



City of Los Angeles Animal Services



DANGEROUS RESCUE: 1st Horse Rescue of 2012

Special Teams Acting Lieutenant Armando Navarrete received a call from Lt. Boswell at 5 pm on 5/26 of an owners horse stuck in quicksand at Hansen Dam. Los Angeles Animal Services S.M.A.R.T. members Navarrete, Briefman, Ramirez, Garcia, Shepphird, Julian, and Poblano were activated to help.

They arrived at Hansen Dam at about 5:45 pm and assessed the situation. LAFD was already on scene and led us to the horse. The horse, named Duke, was in the water on its side. S.M.A.R.T. member Briefman advised me of what equipment would be necessary and I returned to the vehicles, met up with the rest of the Team, and briefed them. We then loaded all the necessary equipment onto a Rec and Parks quad and returned to the horse's location. S.M.A.R.T. member Briefman contacted AFE Horse veterinarian Bamert and she arrived within the hour.

S.M.A.R.T. member Briefman briefed LAFD and Lifeguard personnel on what we were going to attempt then proceeded to secure the horse in the water onto the teams Rescue Glide. Two LAFD helicopters were at the location and on standby as was the LAFD Heavy Rig and USAR Team. S.M.A.R.T. members Briefman, Ramirez, Garcia, Shepphird, and Julian began to secure the horse to the teams Glide then Large Animal Rescue Blanket. S.M.A.R.T. members Poblano and Navarrete assisted with equipment on the shore.

The horse was hauled out of the water secured with the teams Anderson Sling and airlifted by one of the LADD helicopters to the nearby baseball field. The horse was unhooked from the sling and reunited with its owner.



S.M.A.R.T. member Briefman briefed LAFD and Lifeguard personnel to secure the horse in the water onto the teams Rescue Glide.



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Dr. Bamert, Equine Veterinarian, called in and examined horse.



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Duke flying high on his way to safety and his grateful owner.