

## Topaz (Summit)

### A Montana Creek rescue husky

Her story began January 2011 when she was rescued along with 159 of her siblings from a man, recently convicted of cruelty to animals for his negligence in the care of Topaz and her canine friends.

Her story parallels Tony's, her personality was such that it was hard to draw her out of her kennel. She would lie as close to the wall as possible, and look away when you would enter her kennel, only to take a peek at you once you retracted back through the door. This would go on for a few weeks, while all the dogs recovered from starvation.

Once the dogs were healthy enough, they would join the group for socialization in the conference room, at Matsu Animal Shelter.

Originally, Topaz did not have a name, along with all the others, they were given names during the social hours. Topaz was given her name for her beautiful eye color. She would sit in the corner, and observe the other dogs, many of which enjoyed their time out and freedom to run with each other, but when approached by a human, would run in fear.

It was weeks before Topaz would walk semi-normally on a leash. Right before her first adoption, she began to actually look for guidance as we walked along. Then came her adoption day. Out at the Big Lake Fire Station, we were invited to join in their Fire Safety and Prevention day. Topaz was adopted along with two of her other siblings.

After about 4 months, Topaz was returned, due to an illness in the family that required a surgery, and the woman could no longer care for Topaz, who had been renamed Summit.

Summit, would spend a few weeks with us, back at the shelter, and she seemed to understand she was back at the place that had cared for her, and would look after her, and encourage her in her walking on a leash. She was much more confident in her kennel, she never looked back at the wall, she would consistently look up to see what or who was passing her kennel door. She seemed content.

Through the grape vine, and our rescue network, Mel and Mark (Shadow's Friends rescue) found out that Summit had been returned and came in to adopt her. Mel and Mark had already adopted a Montana Creek husky previously in the year, so they knew of the long road of recovery for these dogs. It was an unfortunate event that their boy, Shadow, was lost while they were on a trip up to Hatcher Pass, they still search for him each weekend. Putting up flyers, talking with the local sof of the area, maybe one day, Shadow will be returned home.

"Summit is coming along greatly, better and better each day with the leash" Mel says. It will take awhile but with the love and compassion that are so much a part of Mel's daily ritual, you can bet Summit has finally found the true meaning of love.