

The National Wildfire Mitigation and Management Commission Report to Congress (2023)

Recommendation 42: Direct the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of the Interior, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture to work together to expeditiously evaluate current federal regulations and guidance around the treatment of smoke from wildland fire in air quality management programs with the intent of ensuring the programs can accommodate increased use of beneficial fire. Such an evaluation includes the exceptional events pathway and making any necessary changes to enhance programmatic and procedural ease and clarity while ensuring protection of public health, in a manner consistent with the Clean Air Act. Further, **Congress should provide resources to ensure federal, state, and local authorities can expand their capacity to document and exclude wildfire and beneficial fire smoke from regulatory significance.**

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