You are invited to participate in a project titled 'Understanding Emergency Response Manager Characteristics,' conducted through a joint effort between Colorado State University (CSU), and CIRA (the Cooperative Institute for Research in the Atmosphere), which is a collaborative scientific endeavor between the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and CSU. The researchers conducting the study are John Weaver, MS Atmospheric Science, and Lindsey Harkabus, M.S., Applied Social Psychology. The purpose of this survey is to construct a general demographic data base of emergency managers nationwide. Two future surveys are planned; one for individuals in the media, the other for the general public. The overall goal is to develop a more comprehensive picture of NOAA's customer data base, as a first step in improving communications and service. If you choose to take part in the project, you will answer a brief survey containing 36 questions that should require no longer than 30 minutes to complete. Contact information can be found at the end of the survey. We will send a reminder email in 4 weeks to remind everyone to take the survey; please only complete the survey once.

There are no known risks associated with the procedures involved in this study. Researchers have taken reasonable safeguards to minimize potential risks. Although there are no immediate benefits to you, the overall scientific benefits of this research are considerable. The study has the potential to help researchers understand how certain demographic characteristics may be related to various emergency management outcomes.

The information collected will be combined with information from other people taking part in the study. The study is entirely anonyymous and you will not be identified in these materials. That means no one, not even members of the research team, will know that the information you give comes from you. All information submitted via computer will be stored on password protected computers on a drive which only the research team (PI and research assistants) have access to.

Your participation is completely voluntary. If you decide to participate in the study, you may withdraw your consent and stop participating at any time. You do not have to answer any questions you feel uncomfortable answering and may remove yourself at any time should you feel distress. Before you decide whether to accept this invitation to take part in the study, please ask any questions that might come to mind now via email. Later, if you have questions about the study, you can again contact the investigator, Lindsey Harkabus at lhark@rams.colostate.edu. Furthermore, if you have any questions about your rights as a volunteer in this research, contact Janell Barker, Human Research Administrator, at 970-491-1655.

We suggest you print a copy of this cover letter for your records.

The first 9 questions in this survey focus on the Emergency Manager as an individual. Please answer as completely as possible.

## What is your age?

- ● <25 years
- ● 26-35 years
- ● 36-45 years
- ● 46-55 years
- ● >55 years

## What is your gender?

- ● Male
- ● Female

## What is your race/ethnicity?

- ● Caucasian
- ● Hispanic
- ● African American
- ● Asian
- ● Other (please specify) [____]

## What is your highest level of education?

- ● Some high school
- ● High school graduate/GED
- ● Undergraduate college
- ● Higher degree

## If you received college degree(s), please specify your major at each level?

- ☐ Undergraduate degree(s) [____]
- ☐ Master's degree(s) [____]
- ☐ PhD [____]

What is your yearly salary range?

- < $25,000 per year
- $25,000-$50,000 per year
- $50,000-$75,000 per year
- $75,000 -$100,000 per year
- > $100,000 per year

How many years have you worked as an emergency manager?

