



Risk MAP Project Quarterly Report for Skamania County, WA

RSCX <RXProjectUpdates@starr-team.com>

Tue, May 21, 2024 at 2:23 PM

To: Leana Kinley - City Administrator - City of Stevenson <leana@ci.stevenson.wa.us>

Greetings,

My name is Jonathan Johnson, and I am part of the Skamania County Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning (Risk MAP) Project Team, working with the Strategic Alliance for Risk Reduction (STARR II), 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 21, 2024.

Detailed status updates like this have been 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. **This will be the final quarterly report for this project. The updated Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) and Flood Insurance Study (FIS) will become effective on May 22, 2024.**

Project History

The State of Washington identified Skamania County 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 and a Scoping Meeting, 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 and Scoping Meetings, 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	Date
Risk MAP Discovery Meeting	Kara Jacobacci	July 20, 2015
Scoping Meeting	Kara Jacobacci	August 30, 2017
Flood Study Kick-Off Meeting	Jonathan Johnson	March 5, 2019
Draft Map Release	Jonathan Johnson	May 20, 2020
Flood Risk Review (FRR) Meeting	Jonathan Johnson	July 1, 2020
Preliminary DFIRM/FIS Release	Jonathan Johnson	April 30, 2021
Community Coordination (CCO) Meeting	Kara Jacobacci	June 17, 2021
Online StoryMap	Kara Jacobacci/ Jerry Franklin	October 18, 2021
Revised Preliminary DFIRM/FIS Release	Jonathan Johnson	October 26, 2021
Skamania County Board of Commissioners Meeting	Kara Jacobacci	January 25, 2022
Appeal Period Starts	Jonathan Johnson	April 20, 2022
Appeal Period Ends	Jonathan Johnson	July 18, 2022
Revised Preliminary DFIRM/FIS Release	Jonathan Johnson	May 31, 2023
Letter of Final Determination	Jonathan Johnson	November 22, 2023

Recent Activity

The Letter of Final Determination (LFD) was issued on November 22, 2023. An LFD is a letter FEMA sends to the Chief Executive Officer of a community stating that a new or updated FIRM or Digital FIRM (DFIRM) will become effective in six months.

Next Steps

The FIRMs and FIS will become effective on May 22, 2024, six months following the issuance of the LFD. Effective maps will be available for download on FEMA's Flood Map Service Center website (<https://msc.fema.gov/portal/advanceSearch>). Around this date, your community officials will receive in the mail the Revalidation Letter that lists previously issued Letters of Map Change (LOMCs) that have been reaffirmed for the new FIRM. The Revalidation Letter becomes effective one day after the publication of a community's new or revised final FIRM. The Revalidation Letter does not list LOMCs that have been incorporated into the revised panel, LOMCs that are superseded by new or revised mapping, or LOMCs that are no longer valid. While the Summary of Map Actions (SOMA) is a preliminary assessment of which LOMCs may still be valid after the new maps are issued, the Revalidation Letter is the final, effective determination of the LOMCs which remain valid. The SOMA and the Revalidation Letter are meant to assist community officials in the maintenance of the community's FIRM.

At this point, the Risk MAP flood study for Skamania County is complete. Please note that this will be the final status update for this project. For further questions, please contact FEMA Region 10 Risk Analyst and Project Monitor Kara Jacobacci at kara.jacobacci@fema.dhs.gov or (202) 215-8229.

Ordinance Updates are Required

Each time FEMA provides a community with new or revised flood hazard data, the community must adopt the new or revised FIS and associated FIRMs (by title and effective date) and assure the community's regulations are compliant with the NFIP and applicable state regulations. In some cases, communities may have to adopt additional floodplain management requirements if a new type of flood hazard data is provided, such as a new flood zone (e.g., going from a Zone A without Base Flood Elevations (BFEs) to a Zone AE with BFEs or adding a Zone VE – the coastal high hazard area), or with the addition of a regulatory floodway designation.

A community must adopt the new FIS report and FIRM and assure their floodplain regulations are compliant and effective with the NFIP and applicable state regulations before the effective date of the FIS report and FIRM, which is identified in the LFD. A community which fails to do so will be suspended from the NFIP. Communities are encouraged to update and adopt the appropriate floodplain management regulations as soon as possible to avoid suspension; and may begin their ordinance update and adoption process before the LFD is issued. The adopted regulations with authorized signatures must be submitted to FEMA or the State and be approved by FEMA before the FIRM/FIS effective date. Communities are encouraged to submit draft regulations for review to the State NFIP Coordinator and/or FEMA for review prior to community adoption to assure compliance. To assist you with ordinance updates, model floodplain development regulatory language has been developed by the Washington Department of Ecology: [Planning & regulation - Washington State Department of Ecology](#).

Contact your State Floodplain Management Specialist Matt Gerlach at matt.gerlach@ecy.wa.gov and a FEMA Regional NFIP Specialist at FEMA-R10-MIT-FMI@fema.dhs.gov for assistance on the specific requirements your community will need to adopt.

