

## **Megan N. Waddle, BSW**

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School of Social Work, College of Health Sciences  
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### EDUCATION

Master of Social Work, University of Missouri – Anticipated May 2026  
Bachelor of Social Work, University of Missouri – December 2024  
Minor in Sociology with Multicultural Certification – December 2024

### RESEARCH APPOINTMENTS

2025 – Present: Graduate Research Assistant, University of Missouri, School of Social Work  
2024 –2025: Undergraduate Research Assistant, University of Missouri, School of Social Work

### RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

1. NSF Collaborative RAPID, Decision, Risk and Management Science: *Understanding risk communication, protective decision-making, and vulnerability in mountain and inland Southeast communities during Hurricane Helene* (1/1/2025 – 12/31/2025). PI: Jennifer First. Role: Graduate Research Assistant
2. Natural Hazards Center. Quick Response Program. Special call for Climate-related Disaster and Health Outcomes Research. *Examining Hurricane Helene Flooding Vulnerabilities and Health Disparities in Southern Appalachia*, (12/1/24-5/30/25). PI: Jennifer First. Role: Co-PI.
3. NOAA, Weather Program Office. *While you were sleeping: Improving warning reception and response to nocturnal rapid-onset hazards in the Southeast* (9/1/23–7/31/25), PI: Jennifer First. Role: Graduate Research Assistant
4. NSF, Collaborative RAPID: Examining Critical Infrastructure and Protective Decision making During a Multi-state Nocturnal Tornado Outbreak (05/2025-04/2026). PI: Jennifer First. Role: Graduate Research Assistant

### MANUSCRIPTS IN PREPARATION

1. **Waddle, M.**, First, J. M., Brantley, C., Ellis, K., & Houston, J. B. (in progress). *Nighttime Warnings: A Thematic Analysis of Severe Weather Challenges*. [Manuscript in preparation]. University of Missouri.
2. First, J. M., **Waddle, M.** (in progress). *NHC 'Unmet Needs': Qualitative Insights Related to Quantitative Findings – On Exposure to Contaminants, Mental Health, and Physical Health*. [Manuscript in preparation]. University of Missouri.
3. First, J. M., Sunde, M., Kitzinger, K., Ellis, K., Scales, S., **Waddle, M.**, Fazio, J., & Houston, J. B. (in progress). *Examining Hurricane Helene flooding vulnerabilities and health disparities in Southern Appalachia* [Manuscript in preparation]. University of Missouri.

## PRESENTATIONS

1. **Waddle, M.**, First, J. M., Brantley, C., Ellis, K., & Houston, J. B. (2025, April 16). *Nighttime warnings: A thematic analysis of severe weather challenges*. Poster presented at Show Me Research Week, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO.
2. First, J. M., & **Waddle, M.** (2024, October 17). *Advancing Social Work to Address Climate-related Hazards and Environmental Injustices*. Presentation for Social Work Seminar

## TRAINING & CERTIFICATIONS

1. AmeriCorps Segal Education Award Recipient, Spring 2025
2. NHC CONVERGE Training Modules (Fall 2024):
  - Cultural Competence in Hazards & Disaster Research, Disaster Mental Health, Public Health Implications of Hazards & Disasters, Social Vulnerability & Disasters
3. CITI Program Certification: Social Behavioral Human Subjects Research (2024-2027)

## RESEARCH SKILLS & TOOLS

Qualitative analysis – thematic coding, grounded theory, cross-case comparison

Interviewing – Zoom-based qualitative interviews, probing, reflecting, validating

Survey design – Qualtrics, Google Forms, trauma-informed and culturally responsive item development, standardized/IRB-approved measure selection, repository navigation

Writing – literature reviews, scoping reviews, manuscripts, systematic reviews, APA formatting

Software: Dedoose, Excel, SPSS, SciSpace, Research Rabbit

Communication: public-facing dissemination, infographic creation, academic poster design