

CONSERVATION EASEMENT INTERVIEW SCRIPT

Basics about Your Land and the Conservation Easement

1. In what year did you acquire your land? _____

2. How did you acquire your land (inherit? Purchase?)

INHERIT PURCHASE OTHER: _____

3. How important are the following possible reasons for owning woodlands to you?

	Unimportant					Important	
	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Current home site	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Firewood for personal use	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Future home site	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Hunting	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Legacy for family	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Long-term income potential	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Maintain land in natural condition	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Non-timber products (excluding wildlife)	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Wildlife and/or wildlife habitat (excluding hunting)	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Protection and/or maintenance of biological diversity	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Protection and/or maintenance of ecological integrity	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Recreation (excluding hunting)	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Short-term income potential	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Timber production	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Other:	-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3

4. Please briefly describe the circumstances that led you to consider a conservation easement.

5. At the time of the conservation easement, was there a written management plan for the property?

YES

NO

6. Date of the conservation easement: _____

Assessing the Conservation Easement

7. How would you rate the outcome?

-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Overall Negative						Overall Positive
-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Ecologically bad						Ecologically good
-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Not worth the effort						Worth the effort
-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Would NOT recommend to others						Would recommend to others

8. How would you describe the process?

-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Difficult						Easy
-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Negative						Positive
-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Expensive						Inexpensive

9. If I had to do it over again...

I would do it exactly the same.

I would do it mostly the same.

I would do it differently.

I would not do it again.

} Please explain.

Identifying Those Who Helped

10. Please list all the individuals and a brief description of their connection to you or the conservation easement (e.g., friend, family, acquaintance, land trust staff, neighbor, lawyer, town clerk, etc.) that offered advice (that you may or may not have used).

a	
b	
c	
d	
e	

11. Please list all the individuals and a brief description of their connection to you or the conservation easement who assisted you in completing the conservation easement.

a	
b	
c	
d	
e	

12. Please list all the individuals and a brief description of their connection to you or the conservation easement with whom you had a conversation that led you to new information or individual that affected the outcome of the easement. Hence, while not a direct influence, this individual was indirectly important to your decision-making.

a	
b	
c	
d	
e	

13. Did you attend any workshops or other educational events that informed your decision-making? [please describe each]

a	
b	
c	
d	
e	

14. Did you read any materials (internet sites, books, publications) that informed your decision-making? [please describe each]

a	
b	
c	
d	
e	

15. After this process, review the lists of names and identify the 5-8 most important or influential individuals. Please note that importance may not be limited to knowledge or actual effort. It could reflect someone's "moral support" that or assistance in helping you "think through" the process. Place an "x" beside this individual's name in the questions above. Also identify if an event or materials was particularly important.

16. For each important human source, please complete a VIP form. When completed, please rank the VIPs in terms of importance to outcome. If the interviewee did not identify the representative of the easement holder as an important or influential source, please complete a form for that individual as well.

Demographics

17. Gender

FEMALE

MALE

17. In what year were you born? _____

18. How far from the harvest site do you live (that is, permanent residence)?

- On or beside it
- 0-10 miles away
- 11-25 miles away
- 26-50 miles away
- 51-100 miles away
- more than 100 miles away

19. Whether you live on, beside, near, or far from your property, how often do you spend time in your woodlands for any reason. Please choose the one that best describes your experience over the course of an entire year.

- Once or more per week
- Once or twice per month
- Once or twice every 3 months
- Once or twice per year
- Less than once per year

20. What is the highest grade or year of school you have completed?

- Grade 11 or less
- High school graduate or GED
- Some college
- College graduate
- Graduate or professional school

21. What was your total household income in 2007, before taxes and from all sources?

- Less than \$25,000
- \$25,000 - \$49,999
- \$50,000 - \$74,999
- \$75,000 - \$99,999
- \$100,000 - \$149,999
- \$150,000 or more

22. What is/was your primary profession? If retired, please denote.

_____ RETIRED: YES NO

VIP INTERVIEW SCRIPT

VIP Name/ID: _____ Ranking: _____

1. Please rate this individual contribution to your decision-making along the following dimensions.

EXPERTISE						
-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Low						High
TRUST						
-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Trustworthy						Not trustworthy
ACCESSIBILITY						
-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Difficult						Easy
INFORMATION QUALITY						
-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Low						High
COST (not just monetary)						
-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Expensive						Free
SHARED VALUES						
-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Dissimilar						Similar
OVERALL ASSESSMENT						
-3	-2	-1	0	1	2	3
Negative						Positive

2. Is this individual a relative?

YES NO

3. Would you consider this individual a close friend?

YES NO

4. Do you seek input from this individual on a regular basis?

YES NO

5. To your knowledge, does this individual own forestland?

YES NO

If YES, please identify the location: _____

6. Is this individual a neighbor?

YES NO

If NO, is this individual a "local" (that is, lives close by or in the same town)?

YES NO

7. Is this individual a land conservation or protection professional?

YES NO

8. Is this individual a logger?

YES NO

9. If this individual was involved in the conservation easement process, please describe their role. Please note if you had a specific business relationship to them (e.g., representative of land trust, my lawyer, the town clerk, etc.).

10. Anything else to know about this individual?