

Focus of YK-Delta CEDS Adaptation Discussion, 10/21/2021, amended on 10-27-2021

1. Discussion on mitigation and preparedness for disasters caused by, exacerbated by, or not impacted by climate change.
2. “Mitigation” is often referred to in the media and in government policy as addressing greenhouse gases. We will not be discussing this type of mitigation. Rather we will be discussing disaster resilience at the community and regional level.
3. Two types of Federal approaches to mitigation - conventional funders of built infrastructure (USDA, IHS, HUD, Transportation, etc.) and disaster funders (Alaska Homeland Security [as an agent of FEMA], FEMA, HUD, EDA, SBA, etc.). The conventional funders may or may not consider pending disasters in their grant rubric scoring, and the disaster funders may or may not consider community development growth in funding recovery projects.
4. Focus is on Federal funding, as the Disaster Relief Fund and one-off Congressional appropriations (i.e. HUD CDBG-DR program) are the primary funding sources for disaster mitigation, presently, in the United State.

The Disaster Cycle

Mitigation: preventing or reducing the damage or chance of an emergency; may take place before or after an event.

Preparedness: Activities undertaken in advance of an emergency to better respond to the event.

Response: Activities taken during and immediately after an event.

Recovery: Longer term activities taken after an event to bring life back to normal or in a safer position.

Mixed Emergency Events

1. While the disaster cycle is a simple concept – in practice it can be made complex by overlapping emergency events that maybe dissimilar - some events driven or exacerbated by climate change and some unrelated, but concurrent in time.
2. See Akiak Timeline, as an example.

National Congress of American Indian Resolutions on Tribal Disaster and Climate Change Adaptation: These recently approved resolutions are pertinent to any tribe or tribal organization that is addressing climate change and other environmental threats.

[SAC-21-036 FINAL - NCAI 2021 Amending Resolution](#)
[SAC-21-037 FINAL - NCAI New Resolution](#)

Remaining Topic Not Yet Covered During 10/21/2021 Adaptation Discussion

How do tribes, cities, and stakeholder groups in the YK-Delta implement disaster resilience projects and activities.

		July-19	Oct-19	Jan-20	Apr-20	Jul-20	Oct-20	Jan-21	Apr-21	Jul-21	Oct-21
Event: 5/19/19 riverine erosion											
	Response: (Days) remove boats from the riverbank and keep children from the rivers edge	Completed									
	Recovery: (Months) complete tribal hazard mitigation plan, seek grant funding for relocating six homes at threat		Completed								
	Mitigation: (Years) Relocate 6 homes, expand subdivision for future relocations, abandon existing solid waste site and build a new solid waste site					6 homes relocated	utilities to 6 homes underway			Start housing subdivision expansion	
	Preparedness: (Years) continued grant financing and development of mitigation projects for managed retreat goals										
Event: COVID-19 in the YK Delta (Spring 2020 Response starts)											
	Response: (Months) Limit travel in and out of the village, COVID testing, and quarantining of residents who return from the outside										
	Recovery: (Years) continued maintenance of testing, social distancing				Limit travel						
					Testing begins						
	Mitigation: (Months) Build four quarantine homes						Construction starts	Construction starts up again			
	Preparedness: (Years) continued monitoring of the virus										
Event: COVID-19 Akiak Community Spread (November 2020 Response starts)											
	Response: (Months) 60% of residents get COVID in 3 weeks time. House by house quarantine. Shut down all construction.						November 2020 - shut down construction				
	Recovery: (Years) continued maintenance of testing, social										
	Mitigation: (Years) With reduced number of COVID cases start construction back up										
	Preparedness: (Years) continued monitoring of the virus										