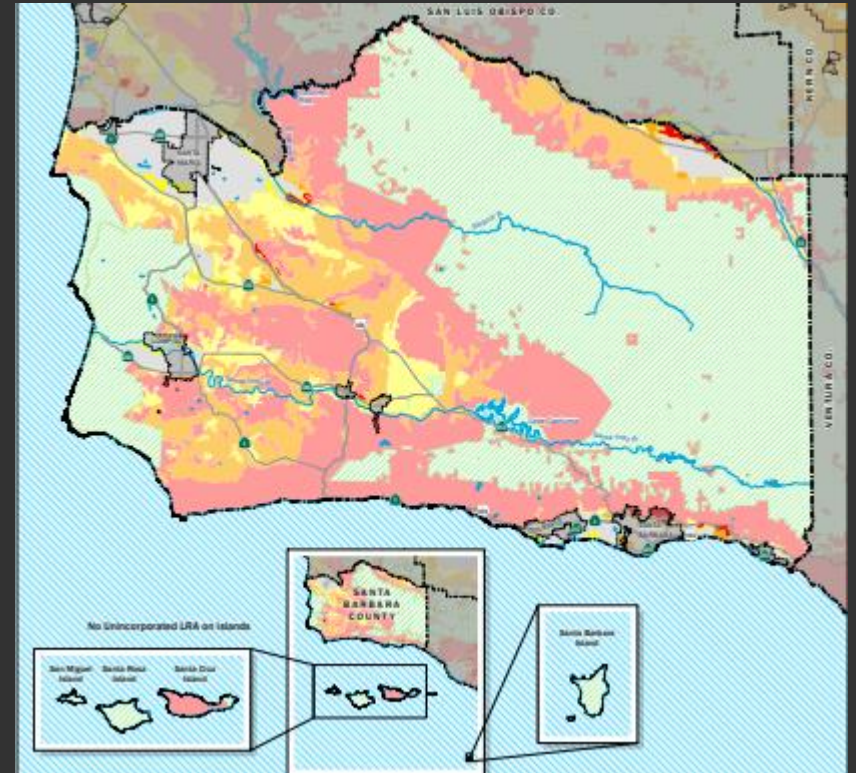


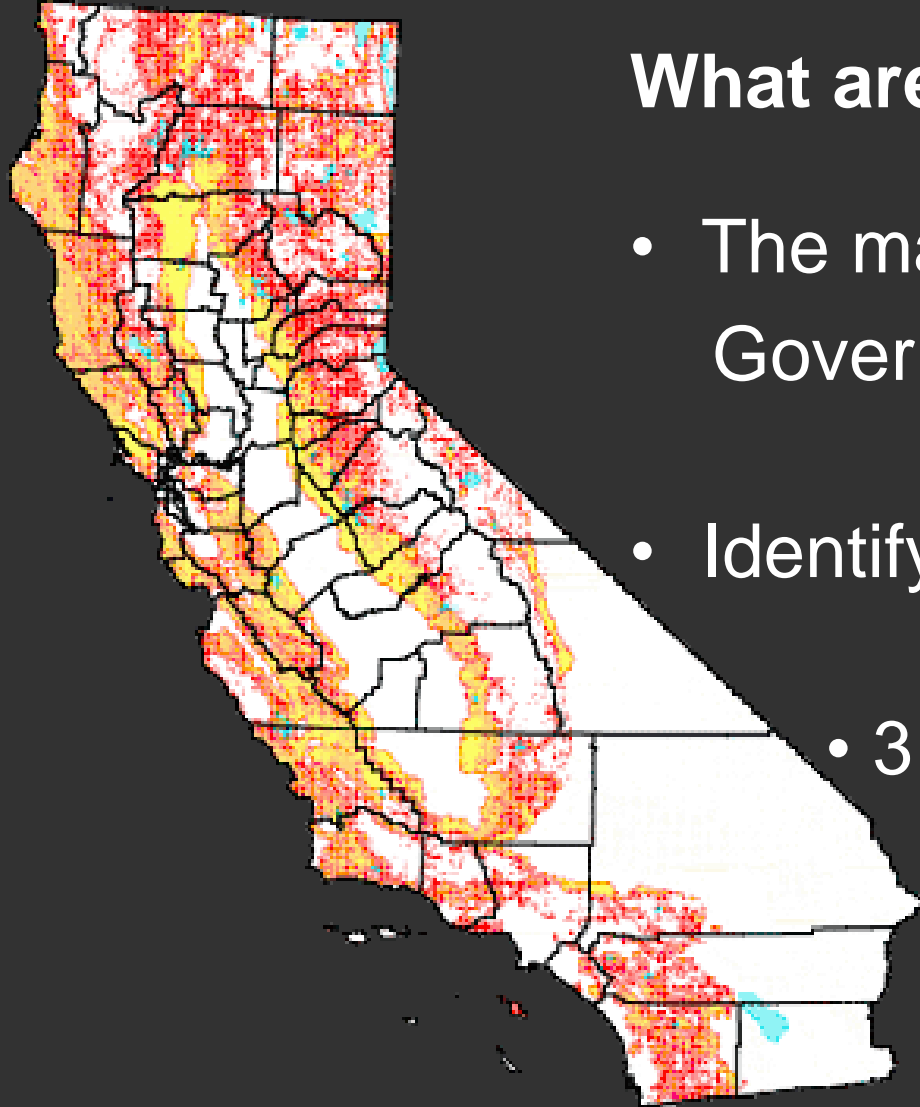
Fire Hazard Severity Zones – Local Responsibility Areas



***Unincorporated Santa Barbara
County***



Fire Hazard Severity Zones – SB County Unincorporated



What are the Fire Hazard Severity Zones?

