

County of Santa Cruz

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER SUSAN A. MAURIELLO, J.D., COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER MARCH 24, 2011 WINTER STORM #1

Date:March 24, 2011Time:4:03 PMRelease:ImmediatelyContact:Enrique Sahagun
Public Information OfficerMedia Line:458-7185

Santa Cruz County is experiencing a very heavy rainstorm which is expected to continue through 5:00 PM.

The Siren system was activated at approximately 2:54 pm to evacuate approximately 224 homes along the San Lorenzo River. In addition, the Reverse 911 system was activated at approximately 3:25 to evacuate the areas of Felton Grove, Paradise Park and Gold Gulch. The Reverse 911 system affected approximately 825 people. The evacuation is not anticipated to last for an extended period of time.

A staging area has been established at the Safeway parking lot in Felton. The Red Cross has been dispatched to the staging area.

Various roads are closed in the county, most in the Santa Cruz Mountains, but roads in other areas are also closed due to flooding. The County road closure list can be accessed at: <u>http://www.sccroadclosure.org/</u>

Conditions can change very quickly, and residents are cautioned to drive very carefully and remain alert for potential hazards.