

**Participatory mapping of socio-ecological landscape values to identify
areas of conflict and collaboration**

INFORMATION SHEET

GU Ref No: 2025/028

**Who is conducting the
research**

Senior Investigators

Dr. Ali Chauvenet

Centre for Planetary Health and Food Security | School of
Environment and Science

a.chauvenet@griffith.edu.au

Dr. Johanna Nalau

Cities Research Institute (CRI) | School of Environment and
Science

j.nalau@griffith.edu.au

Research Team Member

Gemma Cobb B.Sc. (Hons)

Centre for Planetary Health and Food Security | School of
Environment and Science

(+61) 0432029986

gemma.cobb@griffithuni.edu.au

Why is the research being conducted?

In collaboration with Wildsight Golden, a local environmental not for profit, this research aims to build a better understanding of how local overlapping land use decisions and climate change may influence the maintenance of a healthy environment for humans and wildlife in the Golden area, British Columbia, Canada. The research focuses on compiling detailed baseline information on current land use activities in the CSRD Area A of the Upper Columbia Valley by employing a Participatory Action Research (PAR) framework to engage community members through surveys and explore landscape values held by residents. The overall aim is to support a more holistic understanding of landscape-society dynamics to facilitate well-informed decision making and more sustainable outcomes for the community and surrounding ecosystems.

The broad goal of this project is to promote social learning and set the stage for genuine collaboration on climate action and sustainable land use planning to support an increased understanding of the dynamics between wildlife habitat needs and human values and impacts. The aim is to develop the "big picture" story of the Golden and area landscape that can be shared with the community and all who have decision-making authority. The integration of ecological, social, cultural, and climate information into spatial models and the use of participatory approaches and effective communication of findings will facilitate well-informed decision making and more sustainable outcomes for the community and surrounding ecosystems.

What you will be asked to do

You will be asked to participate in an online web-based mapping exercise lasting approximately 10 minutes. In this exercise, you will interact with a digital map interface where you will be asked

to "drag" and "drop" various markers representing different landscape values (i.e., recreation, scenic, sustenance, biodiversity) and landscape use preferences (i.e., recreation, development, climate change planning) onto specific locations of your choice on the map. The answers will be recorded in a database for analysis.

The basis by which participants will be selected or screened

You will be selected based on their connection to and residence in the Golden, BC and surrounding Area A of the Columbia-Shuswap Regional District (CSRD). This includes individual general community members and local community groups and organizations, along with those working in local government, planning, policy, consulting, and non-profits.

Information for participants aged 16-17 years

We request that participants under 18 years of age discuss their participation with a parent or guardian before commencing the survey.

The expected benefits of the research

The research has potential for impact in academic, public policy, and practice arenas by providing a better understanding of local dynamics between wildlife habitat needs, social landscape values, and climate impacts in the area surrounding Golden, BC. The expected benefits include a contribution to developing a "big picture" story of the local landscape that can be shared with the community and all who have decision making authority. Additionally, the research has the potential to guide and generate further research opportunities to explore the themes, ideas and priorities identified that result from this research.

Your confidentiality

Unless you would like your participation to be acknowledged your identity will remain anonymous. The data collected through the mapping portal will be stored in de-identifiable form separately from list of participants who wish to enter the draw prize of a local gift card to ensure anonymity. Research findings will be reported in aggregate form. In written research outputs the level of identification is limited to the type of organization (e.g., local government, NGO, private sector etc.) and is not attributable to an individual. Before the mapping exercise you will be informed of the opportunity to have your participation acknowledged if you wish to take this opportunity. If you change your mind after the mapping exercise regarding whether you want your participation acknowledged or not, please contact the lead researcher, Gemma Cobb, and let her know.

Risks to you

There are no foreseeable physical, legal, or informational risks associated with your participation in the research project. There is a limited risk of a time inconvenience to participants such giving up 10 minutes of your time to participate in this research activity. To minimize this inconvenience the questionnaire will be available online for two months and can be accessed 24/7 and participants decide the time to allocate for the questionnaire according to their availability.

Your consent

What is Personal Information

Personal information is defined as information or an opinion, including information or an opinion forming part of a database, whether true or not, and whether recorded in a material form or not, about an individual whose identity is apparent, or can reasonably be ascertained, from the information or opinion. Personal Information can be almost any information that is associated with an identifiable living individual. It can include a name, address, date of birth, gender, correspondence, audio recordings, images, alpha-numerical identifiers, and combinations of these.

