

Piper Fire, Anchorage - July 2, 2008

A similar project and fire event occurred in Anchorage near Piper Street on July 2, 2008. AFD treated Municipal park land along Campbell Creek directly adjacent to several subdivisions in 2005 - 2006. Additionally, MOA Park's Trail Watch program treated the trail corridor between Grumman and Bragaw. The area is forested with dense black spruce that can support intense and fast moving fire.

Ignited by a homeless person's campfire, the Piper Fire burned 10 acres of park land. Fortunately, winds were calm and fire spread was slow. AFD firefighters and Rotor 1 flight crew were supported by Division of Forestry firefighters, helicopter and air tanker along with BLM Alaska Fire Service smokejumpers. AFDs Rotor 1 dropped 43 buckets on the fire. The Division of Forestry air tanker secured lines along the perimeter and head of the fire.

A homeless person campfire was the ignition source for the Piper Fire, burning 10 acres of Municipal park land.



Division of Forestry air tanker dropped retardant on the Piper Fire to keep the flames from spreading to nearby subdivisions.

The Piper Fire burned 10 acres on July 2, 2008. Downtown Anchorage lies in the background to the north.



Homes stay safe to the north of the Piper Fire.



Rotor 1 dropped 43 buckets of water on the Piper Fire on July 2, 2008.



AFDs Wildfire Mitigation Office coordinated a forest treatment project on the north perimeter of Campbell Park in 2005 – 2006. Division of Forestry crews treated 150 feet of black and white spruce at the edge of the subdivision between Grumman and Piper Streets. MOA Trail Watch thinned black spruce along the trail corridor to Elmore.



Just south of the Piper Fire, a homeless person's fire ignited a brush fire, burning over 2 acres near the east end of Dowling in 2003. AFD firefighters and helicopter were on scene immediately to extinguish the flames. No homes were lost.