

. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



# **Emergency Assessment of Debris-Flow** Hazards from Basins Burned by the Grand Prix and Old Fires of 2003, Southern California

Susan H. Cannon, Joseph E. Gartner, Michael G. Rupert, John A. Michael U.S. Geological Survey, Box 25046, DFC, MS 966, Denver CO 80225, (303) 273-8604, cannon@usgs.gov Dean Djokic and Sreeresh Sreedhar

Systems Research Institute, Inc., 380 New York Street, Redlands, CA 92373-3112

#### These maps present preliminary assessments of the probability of debris-flow activity nd estimates of peak discharges that can potentially be generated by debris flows issuing rom basins burned by the Old and Grand Prix Fires of October 2003 in southern difornia in response to the 25-year, 10-year, and 2-year recurrence, 1-hour duration torms. The probability maps are based on the application of a logistic multiple regression nodel that describes the percent chance of debris-flow production from an individual sin as function of burned extent, soil properties, basin gradients and storm rainfall. eak discharge maps are based on application of a multiple-regression model that can sed to estimate debris-flow peak discharge at a basin outlet as a function of basin radient, burn extent, and storm rainfall. Probabilities of debris-flow occurrence ra between 0 and 85% and estimates of debris flow peak discharges range between 460 an $5,900 \text{ ft}^3/\text{s}$ (13 to 167 m<sup>3</sup>/s). These maps are intended to identify those basins that are most prone to the largest debris-flow events and provide critical information for the preliminary design of mitigation measures and for the planning of evacuation timing and route INTRODUCTION The objective of this paper is to present a preliminary emergency assessment of the potential for debris-flow generation from basins burned by the Grand Prix and Old Fires in southern California for given storm rainfall events (fig. 1). The assessments are intended to identify those basins most likely to produce debris flows, and to estimate the magnitude, in

terms of peak discharge, of the possible debris-flow response at the outlets of the basins. Identification of potential debris-flow hazards from burned drainage basins is necessary to make effective and appropriate mitigation decisions, and can aid in decisions about evacuation timing and routes.

Fire-Related Debris-Flow Hazards Wildfire can have profound effects on a watershed. Consumption of the rainfallintercepting canopy and of the soil-mantling litter and duff, intensive drying of the soil, combustion of soil-binding organic matter, and the enhancement or formation of waterrepellent soils can result in decreased rainfall infiltration into the soil and subsequent significantly increased overland flow and runoff in channels. Removal of obstructions to flow (e.g. live and downed timber, plant stems, etc.) by wildfire can enhance the erosive power of overland flow, resulting in accelerated stripping of material from hillslopes. Increased runoff can also erode significant volumes of material from channels. The net result of rainfall on burned basins is often the transport and deposition of large volumes of sediment, both within and down-channel from the burned area. Debris flows are among the most hazardous consequences of rainfall on burned hillslopes. Debris flows pose a hazard distinct from other sediment-laden flows because of their unique destructive power. They can occur with little warning, can exert great impulsive loads on objects in their paths, and even small debris flows can strip vegetation, block drainage ways, damage structures, and endanger human life. For example, recordbreaking winter storms of 1969 triggered debris flows from steep basins burned the previous summer above the city of Glendora, California (Scott, 1971). More than a million

either completely destroyed or damaged by these events. Damage from debris flows and associated flooding totaled \$2,500,000 in the Glendora area in 1969. In studies of debris-flow processes throughout the western U.S. and in southern California, Cannon (2000, 2001) demonstrated that the great majority of fire-related debris flows initiate through a process of progressive bulking of storm runoff with sediment eroded from both hillslopes and channels. Although some infiltration-triggered landsliding can occasionally occur in burned basins, and generally in response to prolonged rainfall events, these failures generally contribute a small proportion to the total volume of material transported from the basin (Cannon et al., 2001; Scott, 1971). This finding points to the relative importance of runoff-dominated, rather than infiltration-dominated, processes of debris-flow initiation in recently burned basins, and indicates that methodologies developed to map landslide potential for unburned basins are generally not appropriate for recently burned areas. As an alternative, this finding suggests that the relations traditionally defined between peak discharges of floods and basin characteristics

cubic meters of rock, mud, and debris came racing downhill, and at least 175 homes were

**APPROACH AND METHODS** 

may be useful in predicting the magnitude of potential debris-flow response from burned

basins.

In a study of the erosional response of recently burned basins throughout the western U.S. and in southern California, Cannon (2000, 2001) found that not all basins produce debris flows; most burned watersheds respond to even heavy rainfall events by sedimentladen flooding. However, debris flows are potentially the most destructive end of the postfire runoff response spectrum. Analysis of data collected from 398 burned basins from 15 fires throughout the inter-mountain west revealed that the probability of a given basin to produce debris flows can be readily identified by a combination of geologic, soil, basin morphology, burn severity, and rainfall conditions. Furthermore, because debris-flow kinematics are significantly distinct from those of streamflow (Iverson, 1997), we have taken the approach of developing predictive relations that are specific to debris flow, but based on common hydrologic analyses. Using data collected from debris-flow producing basins throughout the western U.S., including southern California (Bigio and Cannon, 2001), we developed an empirical relation that can be used to obtain estimates of debrisflow peak magnitudes as a function of the area of the basin burned, storm rainfall

conditions, and basin gradients. In this assessment, we use these recently developed models to predict which basins might produce fire-related debris flows, and how big these events might be. The results obtained in this assessment can be used to identify those watersheds that are most prone to the largest debris-flow events. Note that the models used for the generation of these maps are new and have not been thoroughly tested and reviewed. However, in light of the large extent of the Grand Prix and Old Fires and of the current emergency situation, this method presents a reasonable approach to evaluate hazards across a large geographic area.

