

## 3.6 Dam Failure

### 3.6.1 Dam Inventory Data for Riverside County

Data for Riverside County dams were obtained from the National Inventory of Dams (2000), based on 1998-99 data submitted by local agencies. The National Inventory of Dams (NATDAM) database (FEMA, 1993) is undergoing the addition of 19 new fields and will include dam retrofit information in the future. A summary of the dam inventory data available through NATDAM is presented in Table 3-6. NATDAM hazard classification is based entirely on the downstream hazard potential, as follows:

- **LOW HAZARD POTENTIAL:** Dams where failure or misoperation results in no probable loss of human life and low economic and/or environmental losses. Losses are principally limited to the owner's property.
- **SIGNIFICANT HAZARD POTENTIAL:** Dams where failure or misoperation results in no probable loss of human life but can cause economic loss, environment damage, disruption of lifeline facilities, or affect other concerns. These dams are often located in predominantly rural or agricultural areas, but could be located in areas with population and significant infrastructure.
- **HIGH HAZARD POTENTIAL:** Dams where failure or misoperation will probably cause loss of human life.