

Re: [EXTERNAL] Error in Harmony Fire Perimeter

From [REDACTED]

Date Thu 11/20/2025 5:14 PM

To Information Quality, GS-GIO <InfoQual@usgs.gov>

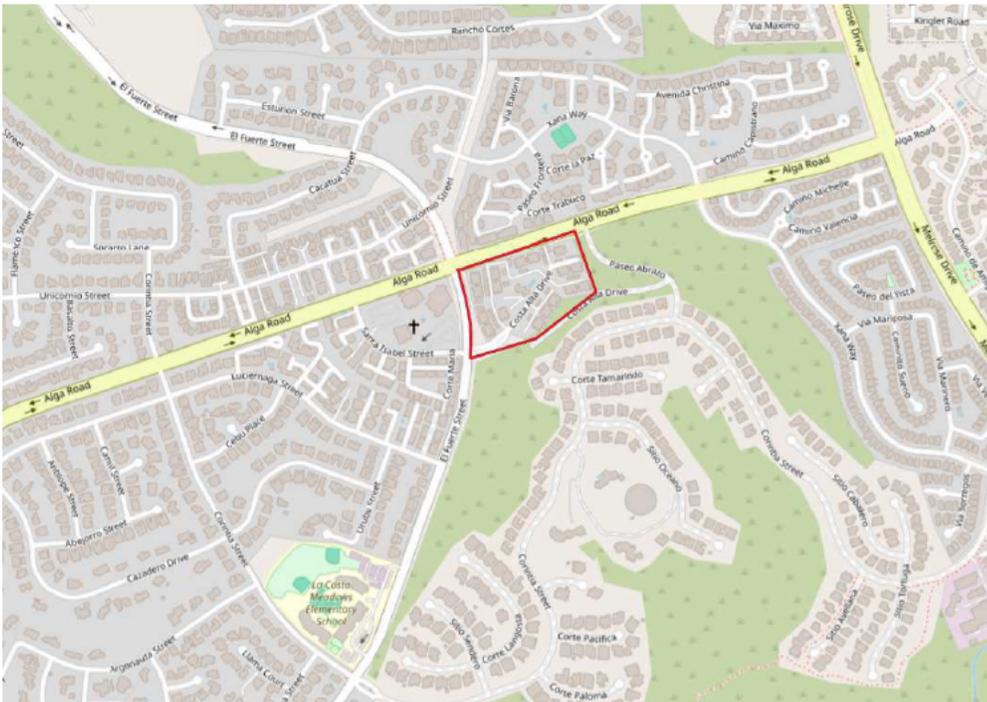
1 attachment (3 MB)

La\_Costa\_Alta\_Community\_Carlsbad\_CA.pdf,

Hi Cara,

I may have misunderstood what map you need, but here is our community map included as a La\_Costa\_Alta\_Community\_Carlsbad\_CA.pdf and inline as an image below:

[REDACTED]



Please let me know if that is what you were looking for.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]

On Thu, Nov 20, 2025 at 12:57 PM Information Quality, GS-GIO <[InfoQual@usgs.gov](mailto:InfoQual@usgs.gov)> wrote:

Hi [REDACTED],

I don't know if that shapefile is valid, but I don't have any GIS software on my computer. Would it be possible to send the map as a PDF document? I need to post the materials you sent to our public website and that might be easier.

Thank you.

Regards,

Cara

**Cara A. Campbell, PhD**

Science Quality Specialist

U.S. Geological Survey

Office of Science Quality and Integrity

Email: [ccampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:ccampbell@usgs.gov)

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wednesday, November 19, 2025 7:18 PM

**To:** Information Quality, GS-GIO <[InfoQual@usgs.g](mailto:InfoQual@usgs.g)

**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Error in Harmony Fire Perimeter

Good Afternoon Cara,

Thank you for your response.

And please let me know if you need any additional information.

Best regards,

[REDACTED]

On Wed, Nov 19, 2025 at 9:01AM Information Quality, GS-GIO <[InfoQual@usgs.g](mailto:InfoQual@usgs.g)> wrote:

Good morning [REDACTED],

This is to acknowledge receipt of your request.

