

Fire Hazard  
Severity  
Zone map  
update



# What are Fire Hazard Severity Zones?



Areas throughout the state identified as Moderate, High, Very High.



These zones measure “Hazard” not “Risk”.



Hazard is based on physical conditions that create expected fire behavior over a 50-year period without considering short-term modifications.



Risk is potential damage a fire can do under existing conditions.

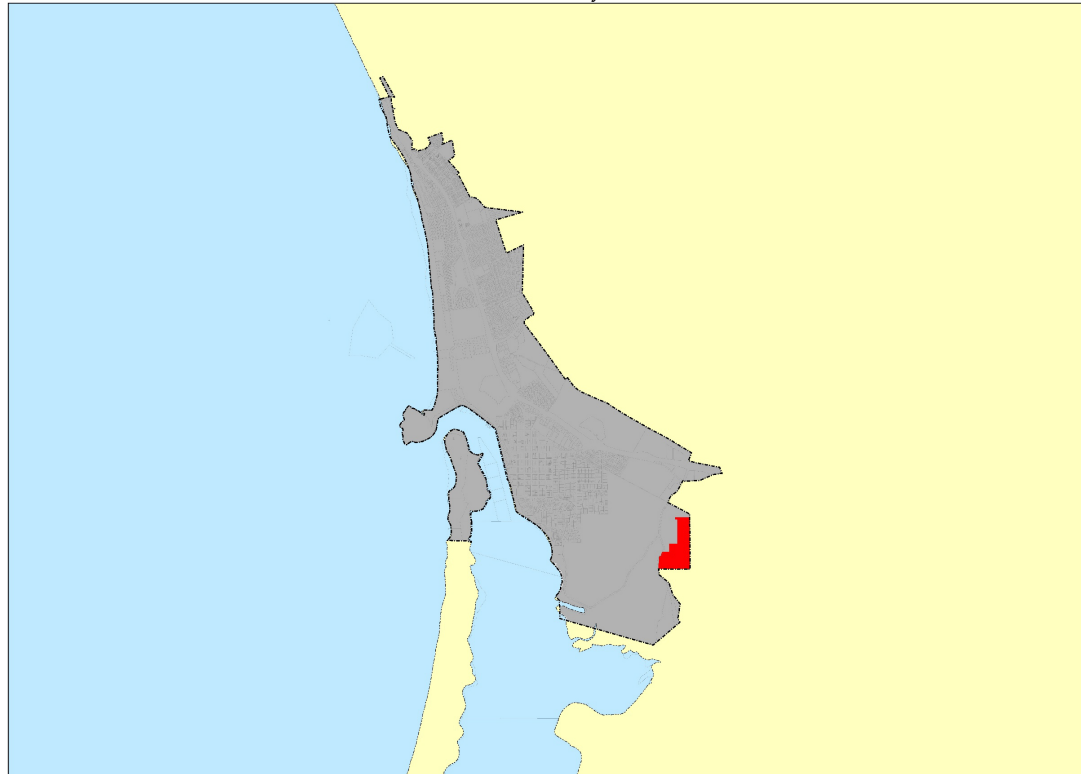
# Why the updates?

- Maps are being updated to better reflect the zones susceptible to fire.
- Utilizes new science, true local climate data, fire history, terrain, fire modeling and ember cast.
- This is a requirement per Government code 51178 and SB 63 (Stern, 2021)
- Last updates for Local Responsibility Areas were between 2008 and 2011



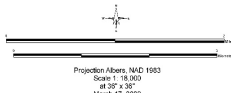
# Morro Bay

## Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones in LRA As Recommended by CAL FIRE



UNINCORPORATED SAN LUIS OBISPO CO. UNINCORPORATED SAN LUIS OBISPO CO.

This map was developed using data products such as parcel and city boundaries provided by local government agencies. It is not a survey. It is not a legal document. It is not a substitute for a professional survey. The map is for display purposes only. Questions and requests related to parcel or city boundary data should be directed to the appropriate local government entity.



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Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor, State of California  
Mark DeSaulle, Secretary for Resources, The Natural Resources Agency  
Dee Hayes, Director, Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

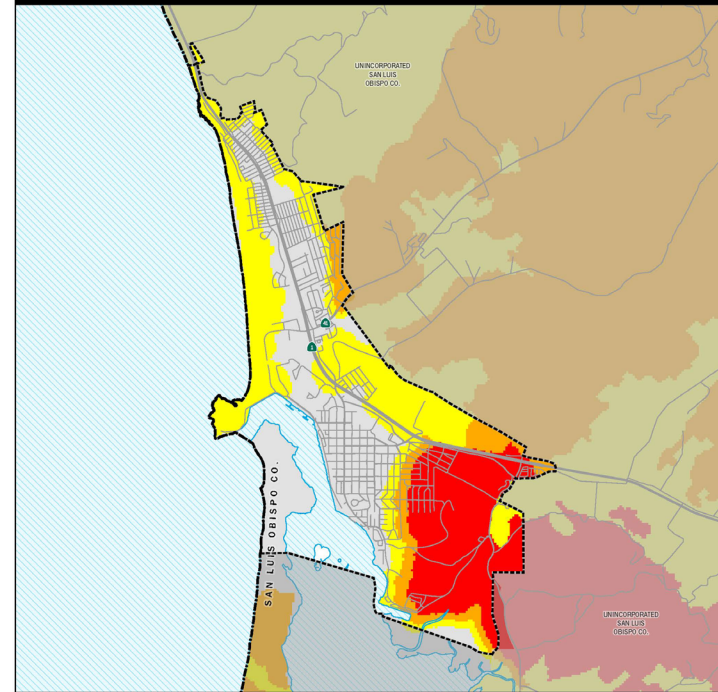
MFP ID: FHSZ\_c48\_MorroBay  
DATA SOURCES:  
CAL FIRE Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ\_26\_3)

# CITY OF MORRO BAY – SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY



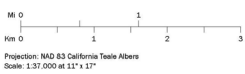
## Local Responsibility Area Fire Hazard Severity Zones

As Identified by the  
State Fire Marshal  
March 10, 2025



**Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZ) in Local Responsibility Area (LRA), as Identified by the State Fire Marshal**  
Very High (red) High (orange) Moderate (yellow)

**Fire Hazard Severity Zones in State Responsibility Area (SRA), Effective April 1, 2024**  
Very High (red) High (orange) Moderate (yellow)



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.

State of California  
Gavin Newsom, Governor  
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 (FHSZ26A23\_3, FHSZ26A\_25\_1)  
CAL FIRE State Responsibility Areas (SRA25\_1)  
City and County boundaries as of 10/22/24 (CA Board of Equalization)

# How to view the map?

- <https://osfm.fire.ca.gov/what-we-do/community-wildfire-preparedness-and-mitigation/fire-hazard-severity-zones>
- Under Local Responsibility Area Fire Hazard Severity Zone Maps tab
  - PDF maps
  - FHSZ recommendations in LRA viewer
  - FHSZ Acres in LRA chart
  - Morro Bay is in phase 3
- Public comments may be directed to the Fire Chief via email at [fhszcomments@morrobayca.gov](mailto:fhszcomments@morrobayca.gov)