



Estados Unidos



Santa Rosalia, Mexico



Baja Sur, Mexico

September 29, 2009. Job well done.... - 9/29/2009

**October 1, 2009:** The following is a list of Alerts that have been sent out to all members over the past four weeks. They are listed in reverse order i.e. the last Alert is listed first. Again, we wish to thank all who were involved in this major operation. It was quick, hard, and was needed by the people in Mid-Baja.

Claudia and I got back last night and are starting to wind things up.

The Baja Airlift was a complete success. To see the joy of those who received items throughout the last month made the whole operation worthwhile.

We wish to thank all who donated goods, cash and also those who flew one, two, or three missions from the states, as well as the helicopters who made the continuous flights into the remote ranches. We also wish to thank the Mexican Red Cross, which included the La Paz, Constitucion, Mulege and Santa Rosalia Chapters, Walmart Foundation, Las Casitas Hotel, Hotel Serenidad, and the Minera Boleo Company who's help was invaluable in making this all possible.

We are still calculating the number of aircraft and people involved however, we know the number of aircraft exceeded 120 and if each aircraft averaged only 500 pounds, we brought in over 30 tons of needed food, clothing, medical supplies and other needed items.



In addition, we have tons of additional supplies still in the states and we are working to get these relief supplies to Santa Rosalia and Mulege via ground.

Again, we thank all of you who worked so hard to make this critical effort a giant success... More information to follow in the near future. Jack @ BBP

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### **In Mexico** - 9/23/2009

We presently have about 35 aircraft indicating they will be doing the Baja Airlift over the next several days and anticipate that there will be another 30 that will show up.



If you plan to come down, read the alert below, then check the list of pick up places, call to confirm, and load and come on down.

Best to check in at either MMPE or MMSF.

We cannot do any more eAPIS for anyone, we have done at least 15 today and have ran out of time.

Insurance can be purchased on line from our website

When coming down, call "Baja Control" 30 out on 122.8 and we will confirm landing instructions. If over flying to Loreto, again, Call Baja Control when 30+- out and we will call our people in Loreto to meet you and help you unload.

There are rooms at the Serenidad if you wish to stay overnight. Figure on about \$30+-. Kitchen is not open, we will make something happen. Don't forget the Alamos option.

And we can use help unloading aircraft etc. at the airport over the next several days.



Sorry to be so rushed both now and in the office the last couple of days. We have been totally overloaded.

So.... See you in Mulege. Jack

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### **We have to wrap this one up. - 9/22/2009**

We have about all the relief supplies that we can handle and it is time to get everything down to the people in need. We have had a lot who have helped out and there are a lot more that would like to help but have stumbling blocks, be it money for fuel, eAPIS, or just not having time to do it.



We had anticipated using cash donations to purchase things that have not been provided but were needed. With the generosity of those that gave, most of the needs are met. I am now rethinking how to best use the donated money.

The greatest need right now is to transport the goods down to the Mulege area.

(remembering that Claudia is swamped) if you are struggling with the new eAPIS requirement and cannot quite make it work, we will do the filing for you.

The plan, per aircraft, is as follows.

BBP staff will be in Mulege this Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday to receive and assure that the donations go to the people with the most need. Upon receipt of these supplies, We will personally deliver these goods to needy people in Mulege, Santa Rosalia and Laguna San Ignacio.



For each aircraft that registers with the BBP office prior to going down, we will be providing a cash donation of \$50 dollars toward your fuel upon arrival. If you want to stay overnight you need to get a room either at The Serenidad or downtown. Or, you have a second choice. We have made arrangements with Jim Swickard owner of the Hacienda de Las Santos in Alamos, in lieu of the \$50 dollar cash donation, we will provide you a coupon for one free night at his exclusive four star resort including breakfast for two. If you are struggling with eAPIS, (remembering that Claudia is swamped), we will do the filing for you.

It is a win win for everyone.

Lets get right to the point.....I need 100 aircraft this weekend full of relief supplies so that we can move donated items to the pepole in need. Lets get together and get this done. I have been down to the Mulege area four times in the last four weeks and it is time to wrap it up and move on to other things. This is a call for action. Be part of Baja Airlift 2009 by partipicating this weekend.

