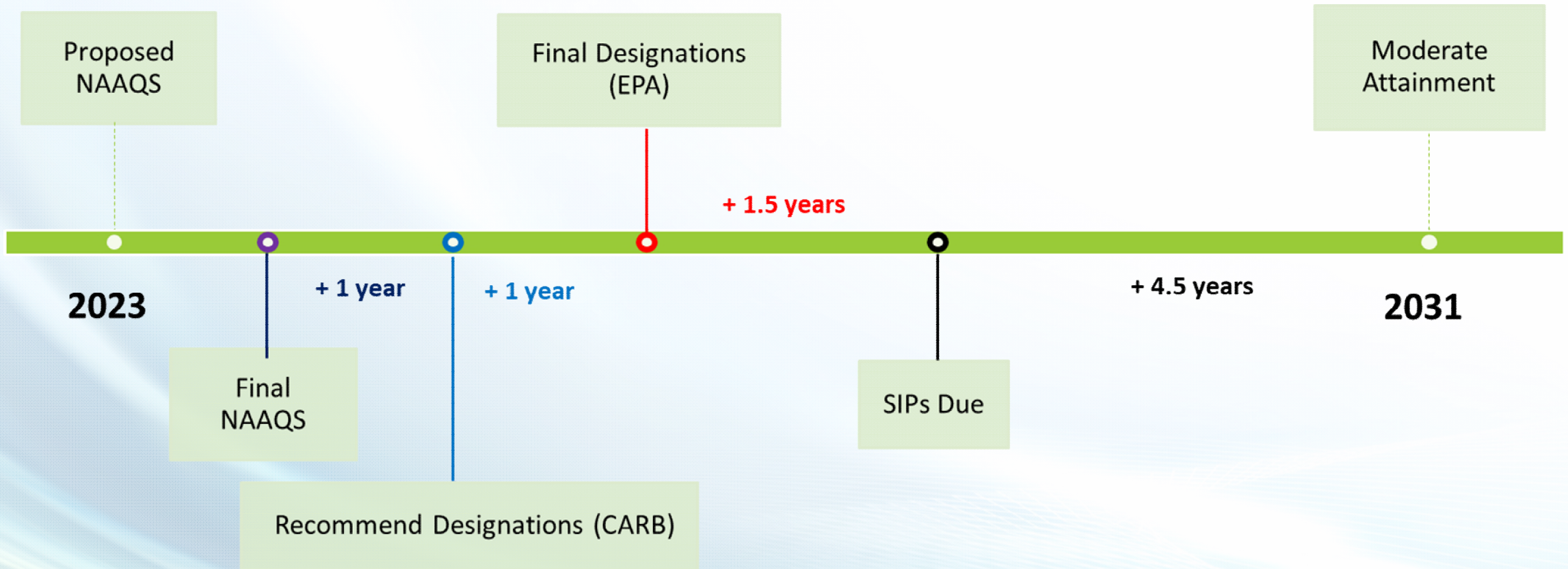
## PM10 (24-hour)

- Retain standard of 150  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

## Secondary Standards

- Retain current standards
- Accepted comments on revisions to PM2.5 as low as 25  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$

