

Alaska Division of
Homeland Security and Emergency Management - Mitigation
Immediate Actions for Climate Change

DHS&EM Mitigation Involvement with Coastal Erosion Communities:

1. FEMA Stafford Act Grant Funding:

Preceding Five Years (2002 – 2007)

a. From Nationally Competitive Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) Grants

1) PDM 2005 for Planning:

- North Slope Borough
 - Barrow
 - Wainwright
 - Point Lay
- Unalakleet
- Golovin
- Newtok
- Kivalina

2) PDM 2006 for Planning:

- Shishmaref

b. From Alaska Federal Disaster Declarations, Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP): Total \$302,958

Projects: \$245,942 Planning: \$57,016

- May 2002 Interior Flood Disaster HMGP Grant:
 - Alakanuk: \$200,000 to relocate homes and elevate foundations
- April 2004 Denali Earthquake Disaster HMGP:
 - Alakanuk: \$7,500 to develop local hazard mitigation plan
 - Kotlik: \$7,500 to develop local hazard mitigation plan
- November 2004 Bering Strait Sea Storm Disaster HMGP Grant:
 - Shishmaref: \$45,942 to relocate Computer Center Cottage
 - Northwest Arctic Borough: \$34,516 to develop local hazard mitigation plan
- January 2005 North Slope Borough Sever Winter Storm Disaster HMGP Grant:
 - Nunam Iqua: \$7,500 to develop local hazard mitigation plan

2. DHS&EM Mitigation Response and Coordination:

- a. Involvement in emergency and disaster response to flooding, sea storms, tidal surges and other natural and man-made emergencies.
- b. Involvement with Coastal Erosion community relocation workgroups, planning and taskforces
- c. Involvement in training and education for climate change related emergencies including flooding, evacuation, storms surge, fuel spills.
- d. Involvement in Congressional and State Legislative and Executive Branch cabinets and working groups on Climate Change.

3. Limitations to DHS&EM Mitigation's role in response Climate Change Issues:

a. FEMA Stafford Act limitations:

As currently legislated, the Stafford Act, on which all FEMA mitigation activities are based, is primarily limited to actual disasters or imminent threats to life and property. For example, relocation of properties and infrastructure to entirely new community sites is not an activity which FEMA would consider eligible under the Stafford Act.

b. Federal Coordination limitations:

FEMA mitigation grant funding is limited to activities for which another federal agency is not responsible. Therefore, FEMA mitigation funds can not be used for projects that are primarily the domain of the US Army Core of Engineers or Natural Resource Conservation Service.

c. Federal Funding limitations:

FEMA mitigation grant funding is limited to either a small percentage of a federally declared disaster (HMGP) or a yearly nationally competitive grant program (PDM). Both these grant programs have many more eligible projects from around the State and Nation than they have funds for.