And for those that have partipicated over the past several weeks, we have a coupon for a night in Alamos for you also.

To make this work:

1) email the BBP office  
jack@bajabushpilots.com and indicate that:

a) **Coming Down** is to be the Subject Line

b) The N Number of the aircraft

c) The Type of aircraft

d) The day you will be coming down

e) The antipicated time of arrival.

2) Contact the closest drop point to confirm that you can pick up a full plane load

3) Ensure that you are set with eAPIS (call the office if you are stuck, must fax in your paperwork by wed 3pm)

4) Pick up your load and depart for Mexico, checking in at either Rocky Point or San Felipe

5) Call Baja Control on 122.8 about 30 miles out of Mulege for landing instructions.

6) Land, unload, receive your cash or certificate for Alamos.

And we are making arrangements to bring the strip at Mulege back to full length on Thursday....

see next post for pickup places and contact information.

And in addition, all who signatiffily contributed to this effort will receive a certificate authorized by the Mexican Red Cross thanking you for your efforts.



We hope to see you in Mulege.

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## Update, September 16, 2009 - 9/16/2009

### Hurricane Jimena

BBP staff and support persons will be going to Mulege this Thursday morning to start receiving, transferring, sorting, and distributing relief supplies. Please try to work with the following schedule:



Arrival of materials should start about noon on Thursday and can continue through Saturday. We will have people at Loreto and Mulege to direct and assist. Do not unload or give anything to any person but a BBP person who should be identified by a BBP Name Tag.

If going to Loreto, call Baja Control (the Serenidad) when crossing over. With that information, I can contact people in Loreto to meet you.

If going to Loreto, it is critical that you provide a full list of the number of boxes, bags, and the a general description of what is in these bags. Also listed should be the N Number of the aircraft and the pilots name and license number. With that done, there will be little delay.

It must be pointed out that the Mike Shaw, General Manager of Mineral Boleo mining company in Santa Rosalia has provided the BBP logistical equipment including pickup trucks and a 2-½ ton truck for transferring supplies. Without this help, our efforts would be much harder.

Regarding plans for the next several days:

We will be receiving Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at both Mulege and Loreto. If there is a problem at Mulege, you will be diverted via radio to Palo Verde.



Assigned staff is as follows: (and we can use volunteers as they come in to help)

## Persons required

Thursday. Friday

- 1) Jack McCormick in Mulege (Coordinator)
- 2) Bill Bassett for Loreto (plus locals and pilots)
- 3) Joe Puchi for Mulege (plus locals and pilots)

Friday

- 1) Jack McCormick Coordinate
- 2) Bill Bassett to continue coordinate Loreto
- 3) Joe to work Mulege

Saturday

- 1) Deliver supplies from Serenidad to Mulege, (Red Cross, Rotary Club cars)
- 2) Ship supplies from Serenidad to Santa Rosalia (Boleo Mining to transfer)
- 3) Fly supplies to Laguna San Ignacio (pilots)
- 4) Distribution of relief supplies, different places.

Airports open

- 1) Palo Verde: Paved strip, no facilities
- 2) Punta Chivito: Good Strip, bad road in and out
- 3) Loreto Commercial airport, subject to flight plans, landing fees, etc
- 4) Mulege (question) Report that it is getting soft
- 5) Laguna San Ignacio Told that it is good, little soft on the south end
- 6) Lopez Mateos (Planes have landed there)
- 7) Constitution Good strip, isolated



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## Hurricane Jimena Relief Update - 9/15/2009

Before I give you all a brief update of the on goings of this past weekend I want to take this opportunity to thank ALL who have helped in this effort so far. Although The Baja Bush Pilots as an organization has been one of many to take the lead in helping those in the areas who need it so much, you the members and family & friends of members who come along side us to make our organization efforts come to life, are a huge part of making it all a success. With all our hearts, as echoed by so many people on the receiving end, THANK YOU

SO MUCH!

