



Anchorage Fire Department  
Wildfire Mitigation Office  
PO Box 196650  
Anchorage, AK 99519  
(907) 267-4902 / 267-5055

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**ANCHORAGE WILDFIRE ACCOMPLISHMENTS • TO DATE March 4, 2003**  
SUMMARY REPORT SUBMITTED BY SUE RODMAN & MICHELLE WESTON YORK

## **I. COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE**

### Roadside Service

#### **2001**

- 1135 resident requests in Anchorage
- 135 resident requests in Eagle River
- Media included MOA website, emails, community councils, home owners associations, TV, radio, and direct mailings to approximately 2,000 residents

#### **2002**

- 488 resident requests in Anchorage
- 150 resident requests in Eagle River
- 29 resident requests along Turnagain Arm
- Media included MOA & ASWCD websites, emails, community councils, home owners associations, TV, radio, and direct mailings to approximately 14,000 residents

#### **2003**

- roadside service discontinued in Anchorage and Eagle River
- requests will be serviced in Turnagain Arm

### Wood lots

#### **2001**

- Anchorage and Eagle River Wood lots received over 8,000 residential deposits accumulating 3,500 tons of ground material
- Girdwood received chipping service at the community wood lot
- Media included direct mailings to Anchorage and Eagle River residents, MOA & ASWCD websites, AFD burn hotline

#### **2002**

- Anchorage received over 3,000 residential deposits accumulating 1,500 tons of material
- Eagle River received 1,176 residential deposits accumulating 449 tons of material
- Girdwood received 20 residential deposits accumulating 6 tons of material
- Media included direct mailings to Anchorage and Eagle River residents, MOA website, AFD burn hotline, and SCA volunteers canvassing homes

#### **2003**

- Wood lots will be offered in Anchorage and Eagle River.

AFD-WMO is working with the USFS Sitka Wood Utilization Center to look into long-term solutions for biomass reduction strategies. This research will be included in the Biomass Task Force coordinated through Robert Hall and Sue Rodman.

## Neighborhood Fuel Reduction Program

### **2003**

- Cost-share program to assist homeowners with removal of dead trees and also thinning of trees for compliance with vegetation management in the home ignition zone. All documentation is currently being reviewed in Legal; contracts are being processed through Purchasing.

## **II. PUBLIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN**

### Mass media

#### **2001**

- Radio and TV ads, bus signs, java jackets, FIREWISE Alaska packets, MOA & ASWCD websites

#### **2002**

- Radio and TV ads on all major stations, bus signs, java jackets, FIREWISE Alaska packets, MOA website

#### **2003**

- Radio and TV ads on all major stations, bus signs, java jackets, FIREWISE Alaska packets, MOA website AND a 4-page insert in the Anchorage Daily News on Anchorage Wildfire and AFD Fire Prevention for dissemination at the end of March.

### Student Conservation Association: Fire Education Corps

#### **2002**

- Two 6-member teams on site for 3 months
- Anchorage Team canvassed 956 homes, leaving literature at each site. The team did 135 home evaluations, addressing specific needs to improve defensible space.
- Eagle River Team canvassed 964 homes and conducted 152 home evaluations.
- Both teams attended numerous public events.

#### **2003**

- One site leader for 12 months for WMO administrative assistance
- One team leader for 10 months to support the team and lead homeowner education campaign
- One 6-member team for 3 months to conduct homeowner education and home evaluations for defensible space

## **III. MITIGATION PROJECTS**

### **2001 – 213 acres with mechanized assistance for slash treatment**

North Bivouac (Campbell Airstrip Road, FNBP)  
Spencer Loop (adjacent to Hilltop, FNBP)  
Hilltop (Phase I, Prospect Heights, FNBP)  
Little Rabbit Creek Bluff Park (Phase I, Southpark)  
Spirit Park (Hiland Road)  
Station 8 (AFD)

### **2002 – 45 acres, all slash burned, no mechanized assistance**

Coyote (Abbott Loop Trailhead, FNBP)  
Hilltop (Prospect Heights, FNBP)  
Bear Valley (Clark's Road, Height's Hill)  
Little Rabbit Creek Bluff Park (Southpark)  
Jupiter (now Simonian ball field, FNBP)

### **2003 Tentative List**

Ruth Arcand Park (NE corner around homes)  
Stuckagain Heights access (Far North Bicentennial Park & Chugach State Park)  
Forsythe Park (south and east perimeter)  
Bear Valley access (along Jaime, north side)  
Birch Park (north, west, south perimeters)

Hills Park

Old Rabbit Creek Park (north perimeter, shoulder of slope near homes)

Little Rabbit Creek Bluff Park (continue work in southern corner)

Campbell Creek Greenbelt and Park (north side of creek, near homes & east)

Kincaid Park (Jodphur area adjacent to road and parking lot)

**2003 Additional sites specific to residential developments**

South Fork Eagle River: 1D-1-9 Road, Wild Mountain Road, Riverview

Access along Eagle River road – Chugach State Park

Rabbit Creek Canyon

Birch Road/O'Malley area

East of Goldenview.

Girdwood: AFD-WMO advised HLB to conduct forest management activities in Girdwood to sustain forest health.

**IV. FUNDING**

**1999** \$400,000 from FEMA to AFD for wildfire mitigation

**2000** \$710,000 from State Fire Assistance to ASWCD for wildfire mitigation

**2001** \$1.75 million from USFS State & Private Forestry to MOA/AFD for wildfire preparedness and response

**2002** \$5 million from USFS State & Private Forestry to MOA/AFD for community wildfire mitigation programs

**2003** \$4.2 million from USFS State & Private Forestry to MOA/AFD for community wildfire mitigation programs