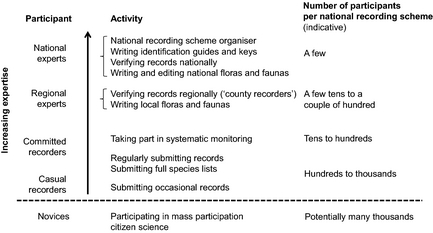
*Existing Recorder Interview Topic Guide*

One of the aims of DECIDE is to generate data which shows where gaps in records are at a finer scale than is currently possible, and use this to better target future recording. In this interview we want to understand your ‘user experience journey’ or your experience of collecting records. We are particularly interested in what influences the decisions that you make relating to what and how you record. We’re also interested in knowing about the points at which you interact with others and how this works.

***Section one: Some initial information to base the rest of the interview on***

1. How long have you been recording?
2. Based on the figure below, what kind of recorder do you see yourself as?
   1. Have you been another type of recorder in the past (10 years?)?



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1. What do you collect records on?

* A single species
* A group of species
* Multiple species groups

1. Do you collect records for:

* your own use
* for professional purposes
* for a systematic or structured recording scheme – ask to describe e.g. local or national; species group
* Atlas projects
* Causal/ad hoc recording

1. If you collect records for a recording scheme, what do you like or dislike about it? [Repeat if multiple recording schemes]
2. If you don’t collect records for structured recording schemes, why not?
3. Where do you receive information about recording from?

* Recording schemes
* Records centres
* Societies
* Friends
* Others

1. Where do you receive support for recording from?
   1. For help with identification?
   2. For technical help?
   3. Do you have a mentor?

***Section two: Beginning to collect environmental data***

1. How did you start species recording?
   1. Why and how did you go from being interested in a species/group of species/habitat etc. to recording data on that?
   2. Has what you collect data on changed over time? If so, what prompted these changes?
2. What did you hope to achieve by recording? Has this changed over time?

* For yourself
* For the species
* For an organisation
* For science
* For the environment
* Anything else?

1. What motivates you to carry on recording?

***Section three: Collecting records***

In this next section, we’re going to talk through how you go about collecting records. If you collect records for structured recording schemes, we’ll concentrate on them.

1. What comes first when you are recording?

* Choosing a location
* Choosing a species/species group
* Recording scheme
* Something else

1. How do you choose which species to record?
   1. Do you make a full list or single, incidental observations? Why?
   2. Would you be interested in recording something different if someone asked you to?
2. How do you choose where to record?
   1. Would you be interested in recording somewhere else or at a different time if someone asked you to?
   2. What are the barriers to going to new places?
   3. How far/how long are you willing to travel to a site? Does this vary according to how likely you are to find what you are looking for?
3. If you were to be asked to record somewhere or something different, who (which organisation/individual) would you be most receptive to messages from asking for different ways of recording?
4. If you take part in a structured/systematic recording scheme how do you receive information about what and where to record?
   1. Can you choose how to receive that information?
   2. Would you prefer to receive information in a different way?
5. When you go recording, do you mostly go alone, or with someone else?
6. What equipment do you take with you?
7. How do you make records in the field?
   1. Do you use a particular software or system, a field notepad?
   2. Would you be receptive to making records in a different way?
8. How do you feel when you find what you want to record?
9. How do you feel if you don’t find what you are looking for?
   1. Would making records of absence change how you feel? Would you be willing to record absences?

***Section 4: Processing and submitting records***

1. What happens once you have made an observation? Could you tell us about the steps that you go through in order to submit a record?
2. How long does it typically take between collecting a record and submitting it?
3. How do you go about submitting a record?
   1. What form do you submit it in?
   2. Would you be receptive to submitting records in another way?
4. What feedback do you get once you have submitted a record?
   1. What form is this feedback in? Would you prefer feedback in another form?
   2. Is there feedback that you don’t currently get, that you would like?

***Section 5: Using data***

1. Do you use the data that you collect for your own purposes?
2. How do you use this data?
3. Do you use data collected by others?
4. What purposes do you think the data you submit is used for?
   1. By the organisation you submit the records to?
   2. By other third party organisations?
5. What would you like other people to be able to use your data for?
   1. Are there limits to what you are happy with your data being used for?
   2. Are there certain things you would not like your data to be used for?
6. Would you be happy with your records being used to model or predict the likely presence or absence of species?

***Section 6: Wrap up***

1. Is there anything else you would like to tell us about your recording activities?
2. The next stage of our project which involves designing with recorders an app and web platform for guiding people in the places, times and species they record. Would you be willing to be involved in this?