

PROFILE



Marty Rutherford Director, MRAD

A fourth generation Alaskan, Marty Rutherford was born in 1951 in the Prince William Sound community of Valdez. In those days, before the oil pipeline, Valdez was a much smaller community than it is today. The population was about 800 in the summer and 500 during the winters. Marty's family was active in Alaskan politics and she grew up listening in on the conversations of such men as Bill Egan, George Sullivan and Jay Kerttula as they discussed the merits of Alaska becoming a state. From these roots, Marty developed a fascination for the workings of local government which led her to an education in political science and a position as Assistant City Manager in her hometown.

In 1982, Marty was selected to serve as Special Assistant to the Commissioner of the Department of Community and Regional Affairs. Shortly thereafter she was appointed to the position of Director of the Department's Municipal and Regional Assistance Division (MRAD), a position she has held since that time. Marty believes MRAD is on the cutting edge of assisting Alaskan communities to become fully effective and more self-sufficient — and that's exactly where she wants to be.