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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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County of Los Angeles Department of Animal Care and Control Mobilizes for Evacuations Due to the Hughes Fire

DACC is actively responding to the ongoing "Hughes Fire," which has burned more than 5,000 acres in the region. Because of the fire's progression, DACC is evacuating the Castaic Animal Care Center (ACC) to ensure the safety of the animals in our care.

We urge residents in the affected area to take immediate action to safeguard their pets and livestock. For those with large animals the Pierce College Equestrian Center is available as a safe haven. Small animals can be taken to the following ACCs:

- Lancaster ACC, 5210 W. Ave. I, Lancaster
- Palmdale ACC, 38550 Sierra Hwy., Palmdale

DACC is committed to providing assistance and support during this emergency. We encourage all pet owners in the evacuated zones to act quickly and seek shelter for their animals.

"Our top priority is the safety and well-being of both the animals in our care and those belonging to residents in the affected areas," said DACC Director Marcia Mayeda. "We are working diligently to ensure that all animals are evacuated safely and that they have a secure place to stay during this emergency.

The Department urges everyone to make sure your emergency plans include your pets. You can find a list of items to put in your pet's "go bag" at https://ready.lacounty.gov/pet-disaster-supply-kits/.

Please visit <u>www.lacounty.gov/emergency</u> for information on fire evacuations, shelters and road closures. A wealth of emergency preparedness information is also available at https://ready.lacounty.gov/

Help Animals Affected by the Fires

The Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation's Noah's Legacy Fund supports the Department's emergency response efforts. These services are critical to the communities we serve as we continue to respond to the wildfires, flooding, and earthquakes that can occur in the areas we serve.

Learn more at https://lacountyanimals.org/way-to-give/disaster-relief/

About the Los Angeles County Department of Animal Care and Control (DACC)

DACC is one of the largest animal care and control agencies in the nation, operating seven animal care centers and providing services to more than three million residents and their pets. DACC operates under the nationally recognized Socially Conscious Sheltering model to ensure the best possible outcomes for animals and the community. As a community resource center for pets and owners, DACC protects people and animals from harm, provides care for lost and unwanted animals, reunites lost pets with their families, and strives every day to move closer to its goal of finding a loving home for every adoptable pet that comes through its doors. To learn more about DACC, the resources DACC provides, and view its animals, visit https://animalcare.lacounty.gov or follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and X (formerly Twitter). To support DACC's efforts, please donate to the Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation at https://lacountyanimals.org/. To learn more about Socially Conscious Sheltering, visit https://scshelte.ring.org/.

About the Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation

The Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation supports the County of Los Angeles Department of Animal Care and Control through fundraising which supports spay and neuter programs, pet adoptions, public education, disaster response, and animal welfare. Many of the Foundation's fundraising efforts have enabled the department to enhance the care given to animals in the County animal care centers. To learn more, visit lacountyanimals.org.