

# FOREST SPOTLIGHT

## Modoc NF – Pacific Southwest Region

225 W. 8<sup>th</sup> St. Alturas, CA 96101

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/modoc>

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## *Modoc National Forest and Lava Beds National Monument Employees Honor Fallen Firefighters*



**Alturas, Calif.** – The Fifth Annual Shawn and Tom Firefighter Memorial Run was held Saturday, April 25, 2015 at the Lava Beds National Monument in Tulelake, Calif.

The 5K walk/run and 10K run was organized by employees of the Modoc National Forest and Lava Beds National Monument to honor Engine Captain, Shawn Price and Apprentice, Thomas Marovich, Jr.

The event also serves to raise awareness and funds for the Wildland Firefighter Foundation

whose mission is, “to help families of firefighters killed in the line of duty and to assist injured firefighters and their families.” All proceeds of the event are donated directly to the foundation.

Shawn Price passed away Jan. 14, 2011, after a very brief but courageous battle with cancer at the young age of 43. During Shawn’s nearly seven years as the captain of a wildland fire engine at Lava Beds, he accomplished many important tasks and became a well-respected member of the Lava Beds workforce where his co-workers enjoyed his fun spirited habits and hard-work ethic.

Thomas “TJ” Marovich passed away as a result of a tragic accident during a rappel proficiency training exercise at the Backbone Helibase in Willow Creek, Calif. on July 21, 2009. Tom was 20 years old at the time of the accident, and was in his second year as a wildland firefighter apprentice with the Modoc National Forest stationed on the Big Valley Ranger District.

This year’s event hosted 86 runners, numerous volunteers and Shawn’s brother and mom. Many of the participants and volunteers are wildland firefighters themselves who knew or worked with both Shawn and Tom. A total of \$3,105 was raised this year, bringing the grand total donated to the Wildland Firefighter Foundation over the last five years to \$18,873.



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