



2012 Kotzebue Risk MAP Partnership Agreement

This Risk MAP Partnership Agreement is used to document the non-regulatory tools that communities involved in a Risk MAP Project will receive, specify mitigation technical assistance to be provided, identify roles and responsibilities for all parties involved, list the data to be provided with associated deadlines and expectations of the study results, and provide a projected timeline and an explanation of what is expected from project partners at each major milestone.

The Agreement provides documentation of FEMA's commitment to the watershed and the commitments of the Community to the Risk MAP Project. By signing the Agreement, the stakeholders and project partners acknowledge that they understand and commit to the project scope.

Working together on a Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) project, FEMA Region X, the State of Alaska (hereafter referred to as "the State"), and the community of Kotzebue, will identify, assess, communicate, plan for, and mitigate risk.

This Partnership Agreement outlines how these project partners will achieve success in key activities and goals:

- FEMA, the State, and the Community will commit to maintain open communication and a productive dialog throughout the Risk MAP project,
- FEMA will provide frequent and regular information on project progress, and opportunities for in-person and technology-facilitated discussions and feedback on results,
- FEMA, with Community, and State support, will provide non-regulatory risk assessment tools, information and findings, communications plan, and planning support over the course of the project,
- FEMA and the State will support the Community by capturing community's value-added aspirations for how the project outputs will be incorporated into ongoing activities in order to reduce risk and build a more resilient community.

Communication and Coordination

Achieving Risk MAP's goal of reducing the Nation's vulnerability to risk requires clear, consistent, and candid communications. These communications need to reach local officials in communities where individual constituents need information to take steps to protect themselves from prevailing hazards. To accomplish this, the project partners will work together to maintain open lines of communication and establish a consistent flow of information concerning project timeline, status, findings and next steps throughout the project.

FEMA and the State will:

- Provide status reports outlining the current project status, changes to priority future study status, key accomplishments to date, identified risks, and next steps via a letter provided electronically to each community's floodplain administrator and Chief Executive Officer.
- Enhance the Community's ability to communicate about the hazard and the associated risk to people who live and work within their community and the watershed by providing templates and outreach materials for local use, quarterly updates on project progress, and recommendations for implementation upon request.

The State will:

- Provide information, clarification, and resources to support participation in the project, upon request.

The Community is strongly encouraged to:

- Communicate desired timing and schedule for receiving ongoing study updates.
- Identify appropriate locations for public meetings as needed.
- Share study concerns with project staff early and often to reduce miscommunication.



Risk Assessment Activities

Risk assessments allow the community to make informed mitigation, land use, and emergency management decisions by providing products and technologies that communicate and visualize risks. To provide the Community with information regarding risk associated with flood hazards within the community, FEMA will work closely with the Community to produce the products and tools listed below.

FEMA will:

- Provide available topographic data to the Community within 90 days, and will provide new data in the future, when it becomes available.
- Provide the Community with updated non regulatory digital flood hazard data.
- Provide the Community with Areas of Mitigation Areas of Interest findings and recommendations based on best available data.

The Community is strongly encouraged to:

- Incorporate Risk Assessment data and findings into existing and future mitigation plans and local land use programs

Disaster Response Activities

Following any disaster, Federal, State, and local government staff work to minimize loss to life and property and to provide resources and support to citizens in need. In addition, data collection activities can be an invaluable resource for planning mitigation projects to improve community resiliency to hazards and improve future disaster response.

FEMA and the State will:

- Use locally-supplied data to update or verify any future study effort, provide the community with any findings/recommendations resulting from the event, identify areas of mitigation interest and ultimately support the community in their recovery efforts.
- Support the Community in prompt disaster response by coordinating internally and providing resources.
- Provide the Community with suggested guidance for collecting and documenting this information.

