Tom Dawson is a Research Fellow researching coastal archaeology and the threats posed by coastal processes. He works closely with Historic Scotland to gather information on the scale of the problem around Scotland and has managed the recent programme of Coastal Zone Assessment Surveys. He has analysed results from previous surveys, developing a system to prioritise action at some of the most valuable, yet threatened sites. Assigning value can be problematic, and Tom has a strong interest in concepts of public value and the promotion of cultural heritage through community projects. He is currently managing the Scotland’s Coastal Heritage at Risk Project ([SCHARP](http://www.scharp.co.uk)), a groundbreaking approach to heritage management which is calling on citizen archaeologists to edit and update records on threatened sites using an interactive website and mobile technology. He has set up several web sites and has run a national photographic competition entitled [Capturing the Coastline](http://www.scapetrust.org/ctc). He also manages the award-winning [Shorewatch Project,](http://www.scapetrust.org/), which works with local communities to locate and record eroding archaeological sites. Tom has managed numerous survey projects and excavations, including [Unst](http://www.shorewatch.co.uk/unst) and [Bressay](http://www.shorewatch.co.uk/cruester) on Shetland, Baile Sear in the Western Isles and [Brora](http://www.shorewatch.co.uk/brora) in Sutherland). He has also explored novel ways of working with threatened archaeological sites, including relocating the eroding Bressay site to the local Heritage Centre. He is currently working with colleagues in Computer Science to bring the results of archaeological investigation to life by embedding them within 3D digital reconstructions

Tom is the Managing Director of [SCAPE](http://www.scapetrust.org/) (Scottish Archaeology and the Problem of Erosion); is a Commissioner sitting on the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland ([RCAHMS](http://www.rcahms.gov.uk/)); is a Trustee and Member of Council of the [Society of Antiquaries of Scotland](http://www.socantscot.org/); and a director of the [SCRAN](http://www.scran.ac.uk/) Trust.

