

CASE STUDY FOR

ATMOSPHERIC RIVER-RELATED FLOODING

Unified Emergency Communications During Atmospheric River-Related Flooding



Situation

During December 2022 and January 2023, counties across California experienced multiple flooding, mud slide, and storm-surge events related to atmospheric river conditions. While these moisture plumes or vapor surges are crucial to the water catchment areas along the West Coast in the United States, they also have the potential to create significant and dangerous flooding conditions requiring swift responses from emergency management personnel.

More than <u>ten of these counties</u>, including Los Angeles, Humboldt, and Santa Cruz, used the Genasys Protect solution to coordinate their responses and communicate critical information to the public



Problem

Over the last five years, unprecedented wildfires scarred thousands of square miles of California forest and rural lands. Combined with atmospheric river weather conditions, California finds itself particularly susceptible to severe flood and mud slide catastrophes.

In these emergency situations, California's public safety professionals need a seamless emergency communications system that is two-fold:

- To provide critical interdepartmental collaboration tools that allow responders to operate safely during and after the event.
- 2. To **notify the public** of safety and evacuation information.



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The Protect Platform

The <u>Protect Platform</u> provides a multi-pronged Protective Communications solution:

- Genasys Protect gives organizations precision in who they reach, speed to act faster, and clarity that cuts through confusion. Targeted communication zones combine with comprehensive, multi-channel message delivery to form a powerful, precise, communication solutions to keep people informed of any situation and to protect more lives.
- Genasys Acoustics deliver highly audible and clear voice messaging when emergencies arise, broadcasting long-range emergency response messaging outdoors, even when connections are down and the power is out.
- <u>Genasys Evertel</u> provides secure, real-time communication and collaboration, both on desktop and a mobile app, addressing the strictest requirements of public safety agencies, hospitals, financial services, and secure business communications.

Through a **single dashboard**, county responders were able to communicate and plan, while staying advised of situations, routing first responders, and notifying their citizens of evacuation information that aided in lifesaving efforts to keep the community safe.



During the unprecedented series of atmospheric river flooding events during the winter of 2022-2023, agency officials in more than ten California counties managed flood advisories, road closures, and shelter operations to safely direct citizens and emergency personnel. These efforts along with the right tools minimized loss of life during a series of catastrophic weather events that will only become more common as global temperatures continue to rise.

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