**Interview structure**

**Forest Change and wildlife conservation:**

**Insights from traditional knowledge holders in Ontario**

Interview #: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Gender (optional): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name: (optional): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Age class: Youth Adult Senior

**Part I – General knowledge:** **Perspectives on forest change**

1. What changes have you observed in the forests within your community over time?

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1. What do you believe are the main causes of these changes?

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1. How have these changes affected the health and biodiversity of forests in your area?

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1. How are the forest plants (/forest types) listed below described in traditional knowledge?

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**White spruce: spruce Fir:**

**Black spruce: Fir:**

**Balsam Fir:**

**Birch:**

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**Conifer:**

1. How does traditional knowledge describe the changes or transformation between the landcover types below?

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**Black spruce – Birch:**

**Softwood – Hardwood:**

**Balsam Fir – Black spruce:**

**Birch – Balsam Fir:**

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**Softwood - Mixed wood:**

**Hardwood - Mixed wood:**

**Part II – Impacts on wildlife conservation: caribou, moose, and deer**

1. What changes have you noticed in caribou, moose, and deer populations over the years?

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1. Which of these species (caribou, moose, and deer) do you feel are most affected by forest changes? Why?

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1. How have these changes impacted traditional hunting, fishing, or gathering practices?

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**Part III – Cultural and socio-economic implication**

1. How do forest and wildlife changes affect your community’s cultural practices and traditions?

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1. Are there any species or forested areas that hold particular cultural significance?

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1. What economic impacts has forest change had on your community?

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**Part IV – Management and future directions**

1. What conservation strategies or practices does your community use to protect forests and wildlife?

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1. How does your community contribute to managing caribou, moose, and deer conservation?

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1. How well do you think current forest management and conservation policies address the needs of wildlife and Indigenous communities?

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1. What barriers or challenges does your community face in influencing forest and wildlife policies?

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1. What changes would you like to see in forest and wildlife conservation policies?

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1. What do you think are the most critical steps for protecting forests and wildlife for future generations??

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**Part V – History of the Slate islands provincial park**

1. What do you know about the formation of the Slate islands provincial park?

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