For additional information on this project, please refer to the following links:

- **FEMA GeoPlatform (Risk MAP Study Lifecycle):**
[Skamania County, Washington - Flood Study Lifecycle - Overview \(arcgis.com\)](#)
- **Project Deliverables (Risk MAP contacts and project area scope map)**:**
[Skamania County, Washington - Risk MAP Project Deliverables \(starr-team.com\)](#)

***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 FEMA Region 10 Risk Analyst and Project Monitor Kara Jacobacci (kara.jacobacci@fema.dhs.gov, (202) 215-8229) or Washington State Risk MAP Coordinator Jerry Franklin (jerry.franklin@ecy.wa.gov, (360) 407-7470).

The STARR II Region 10 Help Desk is another resource available to answer project-related questions. STARR II 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 10, get project status updates, or learn about upcoming events and training opportunities, subscribe to the Region 10 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 II website, www.starr-team.com.

I hope you found this status update email helpful. Because maps will go effective on May 22, 2024, this will be the final update for this project. It has been a pleasure working with you. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact FEMA Region 10 Risk Analyst and Project Monitor Kara Jacobacci at kara.jacobacci@fema.dhs.gov or (202) 215-8229.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Johnson, PMP, CFM
Senior Project Manager

STARR II – Strategic Alliance for Risk Reduction

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This message was sent by RSC 10 to the following:

Adrienne Grimm - Hydrologist - Yakama Nation Fisheries
Amanda Richardson - Washington State NFIP Coordinator - Washington Department of Ecology
Amelia Petersen - Floodplain Planner - Washington Department of Ecology
Anil Nampally - Project Engineer - STARR II
Arnold Bell - Building Official/Fire Marshal - Skamania County
Asa Leckie - Commissioner, District 3 - Skamania County
Ashley Zacherle - Tribal Affairs Lead - FEMA Region 10
Ashlie Chandler - External Affairs Branch Chief - FEMA Region 10
Ben Shumaker - Community Development Director - City of Stevenson
Bobbak Talebi - SEA Coastal Program Planner - Washington Department of Ecology
Brian Sabo - Mayor - City of North Bonneville
Carmen Burducea - Region 10 Task Order Manager - STARR II

Carolyn Sourek - Public Works Director - City of Stevenson
CERC Region 10 - Resilience Action Partners
Corina Allen - Chief Hazards Geologist - Washington Department of Natural Resources
Dale Meck - Regional Engineer - FEMA Region 10 RAB
Danyal Shahroz - Region 10 RPML - Deloitte
Dave Nail - Building Inspector - City of Stevenson
David Waymire - Public Works & Community Development Director - Skamania County
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Jerry Franklin - Washington State Risk MAP Coordinator - Washington Department of Ecology
Joe Green - Community Planner - FEMA Region 10 RAB
John Carlson - Emergency Management Coordinator - Skamania County
Jonathan Johnson - Project Manager - STARR II
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Kate Mickelson - Landslide Hazards Program Manager - Washington Department of Natural Resources
Leana Kinley - City Administrator - City of Stevenson
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Matt Gerlach - Floodplain Management Planner, SW Washington - Washington Department of Ecology
Meghan Tait - Shoreline Permit Reviewer - Washington Department of Ecology
Michelle Blankas - Community Planner - FEMA Region 10 RAB
Michelle McConnell - Shoreline Planner - Washington Department of Ecology
Paul Sclafani - Floodplain Management Program Manager - USACE, Portland District
Peter Chaput - Section Chief, River and Hydrologic Engineering Section - USACE, Portland District
Region 10 Service Center - STARR II
Richard Hall - Planning Advisor - City of North Bonneville
Richard Mahar - Commissioner, District 1 - Skamania County
Rick Hollatz - GIS Coordinator - Skamania County
Rick Mraz - Wetland Policy Lead - Washington Department of Ecology
Rucker Alex - Community Planner - FEMA Region 10 RAB
Rynn Lamb - Risk Analyst GIS - FEMA Region 10 RAB
Sadi' Pettenger - County Engineer - Skamania County
Sandy Floyd - Floodplain Management Planner, Central Washington - Washington Department of Ecology
Scott Anderson - Mayor - City of Stevenson
Scott Ladd - Hydrologist, Water Resources Program - Yakama Nation
Tim Cook - State Hazard Mitigation Officer - Washington Emergency Management Division
Tom Lannen - Commissioner, District 2 & Board Chair - Skamania County
Trevor Contreras - Landslide Hazards Geologist - Washington Department of Natural Resources
Tribal Affairs - FEMA Region 10
Tricia Sears - Geologic Planning Liaison, Washington Geological Survey - Washington Department of Natural Resources
Wendy Shaw - Risk Analysis Branch Chief - FEMA Region 10 RAB