

WEST COAST SMOKE EXPOSURE TASK FORCE

WILDFIRE SMOKE RESOURCES



RISK ASSESSMENT

Prepare for a wildfire near or on your property

[Wildfire Preparedness Resources Guide](#)

Farm preparation Risk reduction Crop protection

[USDA Risk Management Agency
Wildfire FAQs](#)



BEST PRACTICES

Quantitative lab tests coupled with sensory analysis of wine produced from smoke-exposed grapes is **the best way to determine the risk posed by smoke-exposed grapes** to wine quality.

Small-lot fermentations of a representative sample of grapes collected from a vineyard block can be used for sensory analysis.

[Lab Analysis - CA, OR, & WA](#)

[Grape Sampling Protocol for Growers](#)

[Micro-Fermentation \(Bucket\) Protocol](#)

[Nano-Scale Fermentation Protocol](#)



[Have a dialogue with buyers about
smoke tolerance before harvest](#)



SMOKE IMPACTS

Predicting grape smoke exposure risk based on distance from a fire is challenging.

Any smoke exposure in a vineyard may present a potential risk for smoke damage and is dependent on:



Temperature of the fire



Topography



Wind strength and direction



Barrier Spray Applications

Results from barrier spray trials have been inconclusive and contradictory. Effectiveness of barrier sprays is variable.



Ash Removal & Grape Washing

A significant amount, but not 100%, of ash can be removed by washing grapes. Washing grapes does not wash off smoke compounds (volatile phenols).



Pest Control Applications

During a smoke event, any pest control application containing adjuvants with 'sticker' or 'spreader' properties may promote greater uptake of damaging smoke compounds in berries.

[Smoke Impacts: More Info & FAQs](#)

CROP INSURANCE



[WCSETF Resources](#)

Step 1: Notify your agent that you have a potential loss, noting smoke is present.

[Submit the notice to your agent as soon as the smoke is a concern](#)

The Fire Insurance Protection-Smoke Index (**FIP-SI**) **Endorsement** covers a portion of the deductible of the Grape Crop Provisions when the insured county experiences a minimum number of smoke events as determined by the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation.



[WCSETF Crop Insurance Detailed Guide](#)



[Smoke Claims Quick Reference Checklist](#)



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[FIP-SI
SMOKE MAP](#)

WCSETF
www.wcsetf.org

The West Coast Smoke Exposure Task Force (WCSETF) is a collaborative coalition of growers, winemakers, researchers, and wine/grape industry organizations from California, Oregon, and Washington dedicated to advancing research and education on wildfire smoke exposure in winegrapes. [Subscribe to the WCSETF newsletter.](#)