A logistic multivariate statistical model developed using data measured from postwildfire debris flows is used to define the probability of debris-flow occurrence from basins burned by the Old and Grand Prix Fires. The database used in the development of the model consists of a number of variables that describe basin gradient, burn severity, geologic materials, soil properties, and storm rainfall conditions from 398 basins located in 15 recent fires throughout the western U.S. that were characterized either as having produced debris flows, or not. Because the dependent variable, debris-flow occurrence, is binomial (i.e. debris flows are produced, or not), we used a logistic regression approach for analysis. Where linear regression returns a continuous value for the dependent variable, logistic regression returns the probability of a positive binomial outcome (in this case, debris-flow occurrence) (Griffiths et al., 1996; Hosmer and Lemeshow, 2001). Field observations of deposits made within 1 week of a runoff response were used to determine if a basin produced debris flows or not. Debris-flow deposits were identified as those consisting of poorly-sorted, unstratified materials showing either matrix support of the larger clasts, or a prevalent muddy coating on large materials (Cannon, 2001; Meyer

and Wells, 1997). Because we did not know which measures would best determine debris-flow probability, we evaluated a number of different measures for each of the independent variables to be used in the logistic regression. Six possible measures of basin gradient were compiled using either 30-m or 10-m DEMs, depending on availability. These include:

- the average gradient, - average gradient multiplied by basin area, - average gradient divided by basin area,

Debris-flow probability model

percent of basin area with slopes greater than or equal to 30 percent, percent of basin area with slopes greater than or equal to 50 percent, and basin ruggedness (the change in basin elevation divided by the square root of the

basin area (Melton, 1965). Basin aspect was quantified from either 10- or 30-meter DEMs. Burn severity for each basin was characterized using maps of burn severity generated by either the Burned Area Emergency Rehabilitation (BAER) Team using a number of different techniques, or from the Normalized Burn Ratio (NBR), as determined from Landsat Thematic Mapper data (Key and Benson, 2000). The maps of burn severity are considered to reflect the effects of the fire on soil conditions and the potential hydrologic response, and are an amalgam representation of the condition of the residual ground cover, soil erodibility, and degree of fire-induced water repellency. We evaluated the effects of nine measures of burn severity,

- percent of the basin area burned at low severity, - percent of the basin area burned at moderate severity,

including:

- percent of the basin area burned at high severity, - percent of the basin area burned at high and moderate severities, percent of the burned area of each basin burned at low severity, percent of the burned area of each basin burned at moderate severity percent of the burned area of each basin burned at high severity, percent of the burned area of each basin burned at high and moderate severities, - percent of basin area burned at high, moderate, and low severities. Soil properties for each basin were characterized using measures of the grain-size distributions of samples of burned surficial soils collected within the basins (Inman, 1952),

insure that similar measures of all parameters were available for each fire in the database.
The soil properties evaluated include:
- mean particle size,
- median particle size,
- sorting of the grain-size distribution, and
- skewness of grain-size distribution,
- percent clay content,
- available water capacity,
- permeability,
- erodibility,
- percent organic matter,
- soil thickness,
- infiltration capacity,
- drainage,
- liquid limit, and
- hydric capacity.
The most extensive rock type underlying each basin was classified as sedimentary,
plutonic, metamorphic, or volcanic. The characteristics of storms that affected the
monitored basins were determined from tipping bucket rain gages located within 2
kilometers of each basin. For each storm to impact a monitored basin, we compiled the
- total storm rainfall,
- storm duration,
- average storm rainfall intensity,
- peak 10-minute rainfall,
- peak 15- minute rainfall,
- peak 30-minute rainfall, and
- peak 60-minute rainfall.
A series of univariate and multiple logistic regression analyses were used to identify
those parameters which best determine debris-flow probability, and to build a robust
statistical model (Hosmer and Lemeshow, 1989). All possible groupings of independent
variables were evaluated to determine which combination produced the most effective
model. The models were built by sequentially adding variables to the analysis and
evaluating the resulting test statistics by comparing partial-likelihood ratios calculated

and the parameters for unburned soils included in the STATSGO soils database

Schwatrz and Alexander, 1995). The small-scale STATSGO compilation was used to

before and after addition of that variable (Helsel and Hirsch, 2002). Overall model validity and accuracy was determined by evaluating the log-likelihood ratio, McFadden's rho-squared, p-values calculated for each independent variable, and the percent correct responses (M. Rupert, written communication, 2003). The statistical analyses found that the probability of debris-flow occurrence (P) from an individual basin can best be best estimated as a function of: - percent of the burned area in each basin burned at high and moderate severities

- sorting of the grain-size distribution of the burned soil (Sorting), - percent of soil organic matter (%Organics) - soil permeability (Permeability) - soil drainage (Drainage), and - percent of the basin with slopes greater than or equal to 30% (%GE30%)

- average storm rainfall intensity (I, in mm/hr) These variables were used to develop a logistic multivariate statistical model of the form  $P = e^{x}/1 + e^{x}$ ,

x = -29.693 + 10.697(% Burn) - 9.875(Sorting) + 0.208(I) + 5.729(% Organics) -0.957(Permeability) + 9.351(Drainage) + 2.864(%GE30%) – 8.335(%Burn\* %Organics) + 4.669(Sorting\*Drainage) – 0.174(%GE30%\*I).

The McFadden's rho of 0.397 for this model (where values between 0.20 and 0.40 indicate good results (Hosmer and Lemeshow, 2000)), coupled with the additional tests of model quality, indicates that this is a robust model. No correlations are apparent between the soils properties included in the model. The additional measures of gradient, aspect, burned extent, soils properties and geologic materials produced significantly less satisfactory models. This model, when incorporated into a geographical Information System (GIS), can be used to estimate the probability of post-fire debris flow activity from individual drainage basins.

Debris-flow peak discharge model A multiple regression model developed using data measured from post-wildfire debris flows is used to define the range of peak discharges that can potentially be generated from the basins burned by the Old and Grand Prix Fires. The data used in the development of the model consists of measurements from 62 recently burned, and debrisflow producing, basins located throughout the western U.S. for which estimates of debris flow peak discharge had been obtained (Bigio and Cannon, 2001). The database is a compilation of information both from the published literature and our own monitoring efforts. Peak discharge estimates used in the analysis were calculated based on either the assumption of critical flow (O'Connor et al., 2001), or from estimates of velocity obtained from measurements of banking flow around curves (Johnson, 1984) coupled with measures of the cross-sectional area of conveyance reaches of channels. The regression model consists of a physical representation of peak discharge at the basin outlet (Qp) as a function of basin gradient, burned extent, and storm rainfall. We considered the effects on Qp of three possible measures of gradient— the average basin

gradient (in percent), and the percent of slopes within a basin greater than or equal to 30%, and the percent of slopes within a basin greater than or equal to 50% (determined from either  $10_{-}$  or  $30_{-}$  m DEMs). We also evaluated the effects of two measures of burned extent—the total area burned (in m<sup>2</sup>), and the area burned at high severity (in m<sup>2</sup>). Burn severity for each basin included in the database was characterized using information reported in the literature, or maps of burn severity generated by either the Burned Area Emergency Rehabilitation (BAER) Team, or the Normalized Burn Ratio (NBR), as described above.

