



For immediate release

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North Bay No-Kill Shelters Save Shelter Pets Displaced by Rocky Fire

A total of 48 dogs, puppies, cats and kittens have been transferred from a Lake County animal shelter forced to make room for stray pets separated from their families by the massive Rocky Fire. Sonoma Humane Society (SHS), Petaluma Animal Services Foundation (PASF) and Napa-based Wine Country Animal Lovers (WCAL) partnered to coordinate the rescue. The animals are now safe, receiving health exams and being placed with foster parents. They will soon be made available for adoption. The dogs range from Labradors, Bloodhound mixes, German Shepherds, Chihuahuas and a Husky. The cats are young and healthy, and include a Siamese mom and her 5 kittens.

The rescue agencies received a plea on August 3rd from Lake County Animal Care and Control expressing their desperate need to make room for animal evacuees who were victims of the fire. Rather than risk the chance that these shelter pets would be euthanized, all three agencies joined forces and drove to the Lake County shelter. Upon their arrival at the shelter in Lake County, the rescue caravan was greeted by shelter staff and volunteers with smiles and tears of gratitude.

Kiska Icard, Executive Director of SHS, said: "During a disaster, oftentimes the existing shelter pets are the most at risk. In many cases the animals who have lived in the shelter prior to the disaster are euthanized in order to make room for those animals who have temporarily lost their homes. We all wanted to ensure that these animals were safe while providing space for other animals in need."

Jeff Charter, Executive Director of PASF, said: "Petaluma is a No-Kill Community and we have a very active base of volunteer and foster parents who are more than willing to welcome these animals."

While SHS and PASF took a majority of the animals, WCAL along with Jameson Animal Rescue Ranch donated \$1,680 worth of livestock food and supplies to the animal evacuation site in Lower Lake to feed the horses, goats, chickens, llamas and pigs who have lost their homes due to the fire.

Sonoma Humane is requesting used towels, bed spreads without stuffing, and fleece blankets. With all the additional dogs at the shelter, they could also use dog treats (Zuke's brand), treat pouches, L & XL Sense-ation harnesses, and XXL black Kongs. You can find these items on the SHS Amazon Wishlist here: http://www.amazon.com/.../re.../wishlist/ref=nav_youraccount_wl...

The Sonoma Humane Society has cared for homeless, neglected and abused companion animals for since 1931. They are a donor supported save haven for animals offering adoptions, dog training, veterinary care and more. For more information, call (707) 542-0882, or visit the Society's web site at www.sonomahumane.org.

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