Recommended Filtering Facepiece Respirators for Wildfire Smoke

Per the new Cal/OSHA Wildfire Smoke Protection Standard, individuals who are exposed to unhealthy levels of wildfire smoke (PM2.5 AQI >150) for greater than one hour per shift must be provided an NIOSH-approved filtering facepiece respirator for voluntary use. Although any NIOSH approved particulate respirator (N/R/P95, 99, or 100) is allowable, some cost effective and user-friendly options are provided below. Most individuals will find a size medium/regular most comfortable, with ~10% preferring size small or large respectively. If the AQI for PM2.5 exceeds 500, respirator use is mandatory and individuals must be enrolled in the UCSB Respiratory Protection Program.

Brand: 3M
Type: N95 Particulate Respirator
Model Number(s): 8200

- Lightweight and most economical
- Single size only
- Adjustable nose clip and two-strap design helps provide a secure seal
- Cost: Low. Varies by size and vendor, usually less than $1 each

Brand: 3M
Type: N95 Particulate Respirator
Model Number(s): 8210 (regular)/8110S (small)/8210Plus (large)

- Lightweight and economical
- Advanced Electrostatic Media technology enhances particulate capture while reducing breathing resistance
- Cushioning nose foam and adjustable nose clip help provide a custom and secure seal
- Cost: Low. Varies by size and vendor, usually less than $1 each
Brand: 3M
Type: VFlex N95 Particulate Respirator
Model Number(s): 9105 (regular)/ 9105S (small)
- V-shaped pleats helps make breathing easier and flex with mouth movement while talking
- Cost: Low. Varies by size and vendor, usually less than $1 each

Brand: Moldex
Type: N95 Healthcare Particulate Respirator
Model Number(s): 1512 (regular)/1510 (extra small)/1511 (small)/1513 (large)
- Molded nose bridge seals easily without a metal noseband
- Meets CDC guidelines for protection against TB exposure control standards and protection against laser plumes of surgical smoke
- Cost: Moderate. Varies by size and vendor, usually $1.50 - $2.00 each

Brand: 3M
Type: N95 Particulate Respirator with Breathing Valve
Model Number(s): 8210V or 8511
- Proprietary 3M™ Cool Flow™ Valve helps keeps wearer cool
- Cushioning nose foam and adjustable nose clip helps provide a custom and secure seal
- Advanced electrostatic media is designed for ease of breathing
- Cost: Moderate to high. Varies by vendor, usually $1.50 - $3.00 each