

## Cox, Sally A (CED)

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**From:** ValdezPMR@starr-team.com on behalf of RSCX <RXProjectUpdates@starr-team.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 17, 2015 2:33 PM  
**To:** Cox, Sally A (CED)  
**Subject:** City of Valdez, Alaska Coastal Risk MAP Project Quarterly Report # 4

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 November 19, 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:

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.

### Project Milestones and Deliverables:

| Meeting/Deliverable  | Point of Contact                                  | Actual/Projected Date |
|--|---|-----------------------|
| Risk MAP Discovery Meeting                                 | Sally Cox   | 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                                      | Winter 2015/2016*     |
| Consultation Coordination Officers (CCO) Meeting           | Ted Perkins                                       | Spring 2016*          |
| Public Meeting/Workshop                                    | Community Engagement and Risk Communications Lead | Spring 2016*          |
| Draft Multi-Hazard Risk Report                             | Amanda Siok                                       | Late Spring 2016*     |
| Appeal Period Starts                                       | Errol DuFour                                      | Late Spring 2016*     |
| Appeal Period Ends   | Errol DuFour                                      | Late Summer 2016*     |
| Letter of Final Determination                              | Errol DuFour                                      | Winter 2016*          |
| Risk MAP Resilience Workshop                               | Amanda Siok                                       | Spring/Summer 2017*   |
| Delivery of Final Risk Report and Risk Assessment Database | Amanda Siok                                       | Early Summer 2017*    |
| Maps and FIS become Effective                              | Ted Perkins                                       | Early Summer 2017*    |

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

**Next Steps:**

The STARR team is currently addressing comments that were submitted during the 30 day comment review period resulting from the Flood Risk Review (FRR) meeting held in August 2015. Once we resolve these comments, we will soon present our resolutions and work towards publishing the Preliminary Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps (DFIRMs) and, subsequently, 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.

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](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,

**Errol DuFour, GISP, CFM**

*Project Manager*

*STARR – 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  
Ann Gravier - Alaska State Hazard Mitigation Officer - State of Alaska  
Annmarie Lain - Senior Planning-GIS Technician - City of Valdez  
Crane Johnson - NOAA - Alaska Pacific River Forecast Center  
Errol DuFour - Project Manager - STARR  
George Keeney - Fire Chief, Emergency Manager - City of Valdez  
Karen Wood-McGuiness - Floodplain Management Specialist - FEMA Region X FMI  
Kristen Meyers - Senior Mitigation Planner - FEMA Region X RAB  
Larry Weaver - Mayor - City of Valdez  
Lisa Von Bargen - Community Development Director - City of Valdez  
Rob Comstock - Public Works Director - City of Valdez  
Robert Jean - Interim City Manager - City of Valdez  
RSCX - Regional Service Center - STARR  
Sally Cox - Alaska Risk MAP Coordinator - State of Alaska  
Tamra Biasco - Branch Chief - FEMA Region X RAB  
Taunnie Boothby - Alaska State NFIP Coordinator - State of Alaska

Ted Perkins - Regional Engineer - FEMA Region X RAB  
Tom Tufts - Lead Project Manager - STARR