



## Hazards

**H**azards are natural and man-made conditions that must be respected if life and property are to be protected as growth and development occur. Portions of the Valley are subject to hazards at varying degrees of risk and danger. These hazards include flooding, seismic occurrences, and wildland fire, and are depicted on the hazards maps, Figures 9 to 13.

### LOCAL HAZARD POLICIES

#### Flooding

As shown on Figure 9, Flood Hazards, the 100-year floodplain and 500-year floodplain from drainage systems within the Valley cover much of its eastern edge from Indio and La Quinta to the Salton Sea. An area of 100-year floodplain is also mapped from south of Thermal to the Salton Sea, east of State Route 111. Further, fluctuation in the level of the Salton Sea, or a seismic event resulting in a seiche (earthquake induced wave action) could cause flooding of areas immediately adjacent to the sea.

#### Policies:



- ECVAP 16.1 Protect life and property from the hazards of flood events through adherence to the Flood & Inundation Hazards section of the General Plan Safety Element.
- ECVAP 16.2 Adhere to the flood proofing, flood protection requirements, and Flood Management Review requirements of the County Ordinance Regulating Flood Hazard Areas.
- ECVAP 16.3 Require that proposed development projects that are subject to flood hazards, surface ponding, high erosion potential or sheet flow by requiring submission to the Coachella Valley Water District or the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District for review.

#### Wildland Fire Hazard

The desert and mountainous region in the northeastern area of the Eastern Coachella Valley has a high and very high wildfire susceptibility. The wildfire susceptibility is moderate to low between the valley and the desert regions on the western and eastern sides of the Salton Sea. 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 10, Wildfire Susceptibility, for the location of wildland fire hazard areas in Eastern Coachella Valley.