A series of statistical analyses were used to determine those factors that most strongly affect debris-flow peak discharges, and to build the most robust regression model possible. All possible combinations of independent variables were evaluated to determine which combination produced the most effective model. We used a combination of statistical measures including Mallow's Cp, adjusted R<sup>2</sup>, the variance inflation factor, and the prediction error of the sum of squares to assess the quality of each model (Helsel and Hirsch, 2002). For a model to be accepted, we also tested for adherence to the assumptions of linearity, constant variance, and normally distributed residuals (Helsel and Hirsch, 2002).

We found that the peak discharge of debris flows (Qp, in m<sup>3</sup>/s) issuing from the outlet of recently-burned basins could be estimated as a function of: - average basin gradient (AvgSlope, in percent), - the area of the basin burned at all severities (Ab, in m<sup>2</sup>), and

- the average storm rainfall intensity (I, in mm/hr). These variables form the basis of a multi-variate statistical model of the form

Qp = -171 + 0.552(AvgSlope) + 28.4(logAb) + 3.6(I).

The adjusted  $R^2$  of this model of 0.67, coupled with additional tests of model quality. indicates that this result is the best possible model, given the available data. No correlation is apparent between average basin gradient and the burned area. The additional measures of gradient and burned extent considered here produced less satisfactory models. This model, when incorporated into a geographical Information System (GIS), can be used to estimate the peak discharge of post-fire debris flow at the outlets of individual drainage basins.

Mapping debris-flow probability and peak discharge

As the first step in this assessment, the perimeters of 118 basins burned by the Old and Grand Prix Fires were delineated. Basins along the steep San Bernardino mountain front, including those identified by the BAER (Burned Area Emergency Rehabilitation) Team as being of interest were included. Using the ranges of data in the database that were used to derive the statistical models, we focused on basins between  $0.04 \text{ mi}^2$  (0.1  $km^2$ ) and 10 mi<sup>2</sup> (25 km<sup>2</sup>) in area. Basins larger than 10 mi<sup>2</sup> (25 km<sup>2</sup>) that could potentially generate flows that could affect facilities and structures were sub-divided into tributaries to the main channel. Basins larger than 10 mi<sup>2</sup> (25 km<sup>2</sup>) with negligible potential impact to facilities and structures were not included. Basin outlets were located using a shaded relief image from a 10-m DEM overlain by a detailed stream network generated using Arc Hydro<sup>©</sup>; basins were also delineated using the Arc Hydro<sup>©</sup>

For each basin, we then compiled values for each of the input variables for the two models. Basin area and measures of gradients were obtained from 10-m DEMs, the basin areas burned at different severities were characterized from the burn severity map developed by the BAER Team, and soil organic matter, permeability and drainage were obtained from the STATSGO database (Schwartz and Alexander, 1995). If more than one value for any one parameter occurred in a basin, we calculated a single spatiallyweighted value for that parameter. The time available to conduct this emergency assessment did not allow for the collection and analysis of samples of burned surficial soils. As an alternative, we used 1:250,000-scale geologic mapping compiled by

Bortugno and Spittler (1998) as a surrogate for soils, and substituted median values of nown measures of sorting of the grain-size distribution of burned soils for each primary rock type present in each basin. Using the logistic multivariate regression model for debris flow probability and t multivariate statistical model for debris flow peak discharge described above, we calculated the probability of debris flow and estimates of debris flow peak discharg the 25-year, 1-hour storm of 1.12 inches (28.5 mm), the 10-year, 1-hour storm of 0.9 inches (22.9 mm), and the 2-year, 1-hour storm of 0.52 inches (13.2 mm), as presented NOAA Atlas 14 (Bonnin et al., 2003). These storm rainfall values are from the San Bernardino station FS 226, located at 34.1344°N, 117.2539°W, and at 1,197 feet elevation. The calculated values were then proportioned into classes, and the class va for both probability and discharge were attributed to each basin. The basin class value

are presented in map form as Maps 1A and B, 2A and B, and 3A and B. Use and Limitations of the Map

These maps provide estimates of the probability of debris-flow occurrence and the ranges of debris flow peak discharges that can potentially issue from the outlets of basins burned by the Old and Grand Prix Fires in response to the 2-year, 10-year, and 25-year 1hour storms. The maps are intended to identify those basins most likely to produce debris flows, and to provide estimates of the possible magnitude, in terms of peak discharge, of the debris-flow response at the outlets of basins. This information can be used to prioritize mitigation efforts, to aid in the design of mitigation structures, and to guide decisions for evacuation, shelter, and escape routes in the event that storms of similar magnitude to those evaluated here are forecast for the area. The potential for debris-flow activity decreases with time and the concurrent revegetation and stabilization of hillslopes. A compilation of information on post-fire

runoff events reported in the literature from throughout the western U.S. indicates that most debris-flow activity occurs within about 2 years following a fire (Bigio and Cannon, 2001). We thus conservatively expect that the maps presented here may be applicable for approximately 3 years after the fires for the storm conditions considered here. Further, the assessments presented here are specific to post-fire debris flows; significant hazards from flash flooding can remain for many years after a fire. The methods used to derive the probability and peak discharge estimates are new and have not been thoroughly tested and reviewed. However, in light of the large extent of the Grand Prix and Old Fires and of the current emergency situation, this method presents a reasonable approach to preliminarily evaluate debris-flow hazards across a large geographic area. A significant advantage to this approach is that it is based on analysis of data specifically from post wildfire debris-flow events, rather than on estimates of flood

In this approach, we considered peak discharge as the measure of the magnitude of the potential debris flow hazards; debris-flow hazards can also be characterized by measures of potential volumes emanating from basin outlets. Measures of volume are of particular use in evaluating the effectiveness of debris basins. We conducted analyses similar to those described above using measures of debris flow volume as the dependent variable. However, it was not possible to develop a robust, statistically significant model with the available data. Hopefully, data collected in the following winters will allow for the definition of such a relationship. And last, the parameters included in the models are considered to be possible first-

order effects that can be rapidly evaluated immediately after a fire. Other conditions than those used in the model may certainly affect debris-flow occurrence and peak discharge from recently burned basins in southern California. For example, a preponderance of dryravel material in a specific channel may certainly affect peak discharges, and the frequently occurring fire-flood sequence that characterizes southern California basins may similarly limit material availability (e.g. Spittler, 1995). Data necessary to evaluate these effects is not currently available to account for their effects in this approach.

