

From: [RSCX](#)
To: [Cox, Sally A \(CED\)](#)
Subject: Risk MAP Project Quarterly Report for Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Alaska
Date: Thursday, February 23, 2017 4:51:33 PM

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 February 22, 2017. 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 19, 2016
Consultation Coordination Officers (CCO) Meeting	Ted Perkins	January 4, 2017
Draft Multi-Hazard Risk Report	Amanda Siok	January 10, 2017
Public Meeting/Workshop	Jamie Mooney	March 15 & 16, 2017
Risk MAP Resilience Workshop	Amanda Siok	Spring/Summer 2017*
Appeal Period Starts	Emily Whitehead	May/June 2017*
Appeal Period Ends	Emily Whitehead	August/September 2017*
Delivery of Final Risk Report and Risk Assessment Database	Amanda Siok	TBD*
Letter of Final Determination (LFD)	Emily Whitehead	October/November 2017*
Maps and FIS become Effective	Ted Perkins	April/May 2018*

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

Recent Activity

A swipe map comparing effective and preliminary flood hazard areas for MatSu is now available:
<http://arcg.is/2mmunjW>

Purpose: The map compares effective floodplains from 2011 (left panel) with preliminary floodplains from 2016 (right panel) where DFIRM data is available.

Audience: The link is intended for all parties.

The Consultation Coordination Officers (CCO) Meeting was held on January 4, 2017. The CCO meeting is an opportunity for FEMA/State/STARR and MatSu Borough local officials to review the flood data that has been updated, talk through the regulatory process (appeal period, Letter of Final Determination, etc.), and discuss how the Borough would like to proceed with outreach in order to schedule public meeting(s) regarding the preliminary DFIRM maps.

FEMA funded its contractor, STARR, to develop a multi-hazard Risk Report for the MatSu area as part of the ongoing Risk MAP study. The Risk Report included a risk assessment of earthquake, flood, and landslide hazards. Hazus, FEMA's loss estimation software, was used to assess the potential building losses from earthquake and flood hazards.

Next Steps

The public meetings have been scheduled with FEMA, stakeholders, and the public for March 15 and 16, 2017, where experts will be on hand to discuss how the flood maps were developed, provide landowners with the flood designation for their property, and answer questions on floodplain regulations and insurance rates.

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/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/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, (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,

Emily Whitehead, CFM, GISP
Project Manager

STARR - Strategic Alliance for Risk Reduction

11687 Lebanon Road, Cincinnati, OH 45241 | Tel: (513) 842-8226 | Fax: (513) 842-8250 | Cell: (513) 658-4174

Email: emily.whitehead@starr-team.com | Web: www.starr-team.com

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
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
Chanelle Lauger - RiskMAP and CTP Project Lead - State of Alaska
Crane Johnson - Senior Hydrologist, Alaska-Pacific River Forecast Center - NOAA
De Anne Stevens - Geologist V - State of Alaska
Edna DeVries - 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
Kate Skaggs - Mitigation Champion - Resilience Action Partners
Katie Faulkner - Program Specialist - Resilience Action Partners
Kelly Isham - State Mitigation Planner - State of Alaska
Kendra Johnson - Code Compliance Officer - MatSu Borough
Kevin Reeve - State Hazard Mitigation Officer - State of Alaska
Kevin Sumner - Code Compliance Officer/Planner - MatSu Borough
Leanne Rone - Project Coordinator - 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 II - MatSu Borough
Ted Perkins - Regional Engineer - FEMA Region X RAB
Tina Crawford - City Planner - City of Wasilla
Tom Copelin - Public Works Director - City of Houston
Troy Sova - STARR
Vern Halter - Mayor - MatSu Borough
Vickie Lee Fenster - Permit Technician/Deputy Floodplain Administrator - MatSu Borough
Virgie Thompson - Mayor - City of Houston
Wendy Shaw - Hydraulic Engineer - USACE, Alaska District