How are we going to use your Personal Information

The data that will be used for analysis in the mapping exercise will remain anonymous and de-identifiable, meaning that the data is collected in such a way that it cannot be known or ascertained who has participated. However, participants will be given the option to identify themselves if they wish to do so. Since this questionnaire will be incentivised with an entry into a draw prize (10 x \$50.00) for a gift certificate to a choice of a local business, identifiable data will be collected for those who wish to claim their incentive. At the end of the mapping exercise participants will be shown a link to a separate webpage where they can enter their contact information so that their identifiable data will not be linked in any way to the answers, they provide in the mapping exercise that will be used for analysis. E-research services via Griffith University will be used to store data for five years after last paper published.

Who are we going to give this Personal Information to

The personal information you share will only be accessible to the research team member, Gemma Cobb. If your incentive needs to be picked up in person, your contact information will be shared with research project partner, Wildsight Golden, only for logistical purposes and will not be connected to your answers in the questionnaire in anyway.

How will this Personal Information be stored

Storage of personal information will be stored in compliance with Griffith University's Research Ethics Manual and will be kept safely online on the Griffith University Research Storage platform (<https://research-storage.griffith.edu.au/>). For those who choose to identify themselves, the researchers will keep the information collected about you for the research unless you ask us to delete it from our records. For those who choose to remain anonymous, it will not be possible to remove your information post data collection. Participants are advised that the Griffith University email system and document management system involves the storage of emails/documents within the cloud (i.e., sometimes outside of Australia) and as a result personal information may be stored overseas. The University has entered arrangements which protect the privacy of this data, any data stored outside of Australia may be subject to compulsory access through process of law, under the relevant jurisdiction in which it is stored.

Your participation is voluntary

There is absolutely no obligation for you to participate in this research. If you agree to participate, you are free to withdraw from the research at any time during the mapping exercise process and any time before publication if you have chosen to identify yourself.

Questions / further information

You are welcome to contact the researchers listed above if you have any questions at any time during the research through the provided contact details. The researcher's welcome

feedback on research design, including suggestions for improvement to improve the reach and relevance of the research to different audiences.

The ethical conduct of this research

Griffith University conducts research in accordance with the *National Statement of Ethical Conduct in Research Involving Humans*. The Griffith University Human Research Ethics reference number for this research is GU Ref No: 2023/237. If you have any concerns or complaints regarding the ethical conduct of this research, you are welcome to contact the Manager, Research Ethics on +61 7 3735 4375 or research-ethics@griffith.edu.au.

Feedback to you

The results of the study will be reported in an academic thesis. A project summary report will be made available to all the involved participants via the Wildsight Golden website. Research results may also be disseminated via journal articles, conference presentations, blogs, podcasts, traditional and social media (e.g., Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook). The researcher will also collect your contact details if you indicate that you would like to receive any publications that are written as part of this project either by post or by email.

Privacy Statement

The conduct of this research involves the collection, access, storage and/or use of your identified personal information. As outlined elsewhere in this information sheet, your identified personal information may appear in the publications/reports arising from this research. This will only occur with your consent. Any additional personal information collected is confidential and will not be disclosed to third parties without your consent, except to meet government, legal or other regulatory authority requirements. A de-identified copy of this data may be used for other research purposes, including publishing openly (e.g. in an open access repository). However, your anonymity will at all times be safeguarded. For further information consult the University's Privacy Statement at

<https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.griffith.edu.au%2Fabout-griffith%2Fcorporate-governance%2Fplans-publications%2Fgriffith-university-privacy-statement&data=05%7C02%7Cgemma.cobb%40griffithuni.edu.au%7Cc957660c61c34e5836f208dd36aabbd8%7C5a7cc8aba4dc4f9bbf6066714049ad62%7C0%7C0%7C638726829134639075%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWUsIlYiOiwlLjAuMDAwMCIslIAiOiJXaW4zMiiSlkFOljoiTWFpbClldUljoyfQ%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=tj8h3q4aYK2QluAalrJq%2BBxq7RMq63qAtkQRfeKks4w%3D&reserved=0>.