

Potential Effects of Proposed Power Plants on Tourism in Skagafjörður, Iceland



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The cover picture is of Austurdalur. Credit: Viking Rafting

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Photograph 2: Horse riding in Austurdalur. Credit: Evelyn Ýr Kuhne

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1.0 Introduction and Background

The report informs part of the third phase of the Icelandic government's project called The Master Plan for Nature Protection and Energy Utilization. The government project started in 1999, led by the Ministry of Industry, Energy and Tourism in co-operation with the Ministry for the Environment. It was initially called The Master Plan for Geothermal and Hydropower Development. Phase 1 of the project ran from 1999 to 2003 and phase 2 from 2004 to 2010 (Sæþórsdóttir and Ólafsson 2010a: 334).

In this third phase, The National Energy Authority (Orkustofnun) introduced 83 options for generating power in Iceland. The steering committee for the Master Plan prioritized evaluation and ranking of 26 options. Two of the 26 are wind turbines and the remaining 24 are either hydro or geothermal power plants (Verkefnisstjórn 3. áfanga, 2016).

Both tourism and power generation are very important for the Icelandic economy. As Iceland increasingly engages with power intensive industry, such as alumina smelters, the demand for electricity grows. Foreign tourist numbers are also rapidly increasing in Iceland (Óladóttir 2015) and the natural features exploited for power generation are also often the features the tourists come to see. The value of natural places as sites for recreation for Icelanders is also important.

For over forty years the potential for the generation of hydroelectric power from the Austari (east) and Vestari (west) Jökulsá rivers in Skagafjörður has been investigated (Morgunblaðið 1975). The earliest proposal included construction of a power plant at Villinganes, north of where the east and west glacial rivers converge (Morgunblaðið 1975, Photograph 4). The potential impacts of this plant on tourism in the area were reported on by Rögnvaldsson in 2000. Currently, three proposals, at two locations in Austurdalur (Villinganes and Skatastaðir), are under consideration in the third phase of the Master Plan:

1. Villinganes Power Plant (R3108A Villinganesvirkjun)
2. Skatastaðir Power Plant C (R3107C Skatastaðavirkjun C)
3. Skatastaðir Power Plant D (Villinganes + Plant C) (R3107D Skatastaðavirkjun D)

The tourism sector in Skagafjörður is developing rapidly and the value of tourism in the region is high. A study by Sæþórsdóttir and Ólafsson (2010a) gave Skagafjarðardalur a tourism value of 7.80 out of 10, behind top ranking Jökulsárgljúfur (9.60) and ahead of lowest ranking Auðkúluheiði (4.52). The Icelandic Tourist Board reports an approximately 20% annual increase in number of foreign visitors entering the country over the last five years (Óladóttir 2015) and

records from tourism businesses in Skagafjörður show an increase in visitor numbers during that time (Byggðasafn Skagfirðinga 2010; Byggðasafn Skagfirðinga 2015). Forty one tourism businesses were registered in Skagafjörður in 2012 (Ferðamálastofa 2012) and by 2015 this had more than doubled to 99 (Arinbjarnarson 2015). In addition, all of the tourism operators interviewed in this study expressed a certainty of increased number of tourists both at their business and in the area.

The region in which the power plants are proposed is important for different types of tourism activities; including rafting, horse riding, hiking and jeep tours. Half day rafting tours currently make use of both the East and West rivers, with longer (three day) tours starting higher up the valley (Austurdalur) in the East River. Road connection to Sprengisandsleið is through Vesturdalur and to Kjalvegur is through Mælifellsdalur and Gilhagadalur. Varmahlíð is the town closest to the proposal sites.

One hydroelectric power station currently exists on the north western edge of the highlands near the end of the Kjalvegur Mountain Road in the Blöndudalur Valley, 40km by road from Varmahlíð. Blönduvirkjun commenced operation in 1991 and includes an underground station, a 56km² reservoir, dams and power lines.

The aim of this research is to understand the potential impacts of the three power plants, Villinganes Power Plant, Skatastaðir Power Plant C and Skatastaðir Power Plant D, on tourism and recreation in the region. To do this we investigated what type of tourism exists in the area, why travellers visit the area, and the attitudes of travellers and tourism operators toward the power plant proposals.

The project was funded by the Icelandic Ministry for the Environment and Natural Resources and conducted by researchers from the Department of Rural Tourism at Hólar University College as part of a wider project managed by the University of Iceland.



Photograph 4: Convergence of East and West Glacial Rivers, Austurdalur. Credit: Viking Rafting

2.0 Methods

Data were collected during the second half of 2015 through questionnaires with tourists and interviews with tour operators. This provided information about the status of tourism in the potentially affected area and, importantly, what factors attract tourists to the region.

As researchers began data collection for this study, news about local municipality leaders signing a declaration of intent and a cooperation agreement for an alumina smelter in Skagatrönd (at Hafursstaðir in Skagabyggð) aired on national television and radio (Arnarsdóttir 2015). The first four interviews were conducted in the three days before this announcement, and three on the day after it. Distribution of questionnaires also commenced the day after. Researchers did not raise the topic of the smelter in the interviews or when discussing the three power plant proposals relevant to this study with questionnaire or interview respondents. However, the timing of this announcement and our study commencing was considered by some informants to be more than a coincidence. Consequently, we lost the trust of being neutral researchers in the eyes of some informants. This no doubt influenced our results and how much some people were willing to tell us, but is something over which we had no control.

2.1 The questionnaire

The questionnaire contained 26 questions and was available for completion in four languages: Icelandic (Appendix A), English (Appendix B), French (Appendix C) and German (Appendix D). Questionnaires were distributed during July 2015 at locations in Skagafjörður near the proposed power plant sites and also at local tourism businesses. Simultaneous, a similar questionnaire was distributed at five other regions in Iceland during the summer of 2015. The findings from the other regions are not reported on here. The locations in Skagafjörður were (n = the number of respondents at each site):

- A hotel in Varmahlíð (n24)
- The N1 in Varmahlíð (n2)
- A mixed activity (mainly horse riding) tourism business 1 km south of Varmahlíð (n8)
- A horse riding business 5 km north of Varmahlíð (n12)
- A mixed activity (mainly rafting) tourism business 11 km south of Varmahlíð (n36)
- A guesthouse 11 km south of Varmahlíð (n16)
- A camping ground 11 km south of Varmahlíð (n8)
- A rafting business 15 km south of Varmahlíð (n70)

- A horse riding business 20 km south of Varmahlíð (n=33)
- At Hildarsel hut in Austurdalur (n=17)

Many of these locations were places travellers returned to after taking part in activities in the region including rafting, horse riding, hiking and angling trips. 223 valid responses were collected.

The researchers explained the purpose of the study to the respondents. This included showing respondents a map of the area (Appendix E and F), with either Icelandic or English text, and explaining details of the three power plant proposals. The researchers stayed with the respondents while the questionnaire was completed and collected it immediately afterwards.

Table 1, below, lists the six business types included in the questionnaire data collection, and the number collected in each of the four language choices. The largest number of responses was gathered from visitors at rafting (31.4%) and horse riding (23.8%) businesses. Guests at accommodation facilities (20.2%) and hiking in the area (7.6%) were also surveyed. English was the most common language chosen to fill out the questionnaire (44.8%), followed by German (31.4%), Icelandic (19.3%) and French (4.5%).

Table 1: Origin of questionnaire data – business type and language

	Icelandic	English	French	German	Total
Store (N1)	2				2
Accommodation (Hotel/Guesthouse/Camp ground)	12	12	1	20	45
Rafting business	6	48	4	12	70
Horse riding businesses		16		37	53
Mixed tourism business (includes accommodation, rafting, angling but not horse riding)	6	24	5	1	36
Hikers at a hut in Austurdalur	17				17
Total	43	100	10	70	223

When considering these results it is important to note that only 17 of the 223 questionnaires were completed at a site where the power stations or reservoirs would be constructed (a hut in Austurdalur). Visitor numbers to the large inland area in which the three proposals are situated are widely dispersed, compared with the concentration of visitors found in more well-known tourist destination in the south of Iceland for example. This is in part due to limited accessibility (which is an attraction in itself, as indicated in the results below).

An exception to this is the Laugarfell mountain cabins beside the potential Bugslón reservoir (see maps in Appendix E and F) that receive visitors traveling by jeeps and bikes, but also hikers and horse riders, and will be affected by the reservoir. Data from visitors at these cabins would have been a useful addition to the report, but to collect this was beyond the scope of the project budget.

Having researchers wait at sites in Austurdalur for visitors to arrive is unlikely to have provided a large enough questionnaire response rate in the time frame available for this method of data collection. Instead, the decision was made to target visitors who had been into the areas (such as those on three day rafting tours or long horse riding tours) as much as possible.

Consequently, most of the respondents had been into Austurdalur (approximately 80%). For those who hadn't, such as those surveyed at a hotel in Varmahlið, their opinions were then based on information provided by the researchers about the power plant projects and not based on any first hand experience of the areas which would be affected by the power plants. This does not diminish the validity of the responses. Knowing opinions of these visitors and whether the power plants would influence their decision to visit the wider area is very relevant to the study.

Results were compiled using version 22 of the IBM Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS). Figures were made using Microsoft Excel for Mac 2011 version 14.6.0.

Although 223 valid questionnaires were collected, on a small number of occasions the respondent did not answer all 26 questions. Therefore, the percentages presented in these results are based on the number of respondents who completed each of the individual questions.

2.2 The Interviews

Interviews with 20 tourism operators were conducted between July and November 2015. Interviewees were purposefully chosen. They included operators with businesses closest to the proposed power plant sites, those expected to be most affected (such as rafting, hiking and horse tour operators) as well as other prominent businesses in the Skagafjörður region.

Consequently, 14 of the 20 tourism operators run their businesses, or organize tours near the rivers or the proposed sites. Of the remaining six operators, three run their businesses a short distance north of Varmahlíð and three are based further north in Skagafjörður.

An interview schedule was designed before the interviewing commenced. It was used as a guide to ensure all interviewees were asked the same questions (Appendix G and H). For each interview, the interviewer travelled to the business of the tourism operator at a day and time that was convenient to them. The interviewees were given a letter of consent (Appendix I and J), which they signed before the interview took place. The interviews were recorded on a mobile phone and on a recorder, and then transcribed.

Five of the interviews were conducted in English, one was conducted in both English and Icelandic and the remaining 14 were conducted in Icelandic. The interview texts were transcribed in the language in which they were recorded and the Icelandic texts were then translated into English for the purpose of comparative analysis.



Photograph 5: Austurdalur. Credit: Evelyn Ýr Kuhne

3.0 Results

In this section, results from first the questionnaires and then the interviews are presented and discussed.

3.1 Results from the Questionnaires

Of the 223 respondents, 58% were female and 42% were male (Figure 1). The slightly higher percentage of females may be attributed to horse riding being a major attraction in the area, and the majority of travellers who go horse riding are female.

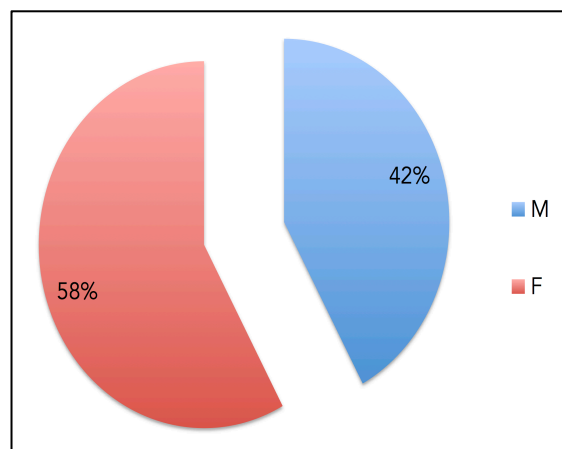


Figure 1: Distribution of gender

Ages of respondents ranged from 14 to 81. The age bracket 25 to 40 contained the most responses (33%) followed by over 55 (27%) and 41-55 (23%) (Figure 2). The average age was 42 and the median 41, with a standard deviation of 17.

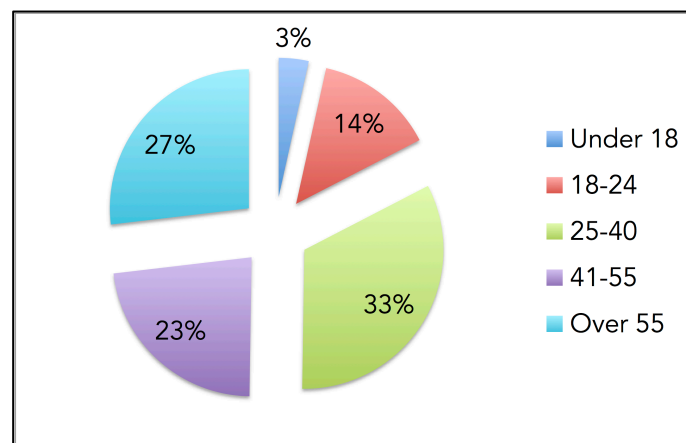


Figure 2: Age of respondents

Just over half the respondents (54%) originated from Europe. Origin of the other half was divided amongst Iceland (18%), other Nordic countries (12%), North America (11%) and the rest of the world (5%) (Figure 3).

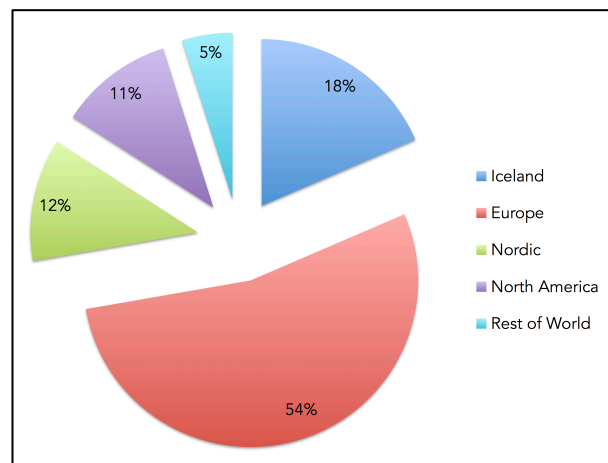


Figure 3: Nationality of respondents

Many non-Icelandic visitors found open-ended questions asking where they were staying difficult to answer due to their lack of knowledge of place names. When their identified locations are grouped according to region, it can be seen that 45% had stayed the night before answering the questionnaire in Skagafjörður and 63% would be staying in Skagafjörður on the night they completed the questionnaire (Figure 4). Where questionnaires were conducted at accommodation facilities (20.2%, n=45), the respondents were usually staying there for at least one night.

