News Headlines 08/18/2022

➢ Bronco Fire prompts SigAlert in Cajon Pass
➢ Bronco Fire in Cajon Pass forces partial closure of Interstate 15 freeway
➢ UPDATE: Bronco Fire in Cajon Pass grows to 90 acres; traffic on I-15 jammed
➢ Firefighters Hold Cajon Pass Fire Under 100 Acres Near 15 Freeway
➢ News Alert: Topock, AZ: Mohave County Sheriff’s Office is investigating the death of man found in water at Colorado River Topock66 Marina during the evening last Saturday.
➢ Brush fire in Cajon Pass closes some lanes of northbound 15 Freeway
A brush fire burning in the Cajon Pass prompted a SigAlert along the highway Wednesday afternoon, officials said.

The Bronco Fire had burned about 20 acres, according to the San Bernardino County Fire Department, though by about 5:30 p.m., that number had been updated to under 100 acres and 20% containment.

The No. 3, 4 and 5 lanes of the 15 Freeway were shut down beginning at Kenwood Avenue, according to the California Highway Patrol.

It is unknown how long the closure will last, but authorities asked motorists to expect “heavy delays.”

By 2:10 p.m. there were no visible flames and firefighters were mopping up in the fire as Sky5 was overhead.

The blaze comes as intense heat bakes the Southland and increases fire danger.

A Flex Alert has been issued in California urging residents to conserve energy amid high temperatures.

Firefighters on Wednesday afternoon battle the Bronco Fire located north of Kenwood Avenue near I-15 in the Cajon Pass.

Update 5:40 p.m. Wednesday: The Bronco Fire was reported at under 100 acres, with 20% containment. Fire crews will continue to work throughout the night and into Thursday.

The San Bernardino County Fire Department reported that ground and air crews were battling a large vegetation fire north of Interstate 15 in the Cajon Pass on Wednesday.

Dubbed the Bronco Fire, the blaze was reported at 12:45 p.m. north of Kenwood Avenue.

The SBC National Forest service is the lead fire agency in the incident.

Caltrans officials at 1:24 p.m. said three lanes were closed on northbound 1-15 north of Kenwood Avenue due to the fire.

Fire officials at 1:30 p.m. reported the fire at approximately 20 acres.

At about 3 p.m., the fire was reported controlled at nearly 90 acres.

UPDATE: Bronco Fire in Cajon Pass grows to 90 acres; traffic on I-15 jammed

Staff Writer, VVNG
Posted: August 17, 2022

UPDATE @ 9:30 pm– The Bronco Fire grew to 90 acres and traffic on the northbound I-15 freeway in the Cajon Pass remained jammed on Wednesday night.

According to San Bernardino County Fire, Firefighters from the U.S. Forest Service – San Bernardino National Forest, San Bernardino County Fire & CAL FIRE San Bernardino/Inyo/Mono Unit all immediately responded to the fire, working together to limit the fire’s spread.

Crews from the ground and air aggressively attacked the fast moving fire, which was rapidly burning uphill in dry vegetation.

By the 6:00 pm, the rate of spread had dramatically slowed and the fire was holding at 90 acres. Crews from the U.S. Forest Service – San Bernardino National Forest will remain on-scene working on mop-up and containment this evening.

Traffic on the freeway was significantly impacted by the fire and resulted with three lanes being shutdown for several hours. Many motorist reported the trip took 3-4 hours due to gridlocked traffic in the Cajon Pass.

— original article —

DEVORE, Calif. (VVNG.com) — Firefighters responded to a brushfire in the Cajon Pass on Wednesday afternoon, what is now being referred to as the #BroncoFire.

The fire was reported on August 17, 2022 at about 12:44 PM, on the northbound I 15 freeway south of blue cut and the 215 freeway interchange, and is currently 20 acres, per San Bernardino County Fire officials.

The fire started on a slope along the right hand shoulder and rapidly burned uphill, resulting in heavy smoke production.
According to the California Highway Patrol incident logs, the number 3, 4, and 5 lane are closed and a SIGALERT was issued due to a hard closure at Kenwood.

