



City of Rialto Fire Hazard Severity Zones





City of Rialto Fire Hazard Severity Zones

Background of Fire Hazard Severity Zone Maps

- Developed by CalFire and first introduced in 1992 following the 1991 Oakland fire storm
- Classifies areas as moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity zones
- Maps were based on vegetation types, topography, fire history, and weather patterns

Purpose of the Maps

- Guide local governments in land-use and emergency planning
- Required fire prevention programs such as defensible space, fuel modification plans, and construction requirements



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What do the Maps Measure

- Fire hazard severity maps evaluate “HAZARD,” not “RISK”
- Hazard is based on the physical conditions that create a likelihood and expected fire behavior over a 30 to 50-year period without considering mitigation measures such as home hardening, recent wildfires, fuel reduction efforts.
- Risk is the potential damage a fire can do to the area under existing conditions, accounting for any modifications such as fuel reduction projects, defensible space, and ignition resistant building construction.

What new Data is Included in the New Model

- Local climate data covering the years 2003-2018
- Ember transport (casting) is being modeled based on local distributions of observed wind speed and direction values



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Adoption Process Overview

- Local maps for Rialto were released on March 24, 2025
- The public review period must be a minimum of 30-days. Rialto made the maps available through social media and the Fire Department website on April 10, 2025, and will continue to solicit questions and concerns from the public.
- Local adoption by Ordinance (AB-211) must occur within 120-days of the maps being released which sunsets on July 22, 2025

California Government Code 51175 - 51189

- Mandates adoption of the maps
- Similarly to the California Fire Code adoption process the City cannot lower the determined fire hazard severity zone but may consider raising it with determined facts & findings



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State Minimum Requirements

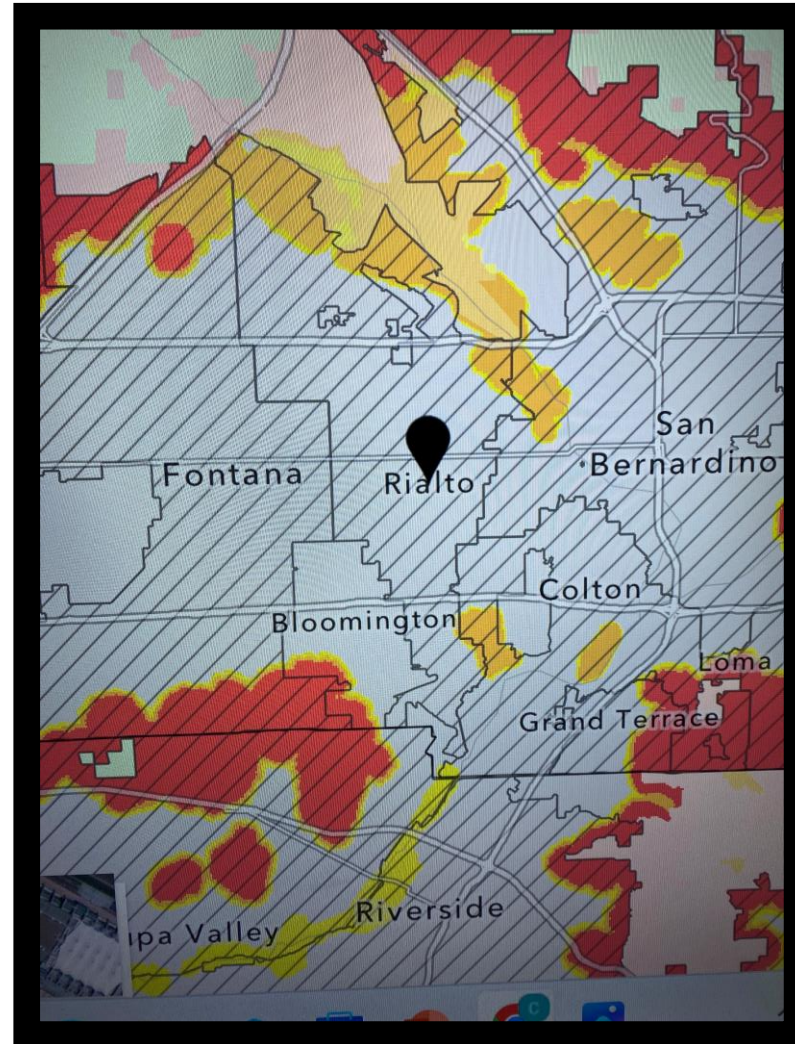


	SRA	LRA
VERY HIGH	Adopt FHSZ CEQA Subdivision Map Act Safety Element Fire Safe Regulations Chapter 7A	Defensible Space Hazard Disclosure Subdivision Review Adopt FHSZ CEQA Subdivision Map Act Safety Element Fire Safe Regulations Chapter 7A
HIGH	Adopt FHSZ CEQA Subdivision Map Act Safety Element Fire Safe Regulations Chapter 7A	Defensible Space Hazard Disclosure Subdivision Review Adopt FHSZ Hazard Disclosure Chapter 7A* Effective January 1, 2026
MODERATE	Adopt FHSZ CEQA Subdivision Map Safety Element Fire Safe Regulations Chapter 7A	Defensible Space Subdivision Review Adopt FHSZ