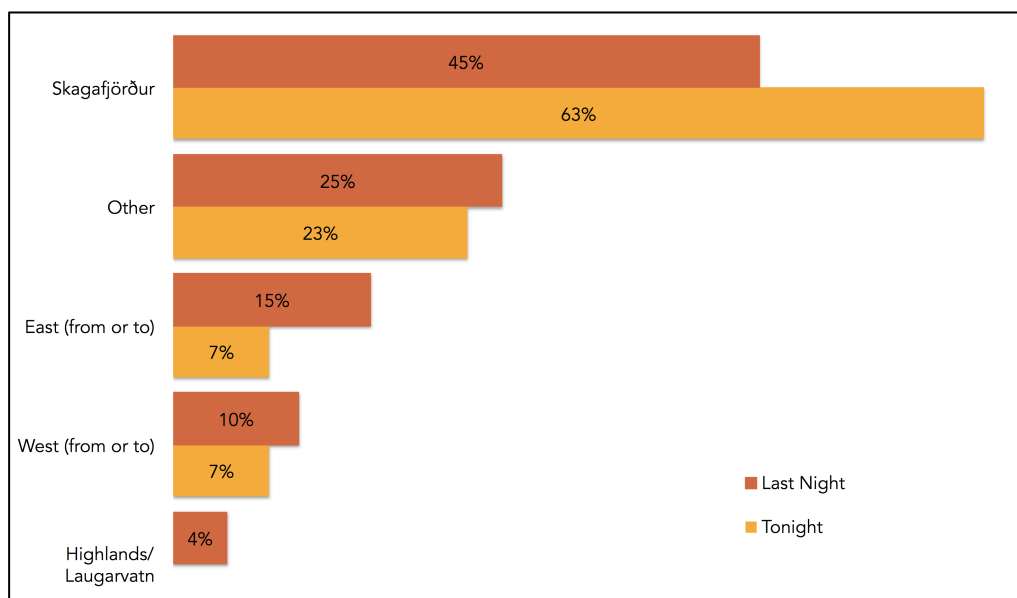


Figure 4: Location of overnight stays

Most of the respondents were travelling with family members or friends (73%). 17% were on organised tours. Least common was travelling alone (6%) or with colleagues (3%) (Figure 5).

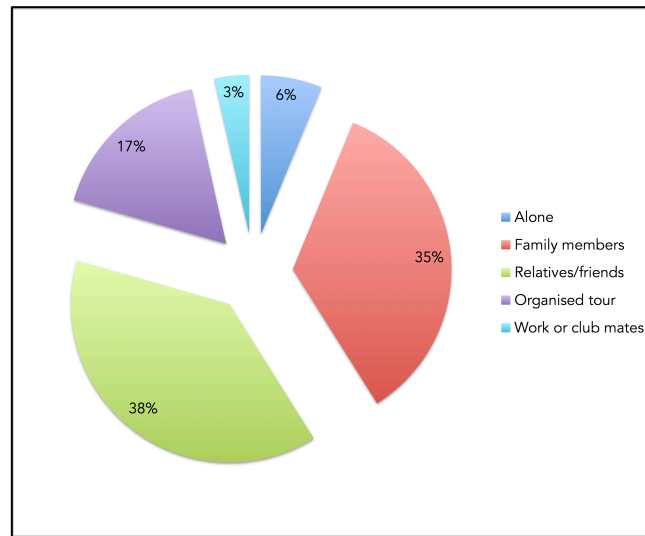


Figure 5: Travel companions

Of the 54% of respondents travelling by car, 22% were in private cars (therefore likely to be Icelandic) and 32% in rental cars (therefore likely to originate from another country). 21% were travelling by bus, either by coach in an organized group or by the national bus company Straeto. Some of the visitors were on horse riding tours or hiking in the area at the time they completed the questionnaires, which explains the responses of 16% travelling by horse and 8% on foot. 1% travelled by bicycle (Figure 6).

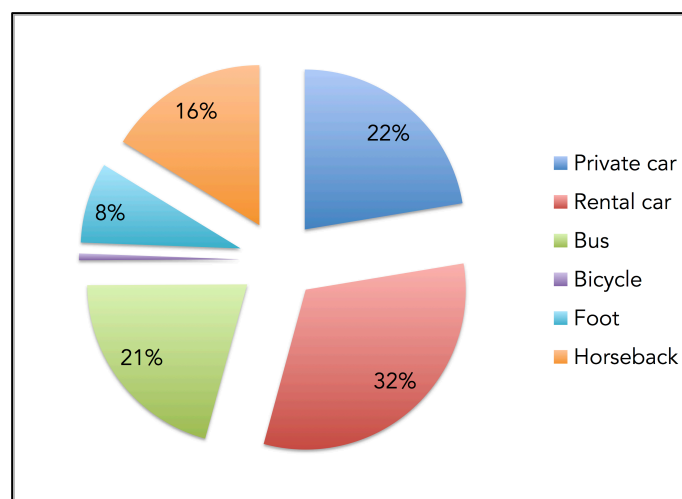


Figure 6: Mode of transport

The most commonly represented occupation of respondents was professional, followed by students and those in managerial/clerical or service positions. Working at home and unskilled were the lowest represented occupations (Figure 7).

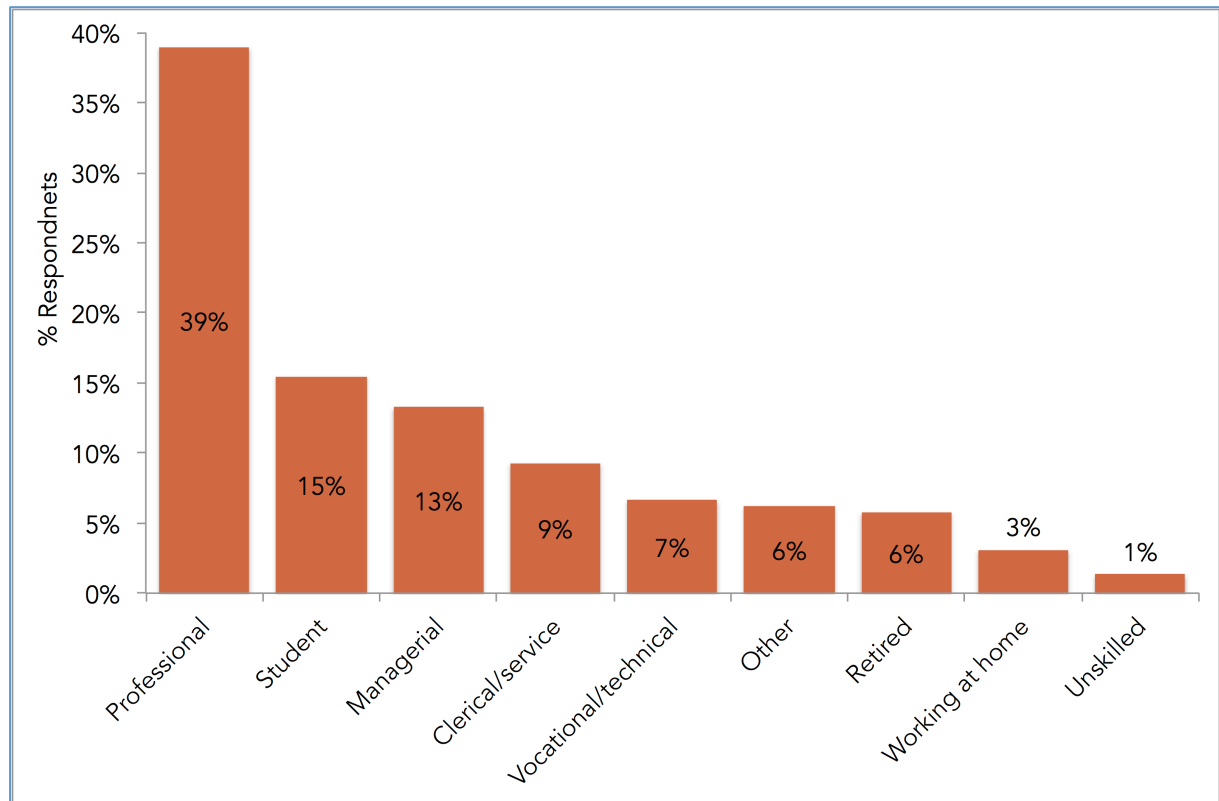


Figure 7: Occupation of respondents

The demographic data presented in Figures 1 to 7 creates a profile of the ‘average’ visitor to the area most likely to be a professional, 41 year old female from Europe, travelling in a rental car with friends or family and staying overnight in the local area.

Expressing opinion on a five point Likert scale, most respondents agreed, or strongly agreed, that four words were highly favored for describing the area: natural (97%), beautiful (97%), quiet (96%) and impressive (95%). Opinion was more divided about the word “accessible”, though 77% still agreed, or strongly agreed, that it was an appropriate descriptor for the area (Figure 8).

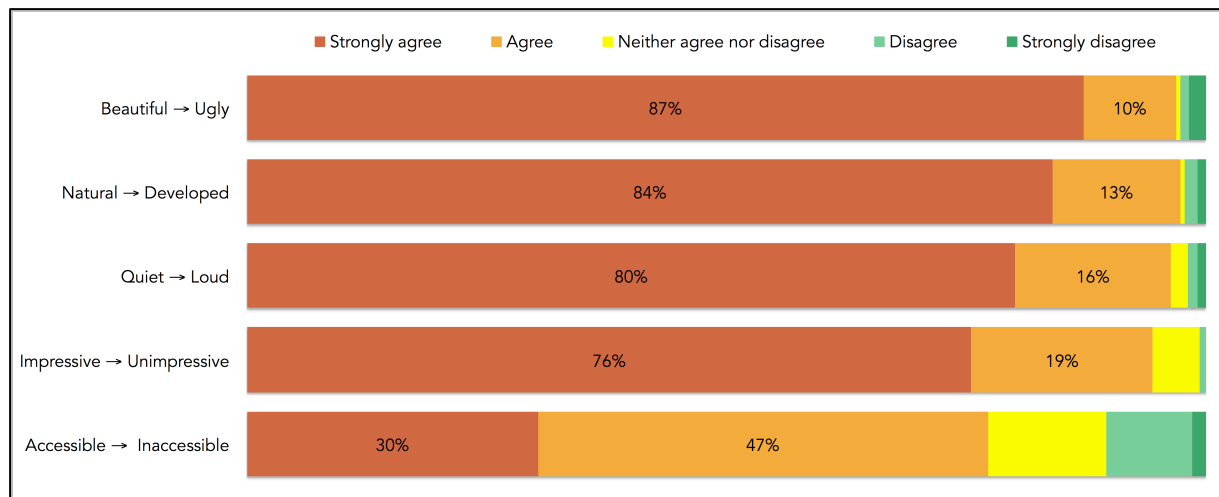


Figure 8: How descriptive do you find the following words for this area?

An open-ended question allowed respondents to describe in their own words what drew them to the region. Frequently occurring in the quotes are words related to the natural state of the area: it being “untouched” and “undeveloped”. The rivers are also frequently mentioned:

“Un-changed, natural, unspoilt and untouched by human activity”

“The untouched nature, wilderness + natural beauty”

“The beautiful nature and that it's that little developed”

“nature, nature, nature”

“The nature + River”

“Landscape, nature

“The untouched nature”

“The untouched nature and level 4 waters”

“The natural beauty and the remoteness of the river/area”

“Pristine natural beauty”

“The emptiness and the space”

“The large, untouched flowing rivers”

Respondents reported extremely high levels of satisfaction with their experience of tourism in the area. 92% were satisfied, or very satisfied, with the nature in the area and 91% were satisfied, or very satisfied, with their stay in the area (Figure 9).

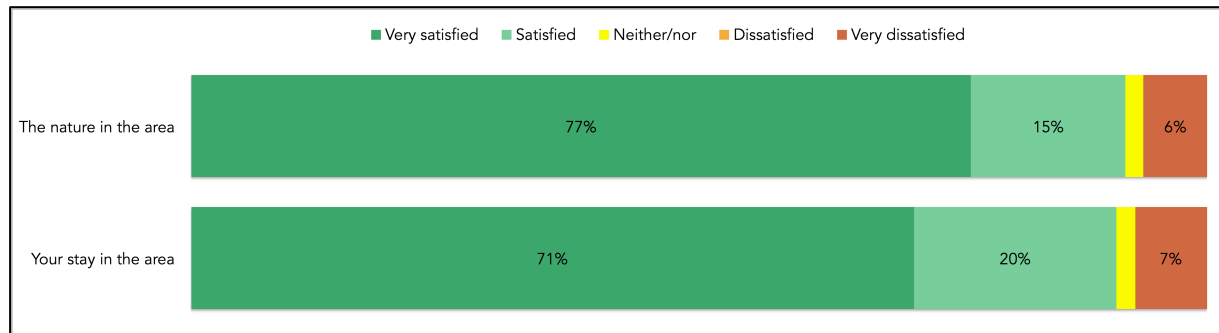


Figure 9: Satisfaction with nature and stay in the area

The most popular visitor activity in the area was bathing in a natural hot spring (n123), which respondents may have also chosen to indicate they had been, or intended to go, to a swimming pool. Rafting (n117), walking (n115), horse riding (n110) and viewing geological phenomenon (n109) were also very popular activities (Figure 10). For the 98 respondents who included the time they spent walking in the area, their average time was 11.7 hours and the median time was 4.0 hours, with a standard deviation of 19.5 hours.

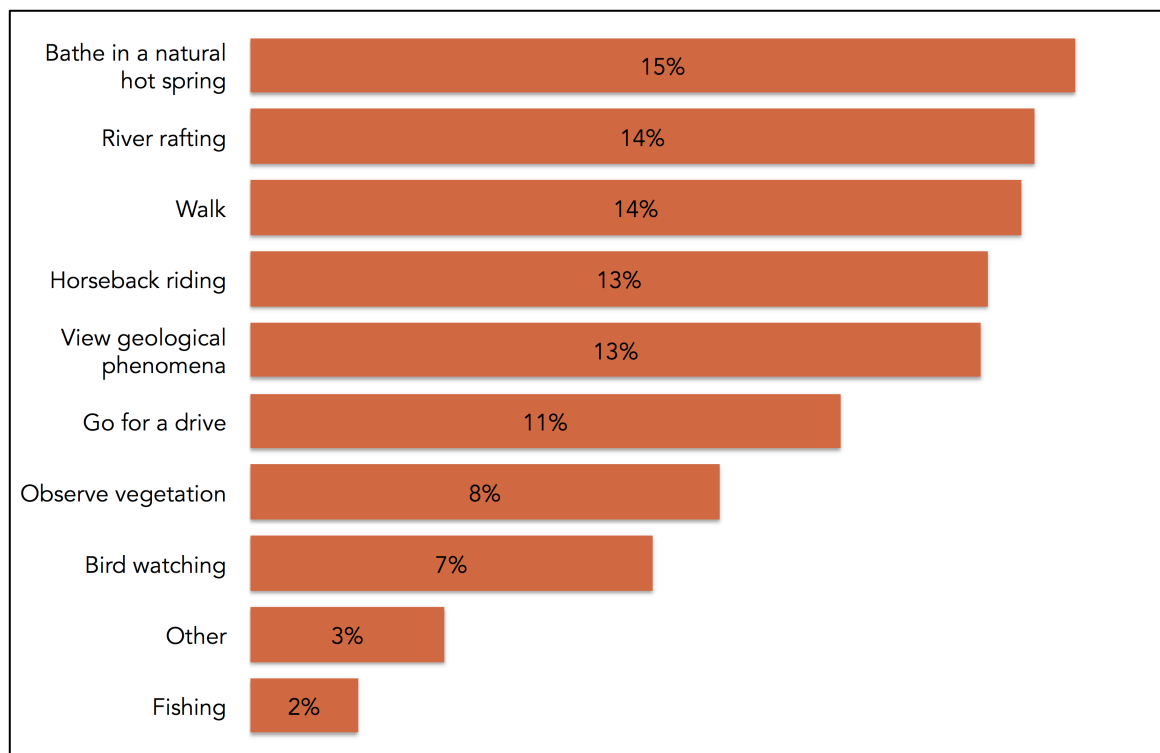


Figure 10: What did you do/plan to do during your stay?

