Individual background

Please introduce yourself. Who are you and what do you do?

Who do you work for?

Where are you from?

Where do you live now?

How long have you been working on... or as...?

What is the nature of your training/background/experience?

How did you become interested in...?

Please describe in detail what you do as...

How often do you...?

Can you recall and tell us about the first time you...?

What draws you to ...?

What is the source of your concern about ...?

About place (including history)

If you were to describe ... to someone who has never been there, how would you describe it? We might find it necessary to use parts of our conversation as a voiceover to give context to images. In light of that, can you give us, to the best of your knowledge, some information about...? For example:

- where is ... located?
- how large is ...?
- what are its borders? What is around it?
- what is the typical climate?
- what are its main ecological features?
- what kind of animal wildlife is ... home to?
- what other kinds of species is it home to?
- who lives inside?
- who visits ...?
- how many people visit?
- what are the main activities that people do inside?
- why is ... worthy of being on the World Heritage list?
- how long has ... been on the World Heritage list? (or been a protected area)
- how did the World Heritage listing come about? Who was involved? Was there opposition? Were there challenges?

Can you tell us what you know about the history of human presence in ...?

What natural resources exist in...?

Can people hunt or fish in...?

Are any resources in ... used for medicinal purpose?

What kind of hobbies and sports are practiced in...?

Are you aware of any notable art that has been inspired by ...?

Is ... in any way significant to national or regional identity?

Are you aware of any founding myths of ...?

About experiences and practices (including sensations, skills, emotions)

What draws you to?

How does being in ... make you feel?

How does it feel different than being in a city?

What makes this place different and unique from other wild places?

Have your feelings about ... always been like this or have they changed over time?

Can you describe what you typically do in ...?

What is your motivation to ...?

How did you learn to ...?

Could you, or would you, live in ... full time if it were possible?

What is your attitude toward people who come here?

Do you prefer to come here alone or with others?

Who do you generally go to ... with?

Have you ever gone to ... alone? How was it different than going there with other people?

Would you consider what you do in ... a form of adventure?

What is the meaning of adventure?

Would you consider ... a last frontier? Why?

Do you ever feel healthier or rejuvenated after going to ...?

Have you ever felt scared or afraid?

Have you ever been in danger in ...?

In what ways do you manage risk?

Do you plan your activities in detail or do you leave space for improvisation?

What kind of gear do you carry with you when you go to ...?

Why do you think this kind of gear is necessary?

It is fun to ...? In what way is it fun?

Is it a challenge?

Do you get a sense of achievement or accomplishment from...? How so?

Do you learn from being in...? What kind of lessons do you learn?

Does it teach you about yourself, about the kind of person you are? How?

Is being in... for everybody? Who is it not for?

Do you think there are some people who are more hardcore than others about the way they...?

Do you think there are some more authentic and some less authentic ways to...?

Can you tell us a story about a particularly memorable encounter you had with wildlife? How did you feel?

Some people say that being in nature makes them feel closer to their spirituality or perhaps their creator. Do you feel similarly?

About nature and wildness (including politics, conflict, values)

Can you tell us what the word "wild" mean to you?

And what does the word "wilderness" mean to you?

Finally, what does the word "nature" mean to you?

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Some critics say that wilderness is a human invention. What do you think about that?

Have you ever been to a place that you consider to be truly wild? Where is that? Can you describe to us what makes it truly wild?

Is "wild" something that varies on a scale? What makes a place wilder than another?

Is ... a wild place?

Is it a wilderness?

Should people be kept outside of wilderness?

Should there be any signs of human presence in wild places?

How about trails, or roads?

Has any person or group ever been evicted from ...?

Is wilderness a recognized legal category in your country?

In your opinion, how do people from your country view wilderness and wild nature?

In your opinion, how would a wild place cease to be wild?

Is wildness of nature something we should value? Why?

Is it something we should protect? Why? How?

In your opinion, where is wild nature found in our planet?

Can wilderness be owned by private groups?

Does ... have economic value?

Whom does ... employ?

Who benefits, economically, or profits, from ...?

Do you think that at times wildness is a marketing scheme? Can you give us examples?

Do you think that certain ethnic groups of people in your country enjoy wild nature more than others? Why is that?

Do you think that women and men enjoy wild places the same? Why?

What are your feelings about the use of technology in wild places? Do you think certain

technologies simply do not belong in wilderness? Why?

How much wilderness is protected in your country?

What agencies are responsible for preserving wilderness in your country?

How is a place designated as wilderness legally in your country?

In your opinion, are these agencies doing a good job?

Who controls, protects, and enforces ... boundaries?

What kind of development and exploitation threats does face?

How are development and exploitation resisted?

Who funds conservation in...?

What kind of ecological change has ... endured?

How much change is acceptable?

What are your principles in managing...?

What are the key priorities in managing...?

What tools and regulations are in place to manage...?

How is degradation defined?

What are the carrying capacities of ...?

Does ... suffer from overcrowding? How?

What are the most threatening damaging activities in...?

How do you monitor degradation?

How do you monitor your management activities?

How is the public involved?

Is it possible for outsiders to influence management?

Are traditional or indigenous people consulted, involved, etc.?

Is their knowledge taken into account?

Do they benefit from...?

Is ... a fortress? How?

Are there people who are not content with the way ... is managed?

Are there problems within the organization that manages...?

Are there conflicting priorities?

Are there groups who benefit more than others about the way is managed?

How are rule-breakers dealt with?

What groups benefit more from tourism in...?

In what ways do they benefit?

Who are the typical tourists in....?

Who are the most influential tourist operators and owners? Are they local?

Why was ... included in the World Heritage list?

When did the WH inclusion happen?

Does the World Heritage designation of ... matter?

In what ways does it make a difference?

Who was responsible for making ... a World Heritage site?

Have there been changes in the way ... is managed after World Heritage designation?

Have there been more visitors at ... after the World Heritage designation?

Is anyone unsatisfied with ... being a World Heritage site?