

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, California

Aug. 18, 2009

Cal Poly Public Affairs polynews@calpoly.edu

Cal Poly's Swanton Pacific Ranch is Haven for Horse Evacuees from Lockheed Fire

SANTA CRUZ -- Cal Poly's Swanton Pacific Ranch served as a haven for Santa Cruz animals displaced by the area's Lockheed Fire over the past weekend.

Swanton's cattle corrals are safe outside the evacuation zone and located close to Highway One in Davenport, north of Santa Cruz.

All Cal Poly animals and operations were evacuated to Swanton Pacific's corrals Aug. 12 as the Lockheed Fire burned close to uppper portions of the ranch. The fire subsequently burned close to Swanton's school house (used as a residence), yurts and apple orchard. Fire crews saved the buildings.

During the past weekend, in addition to Cal Poly's animals some 11 horses and their owners -- ranch neighbors -- were housed in the cattle shipping corrals also. Cal Poly opened the corrals to aid neighbors at Swanton Pacific Ranch until they are allowed back to their Swanton Road homes.

Visit the Swanton Pacific Ranch Web site

Read the San Jose Mercury-News Story on the evacuees