- The maps are required by Government Code 51178 & 51179
- Identify levels of fire hazard
 - 3 levels (Moderate, High, & Very High)



Fire Hazard Severity Zones – SB County Unincorporated

How are the Zones determined?

- CAL FIRE used the best available science and data to develop, and field test a model that served as the basis of zone assignments. The model evaluated the probability of the area burning and potential fire behavior in the area.
- Factors: fire history, vegetation, flame length, blowing embers, proximity to wildland, terrain, and weather



Fire Hazard Severity Zones – SB County Unincorporated



New Updates

- Updated burn probabilities for wildland areas (inclusive of 2020 fires)
- Updated fire environment footprints (urban/developed)
- Updated Vegetation density for urban areas
- Inclusion of slope in the urban zoning model
- Localized fire weather used in both wildland and urban models
- New firebrand production and transport model using discrete local wind vector distributions

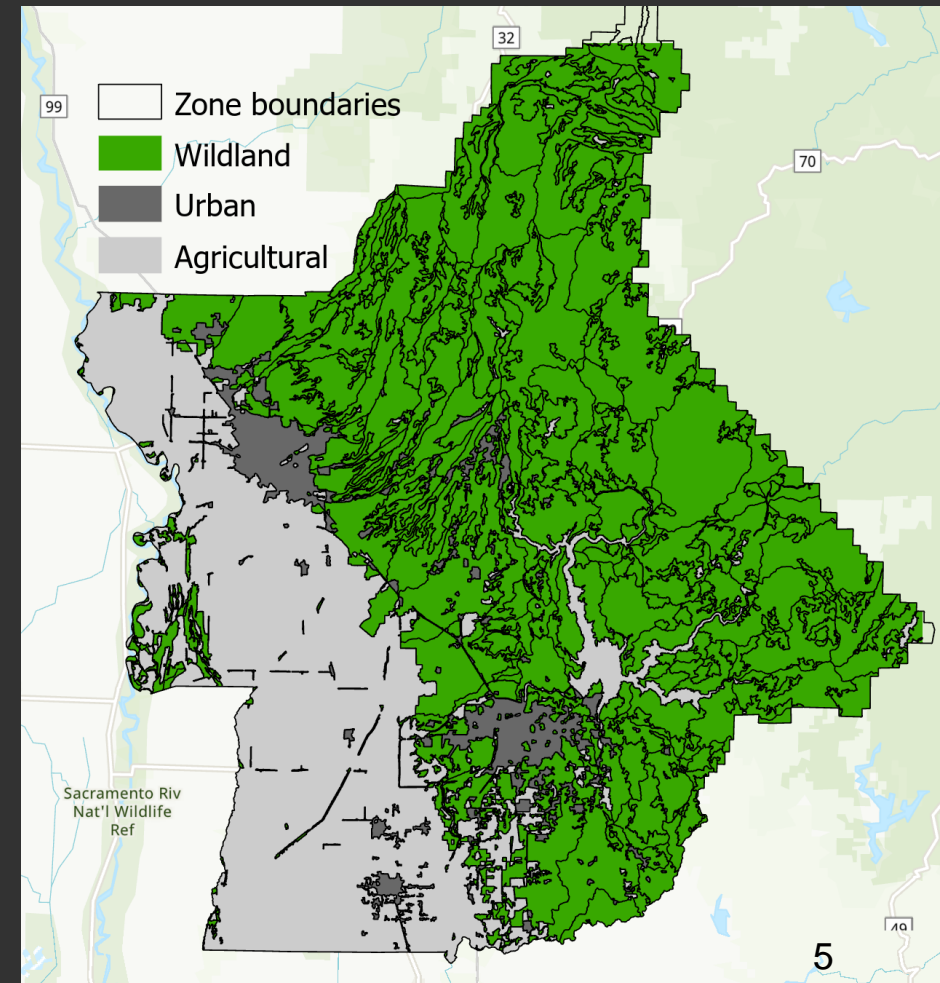


Fire Hazard Severity Zones – SB County Unincorporated



Wildland vs. Non-wildland Zones

- Zones are areas with relatively homogeneous slope and vegetation
- Hazard map is produced at 30 m resolution
- Scores are averaged within a zone
- Wildland is scored independently of urban and agricultural
- Urban zones scored using additional model steps

