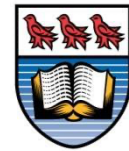


Supplementary Material 2A

Letter of Information for Participant Consent



**University
of Victoria**

You are invited to participate in a novel visualisation research project organised by Dr. Chris Bone (Associate Professor, Department of Geography, University of Victoria), Dr. Rob Newell (Assistant Professor, School of Environment and Sustainability, Royal Roads University), and Elvia Willyono (MA Student, Department of Geography, University of Victoria). The project is titled *Visualising the Outcome of Invasive Species Management Strategies*, and our hope is to work with you to create effective and engaging tools for park planning and management. Please review this letter, and keep a copy for your records.

Purpose and Objectives:

The main objective of the project will explore the use of realistic visualisations as tools for climate adaptation planning and environmental management in protected areas. We will also explore their use for other purposes related to protecting park values. We will focus on Mitlenatch Island, and the research aims to (1) work with First Nations communities, government, and NGOs to develop visualisations of climate adaptation and park planning priorities, and (2) engage these communities and groups on how to use and further develop these tools. The main outcomes of the project will be visualisation tools that have been developed based on planning priorities and local values for Mitlenatch Island, and these tools will be given to you and the other participants, with opportunities to receive training on how to use and further develop them.

Importance of the Research:

This research will provide valuable insight on developing innovative tools for supporting park management objectives and participatory approaches to park planning, particularly coastal and island parks. Coastal marine spaces are both valuable, providing essential resources for humans and the biosphere, and incredibly vulnerable, being sensitive to many local and global threats. There is a need for tools that can capture dynamic and complex coasts to diverse groups of people, and (thus) we are exploring geovisualisations for these purposes.

Participation:

People contacted for this study are those that have a relationship with and direct interest in the environmental management of Mitlenatch Island Park. We have invited First Nations communities, government (e.g., BC Parks), NGO, and community organisations that have a relationship with Mitlenatch Island (either through work or place-based values) to participate in this project.

Procedures:

The project activities consist of workshops (2 hours each) where participants will try out the visualisation tool and discuss its practical use for park planning and management. Some workshops will be conducted online using video conferencing software (i.e., Zoom) due to interested participants being located all over the island; however, we will conduct in-person workshops in the Boardroom of the We Wai Kai Treaty. Please be advised that Zoom is a company based in the U.S., and as such, there is a possibility

that information about you that is gathered for this research study may be accessed without your knowledge or consent by the U.S. government, in compliance with the U.S. Freedom Act.

Inconvenience:

Inconveniences are associated with the time that you will spend travelling to and participating in the activities, which could cause some inconvenience in a busy work/life schedule. However, you will be given options to attend the workshop online (via Zoom), as well as opportunities to suggest alternative meeting locations for in-person workshops to reduce inconvenience.

Compensation:

As a thank you, participants are offered a \$20 gift card from Tim Hortons, Starbucks, or Walmart.

Benefits:

As a participant, you will benefit from this research because it aims to develop visualisation tools that can support your work and goals around planning, management, and other priorities in Mitlenatch Island. The research will also benefit society and the state of knowledge in visualisation research, as it will lead to more effective tools for supporting critical work in climate adaptation planning and effective environmental management in parks. Furthermore, this research aims to transfer knowledge and skills around visualisation development; thus, it will produce invaluable insights on how to improve methods for putting research into practice.

Risks:

The research involves minimal risk, as the goal is to discuss and develop visualisation tools that can support climate adaptation and effective management in parks. The research questions are designed to focus on the potential of these tools, and they are not designed to solicit sensitive or controversial information. You may find some aspects of the visualisation challenging or difficult, which could result in some frustration. However, we would like to stress that these are opportunities for you to voice these difficulties so that we can improve the tool, and make it more user-friendly to people like you.

Withdrawal of Participation:

Participation in this project is entirely voluntary. You may withdraw at any time without explanation or consequence. You can request your comments/input to be removed from the research dataset. The only exception to this is when the results of the research have been submitted for publication; at this point, we would not be able to remove your comments from the study.

Following the workshops, those who contact the researcher with requests to withdraw will have their responses/input removed from the data. For the workshops, this will involve deleting comments made by a withdrawing participant from the transcript of the session, and removing relevant segments from the audio file using audio editing software. For interviews, this will involve deleting audio recordings and transcript files associated with a withdrawing participant's interview.

Anonymity and Confidentiality:

Focus group participants may be identified by fellow participants in the study and by researchers through audio data; however, we will publish results that allow participants to be as anonymous as possible, without using names. Confidentiality is limited by the fact that others might recognize you in a workshop, and/or you were referred to us by another community member (and thus they know that you are participating in the study).

Dissemination of Results

Research results will be used for analysis and publication academic articles and conferences. In addition, outcomes from the research will be summarised in brief reports, which we will distribute to participants,

and after participants have the chance to review and comment on the reports, they will be made publicly available online through the Principal Investigator's website (<https://www.surreallab.org/>).

Disposal of Data:

All data will be storage on University of Victoria servers, using their SharePoint-based system. The data will be accessible only by the researchers through a password-protected folder in this system. When downloading and analysing data on work computers, the data will be protected by storing it in encrypted, password-protected folders.

Contacts:

Questions and concerns can be directed to Chris Bone at chrisbone@uvic.ca or 250-472-5620. In addition, you may verify the ethical review of this study or raise concerns with the Human Research Ethics Office at University of Victoria by contacting (250) 472-4545 or ethics@uvic.ca.

Consent:

Your signature below indicates that you understand the above conditions of participation in this study and that you have had the opportunity to have your questions answered by the researchers, and that you consent to participate in this research project.

Name of Participant

Signature

Date