

## Cox, Sally A (CED)

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**From:** MatSuWatershed@starr-team.com on behalf of RSCX <RXProjectUpdates@starr-team.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 27, 2015 4:18 PM  
**To:** Cox, Sally A (CED)  
**Subject:** Risk MAP Project Quarterly Report for Matanuska-Susitna Borough, AK

Greetings,

My name is Emily Whitehead and I am part of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough (MatSu) Risk MAP Project Team, working with 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 May 27, 2015. 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/Scoping 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/Scoping 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
Flood Risk Review Meeting (FRR)/Draft Maps	Emily Whitehead	Late Summer/Early Fall 2015
Preliminary DFIRM/FIS Release	Emily Whitehead	<i>To Be Determined</i>
Consultation Coordination Officers (CCO) Meeting	Ted Perkins	<i>To Be Determined</i>
Public Meeting/Workshop	Kathleen Warren	<i>To Be Determined</i>
Appeal Period Starts	Emily Whitehead	<i>To Be Determined</i>
Appeal Period Ends	Emily Whitehead	<i>To Be Determined</i>
Letter of Final Determination	Emily Whitehead	<i>To Be Determined</i>
Draft Multi-Hazard Risk Report	Emily Whitehead	<i>To Be Determined</i>
Risk MAP Resilience Workshop	Amanda Siok	<i>To Be Determined</i>
Delivery of Final Risk Report and Risk Assessment Database	Emily Whitehead	<i>To Be Determined</i>
Maps and FIS become Effective	Emily Whitehead	<i>To Be Determined</i>

### Status of Project

The scope for this DFIRM project includes the following:

	West Fork Moose Creek
	Gate Creek
	Ninemile Creek
	Moose Creek
	Kroto Creek
	Trapper Creek Sidearm
	Trapper Creek
	Rabideux Creek
	Birch Creek Slough
	Birch Creek
	Question Creek
	Answer Creek
	Sunshine Creek
	Montana Creek
	Goose Creek
	Sheep Creek
Approximate Zone	Sheep Creek Slough
	Caswell Creek
	Kashwitna River
	197 1/2 Mile Creek
	196 Mile Creek
	Little Willow Creek
	Lake Creek
	Unnamed Tributary to Lake Creek
	Lucille Creek
	Cottonwood Creek
	Unnamed Point Mackenzie
	Upper Matanuska River
	Matanuska River
	Knik River
	Willow Creek
Detailed Study	Willow Creek Tributary
	Little Susitna River
Limited Detail Study	Wasilla Creek
Leverage Study	Matanuska River
	Knik River
	Bodenburg Creek
Re-delineation	Deception Creek & Tributaries

The mapping of approximate study streams amounts to approximately 302 river miles, detailed riverine modeling of 59.6 miles, 10.7 miles of limited detail riverine modeling, 15.4 miles of re-delineation and 12.3 miles of leverage studies.

**Recent Activity**

The Hydrology Task is complete. Ground Survey to acquire stream cross-sections for the Little Susitna River (including split flows) and Willow Creek (and Tributary) is complete. MatSu Borough provided local bridge data for Wasilla Creek's updated flood study. STARR received flood study data from USACE (for stretches of Matanuska River, Knik River and Bodenbug Creek) on March 26, 2015 which is being incorporated into the updated flood maps and database. Hydraulic modeling of the nearly 400 miles of stream reaches is nearing completion.

### **Next Steps**

Internal Technical Review (ITR) of the hydraulic modeling and re-delineation of Deception Creek's flood hazard study will be completed by the end of May 2015.

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".*

The draft DFIRM database and workmaps will be completed by July 2015. A Flood Risk Review Meeting to discuss the draft modeling and workmaps is anticipated for Late Summer/Early Fall 2015.

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 update was sent by RSCX to the following:**

A. Clark Buswell - Deputy Mayor - Wasilla  
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 - Wasilla  
Brett Holt - Mitigation Planner - FEMA Region X RAB  
Casey Cook - Emergency Manager - MatSu Borough  
DeLena Johnson - Mayor - Palmer  
Dennis Brodigan - Director of Emergency Services - MatSu Borough

Emily Whitehead - Project Manager - STARR  
George Hays - Assistant Manager - MatSu Borough  
Joe Hannan - City Manager - Palmer  
John Moosey - Manager - MatSu Borough  
Karen Wood-McGuinness - Floodplain Management Specialist - FEMA Region X FMI  
Kristen Meyers - Senior Mitigation Planner - FEMA Region X RAB  
Larry DeVilbiss - Mayor - MatSu Borough  
Mark Whisenhunt - Planner - MatSu Borough  
Michelle Olsen - Permit Technician/Deputy Floodplain Manager - MatSu Borough  
Pamela Ness - Code Compliance Officer/Floodplain Administrator - MatSu Borough  
Probasco Eileen - Planning and Land Use Director - MatSu Borough  
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 - Palmer  
Scott Nelsen - Emergency Management Specialist II - State of Alaska  
Steve Colligan - Councilman - MatSu Borough  
Tamra Biasco - Risk Analysis Branch Chief - FEMA Region X RAB  
Taunnie Boothby - Alaska State NFIP Coordinator - State of Alaska  
Ted Perkins - Regional Engineer - FEMA Region X RAB  
Tina Crawford - City Planner - Wasilla  
Vickie Lee Fenster - Permit Technician/Deputy Floodplain Administrator - MatSu Borough