Fire crews on scene reported they are making great progress on the fire.

San Bernardino County Firefighters are currently assisting the San Bernardino County National Forest officials.

The cause is currently under investigation and additional information will be updated as it becomes available.

Firefighters Hold Cajon Pass Fire Under 100 Acres Near 15 Freeway
Jonathan Lloyd, NBC4
Posted: August 17, 2022

Part of the 15 Freeway in the Cajon Pass north of San Bernardino was closed Wednesday afternoon due to a fast-moving brush fire.

The Bronco Fire erupted on a day of extreme heat in the mountain pass north of San Bernardino.

Three lanes were closed on the northbound side of the freeway in the Cajon Pass in the Devore area. Some lanes reopened Wednesday night as firefighters gained ground on the hillside fire.

The Bronco Fire erupted on a day of extreme heat in Southern California. Flames climbed north to a ridge line, where the fire appeared to be holding at about 20 acres, firefighters said.

"Aggressive wildfire engagement has kept #BroncoFire under 100 acres and obtained 20% containment," the San Bernardino County Fire Department said in a tweet. "Crews will continue engagement throughout the night and heavy presence is expected tomorrow. Cause is under investigation."

Thick smoke could be seen in the mountain pass between the San Bernardino Mountains to the east and the San Gabriel Mountains to the west.

Details were not immediately available about how the fire started north of Matthews Ranch Road. No structures were threatened.

News Alert: Topock, AZ: Mohave County Sheriff’s Office is investigating the death of man found in water at Colorado River Topock66 Marina during the evening last Saturday.
Zachary Lopez, ZachNews
Posted: August 17, 2022

Topock, Arizona: The Mohave County Sheriff’s Office is investigating the death of a man found in the water at Colorado River Topock66 Marina on Saturday, August 13th, 2022.

According to a press release issued publicly on Wednesday, August 17th, 2022 from the Mohave County Sheriff’s Office, deputies are investigating a death that occurred at the Topock Marina on Saturday at approximately 7:58 p.m.

Our communication center received a call that a 54 year old male subject was found face down in the water by his friends. The investigation revealed that the trio had gone to the marina to fish, and the male and female friend left for a short time.

Upon returning to the water, the two located the male subject in the water and the male friend jumped in to retrieve him. Upon deputy’s arrival, the male friend was observed in the water attempting to get the deceased onto land, but had receive a shoulder injury in the process.

Deputies assisted in removing the subject from the water and began CPR. Medics from Golden Shores Fire Department arrived on scene and took over life saving measures, however they were unable to revive him.

Due to the location, San Bernardino County Fire Department assisted in transporting the decedent to a nearby launch ramp to convey the body to the Mohave County Medical Examiner.

An autopsy will be performed to determine a cause of death.

The identification of the deceased is being withheld until next of kin can be notified.

ZachNews and the people of the Colorado River Tri-State communities sends our thoughts, prayers and condolences to the family and friends of the deceased man.

Brush fire in Cajon Pass closes some lanes of northbound 15 Freeway
Brian Rokos, The Press-Enterprise
PUBLISHED: August 17, 2022 at 2:10 p.m. | UPDATED: August 18, 2022 at 8:39 a.m.

Vehicles crawl along Glen Helen Parkway as commuters in the distance slowly make their way through the 15 and 215 interchange in San Bernardino on Wednesday, Aug. 17, 2022 due to the Bronco fire which closed multiple lanes in the Cajon Pass. (Photo by Will Lester, Inland Valley Daily Bulletin/SCNG)

A brush fire in the Cajon Pass in San Bernardino County burned about 20 acres on Wednesday, Aug. 17, and prompted the closure of several lanes of the 15 Freeway.

The Bronco fire started just before 1 p.m. off the northbound side of the freeway near Kenwood Avenue. The right three lanes were initially closed.

The U.S. Forest Service and San Bernardino County Fire Department battled the flames from the ground and the air.

The cause of the fire was not announced.

Highway updates are available on Twitter at @caltrans8 and the Caltrans Quickmap at quickmap.dot.ca.gov.