### RESULTS

The 25-year, 1-hour storm of 1.12 inches (28.5 mm)

runoff with assumed sediment-bulking factors.

Of the 119 basins evaluated in this assessment, 21 were identified as having probabilities greater than 67% that debris flows will occur in response to the 25-year, 1hour rainstorm (Map 1A). From east to west, these basins include Schenk Creek, a tributary to City Creek; Borea Canyon; Harrison Canyon, which produced a post-fire debris flow in 1969 (Slossen et al., 1989); an unnamed tributary to Strawberry Creek (a tributary to Twin Creek); two unnamed tributaries to Waterman Canyon; an unnamed tributary north of Sawpit Canyon that drains into Silverwood Lake; four unnamed tributaries that drain into Cajon Canyon; four unnamed tributaries to Meyer Canyon; four tributaries to Lytle Creek, including Grapevine Canyon and three unnamed tributaries; and two tributaries that drain into Cucamonga Canyon. In response to a 25-year, 1-hour storm, debris-flow peak discharges between 3,001 and 6,000 ft<sup>3</sup>/s (85 and 170 m<sup>3</sup>/s) are estimated for these basins (Map 1B).

Sixty-nine additional basins show probabilities of debris-flow occurrence greater than 33%, still an appreciable hazard (Map 1A). These include Oak Creek; Elder Gulch; Cook Canyon; many of the tributaries to City Creek; Sand Canyon (which was observed by the senior author as having produced a debris flow following a fire in 1997); Little Sand Canyon; many of the tributaries to Waterman Canyon; Badger Canyon; Devils Canyon; Sawpit Canyon (which drains into Silverwood Lake); Ames, East Kimbark and Kimbark Canyons and unnamed basins that drain into Cajon Canyon; many of the tributaries to Meyer and Lytle Canyons; and many of the basins along the mountain front north of the City of Cucamonga, including Etiwanda and Day Canyons, and tributaries to Deer and Cucamonga Canyons. Debris-flow peak discharges between 3,001 and 6,000  $ft^{3}/s$  (85 and 170 m<sup>3</sup>/s) are also estimated for these basins (Map 1B). Note that three basins at the head of Lytle Canyon show no probability or pea

discharge class. These basins are classified as unburned on the burn severity map as they are underlain primarily by rock; they are thus unlikely to produce debris flows in response to any storm as a result of the fire.

In response to a 10-year, 1-hour storm, a probability of debris-flow occurrence greater than 67% is identified for seven basins (Map 2A). These include Shenck Creek, a tributary to City Creek; Borea Canyon; Harrison Canyon; a tributary to Meyer Canyon; a tributary at the head of Lytle Canyon; and two tributaries to Cucamonga Canyon. Debris flows with peak discharges between 3,001 and 6,000 ft<sup>3</sup>/s (85 and 170 m<sup>3</sup>/s) are estimated for these basins (Map 2B).

In response to this storm, numerous basins show probabilities of debris-flow occurrence of greater than 33%, still an appreciable hazard (Map 2A). These include tributaries to City Creek, including the East Fork; Sand Canyon; an unnamed tributary to Strawberry Creek in Twin Creek; many of the tributaries to Waterman Canyon; Devils Canyon and adjacent unnamed basins; Ames, East Kimbark and Kimbark Canyons and other unnamed canyons that drain into Cajon Canyon; many of the tributaries to Meyer and Lytle Canyons; and many of the basins along the mountain front north of the City of Cucamonga, including Etwanda and Day Canyons, and tributaries to Deer and Cucamonga Canyons. Debris-flow peak discharges between 3,001 and 6,000 ft<sup>3</sup>/s (85 and  $170 \text{ m}^3$ /s) are estimated for these basins (Map 2B).

### The 2-year, 1-hour storm of 0.52 inches (13.2 mm)

The 10-year, 1-hour storm of 0.90 inches (22.9 mm)

Only Borea Canyon shows a probability of debris-flow occurrence greater than 67% in response to the 2-year, 1-hour storm (Map 3A). However, many basins show probabilities of debris-flow occurrence greater than 33% (Map 3A). These include two unnamed tributaries to City Creek; Harrison Canyon; an unnamed tributary to Strawberry Creek in Twin Creek; three tributaries to Waterman Canyon; Devils Canyon; Ames, East Kimbark, and Kimbark Canyons, as well as other unnamed canyons that drain into Cajon Canyon; unnamed tributaries to Meyer and Lytle Canyons, and many of the basins along the mountain front north of the City of Cucamonga, including Etiwanda and Day Canyons, and tributaries to Deer and Cucamonga Canyons. Debris-flow peak discharges between 1,501 and 4,500 ft<sup>3</sup>/s (42 and 127 m<sup>3</sup>/s) are estimated for these basins (Map 3B).

## CONCLUSIONS

The basins identified as having probabilities of debris-flow occurrence greater than about 33% and the highest peak discharges are extremely dangerous for anyone living, working, or recreating within or downstream from them during rainfall events similar to or greater than, the storms used in this evaluation. Of the storms evaluated here, the hazard level is greatest for the 25-year storm, although the probability of this storm occurring is only about 4% in any given year. The probability of debris-flow occurrence is certainly lower for the 10- and 2-year storms; however, the estimated peak discharges of greater than 1,501 ft<sup>3</sup>/s (42 m<sup>3</sup>/s) associated with these storms can be quite destructive. In addition to the potential dangers within these basins, areas downstream from the basin outlets are also at risk. In some of these areas homes were destroyed by the fire, and workers and residents may be busy cleaning and rebuilding sites. These people are at high risk for impact by debris flow during rainfall events such used in this assessment. In addition, in the event of the passage of a debris flow, there is a great possibility of culverts plugging or being overwhelmed, and of roads washing out. Such events can strand motorists for long periods of time. In some cases, drainages cross roads on blind curves where motorists could abruptly encounter debris-flow hazards on the road.

