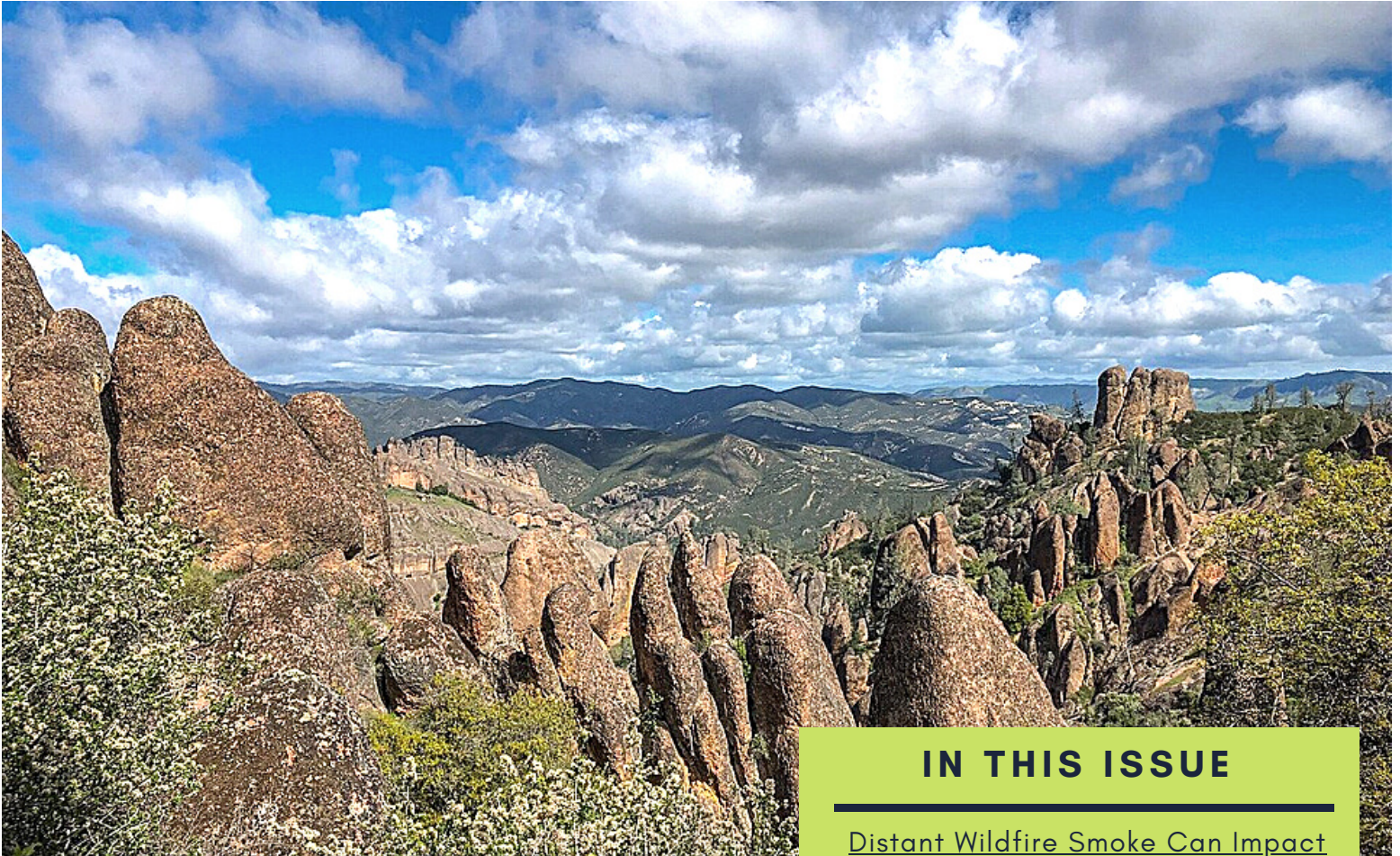




CLEARING THE AIR

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DISTANT WILDFIRE SMOKE CAN IMPACT OUR AIR QUALITY AND OUR HEALTH

Richard Stedman, Air Pollution Control Officer

It's likely most of us in the Greater Bay Area vividly remember the orange skies from wildfire smoke in September 2020 with its sharp smell and taste. A component of wildfire smoke is fine particulate matter (aka PM2.5), which can penetrate deep into our lungs. It is the most deadly form of air pollution in the U.S., according to [Michael Wara](#) of Stanford Woods Institute for the Environment. Exposure leads to greater potential for heart and lung disease as well as cancer.
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