

## Cox, Sally A (CED)

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**From:** MatSuWatershed@starr-team.com on behalf of RSCX <RXProjectUpdates@starr-team.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 27, 2016 9:07 AM  
**To:** Cox, Sally A (CED)  
**Subject:** Risk MAP Project Quarterly Report for Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Alaska

Greetings,

My name is Emily Whitehead and I am part of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough (MatSu) 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 June 17, 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

The State of Alaska identified the MatSu Watershed 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 April 23, 2013 where community concerns were identified. These concerns were captured in the Risk MAP Discovery Report and delivered to the communities in the watershed. After the Discovery Meeting, community 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.

### Project Milestones and Deliverables

| Meeting/Deliverable  | Point of Contact | Actual/Projected Date   |
|--|------------------|-------------------------|
| Risk MAP Discovery Meeting                                 | Emily Whitehead  | April 23, 2013          |
| Flood Study Kick-Off Meeting                               | Emily Whitehead  | December 13, 2013       |
| Draft Map Release  | Emily Whitehead  | August 28, 2015         |
| Flood Risk Review (FRR) Meeting                            | Emily Whitehead  | January 20, 2016        |
| Preliminary DFIRM/FIS Release                              | Emily Whitehead  | August 2016*            |
| Consultation Coordination Officers (CCO) Meeting           | Ted Perkins      | September/October 2016* |
| Public Meeting/Workshop                                    | Jamie Mooney     | September/October 2016* |
| Draft Multi-Hazard Risk Report                             | Amanda Siok      | Winter 2016/2017*       |
| Appeal Period Starts                                       | Emily Whitehead  | Early 2017*             |
| Appeal Period Ends   | Emily Whitehead  | Spring 2017*            |
| Risk MAP Resilience Workshop                               | Amanda Siok      | Spring 2017*            |
| Delivery of Final Risk Report and Risk Assessment Database | Amanda Siok      | Spring/Summer 2017*     |
| Letter of Final Determination (LFD)                        | Emily Whitehead  | Fall 2017*              |
| Maps and FIS become Effective                              | Ted Perkins      | Early 2018*             |

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

### Recent Activity

The draft workmap comment period ended on Friday, April 8, 2016 with receipt of local comments received verbally at the January 20, 2016 Flood Risk Review meeting and additional comments submitted in GIS shapefile format via email from Alex Strawn, dated April 8, 2016. STARR addressed both sets of local comments and provided responses in tabular and GIS shapefile format to Alex Strawn via email on May 11, 2016.

FEMA funded its contractor, STARR, to develop a multi-hazard Risk Report for the Mat-Su area as part of the ongoing Risk MAP study. The Risk Report will include a risk assessment of earthquake, flood, and landslide hazards. Hazus, FEMA's loss estimation software, will be used to assess earthquake and flood hazards.

## Next Steps

Development of draft preliminary products (DFIRM panels, DFIRM Database and Flood Insurance Study report) is ongoing. Preliminary DFIRM/FIS distribution is currently scheduled for August 2016.

Once all risk assessments 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 spring 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/MatSuDisco/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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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,

**Emily Whitehead, CFM, GISP**  
Project Manager

## STARR - Strategic Alliance for Risk Reduction

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### This message was sent by RSCX to the following:

Alex Strawn - Development Services Manager/Floodplain Manager - MatSu Borough  
Amanda Siok - Risk Analyst - FEMA Region X RAB  
Ann Gravier - Alaska State Hazard Mitigation Officer - State of Alaska  
Bert Cottle - Mayor - City of Wasilla  
Bill Gamble - Director of Emergency Services - MatSu Borough  
Brett Holt - Mitigation Planner - FEMA Region X RAB  
Casey Cook - Emergency Manager - MatSu Borough  
Crane Johnson - Senior Hydrologist, Alaska-Pacific River Forecast Center - NOAA

De Anne Stevens - Geologist V - State of Alaska  
DeLena Johnson - Mayor - City of Palmer  
Eileen Probasco - Planning and Land Use Director - MatSu Borough  
Emily Whitehead - Project Manager - STARR  
George Hays - Assistant Manager - MatSu Borough  
Gretchen O'Barr - Deputy Mayor - City of Wasilla  
Jamie Mooney - Region X CERC Lead - Resilience Action Partners  
Jim Sykes - Assembly Member, District 1 - MatSu Borough  
Jimmy C. Smith - Alaska State NFIP Coordinator - State of Alaska  
John Moosey - Borough Manager - MatSu Borough  
Karen Wood-McGuiness - Floodplain Management Specialist - FEMA Region X FMI  
Kendra Johnson - Code Compliance Officer - MatSu Borough  
Kevin Sumner - Code Compliance Officer/Planner - MatSu Borough  
Marshall Rivers - Project Manager - Resilience Action Partners  
Michael West - State Seismologist - State of Alaska  
Michelle Olsen - Permit Technician/Deputy Floodplain Manager - MatSu Borough  
Nathan Wallace - City Manager - City of Palmer  
Pamela Ness - Code Compliance Officer/Floodplain Administrator - MatSu Borough  
Rachael Norris - Government Affairs - FEMA Region X  
Region X Service Center - STARR  
Richard Boothby - Fire Code Official - MatSu Borough  
Sally Russell Cox - Alaska Risk MAP Coordinator - State of Alaska  
Sandra Garley - City Planner/Community Development Director - City of Palmer  
Scott Nelsen - Emergency Management Specialist II - State of Alaska  
Sonya Dukes - City Clerk - City of Houston  
Steve Colligan - Councilman - MatSu Borough  
Steve Masterman - Chief Geologist - State of Alaska  
Tamra Biasco - Risk Analysis Branch Chief - FEMA Region X RAB  
Taunnie Boothby - Planner - MatSu Borough  
Ted Perkins - Regional Engineer - FEMA Region X RAB  
Tina Crawford - City Planner - City of Wasilla  
Troy Sova - STARR  
Vern Halter - Mayor - MatSu Borough  
Vickie Lee Fenster - Permit Technician/Deputy Floodplain Administrator - MatSu Borough  
Virgie Thompson - Mayor - City of Houston