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## **Appendix 6**

### **Guiding questions for framing interviews**

These are questions to guide the interviews and stimulate discussion. While they do not all have to be answered they should be used to encourage people to air their views or draw out key issues and generally encourage discussion. They do not have to be asked in any particular order but the subject headings will be used by the project team to organise the written report. In all questions the interviewer should keep in mind how this might relate to research that can be done or information needed. This applies to every question and doesn't just need to be confined to the section on research and information. The word river is intended in the broadest sense-the same questions may also be asked about groundwater, estuaries, catchment management and wetlands and this broader discussion should be encouraged.

#### **Indigenous Uses and Values**

What do you use the river for?

Why is the river important to you?

Do you think that you use and think about the river in the same way as white people or in a different way? Can you explain a bit more about this?

Are there some places on or around the river that you use a lot-why? Are there some places that you used to use a lot but you don't any more-why?

#### **Indigenous views of river health**

Has the river changed over your lifetime from when you were younger?

What are some of the things that have changed and what are some of things that haven't changed?

Have the changes been good or bad?

How do you know when the river is healthy-what do you look for to tell you when the river is healthy or not healthy?

#### **Management Impacts**

Is there anything happening to the river now that worries you? Can you explain what this is and why it is a problem?

Do you feel that you have good information about what is happening in the river or not so good? What kind of information would you like to get about things that are happening on or around the river?

## **Indigenous river management**

How do Indigenous people in this area look after the river?

What about the Indigenous people upstream and downstream/ do you talk with them about the river?

What about the government-do they talk to you about how the river is managed and what happens to it?

## **Research and Information**

What are the things you would like to find out about the river? What kind of information would be useful to you to help you manage the river?

How would you like to get this information - reports? Internet? Face to face meetings?

What information of your own or your community's would you like to communicate to other people about the river?

How would you like any research to be done? How should people doing river research involve Indigenous people in your area?

Have there been problems with research or researchers in the past in your area? What changes would make research more useful to you rather than a problem.

## **The Future**

What would you like to see for the river in the future?

In what ways would you like to be able to use the river?

Are there particular concerns or worries you have about the wellbeing of the river in the future?

Are there good things about the river you would like to see stay?

Are there bad things about the river or what is happening to it that you would like to see change?