# Timeline of Major Milestones

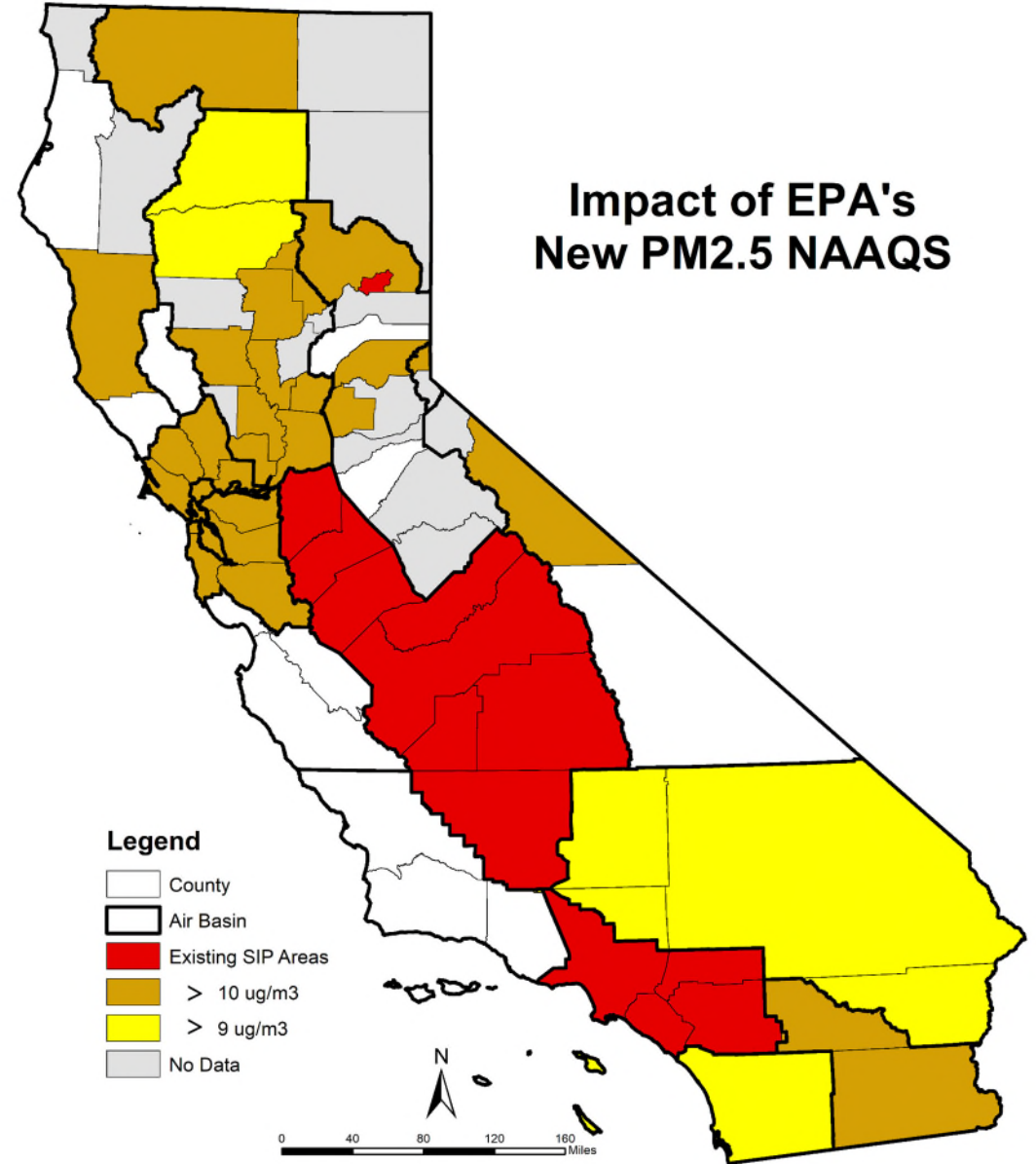


# 2022 PM2.5 by County

Designations will be based on 2023 data

EPA's final designations will be based on 2024 data

*Imperative to have complete data*

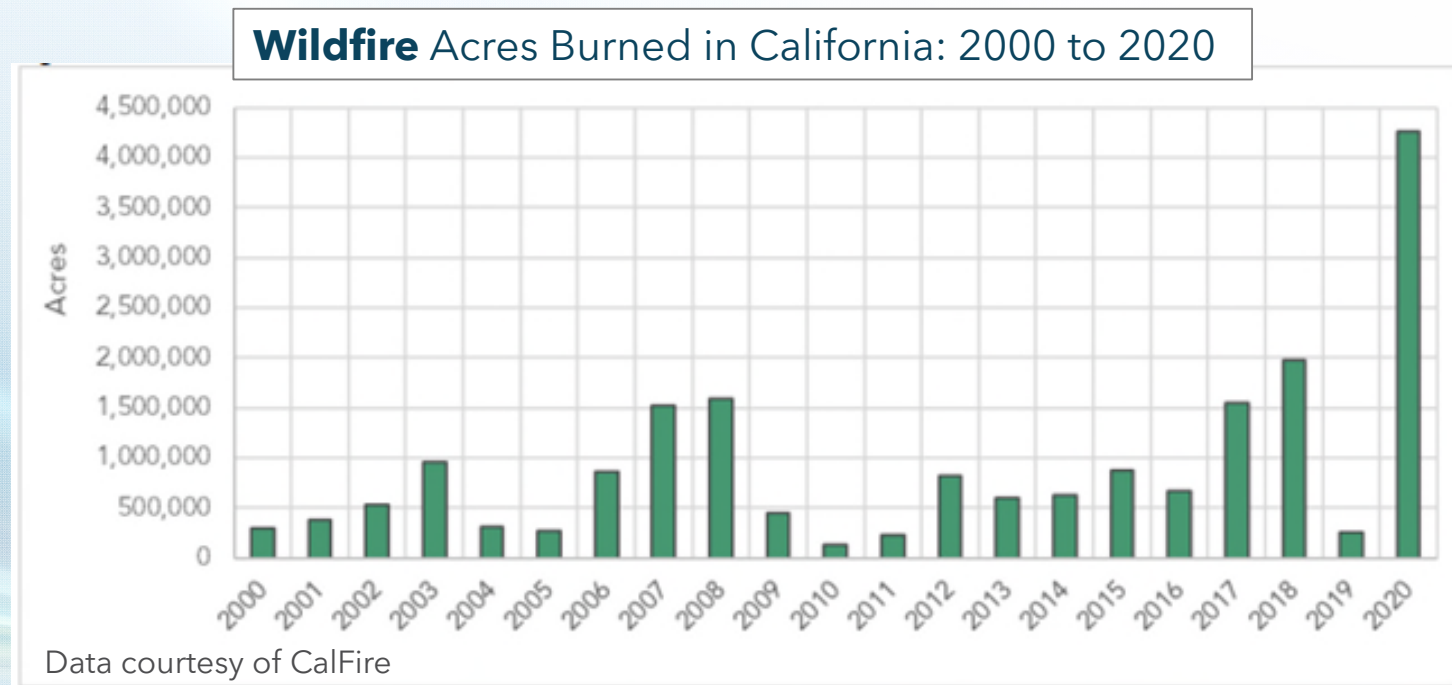


# Exceptional Event Process

- Exceptional Events include
  - Prescribed Fire
  - Wildfire
  - Fireworks
  - High Winds
- Data must be flagged
  - Imperative to track days impacted by wildfires
  - Maintain records
- Demonstrations submitted if the designation status is impacted
- Due to EPA at the same time as the State's designation recommendations

# Uncertainty of Prescribed Fire Impacts on Regulatory Data

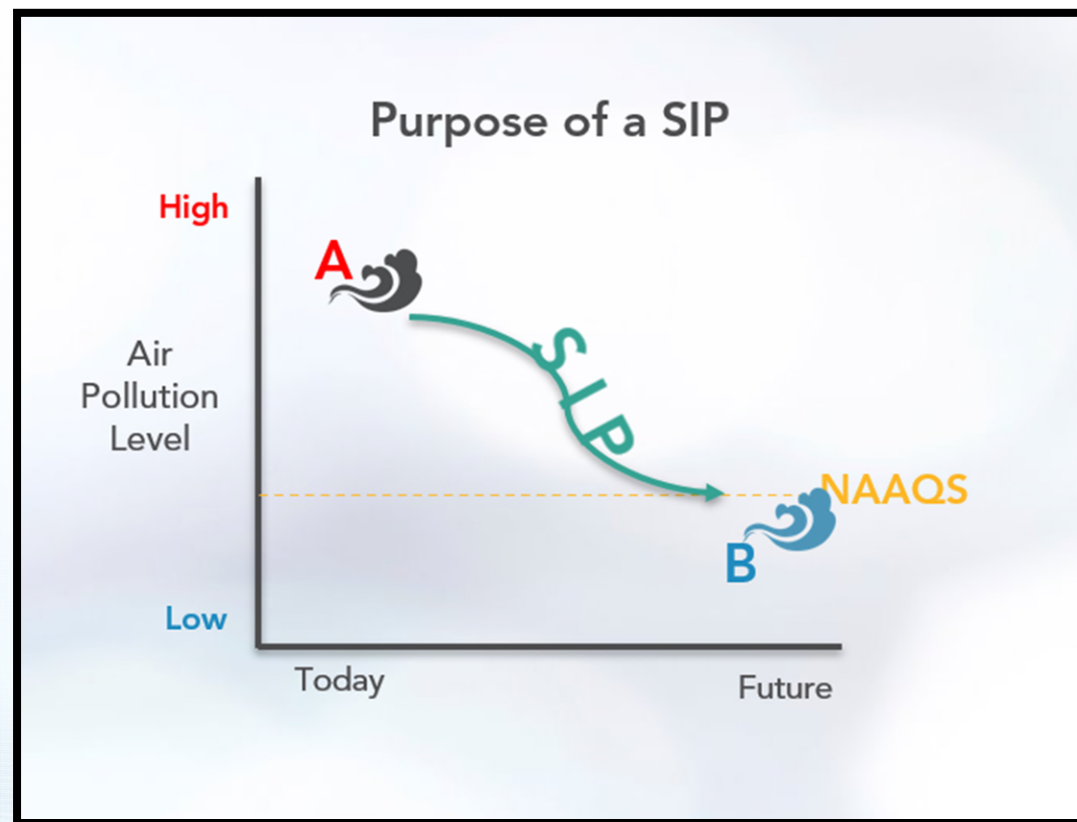
- Climate change necessitates increased fuels treatment to 1 million acres annually by 2025
- Prescribed fire is an element of fuels treatment strategy
- Title 17 Smoke management program shared responsibility





# State Implementation Plan

- Demonstrates how to attain health-based air quality standards
- Approved through a public process
- Federally enforceable after EPA approval
- Due 18 months after PM2.5 Designations



# San Joaquin Valley Agricultural Burning

- Not prescribed burning
- Progressively phased out burning of certain crops since 2005
- Near complete phase-out of burning Jan. 2025
- \$180 million in State 2021/2022 Budget for alternatives to ag burning



# Next Steps

## Now: Ahead of New NAAQS

- CARB and Districts review recent air quality data, including potential exceptional events

## Fall 2023: EPA Promulgates New NAAQS/Designations

- CARB proposes designations; EPA finalizes

## 2024+: SIP Development & Path to Attain NAAQS

- CARB and Districts develop SIPs showing attainment within 6 years, or it's impracticable to attain in 6 years

# Questions?

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# Resources

- [PM Pollution \(epa.gov\)](https://www.epa.gov/pm-pollution)
- [Documents for Current PM Proposal \(epa.gov\)](https://www.epa.gov/documents/previous-proposals)
- [Nonattainment Areas for Criteria Pollutants \(epa.gov\)](https://www.epa.gov/nonattainment-areas)
- [Air Quality Conditions \(AirNow Regulatory Network\)](https://www.airnow.gov/)
- [California Wildfire & Forest Resilience Task Force](https://www.fire.ca.gov/)