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Fire Hazard Severity Zones



2025 Fire Hazard Severity Zones in
Local Responsibility Area, as
Recommended by the State Fire
Marshal

Fire Hazard Severity Zone

- Very High
- High
- Moderate

2007-2011 Fire Hazard Severity Zones
in Local Responsibility Area, as
Recommended by the State Fire
Marshal

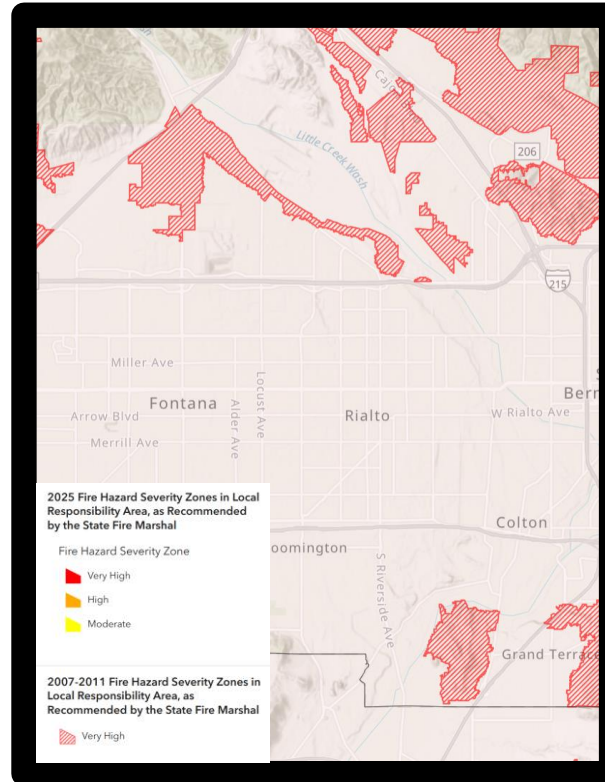
- Very High



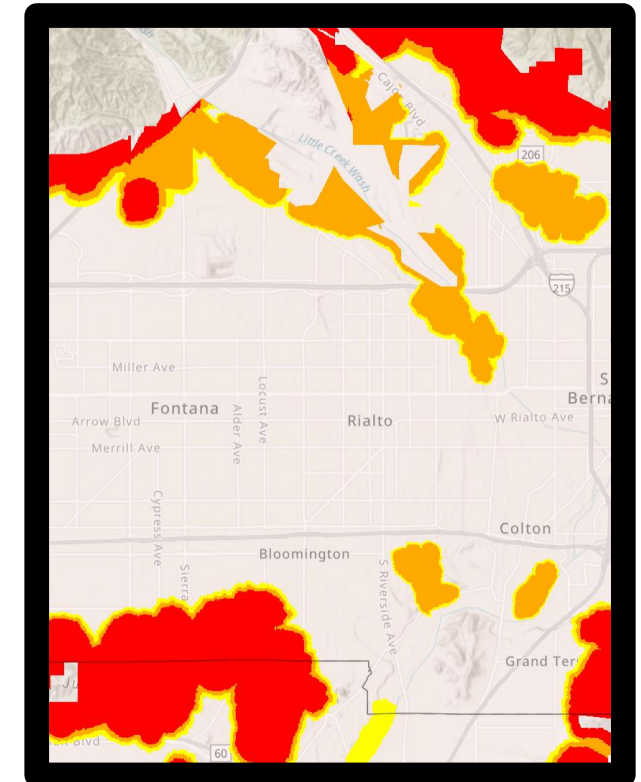
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Fire Hazard Severity Zone Comparison

2007 Maps



2025 Maps



San Bernardino		Moderate	High	Very High	Total
Acreage	LRA	1,495,773	150,157	117,516	1,763,446
	SRA	114,655	81,796	146,032	342,483
	Combined	1,610,428	231,953	263,547	2,105,928



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Fire Hazard Severity Zone Key Points

- Adoption of maps required by July 22, 2025
- Impacts are not retroactive to existing permitted development
- The map updates removed the very high fire hazard severity zone from the City of Rialto, However, expanded the high & moderate fire hazard severity zones
- California Building Standards Code (Title 24, Part 2, Chapter 7A) applies to new construction in the very high and high fire hazard severity zones but does not apply to the moderate fire hazard severity zone
- AB 38 inspections and hazard disclosure required at time of real estate sale in the very high and high fire hazard zones
- Insurance impacts are unrelated to map updates however, support mitigation standards that may improve insurability long-term



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Fire Hazard Severity Zone Recommendation

- ✓ Receive and file the update
- ✓ Continue coordination with the California State Fire Marshals office and Planning staff regarding the FHSZ's
- ✓ Recommend support for continued public outreach & education
- ✓ Prepare to schedule the public hearing and Ordinance adoption by July 22, 2025
- ✓ Continue to monitor legislative impacts on Rialto development based on the fire hazard severity zone requirements



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Fire Hazard Severity Zone Questions or Concerns



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