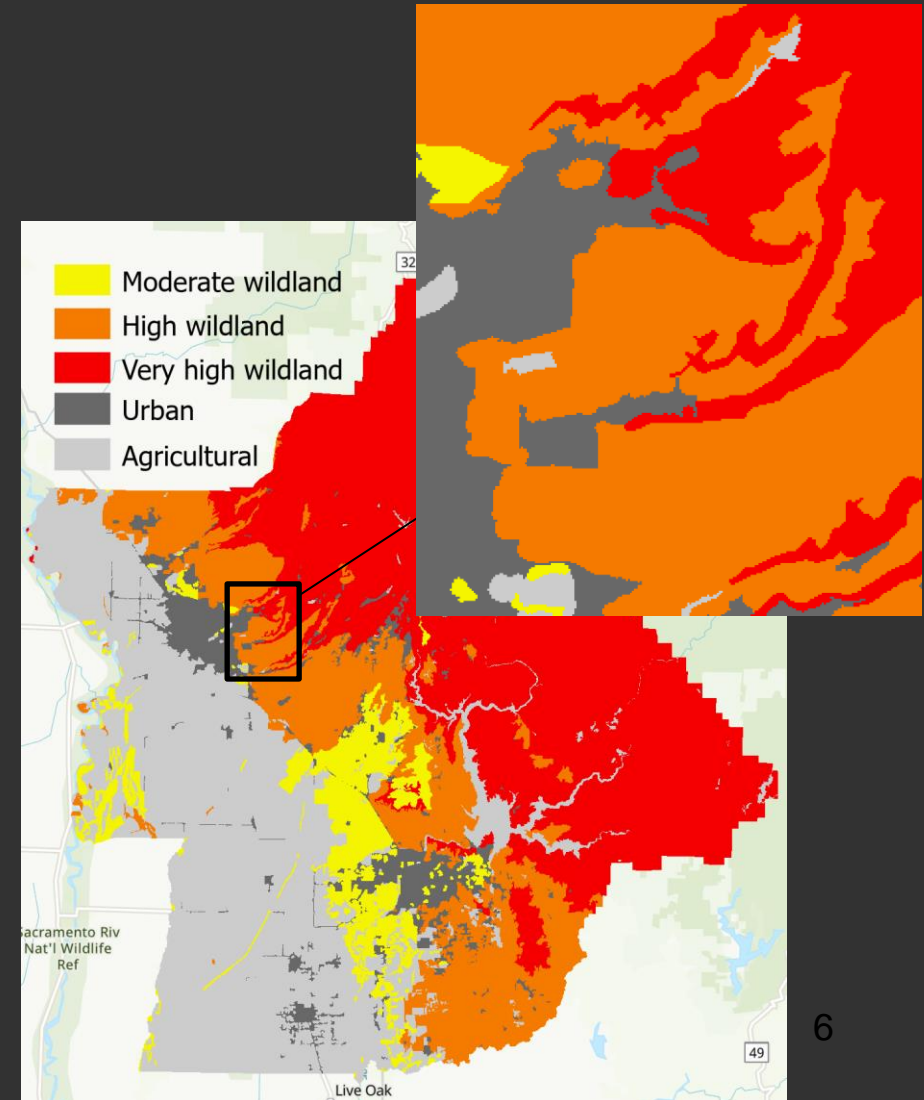


Fire Hazard Severity Zones – SB County Unincorporated



Wildland FHSZ

- Minimum size of 200 acres
- Burn probability
 - Based on fire occurrence from 1991-2020
- Fire intensity
 - Vegetation type
 - Slope
 - Local fire weather – how hot/dry/windy are the worst conditions at a given location (based on 2 km data from 2003-2018)