RECOMMENDATIONS is imperative to insure that people occupying businesses, homes, and recreationa cilities downstream of the basins identified as the most hazardous are informed of the otential dangers from debris flows and flooding. Warning must be given even for those asins with mitigation structures at their mouths in the event that the structures are not dequate to contain potential debris-flow events. We further recommend site-specific debristion e structures and facilities identified as being at sk and that could be impacted by flows from basins smaller than those evaluated here. In ldition, this assessment is specific to post-fire debris-flow activity; further assessment of potential hazards posed by flash floods is necessary. And last, we highly recommend th stablishment of an early-warning system for both flash floods and debris flows. Such a ystem should consist of an extensive reporting rain gage and stream gage network coupled vith National Weather Service weather forecasts. Any early-warning system should be oordinated with existing county and flood district facilities. REFERENCES Bigio, E.R., and Cannon, S.H., 2001, Compilation of post-wildfire data from the western United States: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 02-443.

http://landslides.usgs.gov/html\_files/landslides/frdebris/Database.html Bonnin, G. M., Todd, D., Lin, B., Parzybok, T., Yekta, M., and Riley, D., 2003, Precipitation Frequency Atlas of the United States: NOAA Atlas 14, Volume 1, Version 2, NOAA, National Weather Service, Silver Spring, Maryland. http://hdsc.nws.noaa.gov Bortugno, E.J. and Spittler, T.E., 1998, Geologic map of the San Bernardino Quadrangle, 1:250,000: California Division of Mines and Geology, Regional Geologic Map Series, San Bernardino Quadrangle, Map No 3A. Cannon, S.H., 2000, Debris-flow response of southern California watersheds recently burned by wildfire, in Wieczorek, G.F., and Naeser, N.D, eds., Debris-Flow Hazards Mitigation—Mechanics, Prediction, and Assessment, Proceedings of the Second International Conference on Debris-Flow Hazards Mitigation, Taipei, Taiwan, 16-18 August 2000: A.A. Balkema, Rotterdam, p. 45-52. Cannon, S.H., 2001, Debris-flow generation from recently burned watersheds: Environmental & Engineering Geoscience, v. 7, p. 321-341.

Cannon, S.H., Kirkham, R.M. and Parise, M., 2001, Wildfire-related debris-flow initiation processes, Storm King Mountain, Colorado: Geomorphology, v. 39, p. 171-188. Griffiths, P.G., Webb, R.H., and Melis, T.S., 1996, Inititation and frequency of debris flows in Grand Canyon, Arizona: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 96-491, 35 p. Helsel, D.R., and Hirsch, R.M., 2002, Statistical methods in water resources, Studies in Environmental Science 49: Elsevier, Amsterdam, 489 p. Hosmer, D.W., and Lemeshow, S., 2000, Applied logistic regression, 2nd edition: New York, John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 375 p. Inman, D.L., 1952, Measures for describing the size distribution of sediments: Journal of Sedimentary Petrology, v. 22, p. 125-145. Iverson, R.M., 1997, The physics of debris flow, Reviews in Geophysics, v. 35, p. 245-296.

Johnson, A.M., and Rodine, J.R., 1984, Debris flow, *in* Brunsden, D. and Prior D.B., eds., Slope Instability, John Wiley & Sons, Ltd. New York. Key, C.H. and Benson, N.C., 2000, Landscape assessment, *in* Fire effects monitoring system (FireMon): integration of standardized field data collection techniques and sampling design with remote sensing to assess fire effects, D. Lutes, et al., USDA and USDI Joint Fire Sciences. http://www.fire.org/firemon/LAv1\_methods.pdf. Melton, M.A., 1965, The geomorphic and paleoclimatic significance of alluvial deposits in southern Arizona: Journal of Geology, v. 73, p. 1-38. Meyer, G.A., and Wells, S.G., 1997, Fire-related sedimentation events on alluvial fans, Yellowstone National Park, U.S.A.: Journal of Sedimentary Research, v. 67, no. 5, p. 776-791.

O'Connor, J.E., Hardison, J.H., III, and Costa, J.E., 2001, Debris flows from failures of Neoglacial-age moraine dams in the Three Sisters and Mount Jefferson Wilderness Areas, Oregon: U.S. Geological Survey Professional Paper 1606, 93 p. Scott, K.M., 1971, Origin and sedimentology of 1969 debris flows near Glendora, California: U.S. Geological Survey Professional Paper 750-C, p. C242-C247. Slossen, J.E., Havens, G.W., Shuriman, G., and Slosson, T.L., 1989, Harrison Canyon debris flows of 1980: Publications of the Inland Geological Society, v. 2, p. 235-298. Schwartz, G.E, and Alexander, R.B., 1995, State Soil Geographic (STATSGO) database for the conterminous United States: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 95-449, http://water.usgs.gov/lookup/getspatial?ussoils. Spittler, T.E., 1995, Fire and debris flow potential of winter storms, in Keely, J.E., and Scott, T., eds., Brushfires in California Wildlands—Ecology and Resource Management:

International Association of Wildland Fire, Fairfield, WA..

