**Supplementary Materials for**

**“Social science for conservation in working landscapes and seascapes”**

**Interview Protocol**

**Name of Interviewee:**

**WLS Project and Location:**

**Date and Time:**

***Before beginning interview:***

1. *introduce self*
2. *read consent script*
3. *confirm oral consent*
4. *introduce each section.*

**Project background**

1. Before we start, can you tell me a little bit about your role and involvement with the project.
2. Can you start by just giving me a brief description of the overall (*insert name of the WLS project*)

**Social and environmental objectives**

1. What are the ecological or conservation objectives of (*insert name of the WLS project*)? For example, are these at the species, habitat, or ecosystem level?
2. What are the social objectives of (*insert name of the WLS project*)? Put another way, who does it seek to impact or benefit and how?

**Activities and outcomes**

1. What on-the-ground stewardship, management, or conservation activities are taken to achieve conservation objectives? Who are these activities being taken by?
2. What scientific projects and activities are undertaken in support of the conservation objectives?
3. What activities are taken to support the WLS aim to increase the application and uptake of science in decision-making and action-taking? (e.g., capacity development, community engagement)
4. What outcomes are these activities producing? What outcomes are they producing for the environment? What outcomes are they producing for people? How are they influencing decision-making?

**Strengths and barriers to success**

1. What are the bridges and barriers to the success of the overall (*insert name of the WLS project*)?
2. What are the bridges and barriers to the ability of science to inform decision-making and conservation actions in (*insert name of the WLS project*)?
3. What are the bridges and barriers to the success of the conservation initiative itself – put another way, to the ability of the conservation initiative to achieve desired environmental and social outcomes?

**Pertinent social issues and human dimensions topics**

1. Tell me a bit about the broader social context where this project is taking place. Who are the people in the region? What groups of stakeholders are involved in conservation? Which different stakeholder groups are impacted by conservation? What is the broader governance context? How does decision-making related to conservation currently occur in the area?
2. The term “human dimensions” is used to refer to all of the social, cultural, economic, and governance aspects of conservation. The social sciences can be applied to understand the human dimensions of conservation and environmental management. In your opinion, what are some of the key social (science) or human dimensions issues or topics that would be helpful to understand in order to: a) achieve the aims of the (*insert name of the WLS project*) and b) inform conservation decision-making and action-taking?

**Current and ongoing social science research initiatives**

1. What current social science research initiatives related to conservation are being conducted as part of (*insert name of the WLS project*)?
2. Are you aware of any relevant social science research initiatives related to conservation that are being conducted by others in the region?

**Social science knowledge gaps, needs and priorities**

1. What would you say are key social science or human dimensions knowledge gaps and needs?
2. Which of these knowledge gaps and needs would you say should be priorities for (*insert name of the WLS project*)?

**Capacity strengths and needs**

1. What would you say are the main capacities or strengths of (*insert name of the WLS project*) or the overall WLS program in terms of doing social science research? …in terms of integrating social science into decision-making?
2. What would you say are the main capacity weaknesses or needs for (*insert name of the WLS project*) or the overall WLS program in terms of doing social science research? …in terms of integrating social science into decision-making?