

ORDINANCE NO. 25-015

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF ORANGE, CALIFORNIA
DESIGNATING THE FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONES
WITHIN THE COUNTY UNINCORPORATED AREAS**

WHEREAS, the Legislature has declared in Government Code Section 51175, Subdivision (a): 1) that wildfires are extremely costly, not only to property owners and residents, but also to local agencies; 2) that wildfires pose a serious threat to the preservation of public peace, health, and safety; 3) that it is necessary that cities, counties, special districts, state agencies, and federal agencies work together to bring raging fires under control; and 4) that preventative measures are needed to ensure the preservation of the public peace, health and safety, and

WHEREAS, the Legislature has declared in Government Code Section 51175, Subdivision (b), that the prevention of wildfires is not a municipal affair, but is, instead, a matter of statewide concern; and

WHEREAS, October 25, 2011, pursuant to Government Code Section 51178, the State Fire Marshal had previously identified certain areas within the County of Orange as a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones, which were adopted by the County of Orange on February 28, 2012, by Ordinance No. 12-001; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Government Code Section 51181, the State Fire Marshal shall periodically review the areas in the state identified as Very High Fire Hazard Severity zones, and as necessary make recommendations; and

WHEREAS, this review by the State Fire Marshal has been completed; and

WHEREAS, the creation of the updated map identifying moderate, high and very high - fire hazard severity zones relied upon the use of current scientific methods which assessed vegetation, slope, fire history, weather patterns and significantly improved accuracy by establishing the impact of flames, heat, and flying fire embers; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Government Code Section 51179 the State Fire Marshal has published this new map depicting areas designated as moderate, high and very high - fire hazard severity zones, and has recommended that local agencies adopt these Fire Hazard Severity zones through local ordinance; and

WHEREAS, Government Code Section 51179 Subdivision (a) requires local agencies to designate by ordinance the Fire Hazard Severity Zones in their jurisdiction within 120 days after receiving the recommendations from the State Fire Marshal; and

WHEREAS, the Orange County Fire Authority has reviewed the map and believes it accurately represents the Fire Hazard Severity Zones within the Unincorporated Areas of the County of Orange.

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF ORANGE ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Repeal of Ordinance 12-001

That Ordinance No. 12-001 adopting Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone is repealed in its entirety.

Section 2. Designation of Replacement Fire Hazard Severity Zone.

That the County of Orange designates those areas identified on Exhibit "A" attached hereto as the Orange County Unincorporated Area – Local Responsibility Area Fire Hazard Severity Zones as recommended by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection pursuant to Government Code Section 51178 and in accordance with Section 51179(a) of the California Government Code.

