

Appendix 5: Interview Guide

WHALE ECOSYSTEM SERVICES AND GOVERNANCE IN ARCTIC COASTAL COMMUNITIES

Purpose: to get stakeholder insights on local whale ecosystem services and their governance

Interviewers: Laura Malinauskaite and David Cook

Location and date: Húsavík, Iceland, Andenes, Norway, and Disko Bay, Greenland. June 2018 – September 2019

Interviewee:

1. Introduction (*introduce ourselves, ARCPATH project and purpose of the research*)

- Ethical issues: we will ensure your anonymity; the interview will be recorded.
- Introduction: say names and positions. We are a part of an Arctic-wide project called “ARCPATH: Arctic Climate Predictions - Pathways to Resilient, Sustainable Societies” that was developed in response to a Nordic Council of Ministers initiative “Responsible Development in the Arctic: Opportunities and Challenges”. The project involves partners from nine countries (Norway, Denmark, Finland, Sweden, Iceland, Russia, China, Canada and the U.S.) and twelve institutions. Some of the activities include sea ice and climate modelling and predictions as well as attempts to estimate what these mean for Arctic societies and sustainable development in the Arctic. Our work group is called “Climate, Socio-Ecological Systems, Cetaceans and Tourism”, and the main purpose of our research is to examine the benefits that societies get from marine mammals, how these benefits are changing with intensifying climate change and rapid economic development, especially tourism, how marine ecosystems are managed currently and how they could be managed sustainably in the future. This part of the project focuses on case studies in Iceland, Norway and Greenland.
- The purpose of this interview is to get your views on management of whales. There are no right or wrong answers in this interview – we would simply like to hear your point of view on the matter. The data will only be used for scientific research.
- Introduce whale ES: we focus our research on the concept of ecosystem services, which can be defined as the benefits that people draw from ecosystems. They can be direct (e.g. meat from whaling and income from whale-watching) and indirect (e.g. increased business revenues from whale-watching tourism), obvious (e.g. presence of wildlife) and less visible (e.g. nutrient regulation). It is good to have this concept in mind when answering the questions, but please do not get too distracted by it – management of whale resources ultimately translates into management of their ES.
- Introductory/warm-up questions:
 - Please state your position, organisation you are affiliated with, how long have you worked there and where you are located?
 - Please shortly describe if and how your work is related to whales?
Probe: work, studies, activism, love for animals, place of residence, etc.

2. Opening questions

- Please explain what you do in your current work. Does it relate to whales directly or indirectly and how?
- Introduce the stakeholder map – do you think we have placed your organisation correctly on it? If not, why? Is there anyone else/any organisation that should be added to the map? (Who else should we interview?)
- Referring to the concept of ES explained earlier, what benefits have humans derived from whales in your local community?
Probe: local biodiversity, existence value, economic gains from tourism, research and education, symbolic values, meat and raw materials from whaling, etc.

3. Key questions (*recent past, changes, current situation, future vision*)

- Do you think that you derive any benefits from whales personally, and if yes, what are they?
Probe: existence, bequest, non-use, cultural values, economic benefits.
- In your experience, has the way that people perceive whales in your community changed in the last couple of decades? If so, how? Has your perception changed over time? If yes, how and why?

Probe: rhetoric for/against protection against whaling, effects of whale-watching, idealising of whales in popular culture, cultural identity, etc.

- Have you noticed any major changes in the way that people do to benefit from whales in your community and in general in the last couple of decades? If so, what have been the main drivers?
Probe: provisional vs cultural ES; environmental movements, tourism, changing generational attitudes, lifestyle change, globalisation, changing ideologies and worldviews.
- Do you think these changes have been for better or for worse (in terms of social welfare of the residents of your community)? Explain in your own words.
Probe: better/worse for whom? depends on the point of view, interests, etc.
- How would you evaluate the present situation of whale populations in Norway (environmental sustainability), in general terms and/or compared to other countries?
Probe: whale stocks, health of ecosystems, wellbeing, better/worse than other whaling countries, improving, declining, etc.
- Looking at the stakeholder map, who do you think benefits the most economically (directly and indirectly) from the changes that you mentioned and who are losing out?
Probe: tourists/locals, whale-watching companies, tourism sector, government, businesses, municipalities, men/women, different employment sectors.
- Looking at the map, who do you think has the most/least influence over what is happening in whale governance in your community and country the moment? Who should have most influence, in your opinion? Sub-questions:
 - Who are the principal decision makers (formal)?
Probe: national government, municipality, businesses.
 - Who have the most non-regulatory influence (informal)? Explain why, how? *Probe: individuals, businesses, NGOs, media, activists, researchers, etc.*
 - Who are the most vulnerable to changing uses and governance of whales but have little influence? Explain why and how?
Probe: whaling companies, local communities, employees, different economic sectors, people that depend on whales for livelihoods, men/women, seasonal workers, etc.
- What role does your organisation (or you personally) play in the way whale resources are managed in your community?
Probe: research, awareness raising, policy making/implementation, lobbying, co-producing ES.
- Do you have any suggestions for improving the governance of whales and their resources? (How might you like to see it change and why?)
Probe: increased protection status, de-regulation, clear government guidelines, co-operation between sectors (whale-watching, shipping, whaling, fishing), marine protected areas, etc.
- If so, how could these changes be implemented? In your own words.
Probe: more or less stringent laws, public awareness, education, information campaigns, protests, more research, funding, international cooperation, etc.

4. Closing/wrapping up questions

- In your view, what are the biggest challenges and opportunities related whale governance in your community, country and in general today? How could they be tackled/seized?
- Would you like to add anything that we have not yet discussed? Any concluding remarks?
- Do you have any suggestions for us in terms of what we should look at when building a picture of whale governance in the Arctic? What else we should consider regarding management of whales, what is missing in stakeholder map, have we overlooked anything in our questions?