Respondents were asked if they came to do/see/visit anything in particular in the area. Very few visitors said “no” and the “yes” responses most frequently stated rafting, horse riding and experiencing nature as their particular interest in the area.

“We came for the rafting”

“The East Glacier River”

“Horse riding in the nature

“All of the beautiful nature”

Visitors staying for just a few hours and up to one day (25%), two to four days (34%) and five to seven days (30%) were fairly evenly distributed in the results. The percentage reduced considerably at eight to 14 days (8%) with only 3% staying longer than 14 days (Figure 11). This result, of $\frac{3}{4}$ of the respondents staying in the area for more than one day, was unexpectedly high. Respondents may have thought the question was asking how long they were staying in Iceland. However, respondents on long hiking or riding tours, and those on three day rafting tours, would have been staying for multiple days in the area, thus the results may still be an accurate reflection of the length of visitor stay in the area.

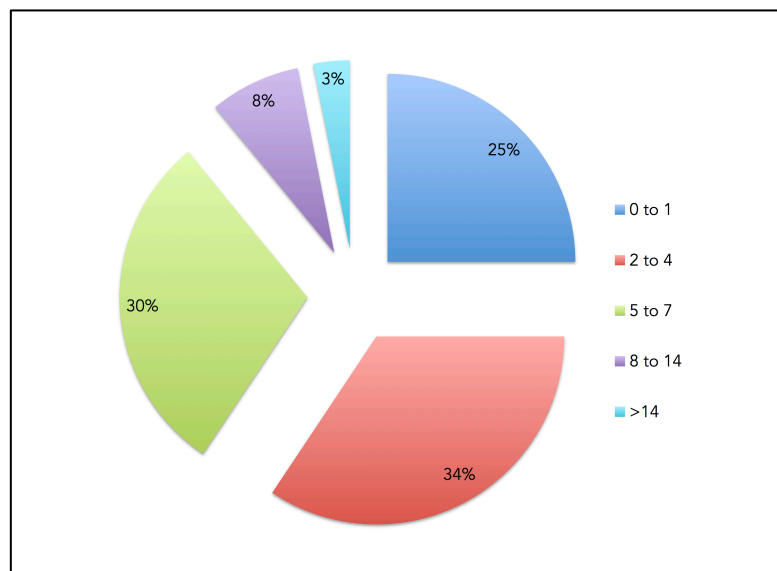


Figure 11: Length of stay (days)

Most of the respondents (81%) were first time visitors to the region (Figure 12). Of those who had visited before (19%), the percentage was fairly evenly spread between those who had visited once before (33%), those who had visited two to four times before (21%) and those who had visited five to ten times (38%). The percentage reduced considerably at ten or more times (8%) (Figure 13). This followed a pattern noted by interviewed horse riding tour operators in particular, who reported multiple repeat visitation by their guests.

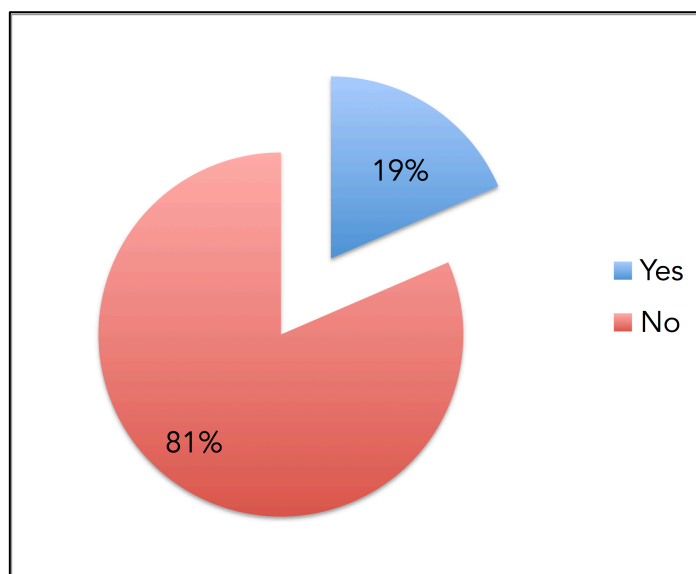


Figure 12: Prior visitation

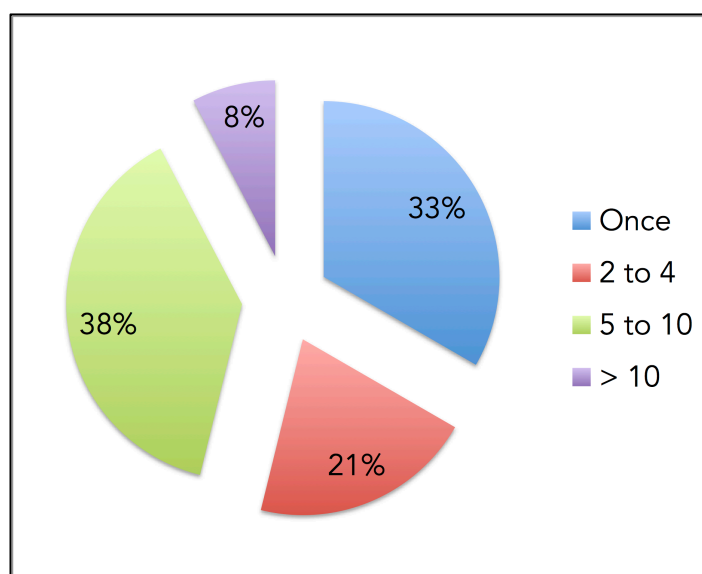


Figure 13: Number of visits

Improving roads was not strongly supported. 39% of respondents thought improving the roads in the area was undesirable or very undesirable and only 21% considered road improvement to be desirable or very desirable. 40% chose to remain neutral on this topic (Figure 14).

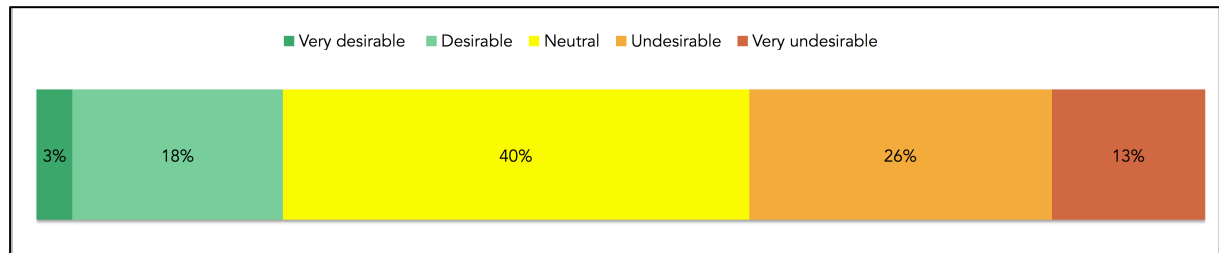


Figure 14: Desirability of road improvement

Respondents were asked to indicate how important 15 factors were for them while they were travelling in the area. All 15 were considered more important than unimportant, though many (such as “camping where you don’t see or hear other travellers”) received a very high neutral score (47%). “To enjoy unspoiled nature” and “to enjoy peace” stood out for their extremely high “very important” or “important” percentages (97% and 96% respectively). Far less important is the provision of picnic benches and tables, and designed footpaths (Figure 15).

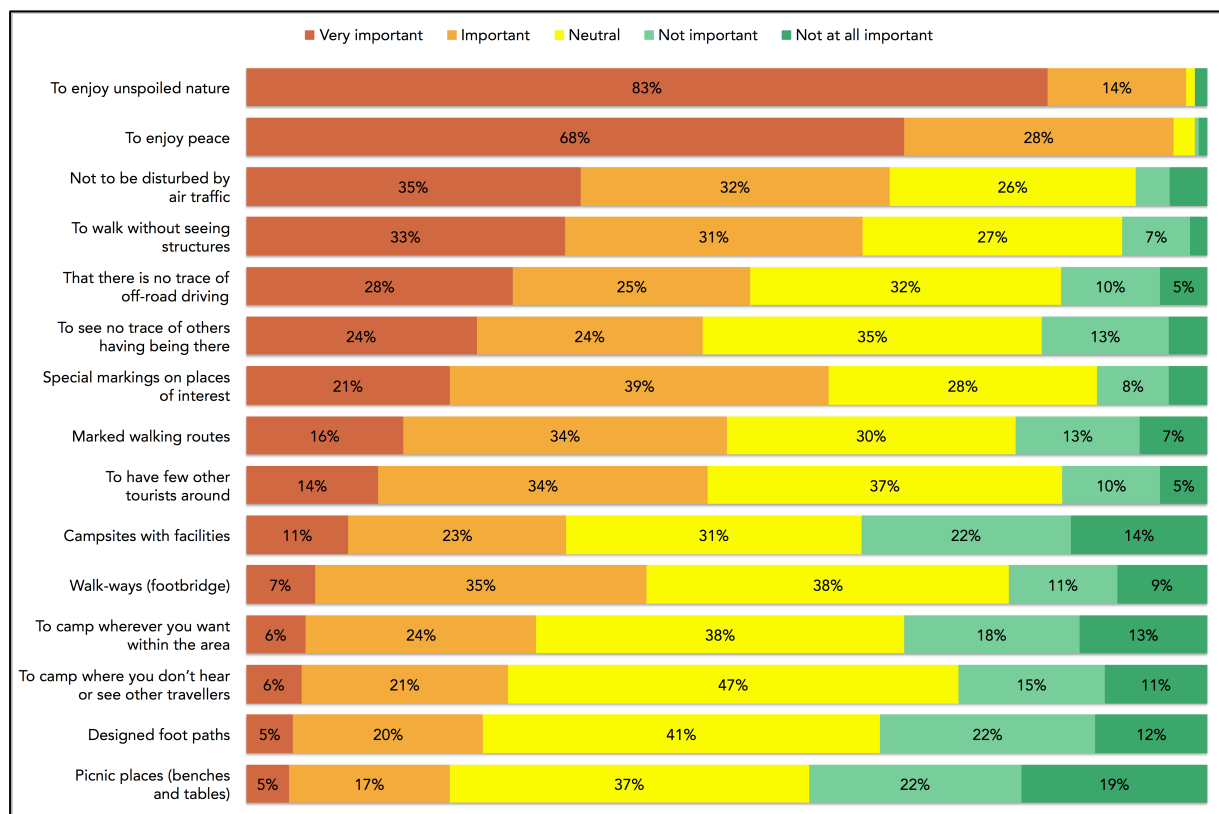


Figure 15: Important factors for travellers in the area

The importance of wilderness, or unspoiled nature, was strongly identified. Only 1% of respondents thought that wilderness was not part of the attraction of the area. 5% had no opinion and wilderness, or unspoiled nature, was part of the attraction for 94% (Figure 16). In addition, 85% of respondents visited the area to experience wilderness/unspoiled nature. 8% said experiencing wilderness was not part of their reason to visit and 7% had no opinion (Figure 16).

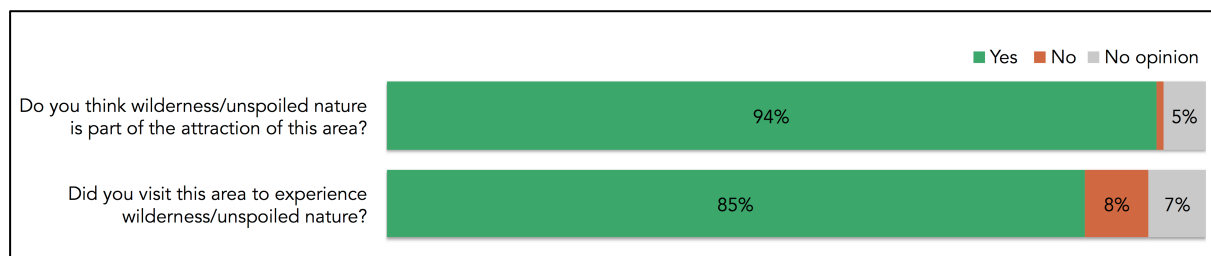


Figure 16: Importance of wilderness

Opinions on whether unseen structures affected wilderness experiences were divided. 17% said the structures would not affect them at all. 22% expected a little effect and 24% expected to be affected to some extent. 17% expected much affect and 16% expected very much effect. In total, 89% said that the structures would have some effect of their experience of wilderness (Figure 17).

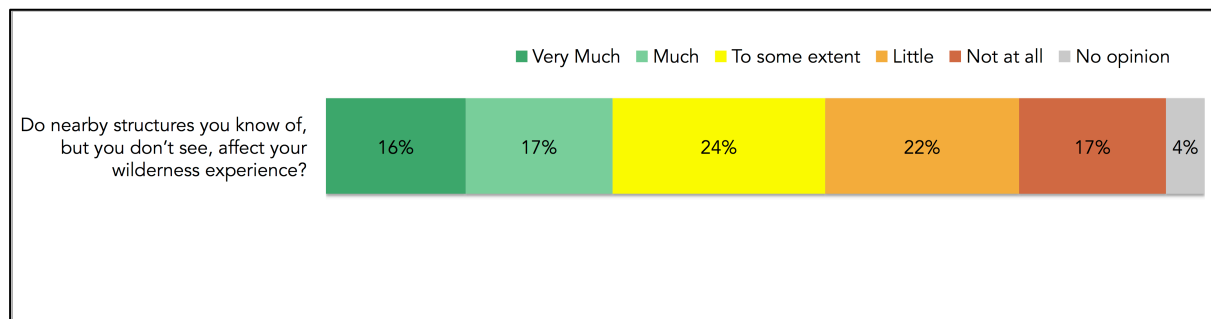


Figure 17: Do structures affect wilderness experience?

Figures 16 and 17 demonstrate that perception of wilderness or unspoiled nature is critical to the value of this area as a destination for travellers and that the presence of structures, even ones that are unseen but known about, distracts from this value.

Respondents were provided with a set of options to choose from to indicate what infrastructure did not negatively affect their perception of wilderness. They were instructed to choose as many of the options as they felt appropriate. Results showed that the presence of mountains huts and trails were far less likely to disrupt wilderness values than radio masts or power plants (Figure 18).

