



Hazardous Vegetative Fuels Project



Carl Waters Ancor owner and president, FMO Dan Warthin, NPS photo



Ancor employees at work site, NPS photo



Two ton dump truck, loader, Ancor employees at worksite, NPS photo

- Alaska National Park Service in cooperation with Ancor, Incorporated removed 24 acres of biomass from vicinity of buildings in headquarters area of Denali National Park and Preserve.
- The largest, contracted hazard fuels project to have taken place in a high visitation frontcountry area in Alaska's national parklands.
- Fire Management team created a precedent and template for Alaska's parklands.
- Western Area Fire Management and Regional Fire Communication and Education Specialist focused on two project priorities, effective operational and communication strategies.
- Ancor, Incorporated a private 8a small business, disabled veteran contractor from Anchorage, Alaska completed work, September 1 – October 12, 2004.
- Treatment of fuels in the Headquarters Historic District based upon fire management treatments in a cultural landscape context. The cultural landscape for historic district based on what vegetation looked like between 1926-1941, "Period of Historical Significance."



1940 Denali Headquarters Historic District



After project, Denali Headquarters Historic District



Before project, Panabode looking west, Denali National Park and Preserve, NPS photo



Just After project, Panabode looking south, Denali National Park and Preserve, NPS photo

- Defensible space created around park structures to reduce the risk of property damage and improve safety for employees, visitors, fire suppression crews.
- Local residents made up 65% of employees hired by Ancor.
- Fire Management established an atypical partnership with Usibelli Coal Mine in order to recycle forecasted large quantities of material and reduce biomass removal costs.
- Ancor employees cut trees, logs, brush and slash, loaded material into a two ton side dump truck and transported to staging area for use in a reclamation project at the mine site.
- Due to partnership between Western Area Fire Management and Usibelli Coal Mine, Alaska NPS Fire Management saved approximately \$363,010.00 in transport removal and labor costs.
- Denali biomass utilization operation represents a first of its kind in Alaska’s parklands and perhaps nationwide.
- Carl Waters stated, “This project would not have been such a success without the partnerships.”
- Denali hazard fuels project exemplifies a proactive, cost effective, collaborative approach to reduce wildland fire risk to communities.



Before project, C Camp cabins, Denali Nation Park and Preserve, NPS photo



After project, C Camp cabins, Denali Nation Park and Preserve, NPS photo

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