

Panelist: Sayma Khajehei, Ph.D., Towson University

Co-author: Divya Chandrasekhar, Ph.D., University of Utah

Wednesday, July 16, 8:0-9:30 AM







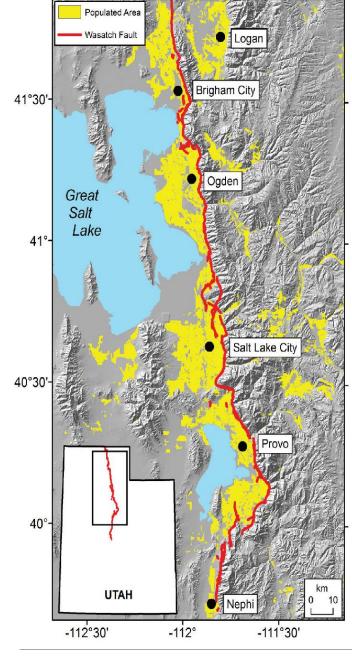


Scan to read the full paper!

### Risk and Saving Lives

#### Introduction

- Near-miss community
  - A community at risk of disaster that hasn't yet experienced one.
- Public housing
  where vulnerability intersects with
  institutional complexity.
- Utah case



# **Key Findings**

- Planning Gaps Remain
- Near-Miss Events Raise Awareness—but Action Lags
- Major Barriers to Action:
  - Poor Interagency Coordination
  - Lack of Funding
  - No Clear Leadership
  - Capacity Gaps
  - Competing Priorities
- Cross-Hazard Learning is Possible



# Implications for Mitigation Policy

- Formalized interagency collaboration
- Designated funding streams
- Leadership and policy
- Community education

## **Next Step**

A new project at Towson University

"Enhancing Disaster Resilience in Baltimore County Through Improved Interagency Collaboration"

It aims to translate the lessons from my Utah study to a new urban context—one that faces both **high disaster exposure** and **persistent housing inequality**.