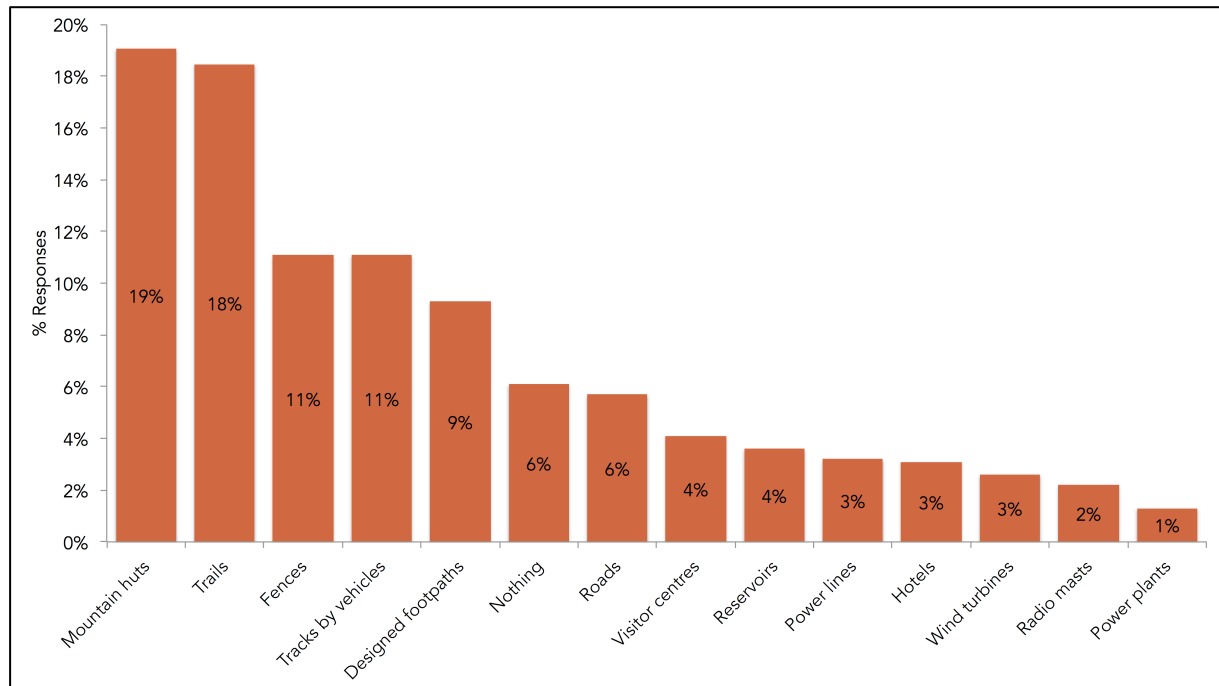


Figure 18: Influence of infrastructure on perceptions of wilderness

68-77% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that any of the power plant proposals and associated infrastructure would negatively affect their decision to visit the area. 15-24% were neutral, leaving only 5-7% with no opinion (the majority in each part) or positive/strongly positive about the effect on their decision to visit (Figure 19).

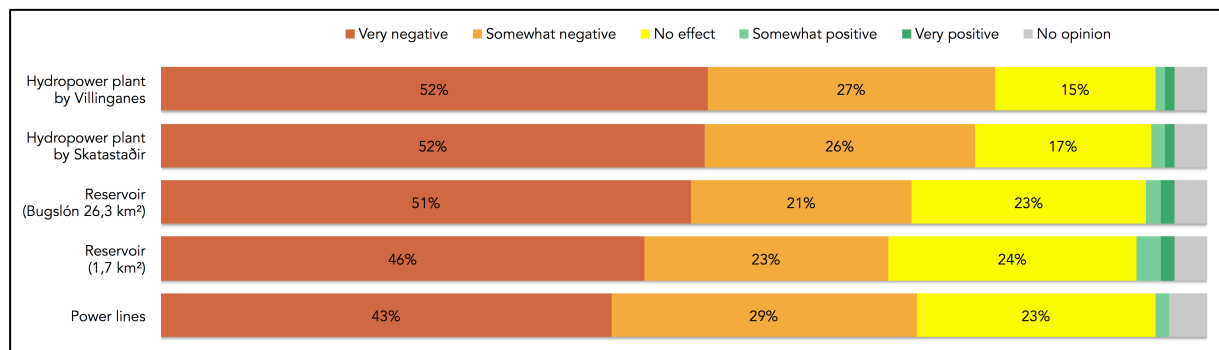


Figure 19: Effect of power plants and infrastructure on decision to visit

Further, most respondents indicated that the presence of the constructions would reduce, or even remove, their desire to come to the area. Comments included:

“This would prevent me from coming back to visit and invest in an Iceland holiday”

“Would not go - Would find another country for a wilderness experience”

“Become an industrial zone & hence zero interest in visiting the region”

“This is not the nature I'm looking for in Iceland, I have this in Germany”

“I came to Iceland to get away from those things”

“I came mostly for the rafting, I would not have visited Iceland if there wasn't any rivers”

“I would NOT visit the area”

“It would fully remove my desire to visit the area”

“Makes the rafting we did impossible/less attractive, which was our main reason to come”

“It'd be a technology impact on the nature, I'd not feel like it's something I want to see”

“Rivers would be destroyed and the nature would not be natural”

“Very negative, this area would then lose its special feature”

“The area would not be any more natural!”

“Places that attract tourism will be less. And most of the attractions shows the beauty of the nature”

“It would be horrible, the unspoiled nature would be destroyed”

Respondents were mainly negative about any type of power plant or associated infrastructure in any location. The combined somewhat negative and very negative scores ranged from 39% for geothermal power in the lowlands to 67% for power lines and hydropower in the highlands. Neutral scores, where the respondent either had no opinion or declined to share it, were also high, ranging from 24% for hydroelectric power in the lowlands to 41% for geothermal power in the lowlands.

In general, respondents were slightly less negative towards power plants and associated infrastructure in the lowlands than in the highlands, but the difference (12% for power lines, 7% for geothermal, 5% for wind farms and 3% for hydro) was minimal. Similarly, 2% were more in

favour of reservoirs in the highlands than in the lowlands: a percentage too small to be considered significant (Figure 20).

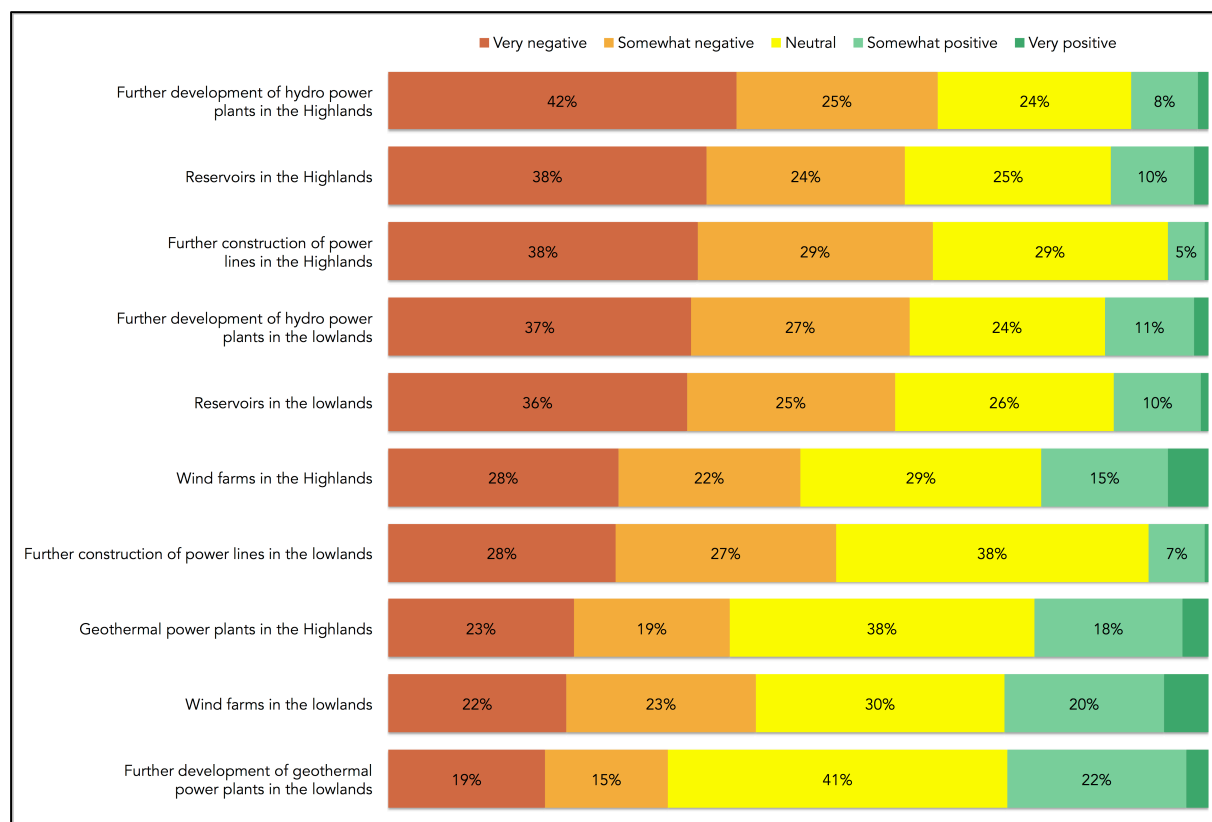


Figure 20: Attitudes to power plant types and locations

89% of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that they chose destinations like this so they can rest and recover. The same number (89%) agreed or strongly agreed that they choose destinations like this for reasons of escapism and to put their worries aside (Figure 21).

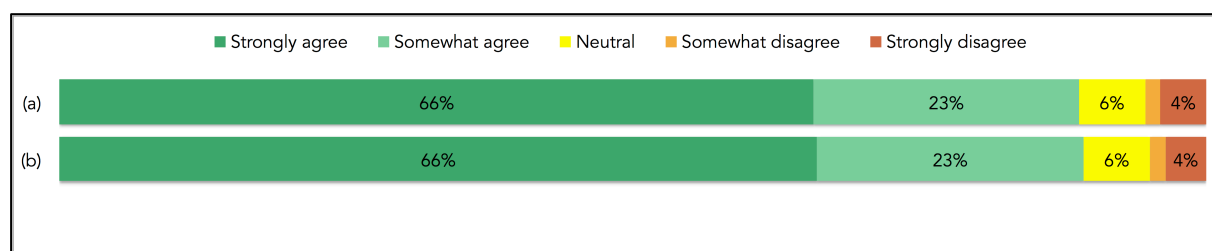


Figure 21: Importance of the region for rest and escape from daily life

The most negatively perceived structures or facilities in the area were power lines (61%), reservoirs (60%), hydro power plants (59%) and wind turbines (56%). The most positively

perceived were mountain huts (70%), gravel roads and campsites (53%) and toilets (52%). Neutral scores were high, ranging from 22% for mountain huts to 37% for radio masts (Figure 22).

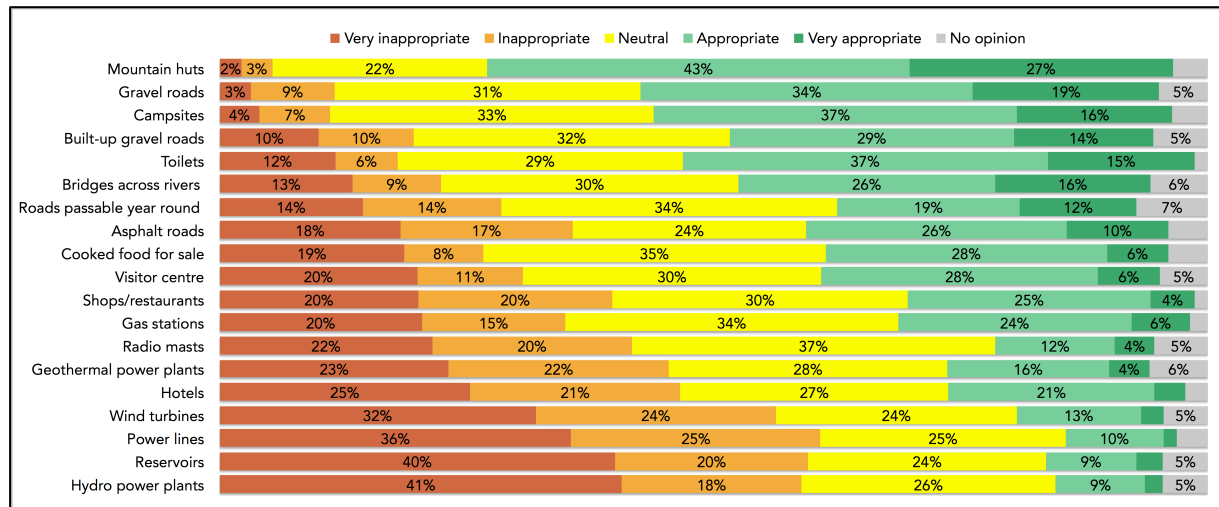


Figure 22: Opinions about structures and facilities in the area

3.2 Results from the Interviews

A wide range of business types were represented in the 20 interviews conducted in Skagafjörður. Several were multifaceted businesses combining, for example, horse riding with accommodation. These business types and numbers are listed below according to their main activity:

- ✓ Hotels, farm holidays or other accommodation 5
- ✓ Horse riding 4
- ✓ Hiking trails and tours, including historical 3
- ✓ River rafting 2
- ✓ Horse shows 1
- ✓ Handicraft 1
- ✓ Travel agency 1
- ✓ Museum 1
- ✓ Boat trips, sea angling, bird watching 1
- ✓ Jeep tours 1

Annual visitor numbers at each of the tourism businesses varied considerably, ranging from an estimation of 7000 per year at one place to only 50 at another. All operators reported a noticeable growth in numbers in recent years.

Visitor activities at each business obviously varied according to the type of business. However, according to interviewees, the main activities in the areas most effected by Villinganes Power Plant, Skatastaðir Power Plant C or Skatastaðir Power Plant D were rafting, horse riding, hiking and jeep tours.

Several of the tourism business operators described their visitors as “adventure tourists”. These are a type who look for adventure, exhilaration and excitement in their recreational experience (Weber 2001). This is perhaps particularly true of the visitors who take part in rafting or horse riding activities. Operators running hotels or managing tourism agencies were more likely to describe their visitors as “mixed” both in terms of their perceived type and the recreational activities in which they chose to engage. However, common to most visitors, according to the tourism operators, was an interest in nature and thus they could also be classified as “nature tourists” (Mehmetoglu 2005).

Some businesses said their guests were mostly Icelanders, others said their guests were 99% non-Icelanders. Others reported a 50/50 mix. This demonstrates that the area is a destination for both foreign and local tourists. The rafting companies reported a change over the last few years from a majority of Icelanders to a majority of non-Icelanders. These companies also receive a lot of school groups, mainly at the start of the season before the Icelandic school year ends.