By Close of Business November 26, 2025, I will send you a PDF letter of official notification of USGS receipt of your Information Quality Act request for correction.

Regards,

Cara

**Cara A. Campbell, PhD**

Science Quality Specialist

U.S. Geological Survey

Office of Science Quality and Integrity

Email: [ccampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:ccampbell@usgs.gov)

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Sunday, November 16, 2025 12:26 AM

**To:** Information Quality, GS-GIO <[InfoQual@usgs.g](mailto:InfoQual@usgs.g)

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Error in Harmony Fire Perimeter

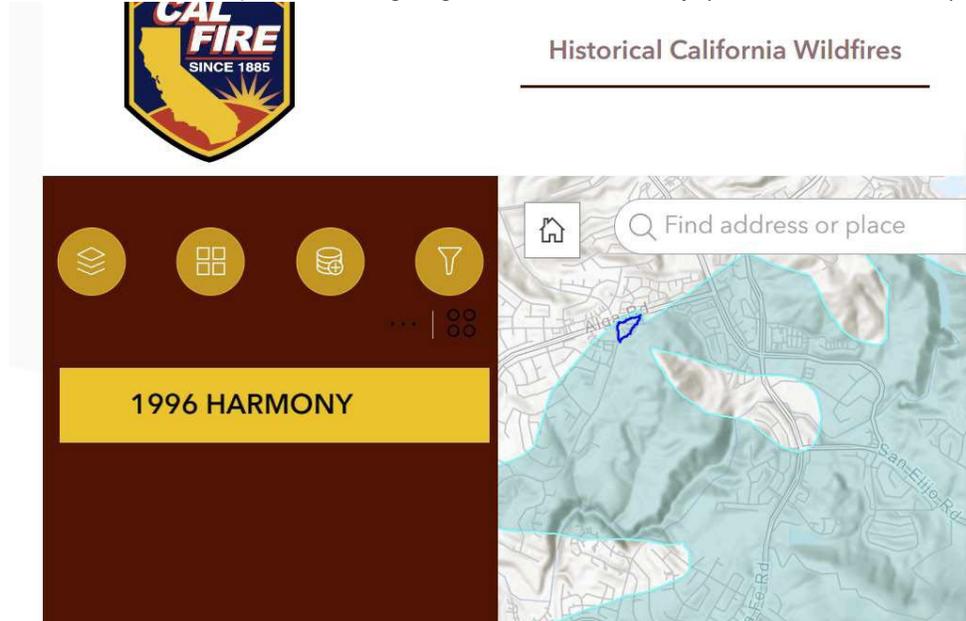
**This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.**

Hello,

I am a resident of Carlsbad and live in a community that has an incorrect perimeter for a fire. I've heard from residents that the fire hadn't reached our community so I started investigating the perimeter.

I began by discussing the 1996 Harmony Fire perimeter on the latest FHSZ maps with senior fire inspector, Rebecca Valdes.

The latest FHSZ depicts the fire going over our community (outlined in dark blue)



Inspector Valdes sent me the attached file 'Harmony Grove Fire - Out of Harmony.pdf' which details the after-incident chronicle report from the Carlsbad Fire Department.

Please see Appendix C which lists Carlsbad homes destroyed. It shows the area where homes were burned and doesn't list any of our homes in our La Costa Alta community.

