



Fire Hazard Severity Zones – Introduction May 14th, 2025

Government Code Section 54957.5
SB 343 Item 20 Agenda: 05/14/2025
REGULAR CC

TOP TAKEAWAYS

The Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) is releasing local responsibility area (LRA) maps, designated as moderate, high, or very high in a fire hazard severity zone. Cities will need to:

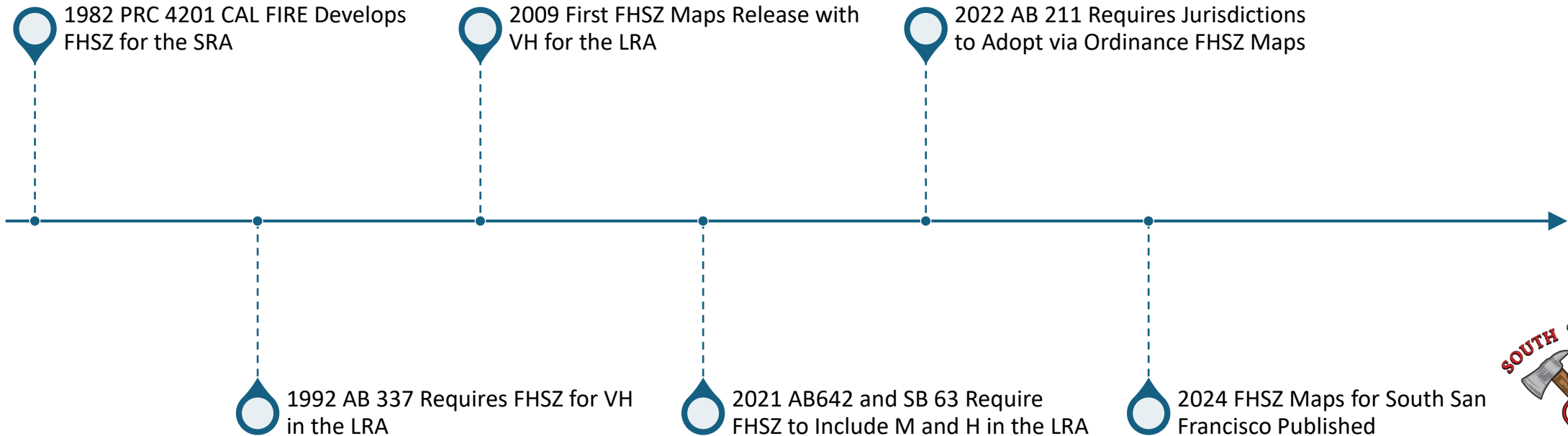
- 1** Make the map available for public review and comment within **30 days**.
- 2** Adopt the designation via local ordinance within **120 days**.
- 3** Submit the ordinance to the state within **30 days** of local adoption.





Fire Hazard Severity Zones – History

History of California's FHSZ Maps





Fire Hazard Severity Zones – Defined

What are FHSZ Maps?

- Created by CALFIRE under the direction of the State Fire Marshal
- Local jurisdictions are required to review and adopt the updated maps, ensuring communities are better prepared for wildfire threats.
- Land Use Planning Maps that reflect a "hazard" classification with respect to wildfire





Fire Hazard Severity Zones – Classifications

What are the FHSZ Classifications?

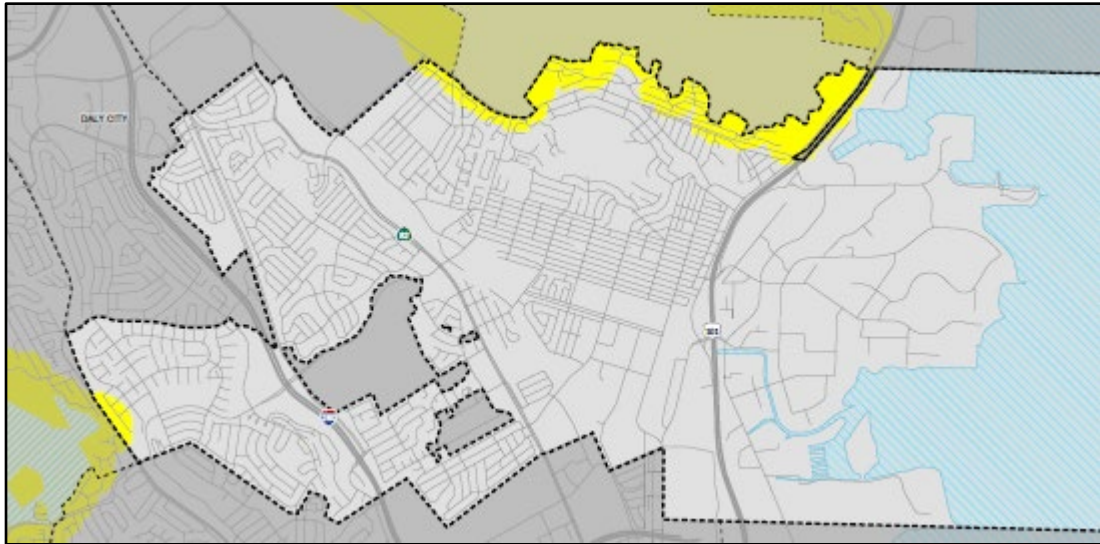
- All lands within a FHSZ are classified by one of three (3) ways:
 - Moderate - Yellow
 - High - Orange
 - Very High – Red
- The updated maps are based on a **science-driven and field-tested model** that evaluates multiple factors influencing fire likelihood and behavior



