

April 5, 2013

Complimenting Fire Department E-25—Captain AJ Vidaurri, Engineer  
Sedric Ketchum, and Firefighter Zach Smith

Chief Summers,

I would like to commend you for a job well done from members of the Rocklin Fire Department. On 3-30-2013 I responded to Rocklin Ranch Apartments regarding baby ducklings that had fallen in a storm drain. When I arrived on scene I found a very distraught mother duck, pacing the parking lot, and a total of thirteen ducklings that had fallen into a deep storm drain. I requested fire to assist me in the rescue (Incident# 130330138). Engine 25 arrived on scene with Captain AJ Vidaurri, Engineer Sedric Ketchum, and Firefighter Zach Smith. With a lot of muscle power and teamwork they were able to remove a very stubborn storm grate. We soon found out that this was just the beginning of a very difficult recovery mission, due to the lack of cooperation from the ducklings. With patience, a small net, a long pole, duct tape, and extremely skilled hand eye coordination all ducklings were recovered from the storm drain. The mother duck assisted in supervision, and was very appreciative to have all of her babies back. Not to mention the appreciation from many residents who were watching.

I want to express how grateful I am for the help I received from the members of Engine 25. Please thank them again for me.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Mahlberg  
Rocklin Animal Control Officer II