The Community is strongly encouraged to:

- Provide FEMA with copies of photographs of areas affected by disasters,
- Document high water marks, perform damage estimates, and provide the collected data to FEMA.
- Pre -identify locations and public facilities eligibility for disaster-related emergency measures that may lead to permanent changes in the floodplain (such as the replacement of culverts with bridges, alteration of watercourses, etc.).
- Notify FEMA of any disaster-related emergency measures taken that may have caused permanent changes in the floodplain



Mitigation Planning Activities

Mitigation planning support provides technical assistance, incentivizes risk reduction activities at the local level, and develops the programmatic infrastructure to monitor local efforts. The flood risk information developed during this project will provide local governments with analyses they can use to develop or update their existing mitigation plans. The Community can use this data to better identify risks and vulnerabilities associated with floods, evaluate the areas of high mitigation value, and develop long-term strategies for protecting people and property from future flood events. FEMA will offer mitigation planning technical assistance to cover the fundamentals of the requirements for the Community to meet requirements established in 44 CFR § 201.6.

FEMA will:

- Discuss with the Community how existing flood hazard data and available tools can be used to enhance the hazard mitigation plan.
- Share mitigation planning and/or implementation best practices, provide information about resources available to support mitigation actions, and assist in the development of an action item list to facilitate mitigation activities.
- Assist Community in the integration of the current Hazard Mitigation Plan into the Comprehensive Plan update.

The State will:

- Support FEMA and the Community by providing information, clarification, and resources to support mitigation planning efforts or obtaining funding, upon request.

The Community is strongly encouraged to:

- Actively participate in the next update to their mitigation plan, by, at a minimum, considering and prioritizing mitigation projects that may support community resilience to flooding and other hazards.
- Inform FEMA and the State of New and emerging priorities for consideration in future studies.

Training Activities

FEMA and the State will assist the Community by providing training and outreach materials as needed and requested. Training sessions and outreach materials may be targeted to the individual Community or to a general audience, as needed to meet the needs of this Partnership Agreement. FEMA will deliver outreach materials and schedule training sessions on the identified topics within 90 days of this Agreement.

The following topics have been identified as immediate needs for training and outreach materials for the Community:

Training Sessions

- Post-Disaster Assistance
- High Water Mark data collection
- NFIP Regulations and Floodplain Management
- GIS

Publications and Outreach Materials

- Technical Bulletins
- Risk MAP Outreach Materials



FEMA



Roles and Responsibilities

This Partnership Agreement represents a good-faith effort by all parties to share data, communicate findings, and plan mitigation activities to reduce the exposure of the citizens within the Community to risk to flood and other hazards. It is not legally binding. The parties listed in the signature block below will collaborate on flood and other hazard identification activities and risk analysis products, and will consult with each other to integrate contributions into hazard identification efforts. It is intended to provide a common strategy to address flood and other hazards and increase resilience within the watershed.

FEMA will provide officials from the State and the Community with regular project status updates, the data and products described above, and assistance with outreach to increase local awareness of flood risk. These efforts will better enable the Community to take action to reduce risk through the adoption of the maps, development or enhancement of mitigation plans, and increased communication with citizens concerning their risk of flooding and the steps they can take to mitigate that risk. The State will provide continuity, coordination and support throughout the Risk MAP project. Community will provide input and updates throughout the project to ensure that the information is meeting the goals of this Agreement.

Community of Kotzebue
Name & Title:
Date:

FEMA Region X Risk Analysis Branch Chief
Ryan Ike
Date: 1/11/12

State Risk MAP Coordinator *Director, DCRA*
Sally Cox - Scott Ruben
Date: 1/20/12

FEMA Region X Risk Analyst
Jennifer Monroe
Date: 1/11/12

FEMA Region X Hazard Mitigation Planner
Brett Holt
Date: 1/11/12

State Hazard Mitigation Officer
Mark Roberts
Date: 1/20/2012

FEMA Region X FM&I Branch Chief
Mark Riebau
Date: 1/12/12

State NFIP Coordinator
Taunie Boothby
Date:

FEMA Region X Engineer
Ted Perkins
Date: 1/11/12

FEMA Region X NFIP Specialist
Jamie Huff
Date: 11/12/12