



## Hazards

Portions of Desert Center may be subjected to seismic occurrences, and despite the general dispersion of vegetation, wildland fire. The numerous ridgelines and varying terrain, while providing a scenic backdrop for the region, require special development standards or avoidance to prevent erosion and landslides. Fortunately, these areas are generally outside community development designations and existing development areas for other reasons. The following policies provide additional direction for relevant hazard issues specific to Desert Center.

### LOCAL HAZARD POLICIES

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#### Wildland Fire

Areas of very high and high wildland fire susceptibility within the Desert Center Area Plan correspond with the areas of steep slope. 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 9, Wildfire Susceptibility, to see the locations of the wildfire zones within this area plan.

##### Policies:



DCAP 11.1 Protect life and property from wildfire hazards through adherence to the Fire Hazards section of the General Plan Safety Element.

#### Seismic

Seismic hazards present in Desert Center pose significant seismic threats to life and property in the area. The most significant fault within the plan area runs parallel and close to Interstate 10 through the Desert Center community. Threats from seismic events include ground shaking, fault rupture, and landslides. Liquefaction is presently a moderate threat within much of the area. The use of building techniques, the enforcement of setbacks, and practical avoidance measures will help to mitigate these potentially dangerous circumstances. Refer to Figure 10, Seismic Hazards, for a depiction of these hazards within this area.

##### Policies:



DCAP 12.1 Protect health and safety from seismic related incidents through adherence to the Seismic Hazards section of the General Plan Safety Element.