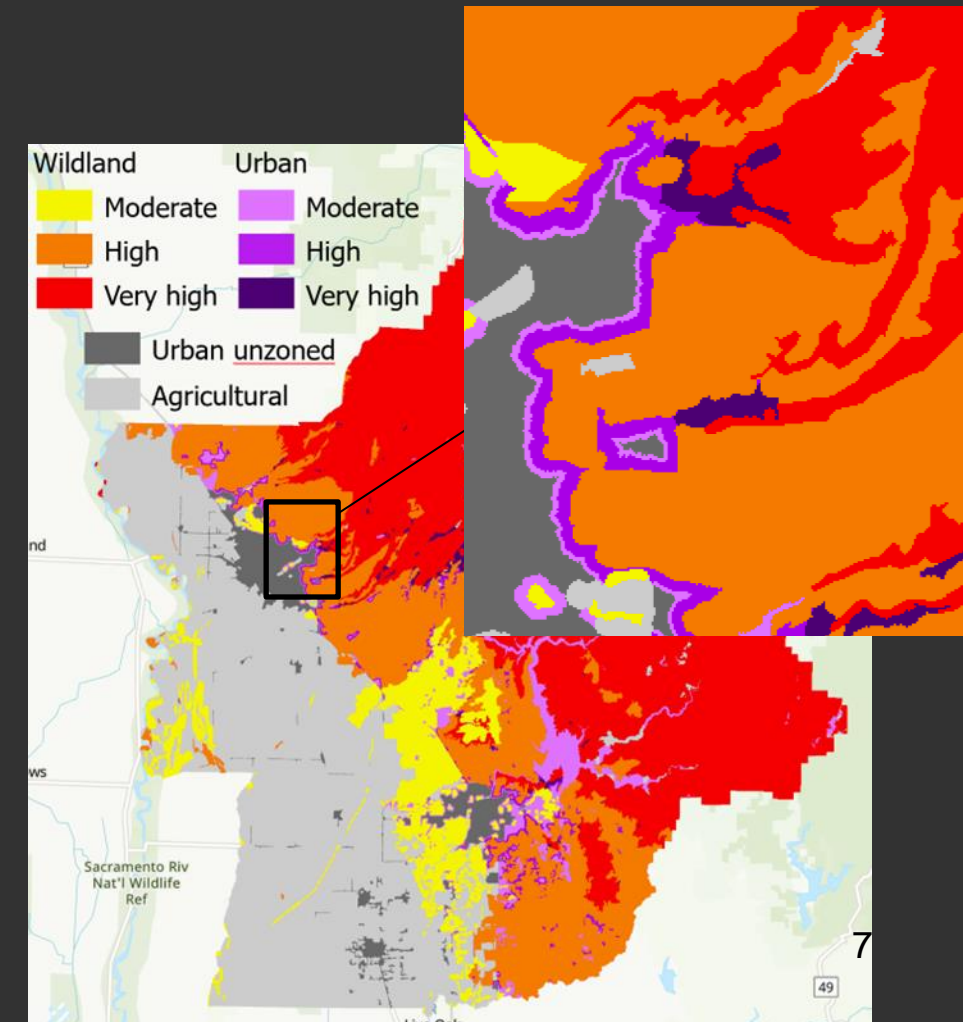


Fire Hazard Severity Zones – SB County Unincorporated



Urban FHSZ

- Minimum size of 20 acres for isolated islands of vegetation embedded in non-wildland.
- Based on distance to wildland and hazard level of adjacent wildland
- Ember production based on vegetation type and fire weather
- Ember transport based on wind speed/direction observed under the most extreme fire weather at a given location
- Width of moderate, high and very high bands in urban are based on ember load, urban tree cover and slope



Fire Hazard Severity Zones – SB County Unincorporated



What is the map for?

- Building standards for new construction in the Wildland-Urban Interface (California Building Code Chapter 7A)
- Property development standards such as road widths, water supply and signage (Fire Safe Regulations)
- Defensible Space Requirements (Government Code 51182)
- Natural hazard real estate disclosure
- Title XIV (CCR) – State Minimum Fire Safe Regulations

Fire Hazard Severity Zones – SB County Unincorporated



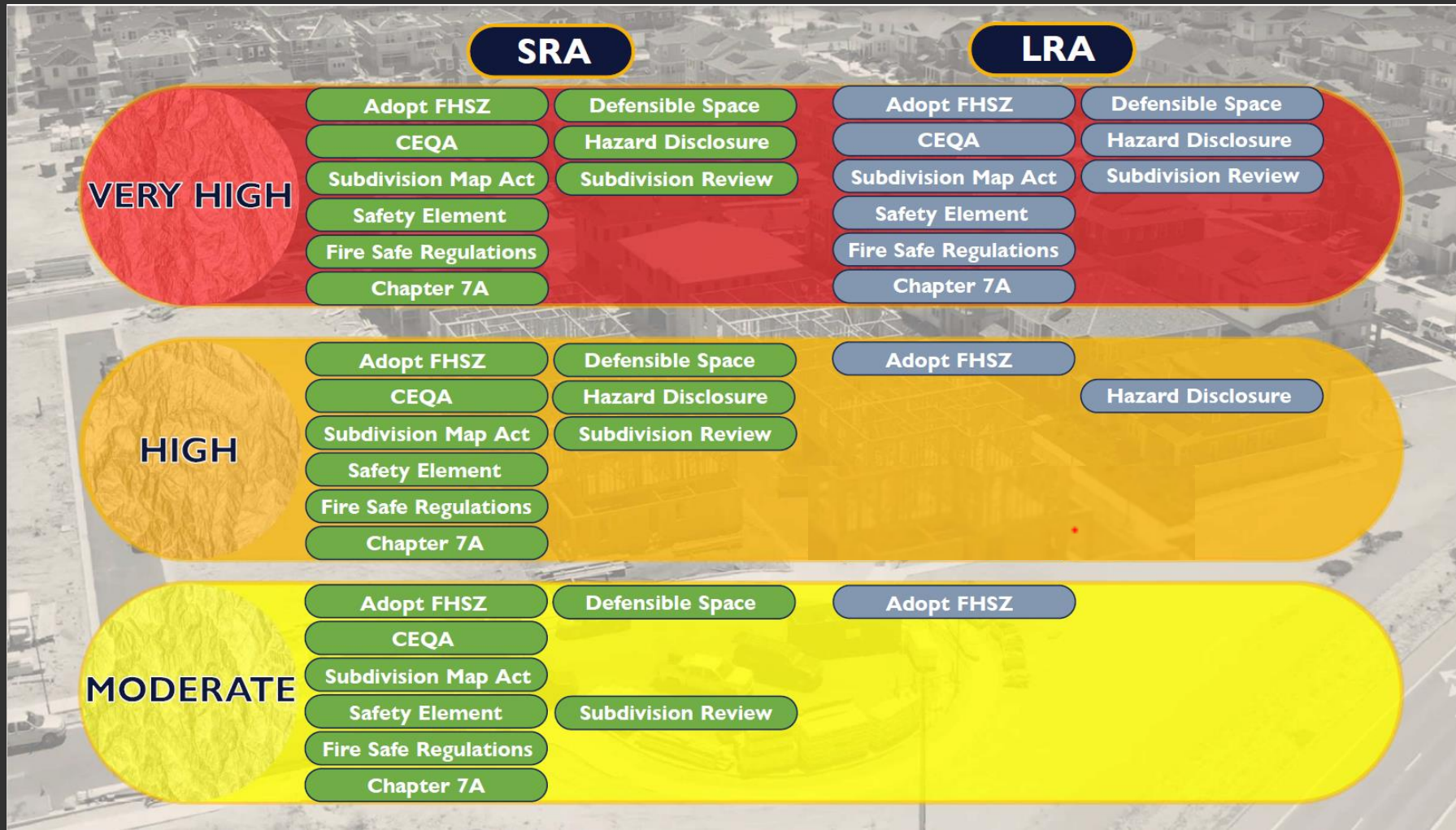
What is the map for and not for?

