



Humanitarian Aid and Rescue Project

Operation Burnt Woods

Location: Ojai, California

Impact Report

Operational Date: 12/2017 - 1/2018

Introduction:

On December 6, 2017, in response to the unprecedented scale of the Thomas Fire, HARP swiftly deployed to Ojai, California, located in Ventura County. This fierce wildfire, which engulfed nearly 282,000 acres of land, became a historic event as it surpassed all previous records in terms of its size and intensity within the state of California. HARP's timely and decisive action in the face of this devastating disaster aimed to provide essential aid and support to the affected communities in Ventura County.

Requests:

Upon receiving requests from local law enforcement officials and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, HARP swiftly mobilized its resources to support the rescue efforts of civilians and livestock endangered by the devastating wildfire.

Methods:

Recognizing the urgent nature of the situation, HARP swiftly initiated the process of gathering crucial information to facilitate their rescue efforts. This included obtaining road maps, aerial maps, projected wind currents, and smoke data. By leveraging advanced disaster assessment models and drawing on their past experience, HARP established a comprehensive framework that prioritized the safe and efficient rescue of both human lives and livestock. The meticulous gathering and analysis of critical data, coupled with their expertise, allowed HARP to effectively navigate the challenges posed by the wildfire and carry out their operations with a strong focus on ensuring the well-being and safety of those affected.

Results:

Over the course of their 25-day operation, HARP successfully facilitated the evacuation of more than 50 households and ensured the safe rescue of over 300 heads of livestock, including cows, horses, goats, pigs, and dogs. Their unwavering commitment to preserving life and protecting the well-being of both humans and animals allowed them to mitigate the devastating effects of the wildfire significantly.

Impact:

Through their dedicated efforts, HARP provided crucial support to the affected individuals and livestock owners, ensuring their safety and alleviating the distress caused by the disaster.

Challenges:

Throughout the operation, HARP encountered unforeseen challenges, particularly in cases where individuals were reluctant to evacuate their properties despite the dangerous circumstances. In such situations, HARP had to adapt their approach and find alternative ways to mitigate the potentially disastrous effects on these properties. They employed various methods to help shore up the properties, reducing the risks involved and providing a safer environment for those who chose to stay behind. This demonstrated HARP's commitment to ensuring the well-being and safety of both individuals and their properties, even in challenging circumstances where evacuation was not possible. Their ability to adapt and find innovative solutions underscores their resourcefulness and dedication to protecting lives and property.

Conclusion:

HARP's success in rescuing and safeguarding the lives of people and livestock during the Thomas Fire was remarkable. Their commitment to saving lives, combined with their expertise in disaster response and rescue operations, played a crucial role in mitigating the fire's devastating impact on human and animal lives. HARP's dedication and effectiveness in this operation serve as a testament to their mission and their positive impact on the communities they serve.

Future Missions -How You Can Help

You can contribute significantly to the Humanitarian Aid and Rescue Project (HARP) and support their future operations by donating a generous donation today at www.HarpRescue.org. Your donation will be crucial in enabling HARP to continue its life-saving work in providing aid and assistance to those in need. Your support will directly impact the lives of individuals affected by conflict, natural disasters, and other challenging circumstances. Visit the website now to make a meaningful difference and join HARP in its mission to bring hope, relief, and a brighter future to those who need it most.