



Oregon State University

Florence Wristband Study

Hurricane Florence Chemical Exposure

initiated December 2018

OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

- Kim Anderson, PhD
- Diana Rohlman, PhD

OSU FOOD SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Developed and supplied wristbands for this study.



UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL

Institute for the Environment

Assisted with recruiting study participants

- Kathleen Gray, PhD
- Andrew George, PhD
- Neasha Graves



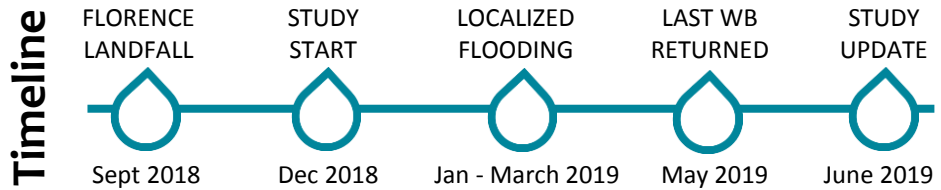
THE UNIVERSITY of NORTH CAROLINA at CHAPEL HILL

CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT

Kim Anderson and Diana Rohlman have a conflict of interest related to this study. These researchers own or are related to someone who owns a company that provides services related to the silicone wristbands and that interest could influence research that you participated in.

The Study

The goal of this study is to learn what people are exposed to after a hurricane. A total of 30 people signed up, and 17 people wore a silicone wristband.



We have done a similar study in Houston, Texas, following Hurricane Harvey.

Preliminary data from that study is available here:

<http://fses.oregonstate.edu/harvey>



Who

Researchers from Oregon State University Superfund Research Program are leading this study. The UNC Institute for the Environment provided assistance reaching out to impacted communities to find participants.

What

We used wristband samplers to collect samples after the flooding in North Carolina. Flooding started with Hurricane Florence and continued for several months following. These samplers absorb chemicals found in the environment.

Why

Following the flooding, there were concerns over what types of chemicals people might be exposed to, either from living in flooded homes or from cleaning up flood damage. We worked with communities to collect personal samples. **These samples are being stored until funding is found to pay for the analysis.**

Status of the Study

- This study is now closed
- We are actively looking for funding to analyze the wristbands
- 17 people wore and returned wristbands
 - Samples collected from 10 different cities
- Additional updates will be posted to our website: <http://fses.oregonstate.edu/florence>

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