

Portion of hillside collapses in Bonita

Leslie Berestein, San Diego Union-Tribune, 3-26-10

A portion of a luxury hillside property collapsed Wednesday morning in Bonita, sending a section of soil roughly 200 feet by 150 feet onto the property below.

Bonita firefighters received the call about a landslide at 4212 Collings Road West about 7:50 a.m., said Fire Chief Scott Walker. He said a home on the property was unharmed, but that outlying structures by the pool area were structurally compromised. There were also broken pool pipes. The house is at estimated 8,000 square feet.

Investigators have yet to determine a cause for the slide, or whether the pipes broke before or after the soil moved, he said.

The home has not been evacuated, but firefighters did evacuate the home below it at 3998 Timrick Lane, where the soil landed. Walker said the soil did not fall directly onto that home, but landed next to it and there is a danger that more could fall.

Firefighters and soil engineers are waiting for the soil to stabilize before taking any further action, he said.