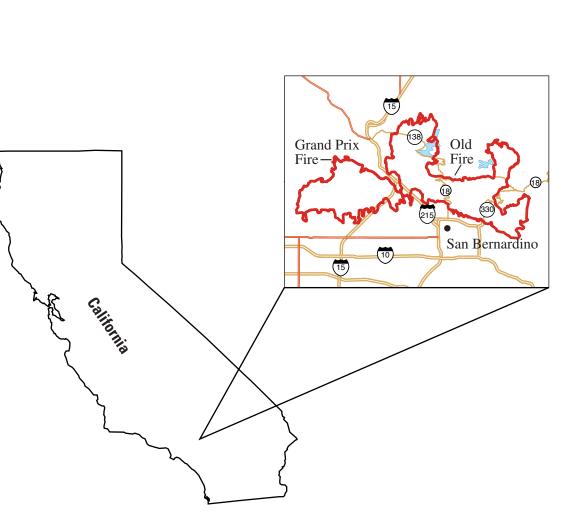
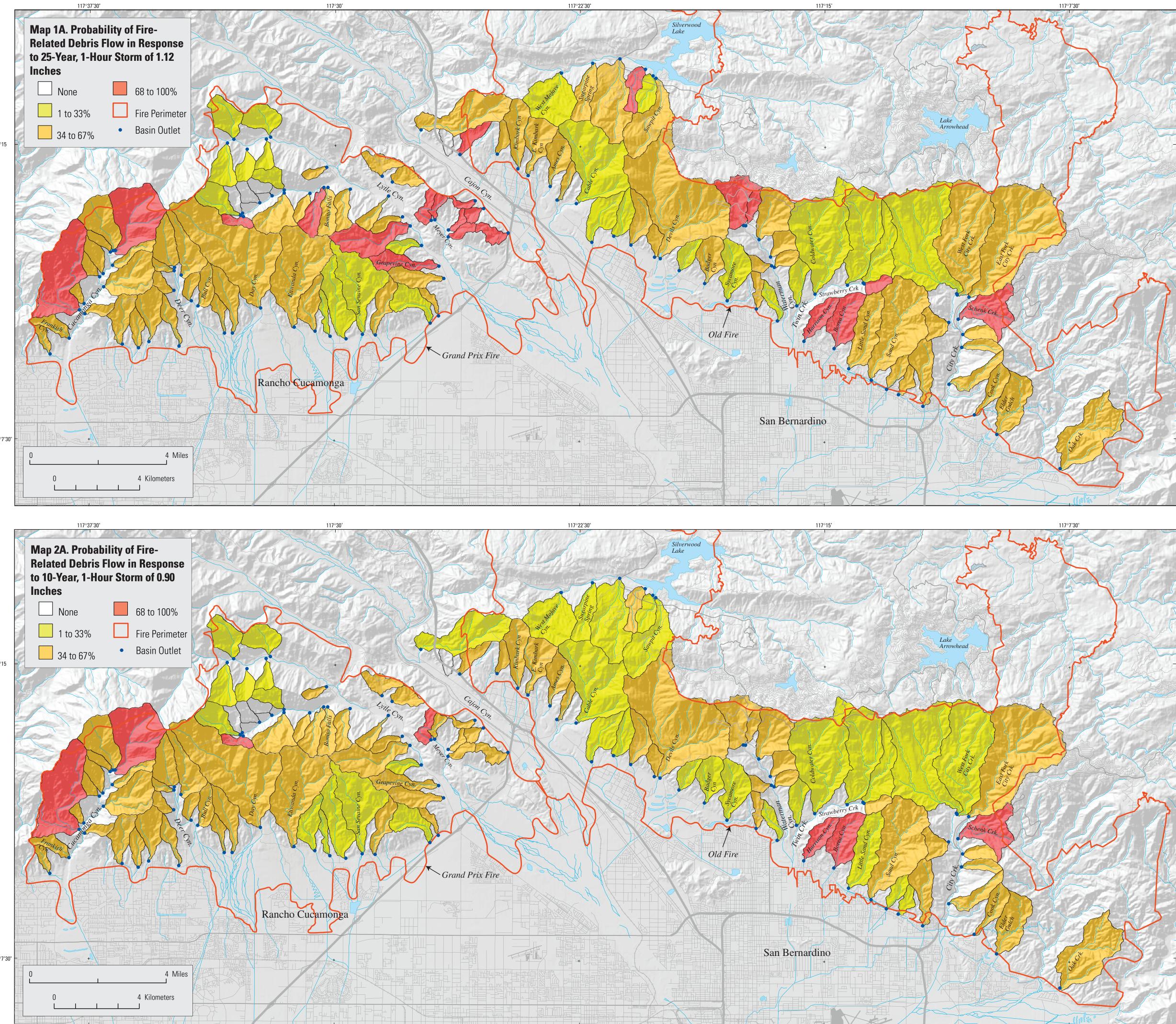


Figure 1. Location of Old and Grand Prix fires in southern California.

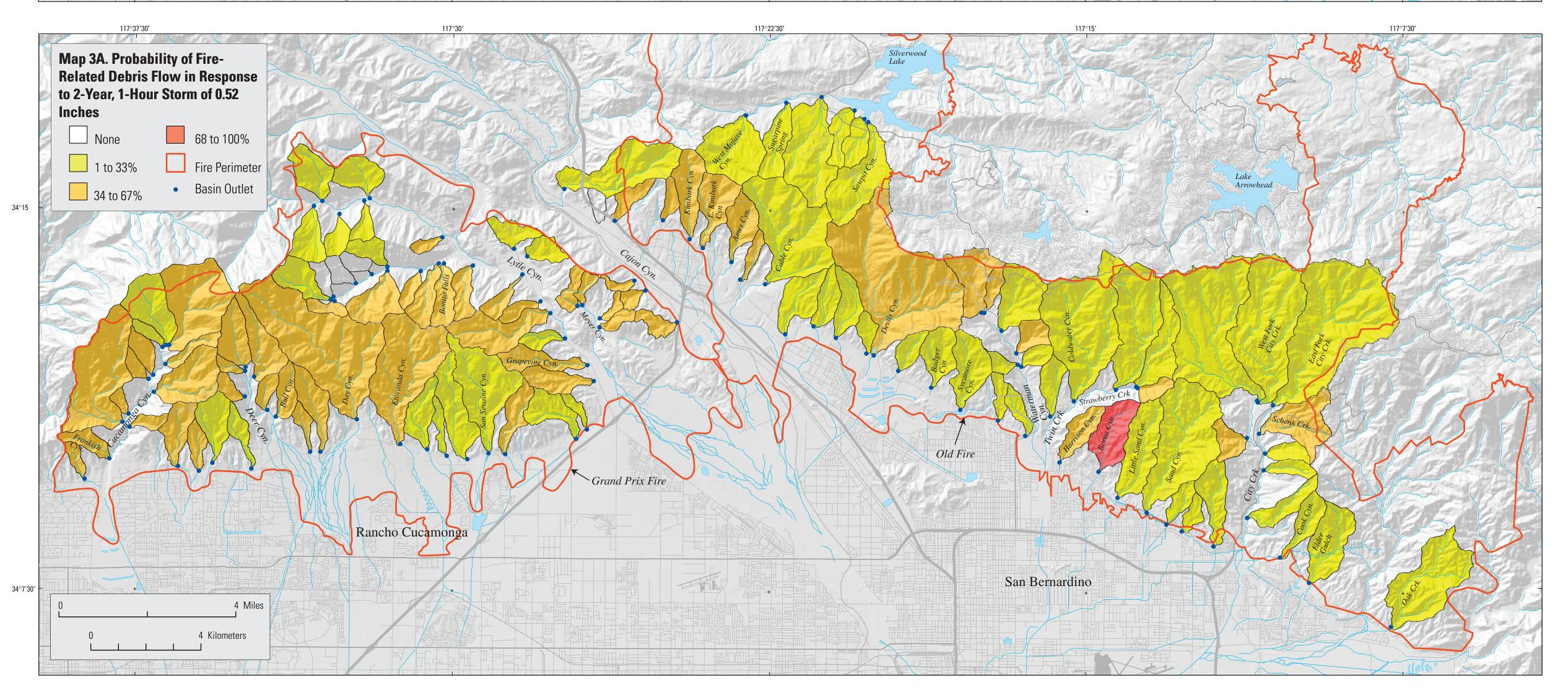
These maps prepared in cooperation with the Federal Emergency Managemer Agency (FEMA)