“Anywhere between 20 and 30 different schools will come. Most of them will be Icelandic schools from all over the country and then in previous years we’ve had schools from the Faroe Islands, we’ve had schools from Greenland, Denmark as well just coming through on school trips”

“Nature” was the most commonly stated key attraction to the area:

“The beauty of nature and the quietness”

“Nature first and foremost”

“Unspoilt nature”

Other attractions included rafting, horse back riding and history. The rivers and Austurdalur valley were also frequently mentioned:

“The rivers first and foremost. Other activities in the neighborhood, including Austurdalur which is getting very popular”

“The valley itself and its story. The canyons, the fresh water side rivers and the glacier rivers - it is special. All this is in harmony”

The places that tourists visited also varied according to the type and location of each business. Businesses located closer to the reservoirs and power station sites, those accomodating tourist going to or coming from the highlands above Skagafjörður, and those that took visitors into Austurdalur as part of their organised tours, such as rafting, horse riding and hiking, were more likely to report visitation to this region. Those further from the sites, and less specialised businesses such as accommodation services, also mentioned museums, hot springs and other well known tourist attractions in the broader Skagafjörður region as popular places for their guests to visit.



Photograph 6: Rafting and Kayaking in Austurdalur. Credit: Viking Rafting

When asked why the area was special, the words most frequently used included: not crowded, river rafting, nature and vegetation, rural, and open space. This was common to all businesses, regardless of their type and distance from the proposed power plant sites.

“The landscape of the canyon and the river running through it is our big attraction, to be riding alongside a glacial river”

“Absolutely world class in the east river canyon”

“Laugarfell is definitely an absolute paradise. The reservoir [Bugslón] would change the landscape a lot”

Opinions on accessibility of the area had strong similarity. Only two operators declared that accessibility to Austurdalur should be improved with better roads. While some said accessibility to Austurdalur could be better, most of those also acknowledged that the types of tourists visiting the region were happy with the level of accessibility that exists. Unpaved roads permit access for hikers and horse riders to the northeast part of the valley past Merkigil, and four wheel drivers as well, across the canyons just south of Merkigil, to the church at Ábær. South of Ábær there are no roads. The fact that the roads into the valley are not very good was stated by some as an advantage to maintaining the tourism values of the area, and was seen by tourists as part of the adventure.

“People that are going to Austurdalur don’t necessarily want fine roads to there. It is a special type of tourists”

“It is not desirable to make the valley accessible for all kinds of traffic. Then the attraction that pulls tourists to the valley is gone”

“It would be great to have better roads into the area, but with the rivers gone or the rafting gone it doesn't really matter, you wouldn't be going there to see the scenery once the dams are there”

A road going to the highlands through Vesturdalur already exists and many operators thought that road should be made better to increase accessibility to the highlands for smaller cars and therefore more variable types of tourists. Thus, there was support from some operators to upgrade and maintain existing roads through Vesturdalur but not to ‘open up’ access to Austurdalur.

When asked about the future of the area and tourism development, most respondents were very positive and saw a lot of potential for both growth and diversity while avoiding the overcrowding issues already apparent in the south of Iceland.

“Would like to see slow travel develop - people stay more nights and do more. Should target adventure tourists and develop small businesses”

“It has been a big change in the past few years how many [tourists] say they have come here because of the area being so sparsely populated [...] it seems like tourists are coming here because they want to avoid hotels and accommodation without personal contact with their hosts. They have booked their accommodation according to that all around [Iceland], through booking, Airbnb and farm holidays. They are looking for this certain concept”

All operators agreed there could be more tourism use in the area and that more tourists could be catered for. To achieve this, more accommodation and recreation opportunities in Skagafjörður would be required. Suggestions were made by most operators that the existing businesses could work together more through coordinated efforts in marketing and packing tours.

“We have everything ... we just need to make it work a little better”



Photograph 7: Hikers crossing Fossá, Austurdalur. Credit: Bjarni Maronsson

Operators varied in their opinion on whether the existing infrastructure in the area was suitable, for both current and future tourism. While many said “the current infrastructure is fine” and “more roads would be horrible”, as described above, others said that it would be acceptable to improve the roads slightly and maintain them better. Infrastructure is about far more than roads however and discussions about infrastructure with operators also identified the need for more accommodation and toilet facilities, bridges and signs in the local area. On a wider scale, several operators also advocated the construction of an international airport in Sauðárakrúkur or Akureyri to allow foreign tourists improved access the northern regions of Iceland.

When asked what infrastructure tourists wanted, operators replied:

“Hikers, horsebackriders and nature tourists want to have it simple”

“The tourists that go to Austurdalur want untouched nature and simple infrastructure (tracks, cabins)”

“A big part of the experience from the valley is the simple infrastructure there and the (still) unspoiled nature”

“It is not an attraction as soon as you have a better road up there. They [roads] would destroy the attraction”

Thus, the operators had clear visions for the type of infrastructure that would be good for their business but at the same time considered that most tourists would be happier without more infrastructure.

When asked about their opinion of the power stations, four of the 20 operators interviewed were in favour of power stations and 16 were against. The strength of these convictions varied; for example, from those “completely against it” to those who said they were “not really against them at all, it's just a question of whether we need them”. The perception of need was mentioned frequently. If a need for the local community could be proven, then opinion toward the power plants was more likely to be positive. However, the perceived need for more electricity was often associated with foreign businesses, such as the proposed alumina smelter at Hafursstaðir in Skagabyggð (Elliott 2015), and then the opinion of the interviewee was more likely to be negative.

The perceived impact of the power stations on individual business depended largely on how closely the business was aligned with the region in which the stations and reservoir would be built, as well as the operators opinion of the power stations. The rafting companies and operators who took tours into Austurdalur saw the most serious impacts:

“That will kill everything”

“It will ruin everything we have build up here for 27 years”

Others recognised an indirect impact even if their own business was not directly effected:

“Yes, both directly as we get guests from the river rafting businesses - and indirectly”

“It would definitely have a high impact on my business even though I'm not operating directly on these two rivers ... it's just such a big post in the tourism landscape in Skagafjörður ... it should have an impact on, well, on most people in tourism because people who come rafting they tend to buy something else as well, they stay in a hotel or a guesthouse or go horseback riding the day after, or eat at a restaurant or whatever. Would also negatively impact fish and thus fishing in the river ... [and] ... do a lot of damage”

“No direct effect. BUT indirect as it all hangs together. All tourism services in the area are dependent on each other. Would affect the image of Skagafjörður in a negative way”

While a couple of operators mentioned a possible positive impact in the form of better roads, only one operator, whose business is located the furthest from the proposal sites, saw no direct or indirect impacts.

Discussing why and how the power stations would effect their business, comments ranged from some foreseeing complete destruction and the business having to close, to the need to change the way they operate:

“These rivers are the biggest attraction for the valleys ... The powerlines will destroy our business completely ... The lines will destroy our riding possibilities, or damage it endlessly”

“I think we are destroying one of the best pearls that we have here in that area. Because there are so many people depending on that place ... I would have one attraction less, and it is the main one”

Most interviewees thought the presence of the power stations would have a negative effect on future tourism development. A lot of these concerns were based around the perception that the stations would destroy the natural environment, thus remove a key attraction for tourists and cause suffering for operators reliant on the area and the river as a resource.

“Skagafjörður is privileged by having the best rafting river in the country. If it is destroyed it will most certainly affect tourism in the area”

“The image of Skagafjörður as tourism destination will be damaged”

“Need to change marketing. You would be riding alongside a dam basically, which doesn't have the same attraction ... I think it will effect tourism in the area in a big way. ... the thing about North-West Iceland is that it's quite untouched, and it's rural ... but accessible at the same time. ... This thing will just ruin that idea I think. ... It is said to be the best rafting river in Europe, and it's something that you shouldn't sacrifice for extra power ..., because this is something that's unique”

Less negative opinions were expressed by the four operators in favour of the power stations who thought tourism was flexible enough to find new attractions.

“Tourism will adjust to a different situation”

“The nature of Austurdalur as such will not be affected, just the river. As a freshwater river it will be more beautiful”

“I think it is not so bad for tourism”

Without the power stations, most operators saw increased potential for tourism in the area, particularly in rafting, hiking and horse back riding.

When asked which future they preferred, six of the 20 interviewed said they preferred a future without the power stations. One was unwilling to answer, one was uncertain, one said it did not matter and one said a power plant would have a positive impact on tourism in Skagafjörður as a whole. The remaining ten did not answer the question directly but their responses to this and other questions suggest they would prefer a future without (see quotes above).

Those who preferred a future without the power stations said they felt this way because:

“From a business perspective it kills everything. Dams are a symbol of everything that is bad for a river environment”

“Nature tourism is the future for Icelandic tourism”

“For the sake of the valley - the rivers, nature – everything”

“It is about how we define our region [as residents as well as a tourism destination]”

Final questions asked operators to consider other power options and also asked their opinion of power lines. Most also saw power lines as negative for tourism and preferred those situated below ground rather than above.

“Power lines are negative for tourism also. They damage the view.”

“I think the companies that ... those companies that make a profit from [selling] electricity ... they have the capacity to see that this [power lines] is put underground”

The one exception to the widespread dislike of power lines said:

“They have never disturbed me The old small ones are even nice - go well in the landscape. And the big ones - people stop seeing them after awhile”.

Not many operators had thought of other power options in the region, but sea tide, solar power plants and wind farms were mentioned. Most of the operators did not have strong opinions on wind farms but a few mentioned visual impact and noise as a negative impact. Many were in favor of wind farms over hydroelectric power plants and interviewees who thought wind farms were better than hydroelectricity did so because the wind farms were reclaimable and did not permanently destroy the landscape.

“I'm a fan of windmill farms. If I had to choose something to bring more power in, I would choose the windmills, ... they've done it quite nicely in Denmark, in the UK, and it's just not so much disruption on nature as this proposal, which is just the main concern I think. How can we get more power without destroying something that cannot be un-destroyed then?”



Photograph 8: Horse riding tour in Merkigil, Austurdalur. Credit: Bjarni Maronsson

4.0 Conclusion

From analysis of the questionnaire data, the following key themes emerged:

1. The nature and a perception of unspoiled wilderness were key reasons the majority of visitors came to the area and the construction of any of the proposed power plants and their associated infrastructure would deter people from visiting.
2. The majority of visitors were extremely satisfied with the existing nature in the area and their experience of it.
3. Bathing in hot springs, rafting, hiking, horse back riding and viewing natural phenomena were activities experienced by most visitors.
4. Visitors to the region valued highly their ability to enjoy unspoiled nature and peaceful surroundings while resting and escaping the demands of daily life. The presence of mountain huts and trails were not seen as a threat to this. Power plants and their associated infrastructure were seen as a threat, with the majority of visitors expressing negative attitudes to all types regardless of their location.
5. The perception that the tourism experience in Iceland should be different from experiences in other places was strongly conveyed. Having power plants in the Skagafjörður region was seen as something that would distract from Iceland's current 'difference' – which is a key reason for tourists to visit the area.

From analysis of the interview data, the following themes emerged:

1. All of the interviewees are of the opinion that the area can cope with more tourists and that the possibilities for more tourism in the area are diverse.
2. Most of the operators mention nature first when asked about the key attraction in the area.
3. All interviewees think that a power plant in the rivers will impact the rafting in a very negative way.
4. Most of the operators are very much aware that the two rafting businesses are responsible for drawing a lot of tourists, who otherwise would not visit the region, into Skagafjörður. These tourists then eat, sleep, buy souvenirs and participate in recreational activities in addition to rafting. Thus, the presence of the rafting as an attraction in the region is linked to the success of other local businesses. For this reason, a power plant in the river system is expected to have a big impact on the future of tourism in Skagafjörður by most operators interviewed.

5. Differences in opinion are notable between those who live and run tourism business in the southern part of Skagafjörður (near the rivers) and those who live further north - north of Varmahlíð and in Sauðárkrókur. Thus, different opinions between interviewees fits a pattern of their location: the closer to the power plant sites the more opposed the tourism operators are.
6. Few considered increased accessibility to Austurdalur, to the rivers or power plant sites, in the form of roads, an important benefit for tourism. Instead, better access to the valley mouth, better air transport to the northern part of the country, and better roads to and within Skagafjörður were considered of greater tourism benefit. Many commented that the current accessibility of Austurdalur (unpaved roads and trails) contributed to keeping large number of tourists from the area and this was positive because it made the area and visitor experience of it more “special”.
7. Overall, interviewees showed concern that the power plants and their associated infrastructure would damage the environment and the rivers. Many commented that the rivers, particularly the east river, is increasingly becoming know as one of the best white water rafting rivers in Europe. As rafting was considered a central tourism attraction in the area, in turn bringing customers to other businesses such as hotels, potential loss of this was a concern to most:

"The rafting is the key to get them up here"

“The two rivers create a combination of a very, very special area”

“I think it will effect tourism in the area in a big way”

“It's just too much of a risk, we would lose too much”

“This is just too risky ... this is just too big to sacrifice”



Photograph 9: East Glacial River crossing, Austurdalur. Credit: Gísli Rúnar Konráðsson

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Photograph 10: East Glacial River and Hörkná. Picture taken from Hörknármúli, Austurdalur.

Credit: Gísli Rúnar Konráðsson

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Photograph 11: Hut in Austurdalur. Credit: Viking Rafting

7.0 Appendix

Appendix A: Questionnaire in Icelandic

Appendix B: Questionnaire in English

Appendix C: Questionnaire in French

Appendix D: Questionnaire in German

Appendix E: Map of the region with Icelandic text

Appendix F: Map of the region with English text

Appendix G: Interview Schedule in Icelandic

Appendix H: Interview Schedule in English

Appendix I: Letter of consent in Icelandic

Appendix J: Letter of consent in English



Photograph 12: Fossá in Austurdalur. Credit: Gísli Rúnar Konráðsson

Appendix A: Questionnaire in Icelandic



Könnun meðal ferðamanna í Skagafirði

Könnun þessi er liður í rannsókn á áhrifum vatnsaflsvirkjananna Skatastaðavirkjun (C og D) og Villinganesvirkjunar á ferðamenskun á svæðinu (sjá meðfylgjandi kort og fjölgu). Verkefnið er unnið á vegum Hólaskeiða og Háskóla Íslands vegna Rámmadartunar (Aðlitun um vernd og orkunýtingu landsvæða). Það tekur um 10-15 mínútur að svara spurningunum.

Þakka þér kærlega fyrir þátttökunni!

