

From: ValdezPMR@starr-team.com on behalf of [RSCX](#)
To: [Cox, Sally A \(CED\)](#)
Subject: City of Valdez, Alaska Coastal Risk MAP Project Quarterly Report # 7
Date: Wednesday, August 03, 2016 2:40:05 PM

Greetings,

My name is Errol DuFour and I am part of the City of Valdez, Alaska Coastal Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) Project Team, working with the Strategic Alliance for Risk Reduction (STARR), a contractor for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). This email is being sent to you as a status update for work completed on this project as of August 3, 2016. Detailed status updates like this are sent quarterly and include the overall project status, changes to the scope or schedule of the project, and a detailed overview of the individual technical tasks associated with the project.

Project History

FEMA is responsible for preparing Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) that delineate flood hazard zones and Base Flood Elevations (BFEs) in the United States. Because of the importance of understanding the nation's coastal flood risk, FEMA has initiated coastal flood risk studies for the populated coastline as part of its [Risk MAP](#) effort. Through the Risk MAP effort, FEMA is updating the nation's coastal [Flood Insurance Studies \(FISs\)](#) and [FIRMs](#), where appropriate, and publishing new FIRMs in densely populated areas that were not previously mapped. For more information, please visit <https://www.fema.gov/coastal-flood-risks-achieving-resilience-together>.

The State of Alaska identified the City of Valdez as a priority for FEMA's Risk MAP program. The State determines its priorities based on population at risk to hazards, recent events, and community interest. FEMA, State, and Local stakeholders participated in a Risk MAP Discovery Meeting held January 24, 2011 where community concerns were identified. These concerns were captured in the Risk MAP Discovery Report and delivered to the City of Valdez. After the Discovery Meeting, the City of Valdez's concerns were researched and analyzed in order to develop a scope of work that includes multi-hazard risk assessment products and updates to the communities' regulatory flood maps based on community-identified resilience needs. FEMA funded its contractor STARR to develop a multi-hazard Risk Report for the Valdez area as part of the ongoing Risk MAP study. The Risk Report will include a risk assessment of earthquake, flood, and tsunami hazards. Hazus, FEMA's loss estimation software, will be used to assess earthquake and flood hazards.

Project Milestones and Deliverables

Meeting/Deliverable	Point of Contact	Actual/Projected Date
Risk MAP Discovery Meeting	Errol DuFour	January 24, 2011
Draft Map Release – Coastal	Errol DuFour	April 2014
Flood Risk Review Meeting – Coastal	Errol DuFour	June 26, 2014
Draft Map Release – Riverine	Errol DuFour	April 30, 2015
Flood Risk Review Meeting – Riverine	Errol DuFour	August 12, 2015
Preliminary DFIRM/FIS Release	Errol DuFour	September 2016*
Consultation Coordination Officers (CCO) Meeting	Ted Perkins	October 2016*
Public Meeting/Workshop	Jamie Mooney	October 2016*
Appeal Period Starts	Errol DuFour	Winter 2017*
Appeal Period Ends	Errol DuFour	Spring 2017*
Letter of Final Determination	Errol DuFour	Summer 2017*
Draft Multi-Hazard Risk Report	Amanda Siok	Spring 2017*
Risk MAP Resilience Workshop	Amanda Siok	Summer 2017*
Delivery of Final Risk Report and Risk Assessment Database	Amanda Siok	Fall 2017*
Maps and FIS become Effective	Ted Perkins	Winter 2018*

**All projected dates are subject to revision as the project progresses.*

Next Steps

The STARR team has addressed the comments raised by the community originating from the Flood Risk Review meeting of August 2015. Subsequently, STARR and FEMA met with the community on April 12th, 2016 to review the comment resolutions and have agreed to move forward with producing the Preliminary Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRMs). After the preliminary DFIRMs are published, a Consultation Coordination Officers (CCO)/Public Meeting will take place. The CCO meeting will give the communities an opportunity to have their questions answered and get an understanding of the path forward. Additionally, once the risk assessments for earthquake, flood, and tsunami hazards are completed, they will be compiled into the Risk MAP Risk Report and a Resilience Workshop will be held to discuss the results and risk reduction strategies. The Resilience Workshop is expected to take place in late summer, 2017.

Additional information on this project including the project area and Risk MAP contacts can be found online at <http://www.starr-team.com/starr/RegionalWorkspaces/RegionX/Valdez/SitePages/Home.aspx>

NOTE: If you have trouble downloading or are prompted for credentials when clicking the file name on the website, cancel the prompt and instead right-click the file name and choose "Save As" or "Save Target As".

General Information

If you have questions about this Risk MAP project, please contact the State Risk MAP Coordinator, Sally Cox, sally.cox@alaska.gov, (907) 269-4588.

The STARR Region X Help Desk is another resource available to answer project-related questions. STARR staff will route and research your question, and respond within three business days. Submit your questions via email, the address is RegionXHelpDesk@starr-team.com.

If you want to keep up with what's happening around Region X, get project status updates, or learn about upcoming events and training opportunities, subscribe to the Region X monthly newsletter. For more information or to subscribe, email rxnewsletter@starr-team.com.

Current and past issues of the newsletter, project status updates, announcements, upcoming events, and training opportunities are also available online at the STARR website, www.starr-team.com (shortcut link: <http://j.mp/starrxnews>).

I hope you found this status update email helpful. If you would like to be removed from the distribution list, or if you feel there is someone that should be added to the list, please reply to this email. If you have any questions, or if there is information that you would like to see in future updates, please feel free to contact me by phone or email. My contact information is below.

Sincerely,

Errol DuFour, GISP, CFM
Project Manager

STARR II – Strategic Alliance for Risk Reduction

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This message was sent by RSCX to the following:

Amanda Siok - Risk Analyst - FEMA Region X
Annmarie Lain - Senior Planning-GIS Technician - City of Valdez
Brett Holt - Mitigation Planner - FEMA Region X RAB
Crane Johnson - Senior Hydrologist, Alaska-Pacific River Forecast Center - NOAA
De Anne Stevens - Geologist V - State of Alaska
Dennis Ragsdale - City Manager - City of Valdez
Errol DuFour - Project Manager - STARR
George Keeney - Fire Chief, Emergency Manager - City of Valdez
Jamie Mooney - Region X CERC Lead - Resilience Action Partners
Jimmy C. Smith - Alaska State NFIP Coordinator - State of Alaska
Karen Wood-McGuinness - Floodplain Management Specialist - FEMA Region X FMI
Lisa Von Bargen - Community Development Director - City of Valdez
Marshall Rivers - Project Manager - Resilience Action Partners
Michael West - State Seismologist - State of Alaska
Nate Smith - Mayor Pro Tem - City of Valdez

Nicole Kinsman - Alaska Regional Advisor - NOAA/NOS/National Geodetic Survey
Rachael Norris - Government Affairs - FEMA Region X
Rob Comstock - Public Works Director - City of Valdez
RSCX - Regional Service Center - STARR
Ruth Knight - Mayor - City of Valdez
Sally Cox - Alaska Risk MAP Coordinator - State of Alaska
Steve Masterman - State Geologist/Director - State of Alaska
Tamra Biasco - Branch Chief - FEMA Region X RAB
Ted Perkins - Regional Engineer - FEMA Region X RAB
Tom Tufts - Lead Project Manager - STARR
Wendy Shaw - Hydraulic Engineer - USACE, Alaska District