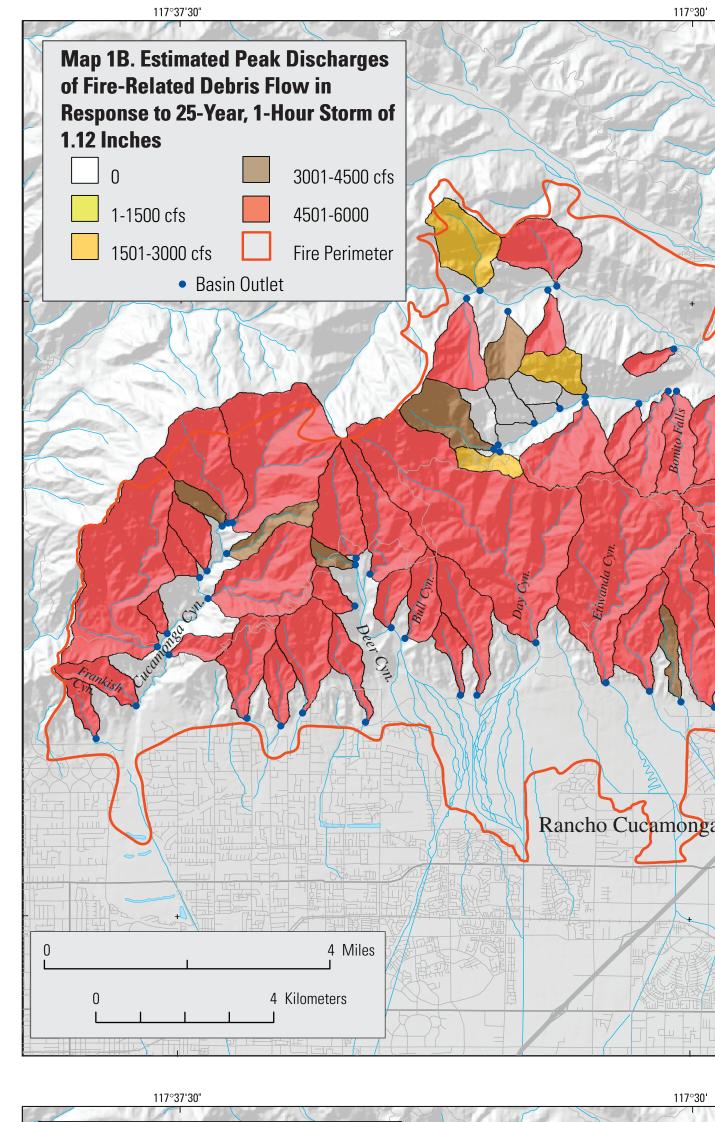
These maps are not to be used for flood insurance rating purposes under the National Flood Insurance Program. For insurance rating purposes, please refer to the currently effective Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRM) published by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). To obtain a copy of the FIRM, contact the FEMA Map Service Center at 1-800-385-9616, or at http://store/mcs.fema.gov.

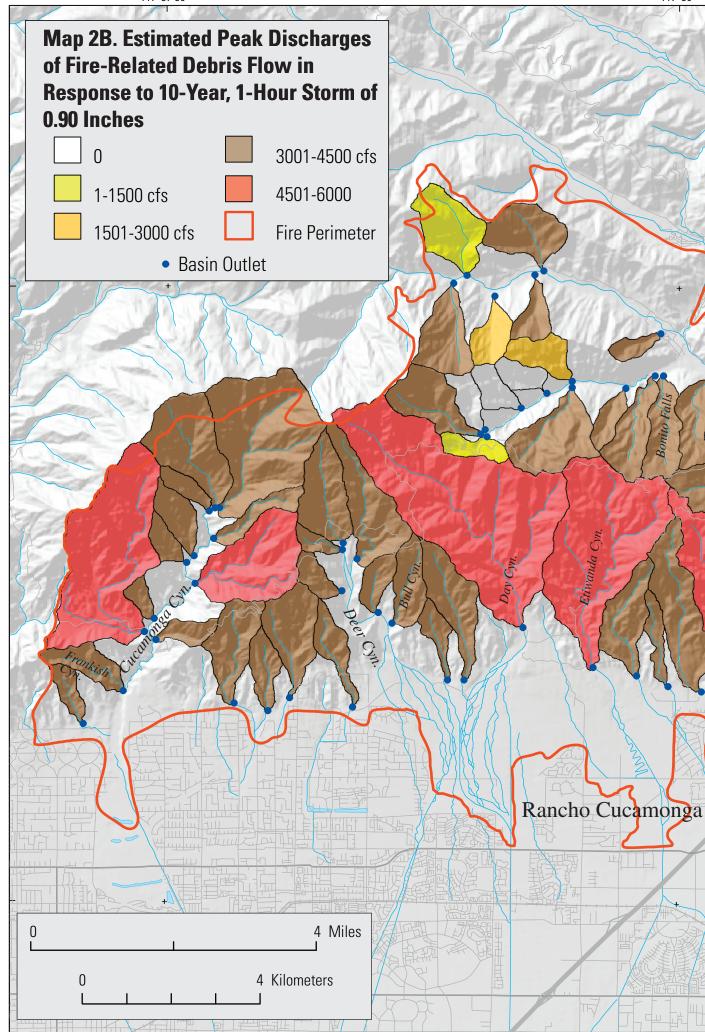
This report is preliminary and has not been reviewed for conformity with U.S. Geological Survey editorial standards or with the North American Stratigraphic code. Any use of trade, firm, or product names is for descriptive purposes only, and does not imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.

