



SANTA BARBARA COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

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NEWS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

- Storm Preparedness / Resource Availability –

SANTA BARBARA, Ca. January 14, 2010 – The Santa Barbara County Fire Department (SBC FD), the Office of Emergency Services (OES), the National Weather Service, and other county officials, had a conference call on 1-13-10 to discuss the potential for high tides and high surf. SBC FD also met with other operational area fire departments to discuss each department's state of readiness.

SBC FD resources are ready to respond should an event take place. SBC FD officials are monitoring the weather conditions and the potential for extreme weather conditions the coming weeks. SBC FD resources that are currently available are:

Helicopter 309: equipped with a hoist and rescue swimmers

Water Rescue Team: equipped with water craft and rescue swimmers

Crew One: consisting of a 12 person crew quipped with a chain saws, a chipper, and dump truck

Heavy Equipment: including a dozer and loader

All 16 SBC FD engine companies are trained in shore based water rescue.

At any time, SBC FD can increase staffing levels to the point of having a Storm Task Force in place should weather conditions warrant.



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