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INFORMATION SHEET FOR CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE IN A RESEARCH STUDY

Summary of the Research: The Robust Assessment and Communication of Environmental Risk (RACER) team is a network of researchers who want to improve the assessment, quantification, and communication of uncertainty and risk in natural hazards such as flooding, earthquakes, tsunamis, wind storms, cold weather, and volcanic ash. We are funded by the NERC under the Probability Uncertainty and Risk in the Environment programme.

Purpose of the Research Study: We are trying to bridge the gap between the scientists providing the uncertainty information about natural hazards and end-users by developing improved tools for communicating uncertain information.

Procedures: You are invited to participate in this study because, as a member of the public, you are one of the target user-groups of natural hazard information and forecasts. If you agree to be in this study, we will ask you to complete a survey asking you to make hypothetical shipping decisions given imaginary ice thickness forecasts. Although ice thickness forecasts are not usually available in such decision making, we will use the results of our study to help improve graphical communication of risk across many different natural hazards, such as precipitation and temperature. While you are completing the survey, we would like to connect you to eye-tracking equipment so that we can look at what parts of the forecasts are of interest to users. Any reference to results or quotes from the survey in reports or publications will be anonymous.

Do I have to take part? Participation in this study is voluntary. If you decide to participate, you are free not to answer any question or discontinue participation at any time without penalty.

Length of participation: The survey will take about an hour.

Compensation: You will receive £10 for completing this survey.

Confidentiality: Your participation in this survey is strictly confidential. If you consent, data will be anonymised and stored in a repository for others to use. In published reports, there will be no information included that will make it possible to identify the research participants.

Ethical Review: This project has been reviewed by the University Research Ethics Committee and has been given a favourable ethical opinion for conduct.

Contact information: If you have any questions about the research or would like to receive the results of our research, please contact Kelsey J. Mulder (k.mulder@reading.ac.uk)