- Fire “hazard” is based on 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, or fuel reduction.
- Fire “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.

Fire Hazard Severity Zones – SB County Unincorporated



What's Impacted...

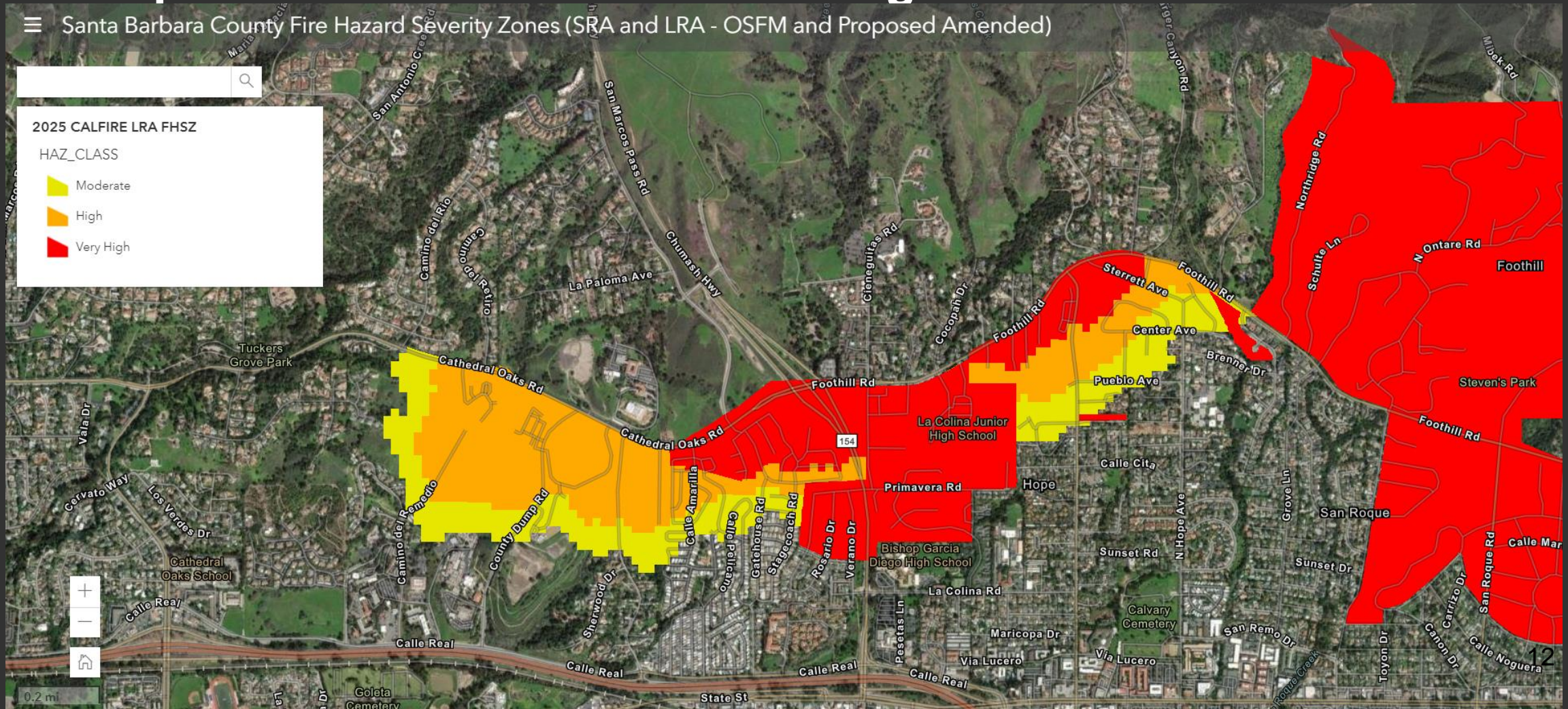


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Fire Hazard Severity Zones – SB County Unincorporated



