



PARTICIPANT INFORMATION STATEMENT AND CONSENT FORM

Surfer Rescue Interviews

Surfers Rescue 24/7: Evaluating the social impact and benefit of a rescue training program for surfers
Professor Robert Brander

1. What is the research study about?

You are invited to take part in this research study. The research study aims to reduce drowning and injury on beaches in Australia and New Zealand via a mixed-methods evaluation of the Surfers Rescue 24/7 (SR24/7) program. You have been invited to participate as you provided your contact details to the UNSW research team on a recent survey.

2. Who is conducting this research?

The study is being carried out by the following researchers:

- Professor Robert Brander, School of Biological Earth and Environmental Sciences, UNSW Sydney
- Dr. Amy Peden, School of Population Health, UNSW Sydney
- William Koon, School of Biological Earth and Environmental Sciences, UNSW Sydney

Research Funder: This research is being funded by Surfing New South Wales and a UNSW Science Social Good Seed Fund.

3. Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria

Before you decide to participate in this research study, we need to ensure that it is ok for you to take part. The research study is looking recruit people who meet the following criteria:

- 18 years of age or older
- Have previously completed a SR 24/7 Course in New South Wales or New Zealand
- Have conducted a rescue in the time since their SR24/7 Course

Participants who meet the following criteria will be excluded from the study:

- Under the age of 18 years
- Not having previously completed a SR 24/7 Course in New South Wales or New Zealand
- Not having conducted a rescue in the time since their SR24/7 course

4. Do I have to take part in this research study?

Participation in this research study is voluntary. If you do not want to take part, you do not have to. If you decide to take part and later change your mind, you are free to withdraw from the study at any stage.

If you decide you want to take part in the research study, you will be asked to:

- Read the information carefully (ask questions if necessary);
- Sign and return the consent form if you decide to participate in the study;
- Take a copy of this form with you to keep.

5. What does participation in this research require, and are there any risks involved?

If you agree to participate you will be asked to complete the following research procedures.

Interview: An online video interview will be arranged, and you will be asked questions about your experience with the Surfers Rescue 24/7 course and about your experience conducting a rescue. The interview will take place via Microsoft Teams and will take approximately 20-30 minutes. With your permission the research team would like to audio record the interview. If you do not wish to be recorded, but you would like to participate, please advise the research team and written notes will be taken.



PARTICIPANT INFORMATION STATEMENT AND CONSENT FORM

Surfer Rescue Interviews

Surfers Rescue 24/7: Evaluating the social impact and benefit of a rescue training program for surfers
Professor Robert Brander

Additional Costs and Reimbursement: There are no costs associated with participating in this research project, nor will you be paid. However, you will receive a \$50 Rip Curl gift voucher upon completion of the interview. The research team will email you the gift voucher.

Psychological Distress: The interviewer will ask you about your experience conducting rescues while you were surfing. You may feel some of the questions we ask are stressful or upsetting. If you do not wish to answer a question, you may skip it and go to the next question, or you may stop immediately. If you become upset or distressed as a result of your participation in the research project, the research team will be able to arrange for counselling or other appropriate support. Alternatively, a number of free contactable support services are included at Section 9. Any counselling or support will be provided by qualified staff who are not members of the research team. This counselling will be provided free of charge.

6. What will happen to information about me?

By signing the consent form, you consent to the research team collecting and using information about you for the research study.

The research team will store the data collected from you for this research project for:

- A minimum of 7 years after the completion of the research;

The information about you will be stored in an/a:

- Non-identifiable format where your identify will be unknown.
- Information collected from you in an electronic format stored on a UNSW password protected OneDrive only accessible to the approved research investigators.
- Audio recordings will be stored on a UNSW password protected OneDrive only accessible to the approved research investigators, and will be made available to a professional transcription service. Recordings will only be made available after a confidentiality agreement has been signed.

The information you provide is personal information for the purposes of the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998 (NSW). You have the right of access to personal information held about you by the University, the right to request correction and amendment of it, and the right to make a complaint about a breach of the Information Protection Principles as contained in the PPIP Act. Further information on how the University protects personal information is available in the [UNSW Privacy Management Plan](#).

7. How and when will I find out what the results of the research study are?

The research team intend to publish and/ report the results of the research. All Information will be published in a way that will not identify you.

If you would like to receive a copy of the results you can let the research team know by checking <https://www.beachsafetyresearch.com/> and/or sending an email to info@beachsafetyresearch.com.