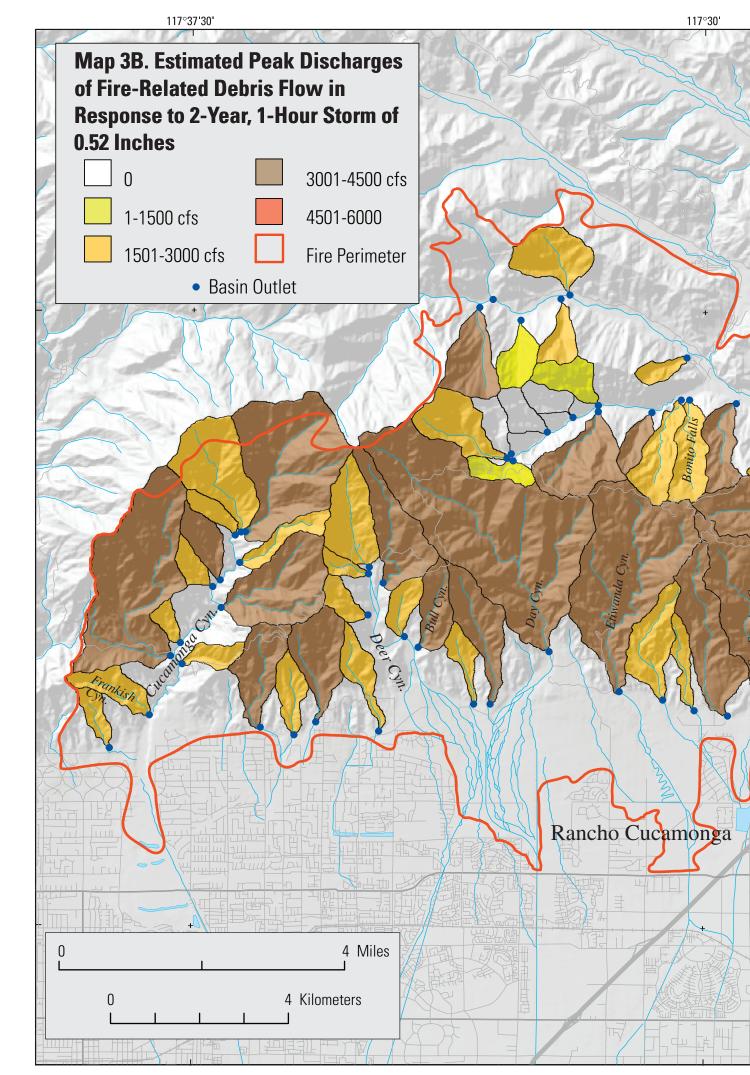


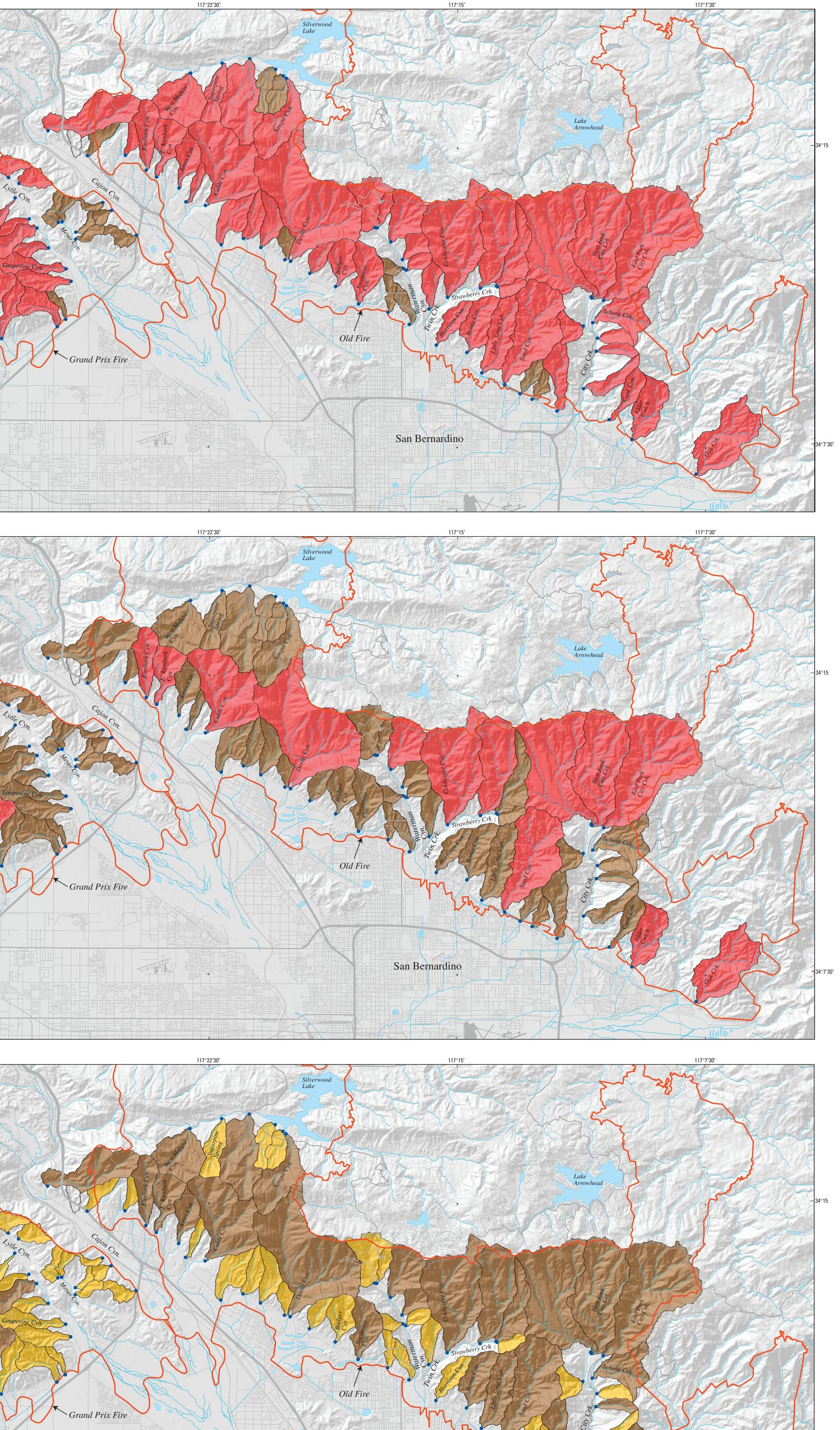












San Bernardino