Inundation Hazards section of the General Plan Safety Element.

SWAP 17.2 Reduce flooding damage through adherence to design and density standards contained in the Master Drainage Plan for Murrieta Creek Area and the Murrieta Creek Drainage Plans.

SWAP 17.3 Adhere to the flood proofing, flood protection requirements, and flood management review requirements of the Riverside County ordinance regulating flood hazards.

SWAP 17.4 Require proposed development projects, which are subject to flood hazards, surface ponding, high erosion potential or sheet flow, be submitted and approved by the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District.

Wildland Fire Hazard

Fire Fact:
Santa Ana winds create a special hazard. Named by the early settlers at the Santa Ana River valley, these hot, dry winds enhance fire danger throughout southern California.

Due to the rural and mountainous nature and some of the flora, such as the oak woodlands and chaparral habitat, much of the Southwest planning area is subjected to a high risk of fire hazards. These risks are greatest in rural areas and along urban edges. Methods to address this hazard include techniques such as avoidance of high-risk areas, creating setbacks that buffer development from hazard areas, maintaining brush clearance to reduce potential fuel, low fuel landscaping, and building techniques. In still other cases, safety oriented organizations such as Fire Safe can provide assistance in educating the public and promoting practices that contribute to improved public safety. Refer to Figure 11, Wildfire Susceptibility, to see the locations of the wildfire zones within the Southwest planning area.

Policies:

SWAP 18.1 Protect life and property from wildfire hazards through adherence to the Fire Hazards section of the Safety Element of the General Plan.

Liquefaction occurs primarily in saturated, loose, fine to medium-grained soils in areas where the groundwater table is within about 50 feet of the surface. Shaking causes the soils to lose strength and behave as liquid. Excess water pressure is vented upward through fissures and soil cracks and a water-soil slurry bubbles onto the ground surface. The resulting features are known as "sand boils", "sand blows" or "sand volcanoes." Liquefaction-related effects include loss of bearing strength, ground oscillations, lateral spreading, and flow failures or slumping.

Seismic

A number of seismic and related hazards are present in the Southwest planning area. The most significant seismic hazard is the Elsinore fault, which runs north-south through the center of the Southwest planning area. Threats from seismic events include ground shaking, fault rupture, liquefaction, and landslides. The use of building techniques, the enforcement of setbacks, and practical avoidance measures will help to mitigate potentially dangerous circumstances. Refer to Figure 12, Seismic Hazards, for the location of faults and liquefaction areas within the Southwest planning area.

Policies:

SWAP 19.1 Protect life and property from seismic-related incidents through adherence to the Seismic Hazards section of the General Plan Safety Element.