1. Hversu lýsandi finnst þér eftirfarandi orð fyrir svæðið á meðfylgjandi korti?

	mjög	frekar	hvorki	né	frekar	mjög
1 Náttúrulegt	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Manngert
2 Kyrrt	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Háværð
3 Aðgengilegt	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Óaðgengilegt
4 Fállegt	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Ljótt
5 Áhrifamikið	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Áhrifalítið

2. Hvað heillar þig við svæðið? _____

3. Hversu ánægð(ur) eða óánægð(ur) ertu með eftirfarandi:

	mjög	frekar	hvorki	né	ánægð(ur)	mjög
1 Dvölina á svæðinu	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	ánægð(ur)
2 Náttúru svæðisins	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	

4. Hvað gerðir þú/ ætlar þú að gera á meðan dvöl þinni stendur?

Vinsamlega merktu fleiri en eitt atriði ef við á

<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Gönguferð _____ klst	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Veðið
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Hestaferð	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Flúðasigling
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Ókuferð	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Bæði mig í heitri laug
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Skoða fugla	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Skoða jarðfræðifyrirbæri
<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Skoða plöntur	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 Annað: _____

5. Var eitthvað sem þú komst til að sjá/gera öðru fremur?

☐1 Já, hvað? _____ ☐2 Nei

6. Hvað dvelur/dvaldir þú lengi á svæðinu?

_____ mín. _____ klst. _____ natúr

7. Hefur þú ferðast áður um þetta svæði? ☐1 Já, hve oft? _____ ☐2 Nei

8. Hversu æskilegt eða óæskilegt þú telur vera að bæta vegi á þessum slóðum?

	mjög	frekar	hlutlaus	frekar	mjög
æskilegt	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	óæskilegt

14. Hvaða áhrif myndu eftirtaldir virkjanir og virkjunarmannvirki hafa á áhuga þinn á því að ferðast um svæðið?

	mjög	frekar	engin	frekar	mjög	enga
	neikvæð	neikvæð	áhrif	jákvæð	jákvæð	skoðun
1 Skatastaðavirkjun	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
2 Miðlunarlón (Bugslón, 26,3 km ²)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
3 Villinganesvirkjun	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
4 Miðlunarlón (1,7 km ²)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
5 Raflinur	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6

15. Lýstu nánar áhrifunum sem fyrrnefnd virkjunarmannvirki hefðu á áhuga þinn á _____ því að ferðast um svæðið

16. Hversu jákvætt eða neikvætt viðhorf þitt er til eftirfarandi:

	mjög	frekar	hvorki	frekar	mjög
	neikvætt	neikvætt	né	jákvætt	jákvætt
1 Frekari uppbyggingar vatnsaflsvirkjana á hálendinu	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
2 Frekari uppbyggingar vatnsaflsvirkjana á láglandi	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
3 Jarðvarmavirkjana á hálendinu	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
4 Frekari uppbyggingar jarðvarmavirkjana á láglandi	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
5 Vindmylla á hálendinu	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
6 Vindmylla á láglandi	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
7 Uppistöðulóna á hálendinu	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
8 Uppistöðulóna á láglandi	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
9 Frekari lagningar rafliða á hálendinu	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
10 Frekari lagningar rafliða á láglandi	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

17. Hversu sammála/ósammála ertu eftirfarandi fullyrðingum?

	mjög	ósammála	hlutlaus	sammála	mjög
	ósammála	ósammála	hlutlaus	sammála	sammála
1 Ég kem á staði eins og þennan til þess að komast í burtu frá daglegu amstri og leggja áhyggjumnar til hliðar	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
2 Ég kem á staði eins og þennan til þess að geta hvílt mig og endurnært („hlæðið batteriinn“)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

9. Hversu mikilvæg eru eftirfarandi atriði fyrir þig á ferðalagi þínu um svæðið?

	alls ekki mikilvægt	ekki mikilvægt	hvorki né	mikilvægt	mjög mikilvægt
1 Merktar gönguleiðir	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
2 Lagðir göngustigar	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
3 Göngubrýr	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
4 Að hægt sé að njóta kyrrðar	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
5 Að hægt sé að upplifa óraskaða náttúru	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
6 Áningarstaðir (bekkir og borð)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
7 Að það séu fáir aðrir ferðamenn	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
8 Að ekki sjáist ummerki um utanvegaakstur	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
9 Að geta gengið án þess að sjá mannvirki (önnur en fjallaskála)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
10 Að ekki sjáist ummerki eftir aðra ferðamenn	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
11 Að skoðunarverðir staðir séu merktir	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
12 Skipulögð tjaldsvæði	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
13 Að mega tjalda hvar sem er innan svæðisins	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
14 Að geta tjaldað þar sem þú verður ekki var við aðra	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
15 Að verða ekki fyrir ónáði af flugumferð	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

10. Finnst þér viðerni/ósnortin náttúra vera hluti af aðdráttarafli svæðisins?

☐1 Já ☐2 Nei ☐0 Enga skoðun

11. Komstu á þetta svæði til að upplifa viðerni/ósnortna náttúru?

☐1 Já ☐2 Nei ☐0 Enga skoðun

12. Hafa náleg mannvirki, sem þú veist af en sérd ekki, áhrif á upplifun þína á viðernum/ósnortinni náttúru?

engin ☐1 lítil ☐2 einhver ☐3 frekar mikil ☐4 mjög mikil ☐5 enga skoðun ☐0

13. Hvað má vera til staðar af neðangreindu án þess að hugtakið viðerni/ósnortin náttúra glati merkingu sinni? Vinsamlega merktu við fleira en eitt atriði ef við á

<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Ekkert	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Raflinur
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Fjallaskálar	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Fjarskiptamöstur
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Hótel	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 Virkjanir
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Vegir	<input type="checkbox"/> 11 Miðlunarlón
<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Veglóðar	<input type="checkbox"/> 12 Vindmyllur
<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Gröðingar	<input type="checkbox"/> 13 Lagðir göngustigar
<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Þjónustumiðstöðvar	<input type="checkbox"/> 14 Stígar myndaðir af umferð manna og dýra

18. Hvað finnst þér um eftirtalin mannvirki á svæðinu?

	mjög	frekar	ásættan-	frekar	mjög	veit ekki
	óæskilegt	óæskilegt	leg	æskilegt	æskilegt	
1 Óuppbyggðir malarvegir	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
2 Uppbyggðir malarvegir	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
3 Vegir með bundnu slitlagi	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
4 Heilsársvegir	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
5 Akbrýr í vatnsföllum	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
6 Vatnsaflsvirkjanir	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
7 Jarðvarmavirkjanir	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
8 Uppistöðulón	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
9 Raflinur	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
10 Vindmyllur	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
11 Hótel	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
12 Fjallaskálar	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
13 Tjaldstaði	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
14 Verslanir/veitingastaðir	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
15 Bensinstöðvar	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
16 Salerno	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
17 Matsala	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
18 Gestastofa	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
19 Fjarskiptamöstur	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6

19. Kyn ☐1 Kona ☐2 Karl 20. Aldur: _____ ár

21. Hvar býrðu (póstnúmer)? _____

22. Hvar muntu gista næstu nótt? _____

23. Hvar gistir þú síðustu nótt? _____

24. Með hverjum ferðast þú? Vinsamlega merktu við alla kosti sem eiga við

<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Ein/n á ferð	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Með fjölskyldunni
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Eitingum/vinum	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Í skipulagðri hópferð
<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Vinnu-/klubbfélögum	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Öðrum, hverjum?

25. Hvernig ferðast þú? Vinsamlega merktu við alla kosti sem eiga við

<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Á eigin bíl	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Á bílaleigubíl	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Í hópferðabíl
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Á motorhjól	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Hjólandi	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Gangandi
<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Riðandi	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Öðruvísi, hvernig?	

26. Við hvað starfar þú?

<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Nemandi	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Skrifstofu-/þjónustustörf
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Ófaglærð/ur	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Eftirlaunabegi
<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Stjórnunarstörf	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Sérhæfð takni- og iðnaðarstörf
<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Heimavinnandi	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Sérfræðingur (læknir, lögfræðingur, kennari, o.s.frv.)
<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Annað: _____	

Appendix B: Questionnaire in English



Survey on tourism in Skagafjörður

This survey is a part of a research on the effects of hydro power plants at Skatastaðir (C and D) and Villinganes on tourism in the area (see map and description). The research is led by Hólar University College and the University of Iceland, and is a part of governmental project called The Master Plan for Conservation of Nature and Utilization of Energy. It takes approx. 10-15 min. to fill out the questionnaire.

Thank you very much for your participation!

1. How descriptive do you find the following words for this area (see map)?

	very	somewhat	neither/nor	somewhat	very	
1 Natural	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Developed
2 Quiet	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Loud
3 Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Inaccessible
4 Beautiful	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Ugly
5 Impressive	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Unimpressive

2. What fascinates you in the area?

3. How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the following?

	very	dissatisfied	neither/nor	satisfied	very
1. Your stay in the area	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
2. The nature in the area	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

4. What did you do/plan to do during your stay?

Mark more than one if appropriate

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Walk _____ hours | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 Fishing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Horseback riding | <input type="checkbox"/> 7 River rafting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Go for a drive | <input type="checkbox"/> 8 Bathe in a natural hot spring |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Bird watching | <input type="checkbox"/> 9 View geological phenomena |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Observe vegetation | <input type="checkbox"/> 10 Other: _____ |

5. Did you come to do/see/visit anything in particular in the area?

- ☐1 Yes, what? _____ ☐2 No

6. How long are you planning to stay in the area?

_____ min. _____ hours _____ nights

7. Have you been in this area before? ☐1 Yes, how often? _____ ☐2 No

8. Would you consider it desirable or undesirable to improve roads in this area?

very desirable	desirable	neutral	undesirable	very undesirable
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

14. Would the following power plants and power infrastructure affect your decision to visit the area?

	very negative	somewhat negative	no effect	somewhat positive	very positive	no opinion
1 Hydropower plant by Skatastaðir	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
2 Reservoir (Bugsón 26,3 km ²)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
3 Hydropower plant by Villinganes	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
4 Reservoir (1,7 km ²)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
5 Power lines	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6

15. Please, describe the effects the previously mentioned constructions would have on your desire to visit the area?

16. Please state how positive or negative your attitude is to the following:

	very negative	somewhat negative	neutral	somewhat positive	very positive
1 Further development of hydro power plants in the Highlands	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
2 Further development of hydro power plants in the lowlands	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
3 Geothermal power plants in the Highlands	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
4 Further development of geothermal power plants in the lowlands	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
5 Wind farms in the Highlands	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
6 Wind farms in the lowlands	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
7 Reservoirs in the Highlands	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
8 Reservoirs in the lowlands	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
9 Further construction of power lines in the Highlands	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
10 Further construction of power lines in the lowlands	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

17. What is your opinion on the following statements?

	strongly disagree	somewhat disagree	neutral	somewhat agree	strongly agree
1 I go to places like this to escape the demands of daily life and to put my worries aside	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
2 I go to places like this to be able to rest and recover ("recharge my batteries")	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

9. How important are the following factors for you while travelling in this area?

	not at all important	not important	neutral	important	very important
1 Marked walking routes	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
2 Designed foot paths	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
3 Walk-ways (footbridge)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
4 To enjoy peace	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
5 To enjoy unspoiled nature	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
6 Picnic places (benches and tables)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
7 To have few other tourists around	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
8 That there is no trace of off-road driving	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
9 To walk without seeing structures (other than huts)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
10 To see no trace of others having being there	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
11 Special markings on places of interest	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
12 Campsites with facilities (toilets, trash cans etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
13 To camp wherever you want within the area	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
14 To camp where you don't hear or see other travellers	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
15 Not to be disturbed by air traffic	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

10. Do you think wilderness/unspoiled nature is part of the attraction of this area?

- ☐1 Yes ☐2 No ☐0 No opinion

11. Did you visit this area to experience wilderness/unspoiled nature?

- ☐1 Yes ☐2 No ☐0 No opinion

12. Do nearby structures you know of, but you don't see, affect your wilderness experience?

not at all	little	to some extent	much	very much	no opinion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0

13. In your opinion which of the following may be present in an area for it be considered wilderness? Mark more than one if appropriate

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Nothing | <input type="checkbox"/> 8 Power lines |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Mountain huts | <input type="checkbox"/> 9 Radio masts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Hotels | <input type="checkbox"/> 10 Power plants |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Roads | <input type="checkbox"/> 11 Reservoirs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Tracks by vehicles | <input type="checkbox"/> 12 Wind turbines |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6 Fences | <input type="checkbox"/> 13 Designed footpaths |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7 Visitor centres | <input type="checkbox"/> 14 Trails made by walkers and/or animals |

18. Please rate your opinion on the following structures/facilities in the area:

	very inappropriate	inappropriate	neutral	appropriate	very appropriate	no opinion
1 Gravel roads	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
2 Built-up gravel roads	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
3 Asphalt roads	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
4 Roads passable year round	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
5 Bridges across rivers	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
6 Hydro power plants	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
7 Geothermal power plants	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
8 Reservoirs	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
9 Power lines	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
10 Wind turbines	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
11 Hotels	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
12 Mountain huts	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
13 Campsites	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
14 Shops/restaurants	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
15 Gas stations	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
16 Toilets	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
17 Cooked food for sale	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
18 Visitor centre	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
19 Radio masts	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0

19. Gender ☐1 Female ☐2 Male 20. Age: _____ years

21. Nationality: _____

22. Where are you staying tonight? _____

23. Where did you stay last night? _____

24. With whom do you travel? Mark more than one if appropriate

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 By myself | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Family members |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Relatives/friends | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 An organized tour |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Work or club mates | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 Other, who? _____ |

25. How are you travelling? Mark more than one if appropriate

- | | | |
|---|--|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 In a private car | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 In a rent-a-car | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 By bus |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Motorcycle/ATV | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 On bicycle | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 On foot |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7 On horseback | <input type="checkbox"/> 8 Other, what _____ | |

26. What is your occupation?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Student | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Clerical/service |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Unskilled | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Retired |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Managerial | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 Vocational/technical |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7 Working at home | <input type="checkbox"/> 8 Professional (doctor, lawyer, teacher etc.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 9 Other, what: _____ | |

Appendix C: Questionnaire in French



SONDAGE POUR LA REGION DE SKAGAFJÖRDUR

Ce questionnaire fait partie de recherches concernant les impacts des centrales hydroélectriques à Skátastaðir (C. et D) et Villinganes sur le tourisme dans la région (se reporter à la carte et la de description). Les recherches sont dirigées par l'Université de Holar et l'Université d'Islande dans le cadre d'un projet gouvernemental appelé le Plan Directeur pour la Préservation de la Nature et l'Utilisation de l'Energie. Prévoyez 10 à 15 minutes pour remplir le questionnaire.

Merçi beaucoup pour votre participation!