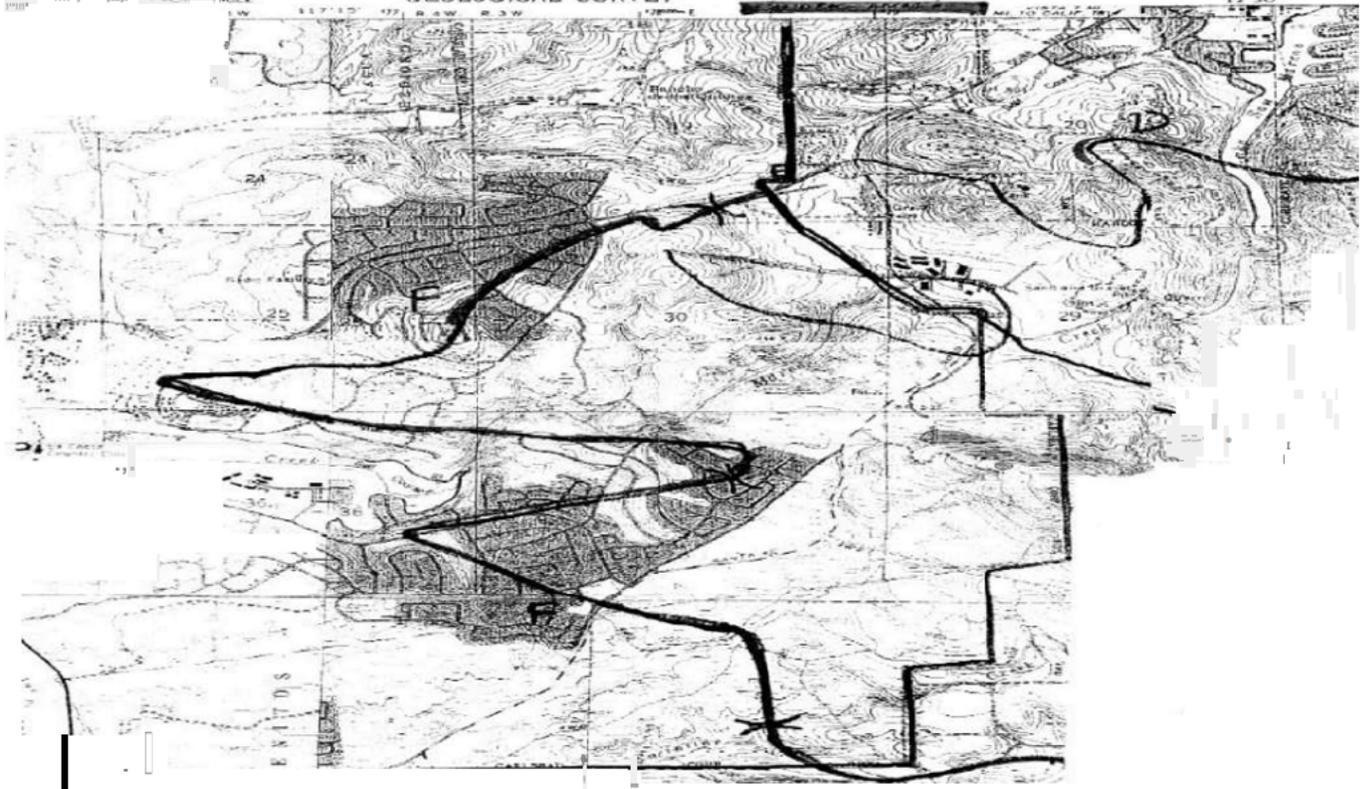
Also see page 75. Inspector Valdes said that they have it in their historical records and it includes the fire perimeter document from USGS which is why I am contacting you.

This page 75 is upside down in the attachment so I copied and rotated it so the words are upright. You can see the original in the attached document. Lake San Marcos is shown in the upper right. I can see the area that looks to be our community to the left of the X.

JNITAS. OU.AORA... ICLF  
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11"E.. @11111:18 (P-11111:18) il..

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

*File perimeter  
Carlsbad boundary*



Zoomed In, I added the blue dot to show a corner of our community. The thick black marker line goes right through our community



Is this the map used by UCGS for the perimeter of the Harmony fire 1996?  
If so, I do not believe it is accurate based on witness reports and the Carlsbad Fire Department list of houses burned.

I would like to see any supporting data that you have for this location and a further investigation on the accuracy of this information. I was also wondering if your department uses Landsat 5 imagery from that year to view burn scars to verify the perimeter?

I've included a shapefile that I created to show our community, La Costa Alta and attached it.

[Redacted]

Thank you,

[Redacted]