



Community Planning Technical Assistance

MRAD staff provide Alaskan communities with a broad range of community planning services including assistance in preparing local comprehensive plans, land use plans, coastal management plans, and capital improvement programs. Assistance is available for the development of local ordinances such as land use subdivision, land disposal, floodplain and drainage ordinances. MRAD staff can assist communities in estimating and projecting local population and economic conditions; and in interpreting Federal and State statutes and regulations. The Division participates in State and Federal land use planning activities as an advocate of local interests.

Alaska Coastal Management Program (ACMP)

The Division also provides funds and technical assistance to "Coastal Districts" (cities and boroughs exercising coastal management functions) and "Coastal Resource Service Areas" (CRSA's), created in the unorganized borough specifically for the purposes of coastal management. The program ensures local participation in, and influence on, State and Federal planning and regulatory decisions. Coastal Dis-

tricts use the funds provided through the program to hire staff, develop and implement plans and perform special studies. Division staff also assist regions in the unorganized borough in organizing CRSA's and advocate local district interests through participation on the Coastal Policy Council and in the statewide ACMP process.



Christy Miller administers the National Flood Insurance Program

National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)

MRAD provides communities with information about participation in the NFIP and assists local governments who wish to join the program. This Federal program identifies floodplain areas and provides flood damage insurance to owners of structures or other improvements, but requires measures from communities to mitigate flood hazards. The Division has developed publications and other educational materials explaining flood hazards and mitigation methods and will assist communities in developing floodplain management regulations.

Community Profiles

Over the years, MRAD has produced an extensive series of "Community Profiles." These profiles are fold-



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out sheets containing maps, aerial photography and text describing such community features as land ownership,



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land use, topography, physical infrastructure, population characteristics, economic activities and conditions, climate and geophysical hazards. These Community Profiles are in many cases the only comprehensive source of information about individual communities in Alaska. The Division recently revised the format of the profiles, improving the technical quality of the maps and aerial photography. As funding permits, the Division will continue to expand and maintain this useful series.