

Local strike team heads to Aspen Fire

Modesto Bee, Friday, August 2, 2013

MODESTO — Stanislaus County officials have sent a strike team to help fight the Aspen Fire in Fresno County. The local strike team headed south Thursday night, according to Modesto Regional Fire Battalion Chief Hugo Patino.

As of Thursday evening, the Aspen Fire near Huntington Lake had burned more than 16,200 acres since it started last week. It was 45% contained Thursday night.

Nearly 1,900 firefighters are battling the blaze, which has cost \$14.9 million to date.

There have been no new closures of roads or campgrounds. Recreation and businesses remain open in the Shaver Lake, Huntington Lake, Lake Thomas Edison, Florence Lake and Mono Hot Springs areas.

Smoke from the fire, combined with smoke from wildfires in Oregon, contributed to unhealthy air in the Northern San Joaquin Valley this week.

Cooler temps, clearer air as August gets under way

Modesto Bee, Thursday, August 1, 2013

MODESTO — Thank goodness for the southwest flow. That, according to the National Weather Service, has flushed much of the smoke and haze from wildfires near Fresno and in Oregon out of the Northern San Joaquin Valley.

The southwest flow also has brought the area cooler than normal temperatures as August opens up for business.

Modesto is only expected to reach a high of 85 on Thursday, 4 to 8 lower than typical for this time of year. Temperatures will rise slowly over the next few days, with a high of 91 expected through Monday.

Aspen fire near Huntington Lake 45% contained

By Angel Moreno, staff writer

The Fresno Bee, Thursday, Aug. 1, 2013

The Aspen fire near Huntington Lake is now 45% contained and has burned more than 16,200 acres since it started last week, officials said Thursday evening.

Nearly 1,900 firefighters are battling the blaze, which has cost \$14.9 million to date.

There have been no new closures of roads or campgrounds. Recreation and businesses remain open in the Shaver Lake, Huntington Lake, Lake Thomas Edison, Florence Lake and Mono Hot Springs areas.