



August 7, 2025

TO: Suisun Marsh Landowners

FROM: Steven Chappell

SUBJECT: BAAQMD Smoke Management Plan

**Directors**

Tony Vaccarella, President  
H. Kent Hansen  
Mike Lewis  
Jim Waters  
Dick Vanderkous

**Associate Directors**

Dennis Becker  
Fred Riedel  
John Telfer  
John Eudy

**Staff**

Steven Chappell  
Executive Director  
Desmond Mackell  
Operations Manager  
Caitlin Perez  
Administrative Assistant  
Tim Edmunds  
Water Manager/Biologist  
Jeff Taylor  
Water Manager/Biologist  
Marina Guzman  
Water Manager/Biologist  
Jesirae Collins  
Biologist  
Marque Mouton  
LJI Resident Caretaker

**SUISUN RESOURCE**

**CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

2544 Grizzly Island Road  
Suisun City, CA 94585-9539  
(707) 425-9302  
[srcd@suisunrcd.org](mailto:srcd@suisunrcd.org)  
[www.suisunrcd.org](http://www.suisunrcd.org)

The fall burn season for the Suisun Marsh will be from September 1, 2025 until October 15, 2025. As you may already know, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) has been mandated to implement California's "Smoke Management Guidelines" (Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations) for prescribed burning. These guidelines are intended to reduce potential public health and air quality impacts from open burning.

Adopted amendments to BAAQMD Regulation 5 require that anyone who wishes to conduct a prescribed burn in the Suisun Marsh must file a "Smoke Management Plan" with the BAAQMD and submit required fee payments before BAAQMD can approve your Smoke Management Plan.

Enclosed is a copy of the "Marsh Management Fire Procedures for Burning in the Suisun Marsh" information sheet and burning check list. If you wish to burn in the Suisun Marsh please follow the burn permit process on this sheet.

Please do not hesitate to call the SRCD Water Manager office at 707-426-2431, the SRCD office at 707-425-9302, or CA Department of Fish and Wildlife at 707-425-3828 if you have questions or to make an appointment to stop by the SRCD Water Manager office. If you need a copy of the burn application form titled "Marsh Management Fire Smoke Management Plan" Form MM-1 please contact SRCD or CDFW or look for it on our website: <http://www.suisunrcd.org> under the "Permits" tab under Marsh Burning.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Steven Chappell  
Executive Director



375 BEALE STREET, SUITE 600  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94105  
(415) 749-4600  
[openburn@baaqmd.gov](mailto:openburn@baaqmd.gov)  
[www.baaqmd.gov](http://www.baaqmd.gov)

2548 Grizzly Island Road  
Suisun, CA 94585  
(707) 425-3828  
Fax # (707) 425-1403

**MARSH MANAGEMENT FIRE PROCEDURES  
FOR BURNING IN THE SUISUN MARSH WILDLIFE AREA**  
(Revised August 4, 2022)

To obtain permission to conduct a controlled marsh management fire in the Suisun Marsh, the following procedures (#1 - 5) must be followed. More information can be found on the BAAQMD website: <https://www.baaqmd.gov/permits/open-burn> or by calling the Open Burn Line at (415) 749-4600.

1. **A completed smoke management plan (SMP) must be submitted to California Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW), Grizzly Island Office for certification (allow two weeks for review) and the SMP will be forwarded to BAAQMD by DFW for approval (allow 30 days for review).** The SMP must include landowner's certification and 3 copies of the property map showing the areas and acreages to be burned. DFW will make the initial review to certify that the burn is desirable and proper for improvement of land for wildlife or game habitat (Health and Safety Code Section 41861). Once Certified by DFW, the SMP will be forwarded to BAAQMD for further review. After approval of the SMP, BAAQMD will email a copy of the approved SMP to the appropriate Fire District (i.e., Suisun, Cordelia, or Montezuma) for their consideration of final approval of a Burn Permit.
2. **Obtain a Burn Permit from local fire protection district (allow 7 days).** Local Fire Districts will issue a Burn Permit according to their procedures and regulations, and a pre-burn inspection may be required. Burn Permits must be picked up and signed by the authorized person at the local Fire District office. Both burn permit and an approved SMP are required prior to burning.
3. **Day prior to the burn: "Acreage burning allocation" must be requested any time prior to 9:00 a.m. by calling (415) 749-4915 and leaving a message with the SRCD property name and number, proposed acreage amount to be burned, caller's name, and telephone number.** BAAQMD staff will call marsh burner(s) by 12:00 noon to provide a 24-hour burn day decision and a confidence level (high, medium, low) that the weather will be favorable on the burn day. Requests received after 9:00 a.m. will not receive a call back and zero acreage will be allocated.
4. **Day of the Burn: Final acreage will be allocated to marsh burner(s) by 8:30 a.m. via telephone.** You may call (415) 749-4915 to leave a message if you do not receive an acreage allocation on the morning of the burn and your call will be returned promptly. Burning is not allowed until you receive an allocation, and you must also call Solano County Dispatch (707) 421-7090 before ignition to declare that you are burning. Additionally, burn hours are from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. No fires are allowed outside of this time, and you must not allow any existing burning to continue after 3:00 p.m. All marsh burns must be staffed appropriately, with at least one person in attendance that is responsible for the burn. You are responsible for preventing the fire from escaping your property. You are also subject to having the fire extinguished if the smoke becomes a public nuisance. Be advised that public complaints received by a Fire District will be forwarded to BAAQMD for investigation and public nuisance violations will be cited. In addition, if a flare-up occurs outside of the burn hour limits or on a No-Burn day, you may also be cited by BAAQMD.
5. **Day after the burn: Burner must report the total acreage of vegetation burned to BAAQMD no later than 12:00 p.m. the day following a burn** by calling (415) 749-4915 and leaving a message. In addition, you must send a follow-up burn map indicating the number of acres burned to the DFW, Grizzly Island Office. If you did not burn, you must call the Grizzly Island Wildlife Area office at (707) 425-3828 to report the "No Burn". Failure to respond will jeopardize authorization of future burn permit applications.



Inquiries or comments should be directed to the appropriate agency:

Air Quality Complaints (BAAQMD)	(800) 334-ODOR
Forecasting Services (BAAQMD)	(415) 749-4915
Open Burning Program (BAAQMD)	(415) 749-4600
To Request Marsh Management Fire Applications (DFW)	(707) 425-3828
Suisun Fire District, 445 Jackson St., Fairfield	(707) 425-3605
Cordelia Fire District, 2155 Cordelia Rd., Suisun	(707) 864-0468
Montezuma Fire District, 21 North 4 <sup>th</sup> St., Rio Vista	(707) 374-5962
Solano Dispatch	(707) 421-7090