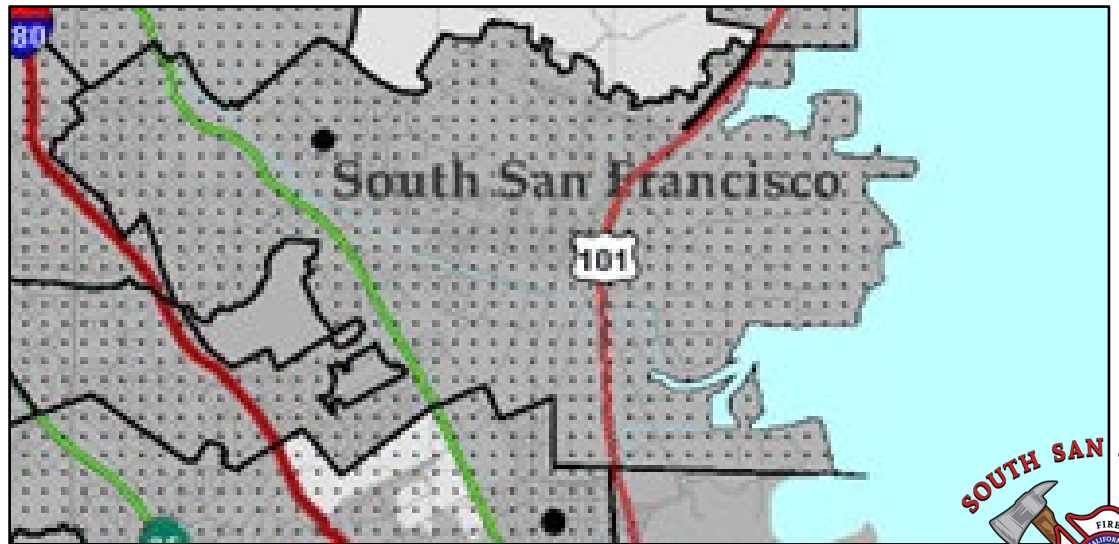


Fire Hazard Severity Zones – SSF Impacts

What Does it Mean for South San Francisco?



2025 FHSZ Map - SSF



2006 FHSZ Map - SSF





Fire Hazard Severity Zones – SSF Impacts

What Does it Mean for South San Francisco?

| | SRA | LRA |
|-----------|---|--|
| VERY HIGH | <div>Adopt FHSZ</div> <div>CEQA</div> <div>Subdivision Map Act</div> <div>Safety Element</div> <div>Fire Safe Regulations</div> <div>Chapter 7A</div> | <div>Defensible Space</div> <div>Hazard Disclosure</div> <div>Subdivision Review</div> <div>Adopt FHSZ</div> <div>CEQA</div> <div>Subdivision Map Act</div> <div>Safety Element</div> <div>Fire Safe Regulations</div> <div>Chapter 7A</div> |
| HIGH | <div>Adopt FHSZ</div> <div>CEQA</div> <div>Subdivision Map Act</div> <div>Safety Element</div> <div>Fire Safe Regulations</div> <div>Chapter 7A</div> | <div>Defensible Space</div> <div>Hazard Disclosure</div> <div>Subdivision Review</div> <div>Adopt FHSZ</div> <div>Chapter 7A</div> |
| MODERATE | <div>Adopt FHSZ</div> <div>CEQA</div> <div>Subdivision Map Act</div> <div>Safety Element</div> <div>Fire Safe Regulations</div> <div>Chapter 7A</div> | <div>Defensible Space</div> <div>Subdivision Review</div> <div>Adopt FHSZ</div> |