1. À votre avis, dans quelle mesure les mots suivants décrivent-ils cette région (voir la carte)?

	très	un peu	ni l'un / ni l'autre	un peu	très	
1 Naturel	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Construit
2 Tranquille	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Bruyante
3 Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Inaccessible
4 Beau	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Laid
5 Impressionnante	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Terne

2. Qu'est-ce qui vous attire dans la région? _____

3. Quel est votre niveau de satisfaction concernant les éléments suivants?

	très insatisfaisant	insatisfaisant	ni l'un ni l'autre	satisfaisant	très satisfaisant
1 Le séjour	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
2 Le site naturel	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

4. Qu'avez-vous prévu de faire durant votre séjour? *Cocher toutes les réponses valables*

<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Randonnée _____ heures	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Pêche
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Balade à cheval	<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Rafting
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Un tour en voiture	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Se baigner dans une source chaude
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Archéologie	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Observer les phénomènes géologiques
<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Observer la végétation	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 Autre: _____

5. Désirez-vous visiter quelque chose de particulier dans la région?

☐1 Oui, quoi? _____ ☐2 Non

6. Combien de temps pensez-vous passer dans ce secteur?

_____ min. _____ heures _____ nuit/nuits

7. Êtes-vous déjà venu(e) ici? ☐1 Oui, combien de fois? _____ ☐2 Non

8. Serait-il à votre avis souhaitable ou non d'améliorer la qualité des routes dans cette région?

	très souhaitable	souhaitable	avis neutre	non souhaitable	pas souhaitable du tout
	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

14. Est-ce que la présence de ces infrastructures à proximité de votre itinéraire influencerait sure votre décision de visiter la région ?

	très négatif	plutôt négatif	aucun effet	plutôt positif	très positif	ne sais pas
1 Centrale hydraulique de Skátastaðir	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
2 Lac de barrage (Bugslón 26,3 km²)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
3 Centrale Hydraulique de Villinganes	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
4 Lac de barrage (1,7 km²)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
5 Lignes électriques	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6

15. Veuillez décrire les effets que les constructions susmentionnées auraient sur votre envie de visiter la région: _____

16. Veuillez indiquer si votre attitude à propos des déclarations suivantes est positive ou négative:

	très négative	négative	neutre	positive	très positive
1 Extension de l'aménagement des centrales hydroélectriques dans les Hautes Terres	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
2 Extension de l'aménagement des centrales hydroélectriques dans les Basses Terres	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
3 Centrales géothermiques dans les Hautes Terres	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
4 Extension de l'aménagement des centrales géothermiques dans les Basses Terres	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
5 Éoliennes dans les Hautes Terres	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
6 Éoliennes dans les Basses Terres	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
7 Lac de barrages dans les Hautes Terres	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
8 Lac de barrages dans les Basses Terres	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
9 Nouvelles lignes électriques dans les Hautes Terres	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
10 Nouvelles lignes électriques dans les Basses Terres	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

17. Que pensez-vous des déclarations suivantes?

	Pas d'accord du tout	Pas d'accord	Neutre	D'accord	Tout à fait d'accord
1 Je voyage dans des lieux comme celui-ci pour oublier les traces de la vie quotidienne et mettre mes soucis de côté	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
2 Je voyage dans des lieux comme celui-ci pour me reposer ("recharger mes batteries")	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

9. Quelle importance accordez-vous aux facteurs suivants au cours de votre voyage dans la région ?

	sans importance		indifférent		grande importance	
1 Sentiers balisés	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	
2 Sentiers aménagés	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	
3 Ponts pour piétons	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	
4 Jouir de la tranquillité	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	
5 Sentir la nature intacte	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	
6 Places de picnic (tables et bancs)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	
7 Peu de touristes	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	
8 Ne pas voir de traces de pneus en dehors des pistes	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	
9 Pouvoir marcher sans apercevoir de constructions (autres que des refuges)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	
10 Ne pas voir les traces de voyageurs précédents	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	
11 Sites intéressants bien indiqués	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	
12 Campings bien équipés (toilettes, poubelles, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	
13 Pouvoir camper n'importe où dans la région	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	
14 Pouvoir camper loin des autres voyageurs	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	
15 Ne pas être dérangé par le trafic aérien	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	

10. La notion de nature intacte/sauvage augmente-t-elle l'attrait des sites?

☐1 Oui ☐2 Non ☐0 Sans opinion

11. Avez-vous décidé de visiter cette région afin de ressentir la nature intacte/sauvage?

☐1 Oui ☐2 Non ☐0 Sans opinion

12. Les structures dont vous savez qu'elles sont proches mais qui ne sont pas visibles influencent-elles votre expérience de la nature sauvage?

Pas du tout	Un tout petit peu	Dans une certaine mesure	Beaucoup	Enormément	Sans opinion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6

13. Lesquels des éléments suivants lesquels peuvent exister sans compromettre la notion de « nature sauvage »? *Cocher toutes les réponses valables*

<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Aucune trace humaine	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Lignes électriques
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Refuges de montagne	<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Mâts d'antenne
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Hôtels	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 Centrales électriques
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Routes	<input type="checkbox"/> 11 Lac de barrage
<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Pistes	<input type="checkbox"/> 12 Éoliennes
<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Clôtures	<input type="checkbox"/> 13 Sentiers aménagés
<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Centres de services	<input type="checkbox"/> 14 Sentiers formés suite au passage des hommes et du bétail

18. Que pensez-vous des infrastructures suivantes dans la région?

	très inapproprié	inapproprié	neutre	approprié	très approprié	sans opinion
1 Routes en terre non rehaussées	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
2 Routes en terre rehaussées	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
3 Routes goudronnées	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
4 Routes carrossables toute l'année	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
5 Ponts carrossables sur les cours d'eau	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
6 Centrales hydroélectriques	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
7 Centrales géothermiques	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
8 Lac de barrages	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
9 Lignes électriques	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
10 Éoliennes	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
11 Hôtels	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
12 Refuges de montagne	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
13 Terrains de camping	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
14 Boutiques/restaurants	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
15 Stations-service	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
16 Toilettes	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
17 Vente d'aliments cuits	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
18 Centres d'accueil	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6
19 Mâts d'antenne	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 6

19. Sexe ☐1 Féminin ☐2 Masculin 20. Âge: _____ ans

21. Nationalité: _____

22. Où passerez-vous la nuit prochaine? _____

23. Où avez-vous séjourné la nuit dernière? _____

24. Avec qui voyagez-vous ? *Cocher toutes les réponses valables*

<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Seul	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Famille
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Partenaire/amis	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Tour organisé
<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Collègues/club	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Autres, qui? _____

25. Comment voyagez-vous? *Cocher toutes les réponses valables*

<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Voiture privée	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Voiture de location	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Car/bus
<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Moto/ Véhicule tout terrain	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Vélo	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 À pied
<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Cheval	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Autres, comment ? _____	

26. Votre profession?

<input type="checkbox"/> 1 Étudiant	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 Bureau/secteur du tertiaire
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 Non qualifié(e)	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 Retraité
<input type="checkbox"/> 5 Cadre	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 Formation professionnelle/technique
<input type="checkbox"/> 7 Personne au foyer	<input type="checkbox"/> 8 Profession libérale (médecin/avocat/professeur etc.)
<input type="checkbox"/> 9 Autres: _____	

Appendix D: Questionnaire in German



TOURISTIK – UMFRAGE – SKAGAFJÖRÐUR

Diese Umfrage ist Teil einer Studie über die Auswirkungen von Wasserkraftanlagen in Skatastaðir (C und D) und Villinganes auf den Tourismus in diesem Gebiet (siehe Karte und Beschreibung). Die Studie wird von der Hochschule Hólar und der Universität Island durchgeführt und gehört zu einem Regierungsprojekt namens „Der Masterplan für Naturschutz und Energienutzung“. Das Ausfüllen des Fragebogens dauert ca. 10 – 15 Minuten.

Vielen Dank für Ihre Teilnahme!

1. Wie gut beschreiben die folgenden Begriffe dieses Gebiet (siehe Karte)?

	sehr	etwas	weder noch	etwas	sehr	
1 Natürlich	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Künstlich
2 Still	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Laut
3 Zugänglich	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Unzugänglich
4 Schön	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Hässlich
5 Beindruckend	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	Unbeindruckend

2. Was finden Sie an diesem Ort interessant? _____

3. Wie zufrieden oder unzufrieden sind Sie mit dem Folgenden?

	sehr unzufrieden	unzufrieden	weder noch	zufrieden	sehr zufrieden
1. Ihr Aufenthalt in der Gegend	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
2. Die Natur in der Gegend	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

4. Was haben Sie in dieser Gegend gemacht oder möchten Sie machen?

Kreuzen Sie, wenn zutreffend, mehr als eine Antwort an

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Wandern _____ Std. | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 Fischen |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Reiten | <input type="checkbox"/> 7 River rafting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Autofahren | <input type="checkbox"/> 8 In einer Quelle baden |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Vögel beobachten | <input type="checkbox"/> 9 Geologische Naturschauspiele betrachten |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Pflanzen erkunden | <input type="checkbox"/> 10 Anderes: _____ |

5. Sind Sie hierher gekommen um etwas Bestimmtes zu tun oder zu besichtigen?

- ☐1 Falls ja, was? _____ ☐2 Nein

6. Wie lange wollen Sie in dieser Gegend bleiben?

_____ Min. _____ Std. _____ Nacht/Nächte

7. Waren Sie bereits einmal hier? ☐1 Ja, wie oft? _____ ☐2 Nein

8. Würden Sie es für wünschenswert oder nicht wünschenswert halten, dass die Straßen in diesem Gebiet verbessert werden?

sehr wünschenswert	wünschenswert	weder noch	nicht wünschenswert	gar nicht wünschenswert
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

14. Hätte die folgende Energieinfrastruktur in der Nähe Ihrer Reiseroute Einfluss auf Ihre Entscheidung, das Gebiet zu besuchen?

	sehr negativ	eher negativ	kein Einfluss	eher positiv	sehr positiv	keine Meinung
1 Wasserkraftanlage von Skatastaðir	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
2 Der Stausee Búgslón (26,3 km ²)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
3 Wasserkraftanlage von Villinganes	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
4 Ein Stausee (1,7 km ²)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
5 Stromleitungen	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0

15. Bitte beschreiben Sie, inwieweit die zuvor genannten Bauwerke Ihren Wunsch, das Gebiet zu besuchen, beeinflussen würden?

16. Bitte geben Sie an, wie positiv oder negativ Ihre Einstellung gegenüber folgenden Projekten ist:

	sehr negativ	negativ	weder noch	positiv	sehr positiv
1 Weiterentwicklung der Wasserkraftanlagen im Hochland	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
2 Weiterentwicklung der Wasserkraftanlagen im Tiefland	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
3 Geothermiekraftwerke im Hochland	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
4 Weiterentwicklung der Geothermiekraftwerke im Tiefland	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
5 Windkraftanlagen im Hochland	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
6 Windkraftanlagen im Tiefland	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
7 Stauseen im Hochland	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
8 Stauseen im Tiefland	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
9 Weiterausbau der Stromleitungen im Hochland	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
10 Weiterausbau der Stromleitungen im Tiefland	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

17. Inwieweit stimmen Sie den folgenden Aussagen zu?

	stimme überhaupt nicht zu	stimme teilweise nicht zu	neutral	stimme teilweise zu	stimme voll und ganz zu
1 Ich gehe an Orte wie diesen, um dem Alltag zu entfliehen und meine Sorgen für einen Moment zu vergessen	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
2 Ich gehe an Orte wie diesen, um zur Ruhe zu kommen und mich zu erholen („meine Energie aufzutanken“)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

9. Wie wichtig finden Sie das Folgende für Ihre Reise in dieses Gebiet?

	sehr unwichtig	unwichtig	neutral	wichtig	sehr wichtig
1 Markierte Wanderwege	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
2 Angelegte Wanderwege	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
3 Fußgängerbrücken	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
4 Ruhe und Stille	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
5 Unberührte Natur zu erleben	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
6 Picknick-Stellen (Tische und Bänke)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
7 Wenige andere Besucher	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
8 Keine Fahrspuren außerhalb der Wege	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
9 Wandern, ohne auf Bauwerke zu stoßen (außer Berghütten)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
10 Keine Hinweise auf andere Besucher	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
11 Kennzeichnung interessanter Orte	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
12 Organisierte Zeltplätze (Toiletten, Papierkörbe etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
13 Überall Möglichkeit zum Zelten zu haben	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
14 Zelten, ohne Nachbarn zu haben	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
15 Nicht vom Fluglärm gestört zu werden	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

10. Finden Sie, dass unberührte Natur/Wildnis zu der Attraktion dieses Gebiets gehört?

- ☐1 Ja ☐2 Nein ☐0 Keine Meinung

11. Haben Sie diese Gegend besucht, um unberührte Natur/Wildnis zu erleben?

- ☐1 Ja ☐2 Nein ☐0 Keine Meinung

12. Wirken sich nahegelegene Bauwerke, die nicht sichtbar sind, von deren Präsenz Sie jedoch wissen, auf die Erfahrung in der Wildnis aus?

- | | | | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| überhaupt nicht | wenig | eingemessen | viel | sehr viel | keine Meinung |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 |

13. Was darf in einer Gegend vorhanden sein, ohne dass sie das Attribut unberührte Weite verliert? Kreuzen Sie, wenn zutreffend, mehr als eine Antwort an

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Nichts | <input type="checkbox"/> 8 Stromleitungen |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Berghütten | <input type="checkbox"/> 9 Antennenmasten |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Hotels | <input type="checkbox"/> 10 Kraftwerke |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Straßen | <input type="checkbox"/> 11 Stauseen |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Fahrspuren | <input type="checkbox"/> 12 Windkraftanlagen |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6 Zäune | <input type="checkbox"/> 13 Angelegte Wanderwege |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7 Dienstleistungszentren | <input type="checkbox"/> 14 Pfade durch Wanderer oder Nutztiere |

18. Was halten Sie von dem Erstellen folgender Anlagen in diesem Gebiet?

	sehr dagegen	dagegen	neutral	dafür	sehr dafür	ohne Meinung
1 Schotterwege	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
2 Erhöhte Schotterwege	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
3 Asphaltierte Straßen	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
4 Ganzjahresstraßen	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
5 Autobridgen	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
6 Wasserkraftanlagen	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
7 Geothermiekraftwerke	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
8 Stauseen	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
9 Stromleitungen	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
10 Windkraftanlagen	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
11 Hotels	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
12 Berghütten	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
13 Zeltplätze	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
14 Geschäfte/Restaurants	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
15 Tankstellen	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
16 Toiletten	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
17 Gekochtes Essen	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
18 Touristenzentren	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0
19 Funkmasten	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 0

19. Geschlecht ☐1 Weibl. ☐2 Männl. 20. Alter: _____ Jahre

21. Woher kommen Sie? _____

22. Wo werden Sie heute übernachten? _____

23. Wo haben Sie gestern übernachtet? _____

24. Mit wem reisen Sie? Kreuzen Sie, wenn zutreffend, mehr als eine Antwort an

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Ich reise allein | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Mit meiner Familie |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Mit Verwandten/ Freunden | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Mit einer organisierten Reisegruppe |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Mit Arbeits-/Klubkollegen | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 Mit anderen, mit wem? _____ |