PARTICIPANT INFORMATION STATEMENT AND CONSENT FORM

Surfer Rescue Interviews

Surfers Rescue 24/7: Evaluating the social impact and benefit of a rescue training program for surfers
Professor Robert Brander

8. What if I want to withdraw from the research study?

If you do consent to participate, you may withdraw at any time. You can do so by completing the 'Withdrawal of Consent Form' which is provided at the end of this document or you can ring the research team and tell them you no longer want to participate. Your decision not to participate or to withdraw from the study will not affect your relationship with UNSW, Surfing NSW, or Surfing New Zealand. If you decide to leave the research study, the researchers will not collect additional information from you. You can request that any identifiable information about you be withdrawn from the research project.

9. What if I have a complaint or any concerns about the research study?

If you have a complaint regarding any aspect of the study or the way it is being conducted, please contact the UNSW Human Ethics Coordinator:

Complaints Contact

Position	UNSW Human Research Ethics Coordinator
Telephone	+ 61 2 9385 6222
Email	humanethics@unsw.edu.au
HC Reference Number	HC220037

10. What should I do if I have further questions about my involvement in the research study?

The person you may need to contact will depend on the nature of your query. If you require further information regarding this study or if you have any problems which may be related to your involvement in the study, you can contact the following member/s of the research team:

Research Team Contact

Name	Robert Brander
Position	Professor
Telephone	0401 420 962
Email	rbrander@unsw.edu.au

Support Services Contact Details

If at any stage during the study, you become distressed or require additional support from someone not involved in the research please call:

Name/Organisation	Beyond Blue
Telephone	1300 22 4636 (Australia) 09 623 4812 (New Zealand)



PARTICIPANT INFORMATION STATEMENT AND CONSENT FORM

Surfer Rescue Interviews

Surfers Rescue 24/7: Evaluating the social impact and benefit of a rescue training program for surfers
Professor Robert Brander

Consent Form – Participant providing own consent

Declaration by the participant

- I understand I am being asked to provide consent to participate in this research study;
- I have read the Participant Information Sheet, or someone has read it to me in a language that I understand;
- I understand the purposes, study tasks and risks of the research described in the study;
- Recordings: I understand that the research team will audio record the interviews; I agree to be recorded for this purpose.
- I provide my consent for the information collected about me to be used for the purpose of this research study only.
- I have had an opportunity to ask questions and I am satisfied with the answers I have received;
- I freely agree to participate in this research study as described and understand that I am free to withdraw at any time during the study and withdrawal will not affect my relationship with any of the named organisations and/or research team members;
- I would like to receive a copy of the study results via email or post, I have provided my details below and ask that they be used for this purpose only;
- I understand that I will be given a signed copy of this document to keep.
- I understand that the results of the research will be made available on the beachsafetyresearch.com website.
- I would like to receive a copy of the study results via email or post, I have provided my details below and ask that they be used for this purpose only.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Participant Signature

Name of Participant (please print)	
Signature of Research Participant	
Date	

Declaration by Researcher*

- I have given a verbal explanation of the research study; its study activities and risks and I believe that the participant has understood that explanation.

Researcher Signature*

Name of Researcher (please print)	
Signature of Researcher	
Date	

***An appropriately qualified member of the research team must provide the explanation of, and information concerning the research study.**

Note: All parties signing the consent section must date their own signature.



PARTICIPANT INFORMATION STATEMENT AND CONSENT FORM

Surfer Rescue Interviews

Surfers Rescue 24/7: Evaluating the social impact and benefit of a rescue training program for surfers
Professor Robert Brander

Form for Withdrawal of Participation

I wish to **WITHDRAW** my consent to participate in this research study described above and understand that such withdrawal **WILL NOT** affect my relationship with The University of New South Wales, Surfing NSW, or Surfing New Zealand.

- I am withdrawing my consent and I would like any identifiable information collected about me which I have provided for the purpose of this research study withdrawn.
- I am withdrawing my consent to participate in further components of this research and provide my permission for the research team to retain and/or use information collected about me which I have provided for the purpose of this research.
- I am withdrawing my consent and I understand that any information already published and/or not linked to my identity cannot be withdrawn from the research.

Participant Name

Name of Participant (please type)	
Date	

The section for Withdrawal of Participation should be forwarded to:

CI Name	Robert Brander
Position	Professor
Telephone	0401 420 962
Email	rbrander@unsw.edu.au
Post	School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences, UNSW Sydney, Sydney NSW 2052