



**Fire Fact:**

*Santa Ana winds create a special hazard. Named by the early settlers at Santa Ana, these hot, dry winds heighten the fire danger throughout southern California.*

The majority of the plan area is not subject to wildland fire hazards, but those undeveloped areas in the hills are subject to a moderate to high risk of wildland fires. 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, installing low fuel landscaping, and utilizing fire resistant 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 this area plan.

**Policies:**

SCMVAP 23.1 Protect life and property from wildfire hazards through adherence to the Fire Hazards section of the General Plan Safety Element.



*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 "sinking boils", "sand blows" or "sand volcanoes." Liquefaction-related effects include loss of bearing strength, ground oscillations, lateral spreading, and flow failures or slumping.*

### Seismic

Compared to many other portions of Southern California, localized seismic hazard potential here is relatively slight. There are two very small faults that pose little threat near Steele Peak, outside this Plan area. There are however, more remote faults, such as the San Andreas and San Jacinto Faults, that pose significant seismic threat to life and property here. Threats from seismic events include ground shaking, fault rupture, liquefaction, and landslides. The use of specialized building techniques, enforcement of setbacks from local faults, and sound grading practices will help to mitigate potentially dangerous circumstances. Refer to Figure 12, Seismic Hazards, for the location of faults within the Sun City/Menifee Valley, as well as liquefaction areas.

**Policies:**

SCMVAP 24.1 Protect life and property from seismic related incidents through adherence to the General Plan Safety Element.



Natural landform in the Sun City/Menifee Valley Area Plan

### Slope

The land use plan recognizes the generally flat nature of the landscape, directing community development to those areas. Where steep slopes and natural landforms are present, special development standards and care to prevent erosion and landslides, preserve significant views and minimize grading and scarring are required. In general, areas with steep slopes and natural landforms should not be considered for development.

**Policies:**

SCMVAP 25.1 Protect life and property and maintain the character of the Sun City/Menifee Valley through adherence to the General Plan Land Use Element, and the Mountainous Land Use Designation.