- less than 1 year
- 1-5 years
- 5-10 years
- more than 10 years

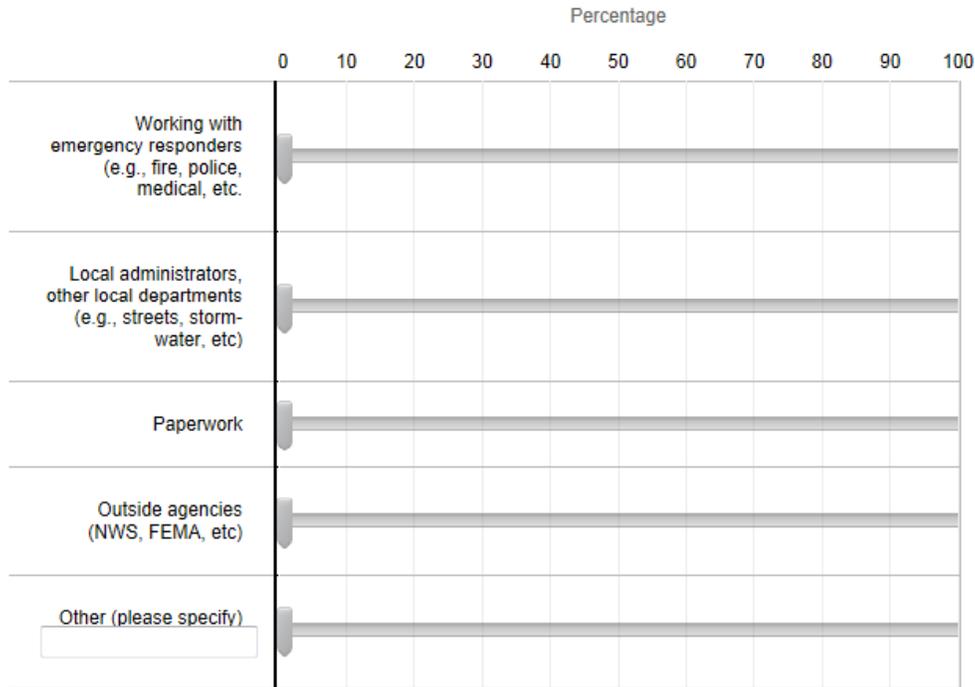How many years have you worked in the emergency management/response field?

- less than 1 year
- 1-5 years
- 5-10 years
- more than 10 years

Do you have any first responder training? If so, select all that apply.

- ☐ EMT/Paramedic
- ☐ Paramedic
- ☐ Firefighter
- ☐ Law enforcement

The next 5 questions focus on the Emergency Manager's allocation of time for various tasks

Approximate percentage of time allocated (on a routine basis) to various emergency management duties

Percentage

| | 0 | 10 | 20 | 30 | 40 | 50 | 60 | 70 | 80 | 90 | 100 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Working with emergency responders (e.g., fire, police, medical, etc. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Local administrators, other local departments (e.g., streets, storm-water, etc) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Paperwork | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Outside agencies (NWS, FEMA, etc) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Other (please specify) | | | | | | | | | | | |

About how often do you attend emergency response training courses or workshops?

- ● None or very infrequently
- ● At least one per year
- ● More than one per year, on average (please estimate) [          ]

If you have attended training courses over the past five years, what was the topic/focus (select all that apply):

- ☐ Terrorism
- ☐ Natural disasters ... tornadoes, floods, hurricanes, etc
- ☐ Industrial/Chemical incidents
- ☐ Mass transportation disasters
- ☐ Other (please specify) [          ]

Do you think you attend the right number of training workshops and conferences per year?

- ● I would prefer less workshop/conference attendance
- ● The amount of attendance is just about right
- ● I would like to attend more such events (if this is your choice, what is the primary reason you don't) [          ]

What sort of training exercises have you organized/taken part in locally (select all that apply)?

- ☐ Terrorism-related drills
- ☐ Natural disaster drills
- ☐ Industrial/chemical response drills
- ☐ Mass transportation disaster drills
- ☐ Other (please specify) [          ]

The next 10 questions concern the demographics of your service area, as well a few facts about your agency

What size population do you serve?

- ● <10,000
- ● 10,000 - 100,000
- ● 100,000 - 500,000
- ● >500,000

Community settings

- ● Mostly rural
- ● Mostly suburban
- ● Mostly urban
- ● Mixed (please specify) [          ]

Approximate race/ethnicity of your service area

- ☐ Caucasian (approximate %) [        ]
- ☐ Hispanic (approximate %) [        ]
- ☐ Asian (approximate %) [        ]
- ☐ Other (specify other major groups and approximate %) [        ]

By what entity are you employed (e.g., city, county, etc)?

[        ]

In which state is your area of responsibility?

[        ▼]

What is the approximate yearly budget for emergency management for your area (including estimated contributions from grants)?

- ⬤ Less than $100,000 per year
- ⬤ $100,000 - $250,000 per year
- ⬤ > $250,000 per year

If you are part of an emergency management department, how many people are on staff full time (counting you)?

- ⬤ None
- ⬤ 1-5
- ⬤ More than 5

If you are part of an emergency management department, how many people are on staff part time (counting you)?

