



## **The COASST Participant Survey Project**

### **What We're Doing**

As part of a study funded by the National Science Foundation, COASST is exploring how and why people get involved, and stay involved, with COASST. We will be sending surveys out from now until the research project ends in December 2018, and you may receive up to 3 different surveys over that time period. This document provides you with information to help you decide whether to participate.

### **Voluntary Participation**

Participation in our survey project is totally voluntary. You can skip any question, or the entire survey (but we hope you won't!). And don't worry, there are no grades. Your involvement and responses do not influence your continued participation in the COASST program in any way. COASST is also not providing monetary compensation to respondents.

### **Anonymity**

Because we are interested in how your experience may change over time, your participation is not anonymous. That is, we will track your answers over time. We will also link your survey responses to information we ask you to provide on the Volunteer Profile Form and to what you've found on the beach.

We intend to use survey responses to explore what groups of COASSTers think. A group might be geographic - like everyone in the north coast of Oregon, or demographic - like everyone over 60, or experience-based - like everyone who has been with the program for more than a year.

In addition to presenting study findings to scholarly colleagues, results will be used to help COASST staff make improvements to the program.

### **Confidentiality**

At COASST, confidentiality is important to us. COASST respects and protects personally identifiable information of all COASSTers. Any answer or information you provide us will be "anonymized" – either we will combine your answers with those of many others so that no one individual stands out, or – in the case of written quotes – we will remove anything that could identify you (for instance, your name, your beach name, your town, etc).

If COASST wants to use a quote with your name or other identifying information attached, we will ask for your written consent. One risk of survey participation is loss of confidentiality, if we accidentally released a quote with your name attached.

## Have Questions?

Questions or concerns about the study? If you are in a training, please feel free to ask the training instructor, or you can contact the COASST Executive Director, Julia Parrish at 206-221-5787, [jparrish@uw.edu](mailto:jparrish@uw.edu).

If you have any questions regarding your rights, please contact the University of Washington Human Subjects Division at 206-543-0098.

## Consent

Signing below indicates that you have read all of the information above, and that you consent to participate. Your signature allows us to:

- ▶ use the information you provide in this survey and in the Volunteer Profile Form.
- ▶ share your responses with our co-investigators: Dr. Shawn Rowe from Oregon State University, and Dr. Cynthia Char of Char Associates.
- ▶ present your anonymized responses in scholarly work, like papers and presentations.

Participant:

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Printed name

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Signature

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Email Address

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Date