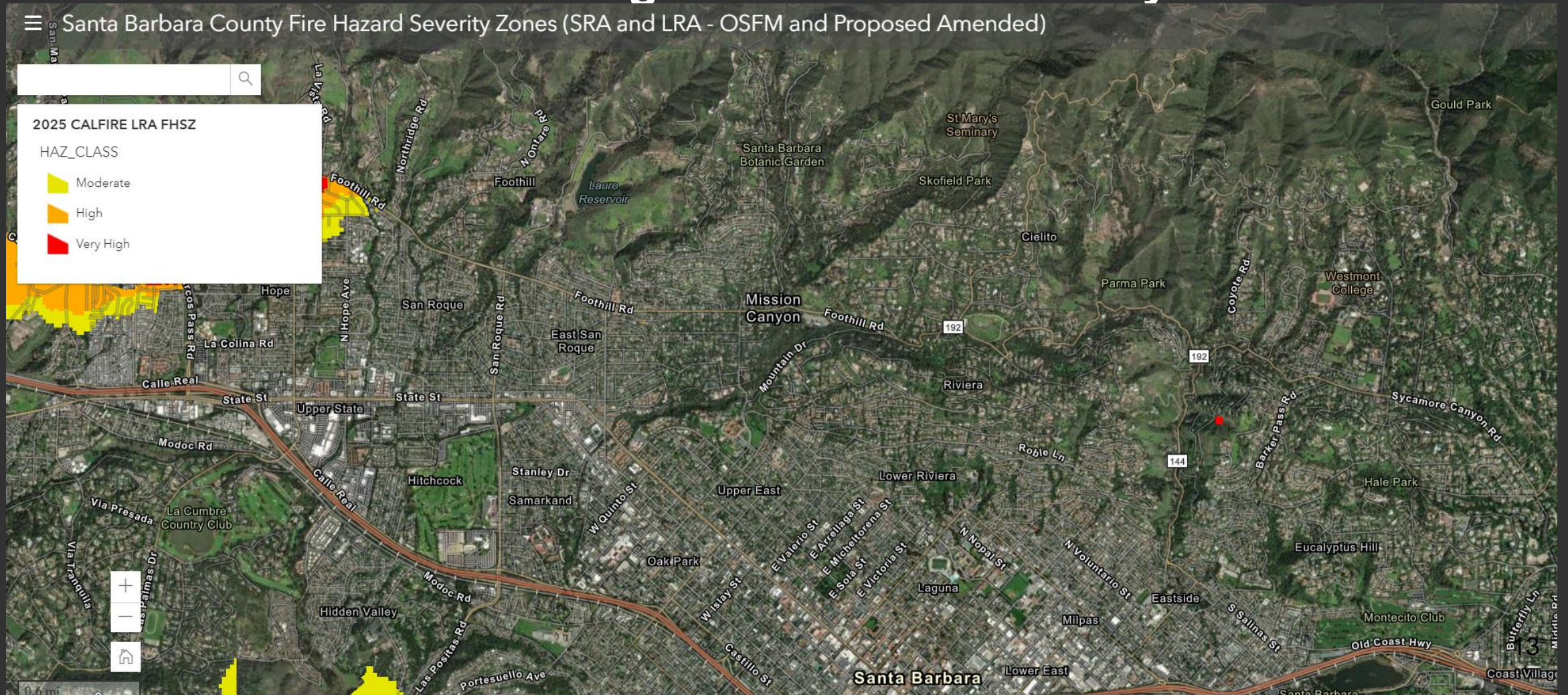
2025 Proposed Amended – Western Edge:



Fire Hazard Severity Zones – SB County Unincorporated



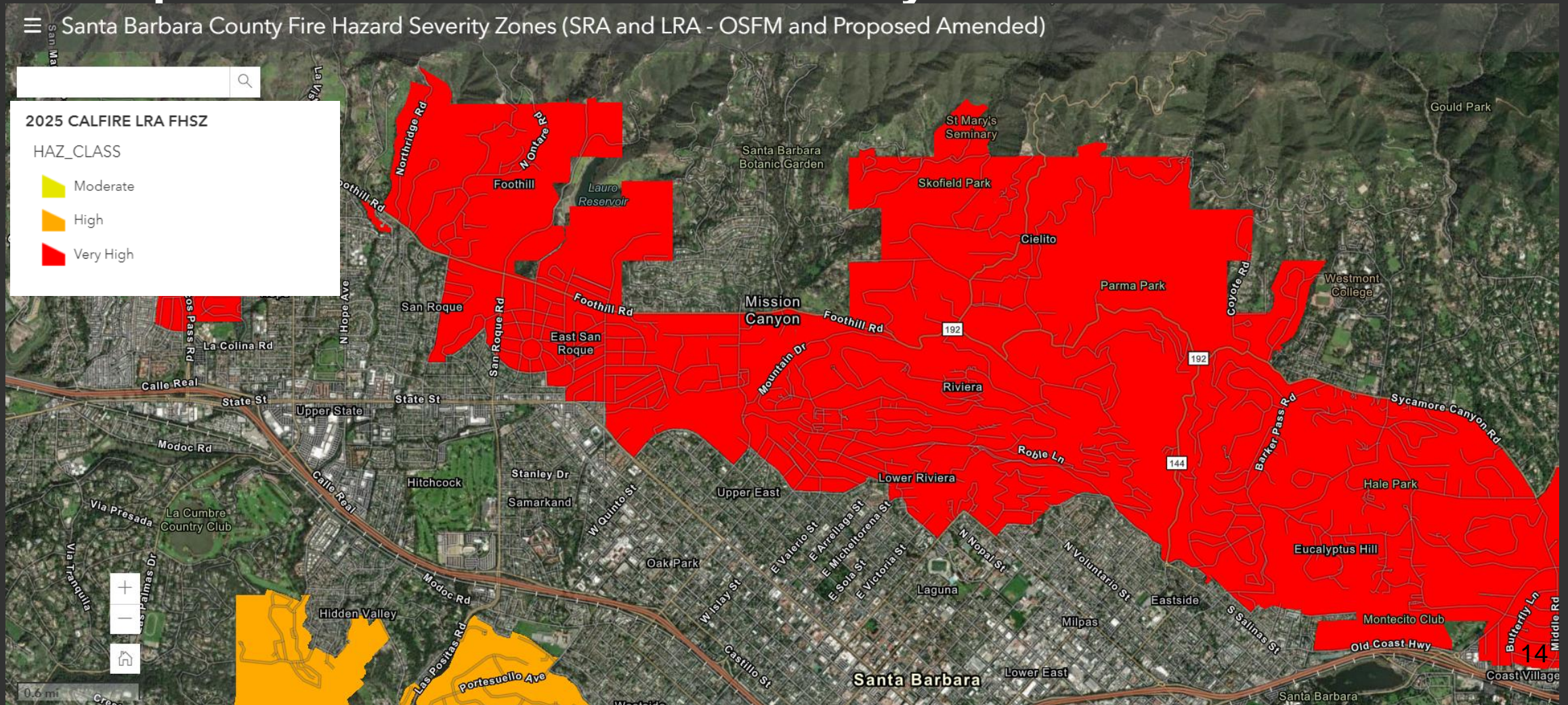
2025 State Fire Marshal Designated – Mission Canyon:



Fire Hazard Severity Zones – SB County Unincorporated



2025 Proposed Amended – Mission Canyon:



Fire Hazard Severity Zones – SB County Unincorporated



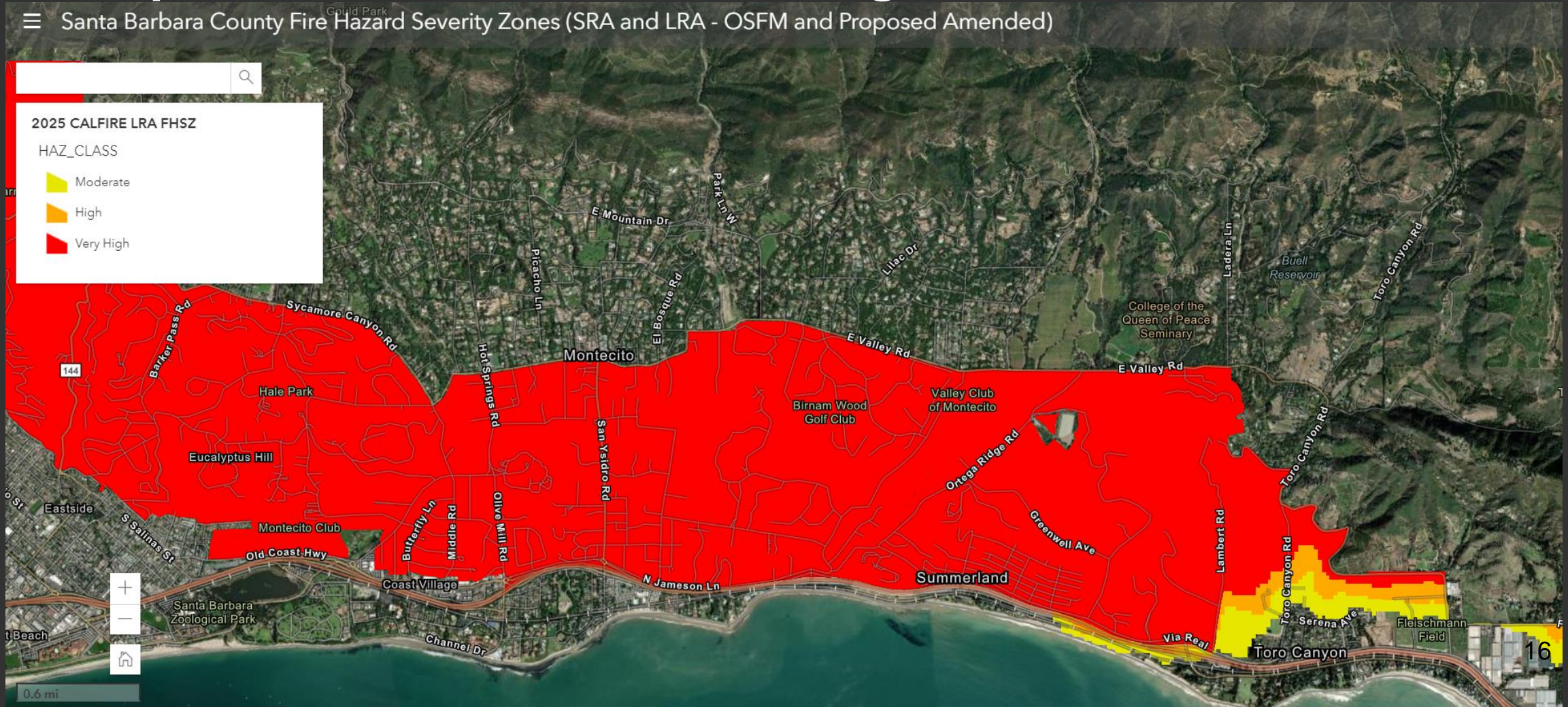
2025 Proposed Amended – Eastern Edge:



Fire Hazard Severity Zones – SB County Unincorporated



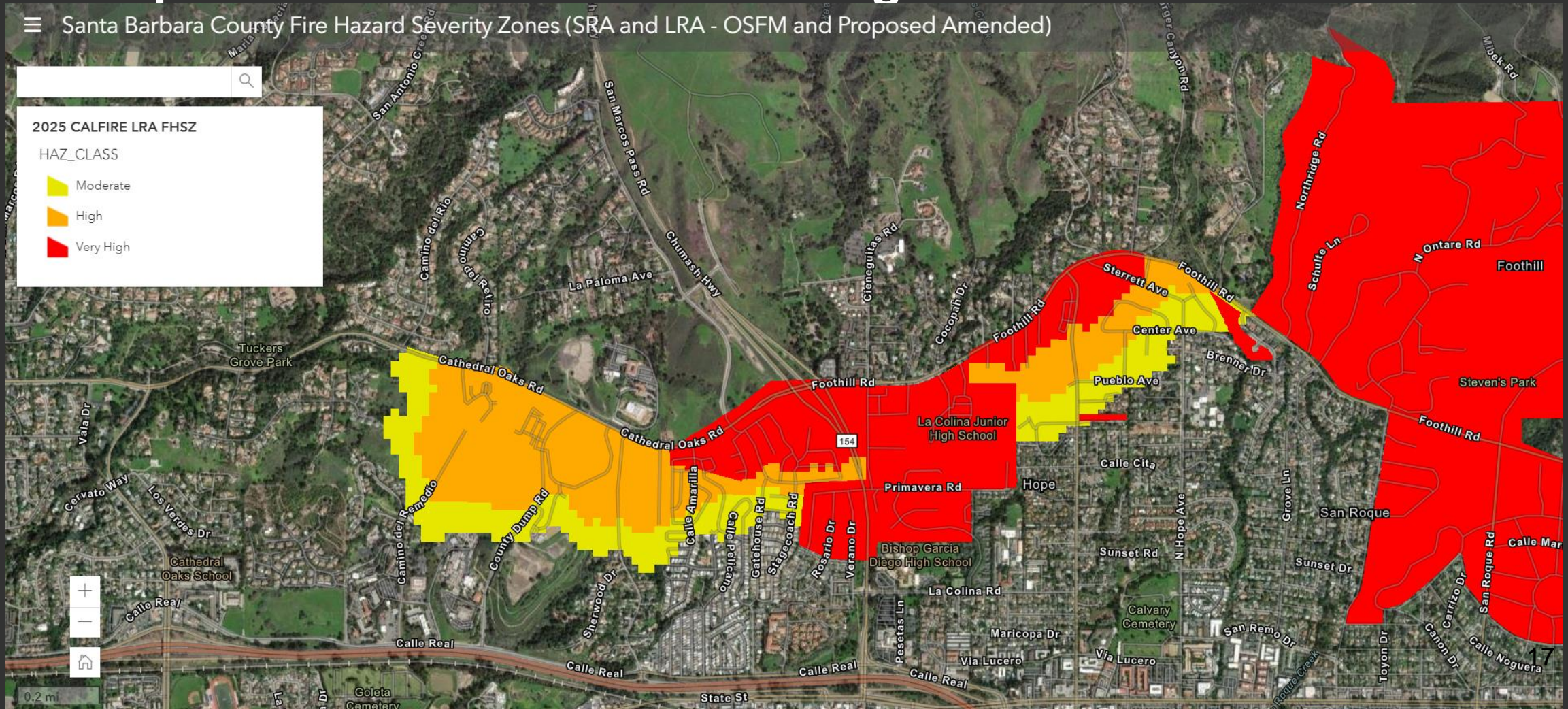
2025 Proposed Amended – Eastern Edge:



Fire Hazard Severity Zones – SB County Unincorporated



2025 Proposed Amended – Eastern Edge:



Fire Hazard Severity Zones – SB County Unincorporated



Justification for Proposed Amended Maps:

- Per Government Code 51182, substantial evidence is required to make amendments to the Office of the State Fire Marshal's Designated Areas to benefit fire protection
- The State Fire Marshal's map utilizes winds between the 90th and 95th percentile, sustained winds around 40 miles per hour
- The areas affected experience Sundowner windspeeds which exceed 40 mph with more regularity and over a 30-50 year timeframe is likely to experience wind speeds in the 99th percentile
- The 2025 process did not take into account evacuation challenges
- The locally develop Santa Barbara Foothill Community Wildfire Protection Plan's associated Traffic Study validates evacuations challenges for the area
- Narrow roads and long evacuation times presents responding firefighters challenges for fire protection, access and firefighting efforts

Fire Hazard Severity Zones – SB County Unincorporated



Justification for Proposed Amended Maps:

Screenlines with Greatest Expected Traffic	Scenario 1	Scenario 2	Scenario 3	Scenario 4	Scenario 5	Scenario 6
Mission Canyon Road (southbound) <i>Between Foothill Road and Alameda Padre Serra</i>	2-3 hours	3-4 hours	<1 hour	1-2 hours	3-4 hours	4-5 hours
Foothill Road (westbound) <i>Between southern and northern legs of Mission Canyon Road</i>	1-2 hours	2-3 hours	<1 hour	<1 hour	2-3 hours	3-4 hours
Mission Canyon Road (southbound) <i>Between Tunnel Road and Foothill Road</i>	1-2 hours	1-2 hours	<1 hour	<1 hour	1-2 hours	1-2 hours
Foothill Road (westbound) <i>Between Mission Canyon Road and Mountain Drive</i>	<1 hour	<1 hour	<1 hour	<1 hour	1-2 hours	1-2 hours

Fire Hazard Severity Zones – SB County Unincorporated



Adoption Timeline:

- **Distribute to the public within 30 days of receipt of maps**
- **Adopt and designate by ordinance within 120 days of receipt of maps**
- **Transmit a copy to the Board of Forestry within 30 days of ordinance**



FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONE MAP VIEWER



**INTERACTIVE MAPS ARE AVAILABLE TO VIEW AT
SBCFIRE.COM AT THE FOLLOWING LINK:**

[https://sbc-
gis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Styler/index.html?appid=2f121
3412d54470c88721daa2a43daf0](https://sbc-gis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Styler/index.html?appid=2f1213412d54470c88721daa2a43daf0)



Questions?

Comments To:

FireHazardSeverityZones@countyofsb.org



osfm.fire.ca.gov/fhsz