What a weekend! Medical evaluations and evacuations, food and necessity boxes both from Red Cross and the sate dropped off by our helicopter pilots. One Jet Ranger, 3 Robinson 44s, 3 tanker planes, 1 doctor, 1 EMT, one "better than GPS!" guide and lots of support people. They were long, sweaty, dirty and grimmy days for all involved but it was



all very much worth it. For those that didn't get to hear the thanks yous and see the grateful faces, let me tell you, even with all the frustration, sleeplessness, politics and less than great conditions, it's all worth it and you have to keep remembering that the people there are living it and don't get to go home after a few days like we do.

Because of the current need and all the coordinating happening through the BBP, through other organizations and individually we will be opening the members section up to the public for a few weeks. This opens up the board to all for communicating and posting needs and comments. I have created the email address

guest@bajabushpilots.com **Non members can use this email** and the password "guest". I ask that guests please not change any of the information for that account (like bulletin user name, name, address, password) as that will not allow others to use it. This is just meant to give you access and to be able to post on the board.



Many had a "problem" with filing to GLL (Mulege) as it was closed by NOTAM. Commander Landeros in Loreto has lifted the NOTAM but as it sometimes occurs, it takes time to reach all the people it needs to. We have made the necessary calls and that should no longer be an issue.

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**Hurricane Jimena** - 9/3/2009

Mid-Baja has suffered major damage. We are getting “real time” reports from different sources including people on the ground in the damage areas as well as the Mexican Red Cross. It is not good. The reports that we have indicate:

**Matancitas (Lopez Mateos)** Almost 90% of the structures are down or severely damaged. All water, power, telephone, etc. out

**Ciudad Constitucion:**  
Most roofs are gone; sever damage to 70% of the buildings. Power, water, telephones are out

**Loreto:** All power / telephone are down, lines are down, trees and buildings blocking the streets, airport is closed at this time.

**Mulege:** All power, telephone, water, etc. is out. The water crested three feet above the bridge. Water was two feet deep in the fire station which would mean that almost of the entire town was flooded. There has been reports of loss of life.

**Punta Chivato:** One person indicates that the wind was over 100 mph before the indicator broke. Damage to almost everything. We should hear about the condition of the strip sometime today

**Santa Rosalia:** Wall of water came down the canyon and through the town, washed cars, etc. into the ocean.

The Red Cross has been in contact with us today, they are still in the process of determining their needs however, they indicate that they will need our help.

We will be putting out another alert for donations as well as where they are needed. I have taken the position that we will not be bringing things down unless there is a structured means of distributing



them. With Hurricane John, I have to estimate that about half of the donations ended up with people that really did not need them.

(end of post)

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### **Baja Airlift Update - 9/9/2009**

Will be in Mulege Thursday, plan on starting to arrive on Friday with support items. And we are doing rescue operations with helicopters right now. Things are not good.

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### **Several issues on Hurricane Jimene - 9/4/2009**

We need relief items....

We have aircraft ready to go and we need more things to put in them. I am going down to Ciudad Constitucion in the morning to meet with the Red Cross coordinator to determine the needs and where the supplies are most needed. We will be over flying the entire mid-Baja area to determine these needs. I will be spending one or two nights there.

We have people lining up donations but we have the ability to take more. Critical right now is clothing, shelter, meds, food, and someway to purify water. The water supply and electricity is out in Mulege, Santa Rosalea, Loreto, and other villages. Major power substation are blown up and it will take weeks to rebuild them.

The people in Baja are in trouble and need help. We need all the donations we can get.

Regarding aircraft, we are set to transport relief supplies. They include:

Two Citation Jets  
Three PC 12  
One MU-2  
10 +- piston twins  
15+- singles



3 R44

1 Ranger

I am good right now with aircraft. What I need is drop-off locations where people can take their donations.

If you have space, preferably at an airport, please email me asp with your contact information, where the location is, and how people can leave items. I will be posting a list of drop-off places as soon as I can, indicate "Drop-off" in your subject line. Send to [jack@bajabushpilots.com](mailto:jack@bajabushpilots.com)

I will be doing a full report as soon as I get back as to additional items needed as well as where items can be taken. There may be the need to go down as early as Tuesday once we work out the logistics.