- ⬤ None
- ⬤ 1-5
- ⬤ More than 5

What are the most likely types of disaster that might occur in your area (select all that are appropriate)?

- ☐ Tornado/severe thunderstorm
- ☐ Earthquake
- ☐ Terrorism
- ☐ Flooding
- ☐ Hurricane
- ☐ Blizzard/snow emergency
- ☐ Mass transportation disaster
- ☐ Industrial/chemical incident
- ☐ Other (please specify) [＿＿＿＿＿]

Do you consider building codes in your area sufficient to deal with natural disasters that might reasonably occur?

- ● Not sufficient
- ● Adequate
- ● Better than average

Use this space if you have any additional comments on building codes
[＿＿＿＿＿]

[ >> ]

These 7 questions address emergency response in your area

Have you had a community emergency situation in your area of responsibility in the last ten years? Please select all that apply:
- ☐ Tornado/severe thunderstorm
- ☐ Earthquake
- ☐ Terrorism
- ☐ Flooding
- ☐ Hurricane
- ☐ Blizzard/snow emergency
- ☐ Mass transportation disaster

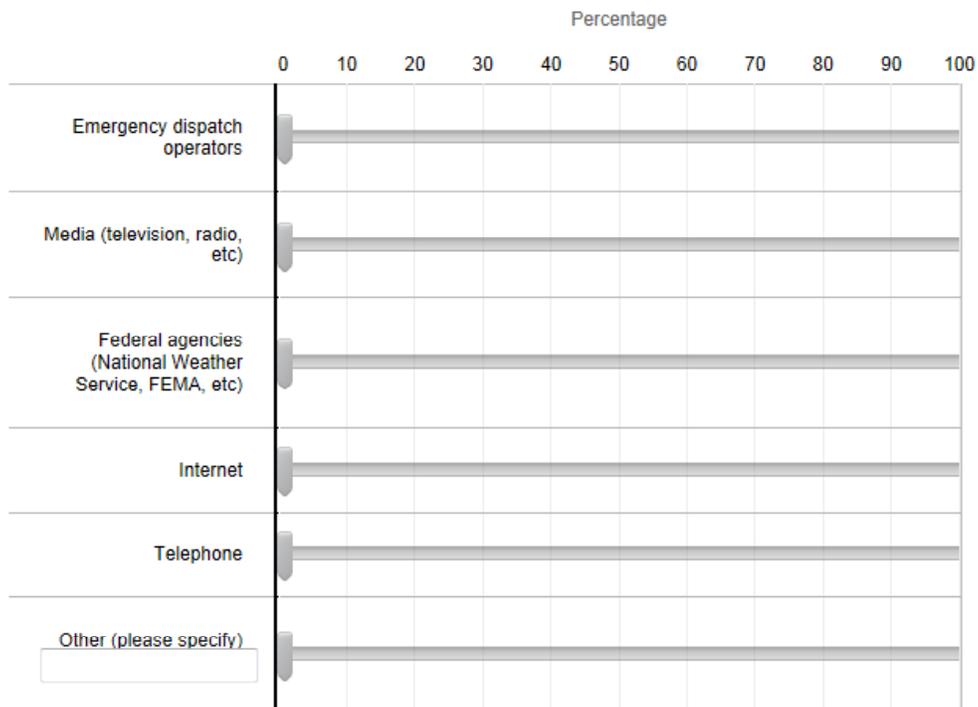- ☐ Industrial/chemical incident
- ☐ Other (please specify) [_____]

Do you have an Emergency Operations Center?

- ● Yes
- ● No
- ● Only during emergencies

If you had an Emergency Operations Center during your last community emergency, did it function well.

- ● Not very well
- ● As well as had been expected
- ● Better than expected

What are your primary sources of information regarding community emergencies (move slider to indicate importance as a percentage)?

What plan exists in your area for pre-alerting schools, businesses, police, other first responders in case of emergency?

- ☐ Directly alert schools/school districts
- ☐ Special advance alert to fire/police/ambulance
- ☐ Special notification of large plants/businesses
- ☐ Other (please specify) ▭

During an actual emergency, what role does emergency dispatch play?