25. Wie reisen Sie? Kreuzen Sie, wenn zutreffend, mehr als eine Antwort an

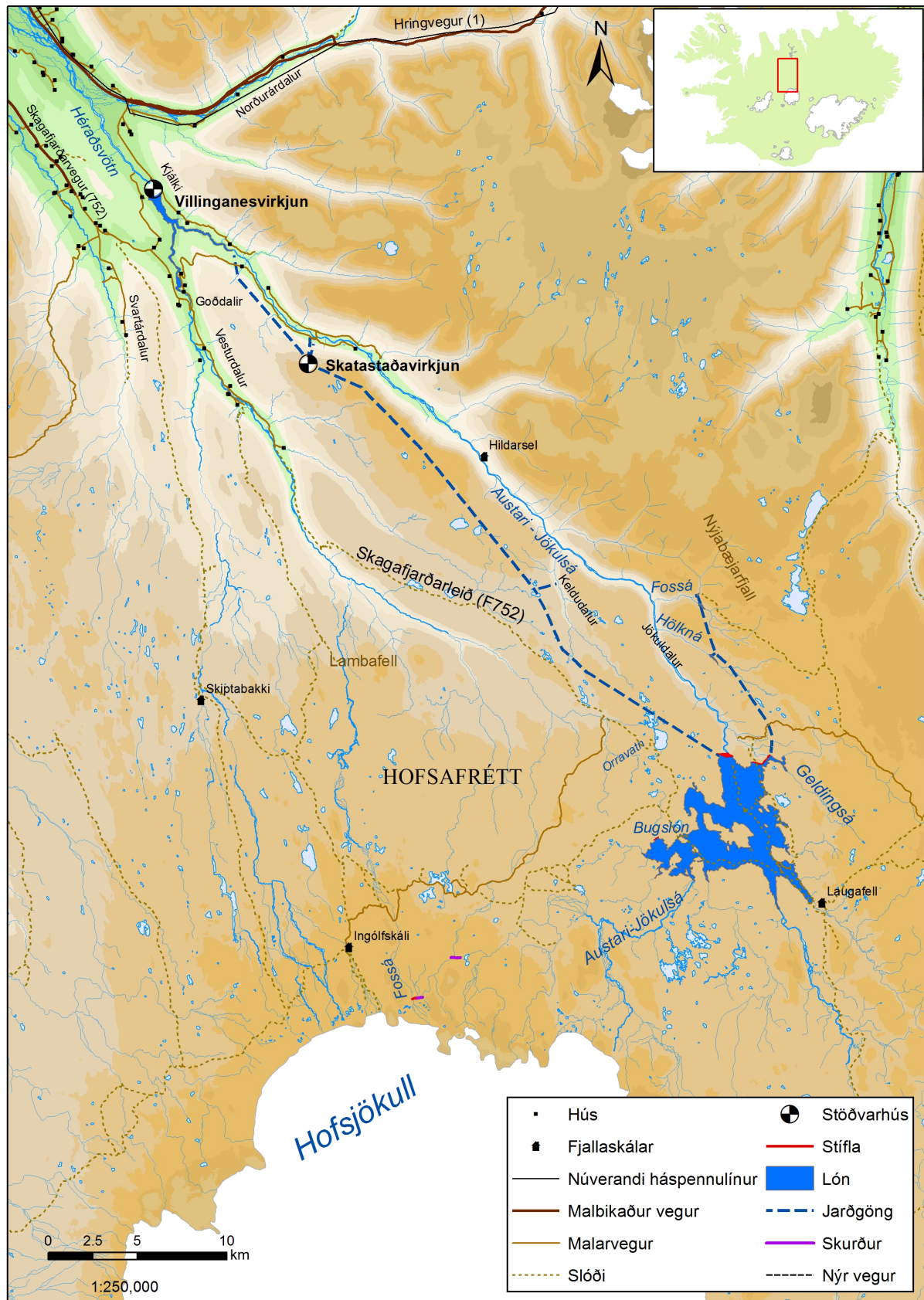
- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Mit dem eigenen Auto | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Mit einem Mietwagen | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Mit einem Reisebus |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Motorrad/ Allradfahrzeug | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Mit dem Fahrrad | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 Zu Fuß |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7 Zu Pferde | <input type="checkbox"/> 8 Auf andere Art, wie? _____ | |

26. Was ist Ihr Berufsbereich?

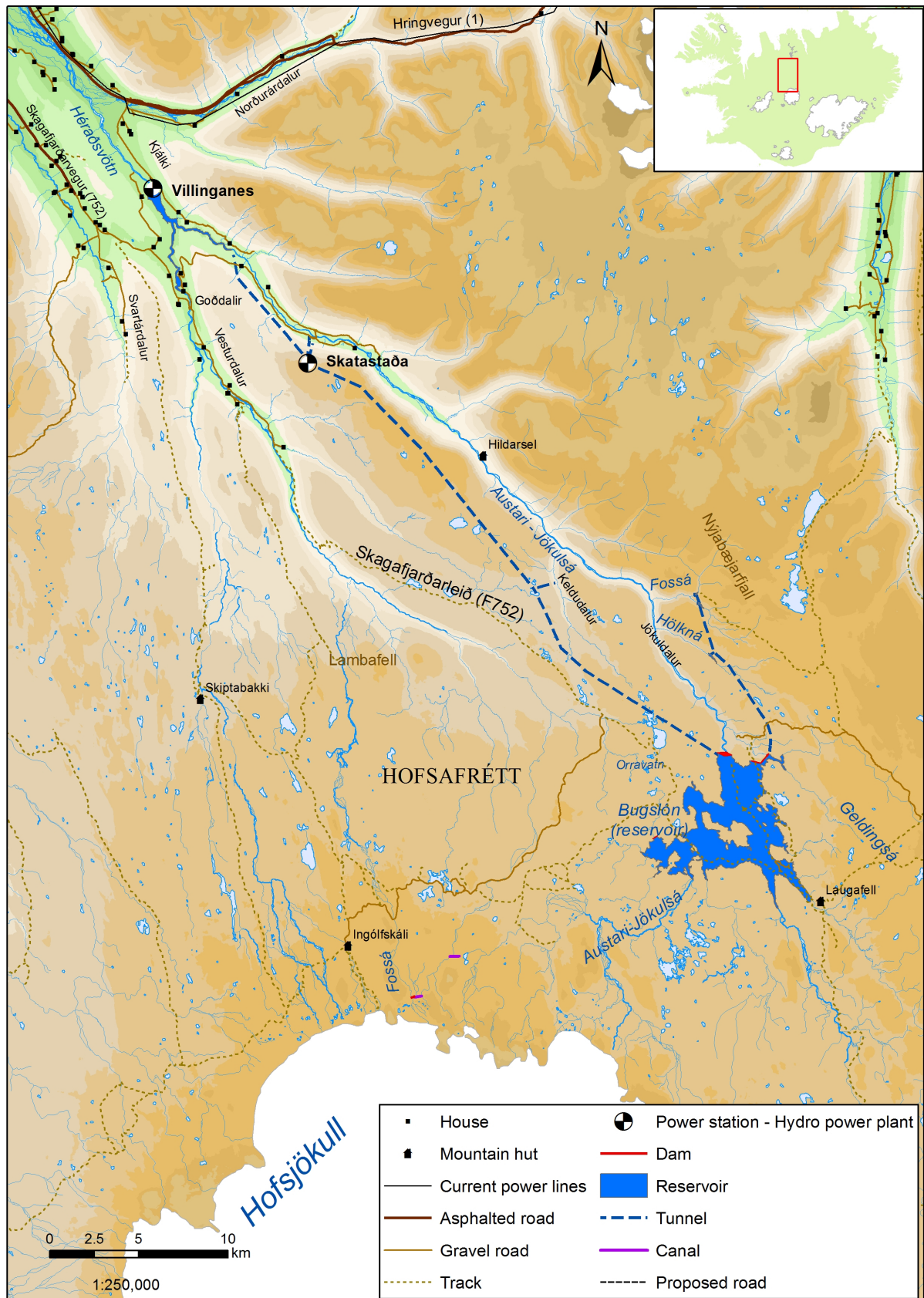
- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Student | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Büro- und Dienstleistungssektor | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 Ungelernter Beruf |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4 Ruhestand | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 Geschäftsführung | <input type="checkbox"/> 6 Technische Fachkraft |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7 Hausfrau | <input type="checkbox"/> 8 Experte (Arzt, Rechtsanwalt, Architekt, Lehrer, etc.) | |

☐9 Andere, bitte erklären: _____

Appendix E: Map of the region with Icelandic text



Appendix F: Map of the region with English text



Appendix G: Interview Schedule in Icelandic

Viðtalsrammi fyrir ferðapjónustuaðila v. Skatastaðavirkjunar og Villinganesvirkjunar í Skagafirði

(Vera með kort sem hægt er að teikna inná. Jafnvel annað kort sem sýnir framkvæmdirnar).

Starfsemi á svæðinu:

- Hvaða starfsemi eruð þið með á þessu svæði?
- Hvað eru margir í ferðunum, í einu, á ári? Fjöldatala mikilvæg
- Hvað er gert, hvað er skoðað?
- Hvers konar ferðamenn, hverjar eru þeirra kröfur?
- Hvaða staðir eru skoðaðir, hverjir þeirra eru mikilvægastir, hafa mest aðdráttarafl fyrir ferðamenn?
- Skrifa inn á kortin hvaða leiðir þeir fara o.s.frv.
- Hvaða sérstöðu hefur svæðið sem ferðamannastaður?
- Hvernig þykir þér aðgengi að svæðinu vera?
 - Mætti það vera betra?

Framtíðin

- Hvaða framtíðarmöguleika sérð þú á svæðinu?
- Hvernig sérðu fyrir þér að ferðapjónusta á svæðinu þróist á næstu árum
- Er svæðið vannýtt að hálfu ferðapjónustunnar? Hvaða tækifæri eru vannýtt?
- Gætu fleiri ferðamenn komið á svæðið? Þolir svæðið fleiri ferðamenn? Af hverju?
- Hvers konar mannvirki eru viðeigandi þarna?
- Hverjar telur þú vera óskir ferðamenna sem munu koma hingað í framtíðinni?
 - Aðgengi?
 - Innviðir (gisting, veitingar, afþreying)?

Fyrirhugaðar virkjanir (Skatastaðavirkjun/Villinganesvirkjun)

- Hefur þú kynnt þér virkjanahugmyndirnar (hægt að skýra eitthvað með kortum ef ekki).
- Hver er skoðun þín á virkjununum (hverrar fyrir sig, Skatastaðavirkjun og Villinganesvirkjun)
- Raflínur
- Hvaða áhrif myndi virkjunin hafa á ferðapjónustu (þína eigin/eigið fyrirtæki? annarra? og upplifunina sem verið er að bjóða upp á? Ímynd Skagafjarðar)
- Mundu aðrir kostir til orkuframleiðslu (en þessar virkjanir) koma til greina hér á svæðinu, að þínu mati?

Framkvæmdir – eða ekki

- Hvernig telur þú að ferðamennska myndi þróast á svæðinu ef engin virkjun yrði reist?
- Hvernig telur þú að ferðamennska myndi þróast á svæðinu með virkjun?
- Hvor kosturinn hugnast þér betur – rökstyðja svarið?
- Er eitthvað sem þú vilt bæta við?

Undirstrika nafnleysi (útskýra).

Spyrja hvort megi koma til baka með spurningarlista fyrir ferðamenn

Appendix H: Interview Schedule in English

Interview frame for tourism operators regarding power plant proposals at Skatastaðir and Villinganes in Skagafjörður

Business / activity in the area:

- What kind of business do you run in the area?
- How many visitors (in your tours, at you place at each time/ in a year)?
- What do they do while they are here?
- What kind of tourists do you get and what are their demands?
- What places are they looking at, what are the most important ones, what is the attraction for travellers?
- Show on a map where they go
- What makes this place special as a destination for travellers?
- How is the accessibility of the area?
 - should it be better?

Future

- What possibilities do you see (in the area) for the future?
- How do you see the tourism industry developing in the next years?
- Could the area be used more by the tourism industry? How?
- Could more travellers come into the area? Can the area tolerate more travellers? Why?
- What kind of infrastructure is suitable in this area?
- What do you think future travellers would prefer to have here regarding access and infrastructure (accommodation, restaurants/catering, activities?)

The power plant proposals

- Are you familiar with the power plant proposals? (explain shortly if they are not)
- What is your opinion on each of them?
- Would the power plants have impact on you/your company? If yes, how?
- What impact would these power plants have on tourism? (your own business, others, travellers experience)?

No power plant

- How do you think tourism will develop with the power plants?
- How do you think tourism will develop without the power plants?
- What do you prefer – why, argue for it?

Appendix I: Letter of consent in Icelandic

Háskólinn á Hólum
Ferðamáladeild



Rannsókn á áhrifum fyrirhugaðra virkjana við Villinganes og Skatastaði í Skagafirði á ferðamennsku

Rannsókn þessi, sem fram fer sumarið 2015, er á vegum Háskólans á Hólum og unnin fyrir Umhverfissráðuneyti. Rannsóknin í Skagafirði er hluti af stærri rannsókn, sem fram fer á landsvísu og stýrt af Háskóla Íslands.

Tilgangur rannsóknarinnar er að kanna viðhorf ferðapjónustuaðila til fyrirhugaðra vatnsvirkjana í Skagafirði, við Skatastaði og Villinganes. Upplýsingarnar verða nýttar til að meta áhrif slíkra framkvæmda á ferðamennsku á svæðinu.

Framkvæmd rannsóknarinnar er í höndum rannsakenda við Háskólann á Hólum sem munu heimsækja þig og eiga við þig viðtal. Í viðtalinu verður þú beðin að lýsa fyrirtækinu og viðhorfum þínum til virkjanakosta í Skagafirði.

Viðtalið verður tekið upp, en nafnleyndrar gætt eins og kostur er. Aðeins rannsakendur og verkefnisstjóri verkefnisins munu hafa aðgang að upptökunum.

Upplýsingar úr viðtalinu verða nýttar í skýrslu til Umhverfissráðuneytisins og í fræðilegar greinar skrifaðar af rannsakendum við Háskólann á Hólum og Háskóla Íslands.

Þátttaka í rannsókninni er frjálss og þú getur hætt þátttöku í verkefninu hvenær sem er á rannsóknartímanum.

Nánari upplýsingar um verkefnið veitir Dr. Leah Burns, deildarstjóri ferðamáladeildar Háskólans á Hólum í síma 8630308 eða leah@holar.is.

Bestu þakkir fyrir þátttökuna ☺

Upplýst samþykki:

Ég staðfesti hér með að ég skil upplýsingarnar hér að ofan og samþykki að taka þátt í rannsókninni:

Dagsetning:

Staður:

Undirskrift þátttakanda:

Appendix J: Letter of consent in English



Háskólinn á Hólum
Ferdamáladeild

*Study about the impact of proposed power plants
at Skatastaðir and Villinganes on tourism*

This study is conducted by Hólar University College for the Icelandic Ministry of Environment during summer 2015. The study in Skagafjörður is part of a larger research project conducted on a national basis managed by the University of Iceland. The purpose of the study in Skagafjörður is to examine tourist operators' perceptions of the proposals for hydroelectric power generation at Skatastaðir and Villinganes. The information will be used to evaluate the impact of proposed power plants in the region.

The study is conducted by researchers at Hólar University College who will visit you and conduct an interview. During the interview you will be asked to describe your tourism business and your opinion of the power plant proposals.

The conversation will be recorded but every effort will be made to ensure the interviewee remains anonymous. Only investigators and the project manager of the study will have access to the recording.

The information will be used to prepare a report for the Ministry of the Environment, and in academic publications by researchers at Hólar University College and the University of Iceland.

Your participation is voluntary and you can choose to discontinue at any time during the research process.

For further information about the project please contact Dr Leah Burns, Head of the Tourism Department at Hólar University College, on 8630308 or leah@holar.is.

Thank you for your participation 😊

Informed consent:

I confirm that I understand the above information and agree to participate in the study:

Date:

Location:

Signature of participant: