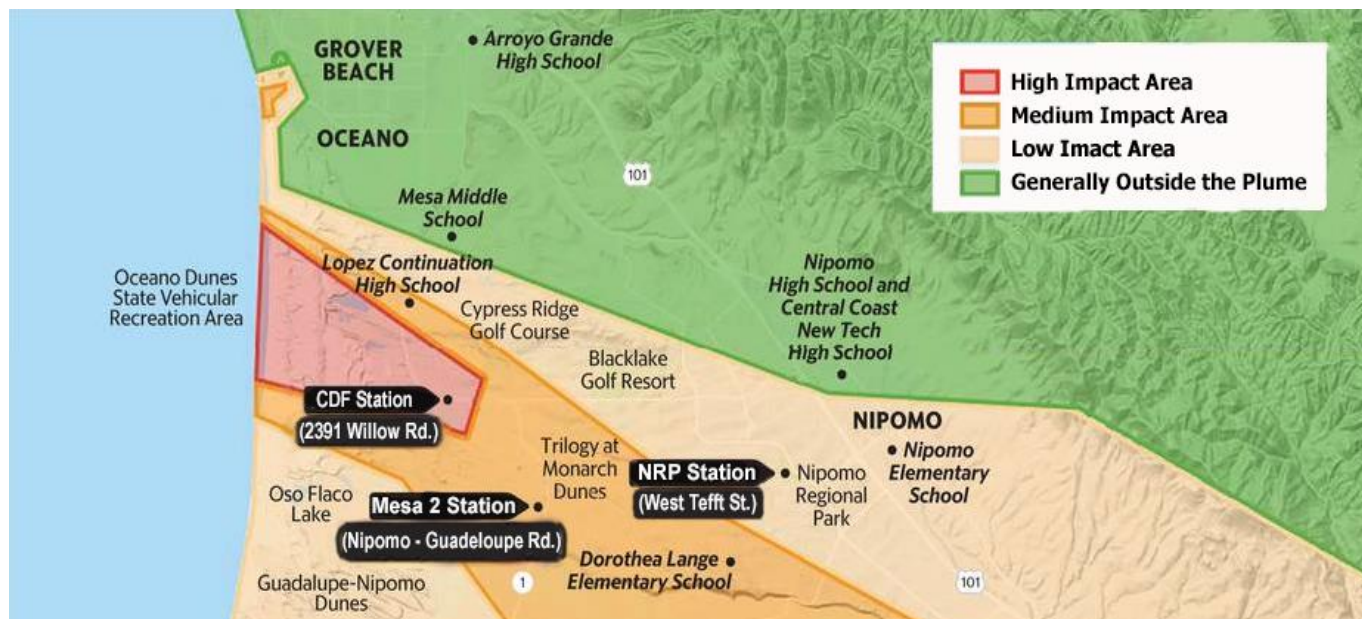


Trilogy / Nipomo MESA Air Quality

The San Luis Obispo Air Pollution Control District (APCD) tracks air pollution across the county. Dust plumes that blow across the Nipomo Mesa from the Oceanic Dunes can create air quality levels that present health risks. The map shows the general shape of the plume. This is based on data from Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) air-quality monitors maintained by the SLO County Air Pollution Control District.

The APCD uses the EPA station monitors shown on the map to track air quality, report Air Quality Index (AQI) levels, and issue air quality alerts. AQI measures five pollutants: ground-level ozone, particle pollution (particulate matter, including PM2.5 and PM10 particles), carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide and nitrogen dioxide. Particle matter, particularly PM2.5, can be a concern for people with respiratory issues. Air flowing off the Mesa changes throughout the day causing changes in AQI. AQI is stated as a number from 0 (good air quality) to more than 300 (Hazardous). You can sign up for air quality text alerts from San Luis Obispo APCD at <https://www.slocleanair.org/air-quality-alerts.php>.

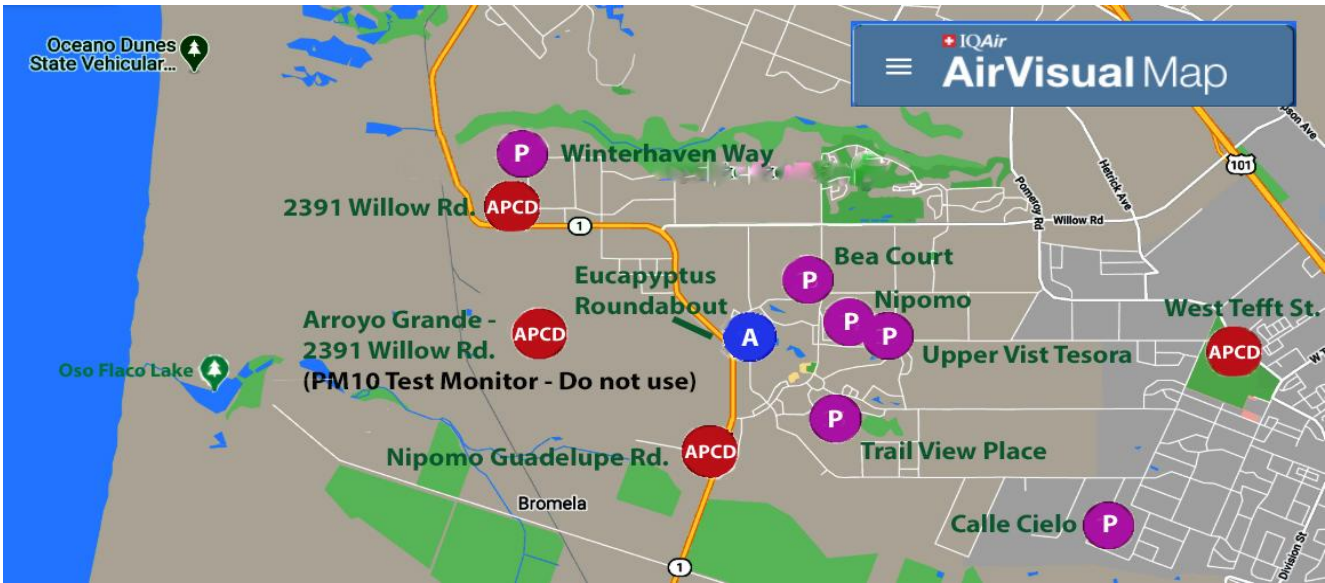


Modified Tribune Graphic. Data from SLO County Air Pollution Control District.

In addition to APCD EPA monitoring stations there are AirVisual and PurpleAir air quality monitors that are located in Trilogy and the surrounding area. Individuals who own these monitors can allow public access to their monitors and they can then be viewed on smartphone mobile apps.

A popular mobile app for our area is AirVisual. It's a free app and allows users to follow multiple monitors and get AQI information from EPA Stations, AirVisual monitors, and PurpleAir monitors. APCD EPA monitoring stations provide very accurate air quality and fine particle data but are only updated on an hourly basis. A recent study found that the AirVisual monitors provide more accurate fine particle measurement than the PurpleAir monitors for fine particles carried by wind coming from the dunes while Purple Air is better at measuring particulate pollution from wildfire smoke.

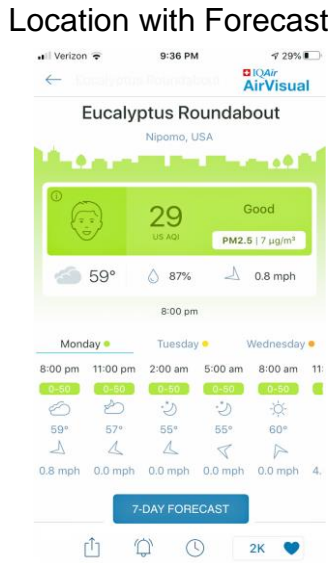
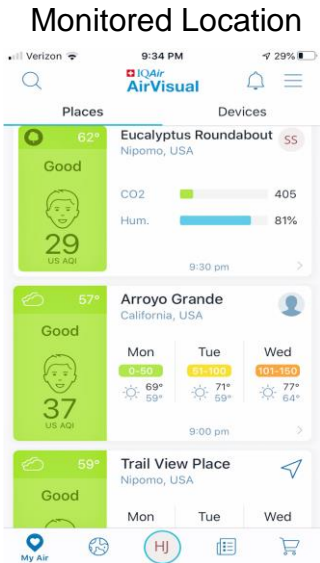
The map below shows locations around Nipomo that can be accessed through the AirVisual mobile app. The map has been modified to show the type of monitor at each location (APCD – Official EPA monitor, AirVisual - A, PurpleAir - P.)



Air flowing from the Oceano Dunes generally blows across the APCD station at 2391 Willow Rd. and the AirVisual Eucalyptus Roundabout monitor before spreading across the rest of Trilogy. Following these monitors can provide early information about air quality changes in our area.

The AirVisual mobile app displays AQI, CO2 and PM2.5 levels (important for health concerns) as well as weather information (wind speed and direction, forecast, etc.). Users select locations they wish to monitor and can set up alerts for changes in air quality. Information is usually updated hourly but a five-minute update is available for the Eucalyptus Roundabout location.

AirVisual Mobile App Screen Examples:



Five Minute Update - Eucalyptus Roundabout Monitor

APCD EPA monitors provide hourly updates. AirVisual and PurpleAir monitors usually take measurements every five minutes and report average readings on an hourly basis. The owner of the AirVisual Eucalyptus Roundabout (EucRA) monitor allows public access to the monitor for hourly readings but has also provided a share code to allow app users to get updates every five minutes. The monitor has 2000 followers and is a good way to check air quality before a walk.

To get five-minute updates download the AirVisual app to your smartphone and do the following: From the AirVisual home page (“Places” tab), tap on the three dots in the upper right corner of the screen.

1. Select “Follow Monitor” from the dropdown list.
2. Enter, and then ‘Add’ EucRA’s and the “Share Code” (not case sensitive): woezmtax
3. OPTIONAL: If you were previously getting hourly EucRA updates, you will now see two ‘widgets’ on your home page for EucRA. The five-minute update does not provide a forecast. If you want a forecast you can keep the hourly ‘widget’ or get a forecast from another close location. To delete the EucRA hourly ‘widget’ use the "Manage Places" button at the bottom of your home page.
4. OPTIONAL: By default, the AirVisual app does not make any notifications, and five-minute updates are not automatic when the app isn't actively being viewed. However, you can elect to receive automatic screen or audio notifications whenever air quality is rapidly changing – based on parameters you set. To set notifications from your home page, tap the EucRA ‘widget’, and tap the ‘ringing bell’ icon at the bottom of the page.

Air Quality Information

Air Pollution Control District (<https://www.slocleanair.org>)

The Oceano Dunes page provides information about efforts to reduce particulate emissions coming from the dunes. The website allows you to sign up for text alerts when there is a high wind event taking place that will affect Nipomo and surrounding areas. The website also has a form that makes it easy to file a complaint when there is poor air quality. Complaints are tracked and reported at APCD Board meetings.

AirNow (<https://www.airnow.gov/?city=Nipomo&state=CA&country=USA>)

Online Nipomo Mesa Air Quality. Also available as a mobile app. Monitors EPA stations. Updated hourly. May be delayed in reporting air quality changes in Trilogy due to changing wind conditions on the dunes.

Mesa Air Facts (<http://mesairfacts.net/>) - Concerned Citizens for Clean Air

The Mesa Air Facts website was started by Concerned Citizens for Clean Air, an organization of local residents fighting for clean air on the Nipomo Mesa. The site alerts Nipomo residents to health issues due to air pollution coming from the Oceano Dunes. They help to coordinate citizen

actions to establish effective dust reduction regulations and they have been working to drive the state parks to reestablish vegetative areas of the dunes. The state has started to replant these areas and this will create barriers that reduce small particles coming off the dunes and will help improve air quality.

The Mesa Air Facts website provides information about dust pollution, how it effects health and helps people understand how they can protect themselves from the health risks due to fine particulate matter (PM) exposure. To sign up for CCCA notifications and updates, send an email request to: ccca3858@gmail.com