And from several emails I have received from people down there now:

Dear Mr. McCormick,

My name is Rosalva Rocha Cuesta. I was born and raised in Mulege, Baja Ca. Sur. This morning I had the fortune to speak with my sister in Mulege. She related to me the devastation left behind by Hurricane Jimena. The trail of damage left by H. Jimena is far worse than H. John back in 2006. The water level was much higher (apparently 2 meters over the bridge in town), than of H. John's. Without going into further detail, I am sure you get the picture. The only store in town open for business is "El Pinguino" near the kindergarten area. Most of the supermarkets in town had major flood problem damaging their goods and were left unable to provide for the Muleginos in need. La tienda "El Pinguino", was running out of everything this morning already.

I understand you and your colleagues had been very generous in the past, not only to Muleginos but, to the people in need in Baja California. I am sending this message to you requesting your help for my people in

Mulege. Muleginos have no way to reach out at this point, but they are in desperate need of water and food. I asked a person in town to check the status of the landing strip at Serenidad-major flood there too. Another option would be the Old landing strip near, what used to be, "Hotel Mulege" in Colonia Loma Azul



by the lighthouse. The third option would be Punta Chivato's landing strip. Perhaps local fishermen could transport the goods up the river to the Town of Mulege. Just a thought.

I would love to hear back from you. Many thanks in advanced for your time and your generosity.

Best Regards,

Rosalva Rocha C.

And

Hello Joe Diorio here at chivato... PCH runway was in good shape until it started raining again this AM. Will need a couple of days to dry when the sun comes out.... Latest from Palo Verde / san Bruno/ Chivato bay... what ever you want to call it. It's un usable. large boulders and river ran through the middle of it. serenidad under water .... so we should have our road graded to the highway as soon as the sun comes out and I've heard that the road from Palo Verde to mulege is passable.... maybe air lift to here and run in with trucks???

Let me know if i can help from here. Will walk runway as soon as rain stops...

And

Jack, I just talked to Loreto, there is no electricty, which they guess won't be connected for 10 days to two weeks. No water anywhere in town for 4 days. All food sold out of markets, o e gas station running on a generator-lines over 1/2 mile, night and day.

I may go to Loreto Monday, any word on airport conditions?

Dave Perry N59046

Sent from my iPhone

(end of post)



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### **Damage update** - 9/3/2009

The damage reports are still coming in and the damage appears to be worse then previously reported. In mid-Baja, Mex highway 1 has considerable damage

and many bridges are destroyed. Transportation by land at this point is impossible. Critical supplies, at this point, must be brought in by air. There is great need for food, water, and clothing.

Mexico has been good to us and it is time for us to return the favor. We will be looking for volunteers to put together a relief effort for this disaster.

Needed are:

--Those that can put together relief supplies and stock them at an airports in the US for pickup. These items could be cloths, bedding, cooking utilities, medical supplies, etc. We will coordinate where these supplies will be stocked.

--Those that can pick up these items and transport them by air to a distribution point in Baja by air. Some costs may be covered by donations provided below.

--Those that wish to donate money to cover some of the costs of transportation. Please email or call in your donation if by credit card, mail your donation to the office if by check.

--Those that can spend a week or more working with the BBP and the Mexican

Red Cross transporting Red Cross food supplies. Some fuel will be provided and landing and parking fees will be waived, certain conditions apply. Please call for more information. We will need four or five helicopters and three or four fixed wing aircraft with large carrying capacity. (The BBP will make the determination as to which aircraft will be involved flying Red Cross supplies over an extended period of time)

Everyone that coordinates relief supplies, donates money, and/or flies in this effort will get a certificate of thanks from the Mexican Red Cross.



If you can provide and/or do any of the above, please email the following info to:

Jack@bajabushpilots.com

Your name, your address, your email address, and your cell phone number

And if flying:

The N Number of the aircraft, the make and model, where the aircraft is based

And

What you can provide:

## Alivio para Huracan Jimena



**Estados Unidos**



**Santa Rosalia, Mexico**



**Baja Sur, Mexico**