- ● Prioritizing calls and dispatching emergency responses only
- ● Prioritizing calls, dispatching emergency responses and helping to coordinate emergency management
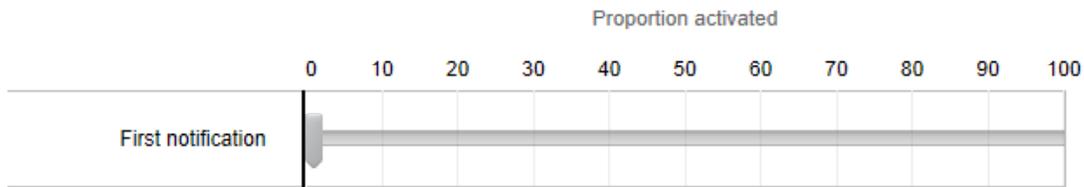- ● Key player in every facet

When you receive a short-fused warning (e.g., a tornado warning), what other corroborating information do you seek before activating parts or all of your system?

- ☐ Federal agency (e.g. the NWS, FEMA, etc.)
- ☐ Local television or radio media
- ☐ Emergency dispatch
- ☐ Law enforcement officers or other spotters
- ☐ Other (please specify) ▭

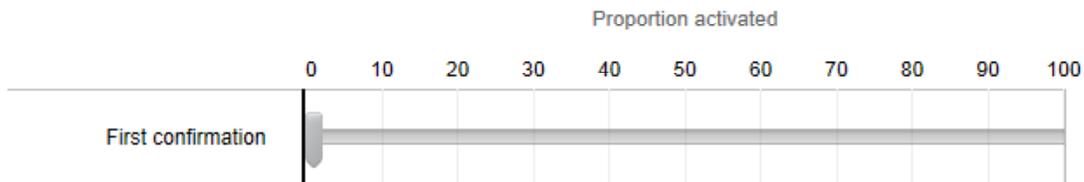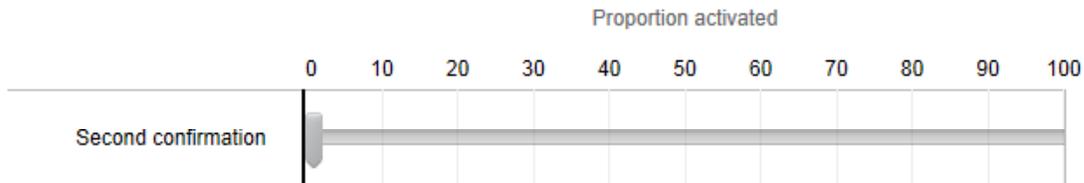[ >> ]

For the final section of this survey, assume you learn that the National Weather Service (NWS) has issued a tornado warning for your county, valid for the next 30 minutes. The warning is based on a strong Doppler radar signature that indicates a possible tornado roughly 15 miles away from you response area, that is headed your direction at 25 miles per hour. What proportion of your response system would you activate based on this information alone?

Proportion activated

| 0 | 10 | 20 | 30 | 40 | 50 | 60 | 70 | 80 | 90 | 100 |

First notification

Next suppose that you call the severe weather desk at the NWS and learn that they have just received two reports from law enforcement of a tornado on the ground. It is 12 miles away from your response area and moving in your direction at 25 miles per hour. What proportion of your response system would you activate at this time?

Proportion activated

| 0 | 10 | 20 | 30 | 40 | 50 | 60 | 70 | 80 | 90 | 100 |

First confirmation

Now suppose that a few minutes later you turn on a television in time to see local news coverage of what seems to be a reasonably wide tornado doing damage on the ground at a location you recognize to be about 8 miles away from your response area. The storm is still headed in your direction. What proportion of your response system would you activate at this time?

Proportion activated

| 0 | 10 | 20 | 30 | 40 | 50 | 60 | 70 | 80 | 90 | 100 |

Second confirmation

If you haven't fully activated your emergency response system at this point, what additional event(s) would need to occur that would represent the tipping point for you?

Thank you for participating in this survey. If you have any specific questions, concerns, or would just like to learn more about this project, you can contact the investigators directly by email; John Weaver (weaver@colostate.edu), or Lindsey Harkabus (lhark@rams.colostate.edu).