

Devon and Severn IFCA News

Resilience of Coastal Communities (ROCC) Project

Researchers from the University of Exeter want to hear from you.

Industries and individuals whose livelihoods are linked to the marine ecosystem make up the social and economic fabric of coastal communities. However, they are increasingly affected by major social, environmental, economic, and regulatory changes, extreme events, and other disruptions.

Researchers from the University of Exeter are working to understand how coastal communities respond to these disruptions, and what are the implications of this for their wellbeing, resilience, and the sustainability of the marine environment through the [Resilience of Coastal Communities \(ROCC\) project](#), which is part of the UK government's Sustainable Management of UK Marine Resources ([SMMR](#)) programme.



A key element of the project is a survey of people living in coastal communities in Devon and Cornwall whose livelihoods involve direct interaction with the marine environment, including, commercial marine fishers, aquaculture producers and marine tourism operators. The survey is being led by Dr. Rachel Turner, Dr. Lucy Szaboova and Sarah Sutcliffe.

The research team want to know about significant changes and events that have occurred in the last 10 years which affected marine livelihoods. The survey focuses on people's responses to these disruptions, and the impact the disruption and people's responses to it had on their wellbeing, their ability to deal with future shocks, and on the marine environment. The evidence they are gathering will inform the design of future policies and interventions and thus support resilience and wellbeing of coastal communities.

If you would be willing to participate in this project, you can either:

- 1) Complete the survey online yourself [here](#).
 - 2) Send an email to Sarah Sutcliffe (<mailto:s.r.s.sutcliffe@exeter.ac.uk>) to arrange a time for them to either call you or meet in person to complete the survey with you face to face.
- **Participants who complete the survey will be invited to enter in a draw to win a £100 gift card.**

If you would like more information about the survey, you can find additional details [here](#), and can find out more about the ROCC project on the project website or by contacting:

Dr. Rachel Turner (<mailto:R.Turner@exeter.ac.uk>)

Dr. Lucy Szaboova (<mailto:l.szaboova@exeter.ac.uk>).

D&S IFCA is helping to support this work by circulating the information about the survey; however, D&S IFCA will not manage any data collected in the survey.