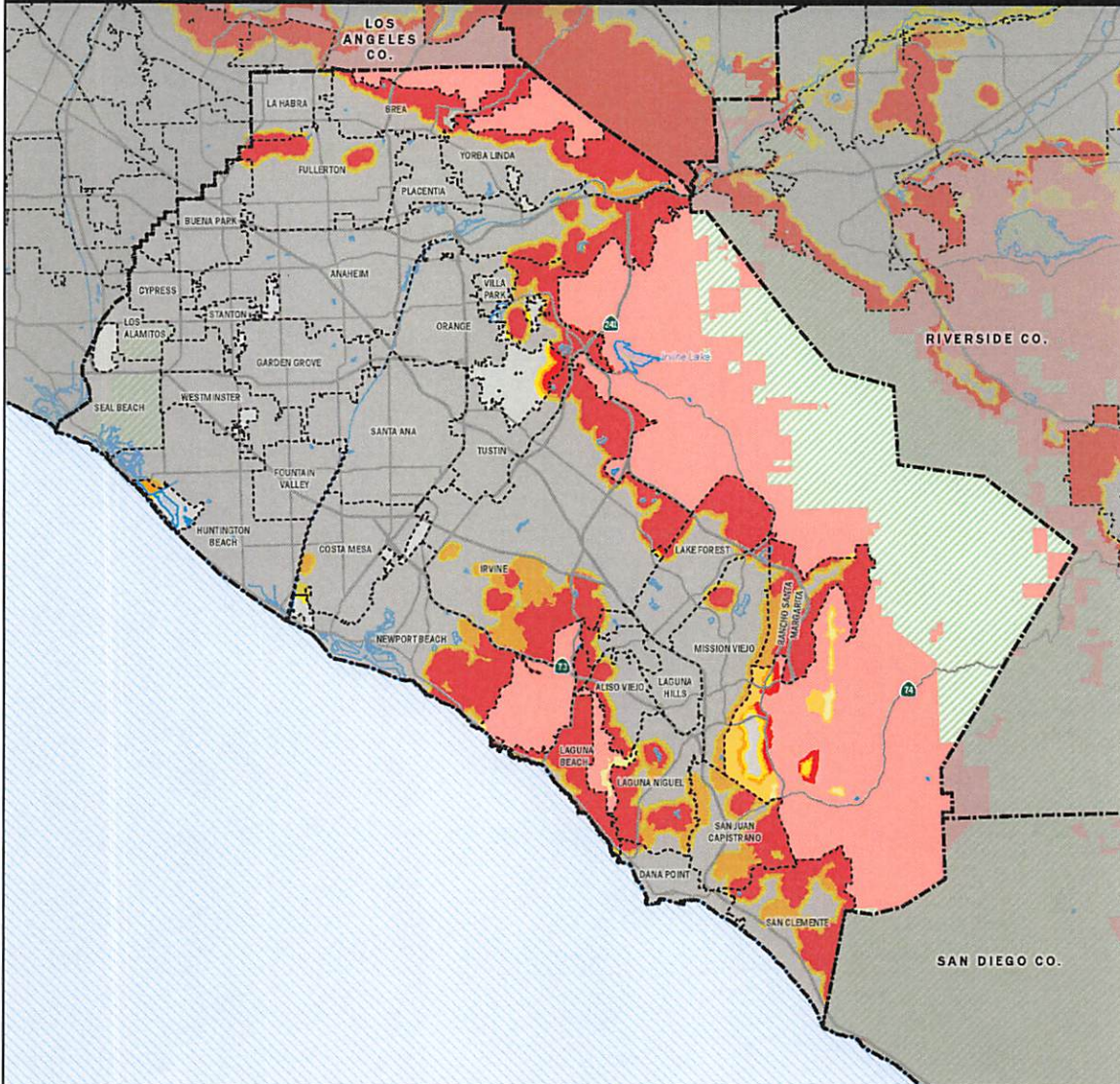
ORANGE COUNTY – UNINCORPORATED LRA



Local Responsibility Area Fire Hazard Severity Zones

As Identified by the
State Fire Marshal

March 24, 2025

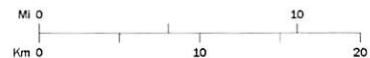


Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ) In Local Responsibility Area (LRA), as Identified by the State Fire Marshal

- Very High
- High
- Moderate

Fire Hazard Severity Zones In State Responsibility Area (SRA), Effective April 1, 2024

- Very High
- High
- Moderate



Projection: NAD 83 California Teale Albers
Scale: 1:274,000 at 11" x 17"

- Incorporated City
- Waterbody
- Unzoned LRA
- Federal Responsibility Area (FRA)

Government Code section 51178 requires the State Fire Marshal to identify areas in the state as moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity zones based on consistent

statewide criteria and based on the severity of fire hazard that is expected to prevail in those areas. Moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity zones shall be based on fuel loading, slope, fire weather,

and other relevant factors including areas where winds have been identified by the Office of the State Fire Marshal as a major cause of wildfire spread.

The State of California and the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection make no representations or warranties regarding the accuracy of data or maps. Neither the State nor the Department shall be liable under any circumstances for any direct, special, incidental, or consequential damages with respect to any claim by any user or third party on account of, or arising from, the use of data or maps.

Gavin Newsom, Governor, State of California
Wade Crowfoot, Secretary for Natural Resources, CA Natural Resources Agency
Joe Tyler, Director/Fire Chief, CA Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
Daniel Berlant, State Fire Marshal, CA Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

Data Sources:
CAL FIRE Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZSRA23_3 FHSZLRA_25_1)
CAL FIRE State Responsibility Areas (SRA25_1)
City and County boundaries as of 10/22/24 (CA Board of Equalization)

This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force thirty days from and after its passage. This ordinance shall be published once in an adjudicated newspaper in the County of Orange within fifteen days of its passage.

THE FOREGOING was **PASSED** and **ADOPTED** by the following vote of the Orange County Board of Supervisors on August 26, 2025, to wit:

AYES: Supervisors: KATRINA FOLEY, DONALD P. WAGNER, JANET NGUYEN
VICENTE SARMIENTO, DOUG CHAFFEE

NOES:

EXCUSED:

ABSTAINED:




CHAIRMAN

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
) ss:
COUNTY OF ORANGE)

I, ROBIN STIELER, Clerk of the Board of Orange County, California, hereby certify that a copy of this document has been delivered to the Chairman of the Board and that the above and foregoing Ordinance was duly and regularly adopted by the Orange County Board of Supervisors.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereto set my hand and seal.



ROBIN STIELER
Clerk of the Board
County of Orange, State of California



Ordinance No.: 25-015
Agenda Date: 08/26/2025
Item No.: S36A



I certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Ordinance adopted by the Board of Supervisors, Orange County, State of California

Robin Stieler, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors.

By: _____
Deputy