**Participant Information Sheet
Investigating marine citizenship and its role in creating good marine environmental health**

My name is Pamela Buchan and I’m a post-graduate researcher at Exeter University. My ESRC (Economic and Social Research Council) funded PhD research investigates marine citizenship and how it can help promote a healthy marine environment. It looks at a number of case studies which differ in the way people engage with marine environmental issues. The aim of the research is to better understand the different factors related to marine citizenship. Please consider this following information and ask me any questions you may have.

**What is this stage of the research about?**I am contacting you now because you expressed in the online research survey that you would be interested in participating further. This stage of the research is all about you and your relationship with the sea. Though the group I initially contacted you by will be relevant to how you are engaging with the sea as an active citizen now, it will be only one part of the story. This stage is about more deeply exploring the experiences that have shaped your attitude towards the sea, and the facets of your character and values that showed to be particularly relevant in your survey responses.

The aim is to uncover the different ways that different people become connected to the sea and begin to see it as their duty to promote its health, in order to better inform ways in which others may be similarly inspired.

**How will data be collected and used?**Data will be collected through shadowing of participants at events and follow up interview. Participants will be asked to let me shadow them at a marine citizenship event or activity of their choosing, and participate in a follow up interview, ideally on the same day, of around an hour. As well as written and oral note-taking, data collection will include audio recordings of interviews in order to ensure accuracy in transcription. Photographs may also be taken. Recorded and written data will include things like quotes, observations of what is happening and what you are doing, and the nature of event. The data will be used to produce a PhD thesis and may be published in scientific journals and other scientific and relevant outputs.

This research is aimed at improving our understanding of the ways in which people grow to care about the marine environment in such a way that they feel a sense of duty towards it. By understanding the different routes people take to this place, we can develop a better range of ways of encouraging others to be active marine citizens.

To protect the privacy of participants, your name will not be associated with any information you provide. In the exceptional case that any data to be used is sufficiently unique that it could be personally identifiable, it will only be included if additional consent is obtained. Audio recordings will be transcribed into text and the audio file subsequently deleted. A copy of that transcription will be made available on request should you wish to check for accuracy. You have the right to withdraw from the research at any time should you change your mind. Data can likewise be withdrawn up until the point at which data is anonymised and analysed. Personal identifiable data, such as email address and email communications, will not be stored with research data and will be retained only until completion of the research in case additional consent, as previously described, is sought. Contact details will also be kept should you wish to be kept informed of the research progress and outcomes. Anonymised research data will be processed for the purposes of this research and future scientific output.

**How will my information be kept confidential?**The University of Exeter processes personal data for the purposes of carrying out research in the public interest. The University will endeavour to be transparent about its processing of your personal data and this information sheet should provide a clear explanation of this. If you do have any queries about the University’s processing of your personal data that cannot be resolved by the research team, further information may be obtained from the University’s Data Protection Officer by emailing dataprotection@exeter.ac.uk or at [www.exeter.ac.uk/dataprotection](http://www.exeter.ac.uk/dataprotection)

This project has been reviewed by the Geography Research Ethics Committee at the University of Exeter.

**Reimbursement**
As the research is designed to take place alongside your usual activities, it’s not anticipated that any costs will be incurred. If you are asked to travel anywhere specifically for this research, then reasonable travel expenses will be reimbursed.

**Questions**
If you have any questions about this research before, during, or after participation please do not hesitate to contact me. You can reach me on email at pb381@exeter.ac.uk or by phone on 07764492220.

Participant Identification Number:

**CONSENT FORM**

Title of Project: Investigating marine citizenship and its role in creating good marine environmental health

Name of Researcher: Pamela Buchan

Please initial box

1. I confirm that I have read the information sheet dated for the above project. I have had the opportunity to consider the information, ask questions and have had these answered satisfactorily.
2. I understand that my participation is voluntary and that I am free to withdraw at any time
without giving any reason and without my legal rights being affected.
3. I understand that relevant sections of the data collected during the study, may be looked at by members of the research team, where it is relevant to my taking part in this research. I give permission for these individuals to have access to my records.
4. I understand that taking part involves anonymised interview transcripts/photographs/audio recordings to be used for the purposes of:

Reports published in an academic publications

Reports published in non-academic publications related to public engagement in marine management

I agree that my contact details can be kept securely and used by the principle researcher from to contact me about research outputs

1. I agree to take part in the above project.

Name of Participant Date Signature

Name of researcher Date Signature

taking consent

When completed: 1 copy for participant; 1 copy for researcher/project file