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School of Mathematical and Physical Science

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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:** If you agree to be in this study, you will be interviewed over the phone and asked questions related to the natural hazard-based decisions you make, the sources of information you use to support your decisions, and what further information would help you make decisions. The interviews will be recorded to ensure accurate reporting of participant responses. The recordings will be kept confidential and any reference to quotes from the recordings will be anonymous. You have been chosen to participate in this survey because you make decisions based on environmental risk in your career.  
  
**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 phone interviews will take 10−15 minutes.

**Compensation:** Participants will not be paid for their time.  
  
**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. The recordings will be transcribed with all identifying information such as names and place of work removed. 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](mailto:k.mulder@reading.ac.uk))Macintosh HD:Users:kelseymulder:Downloads:nerc-logo-bw.eps.pdf