

# The Animal Voice Within the Compositional Process



Arts & Humanities

Research Council

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#### Introduction

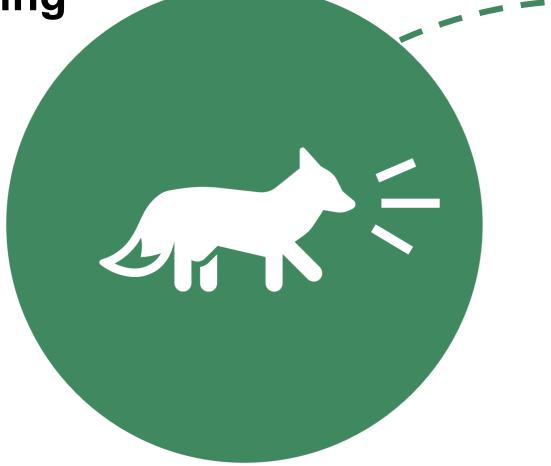
An emotional bond with nature, also known as **nature connection**, is important for both human wellbeing and encouraging nature-friendly behaviours. Most nature connection campaigns are focused on visuals, but **audio recordings** of nature have become more widely used as a tool for nature connection, mostly within soundscape composition.

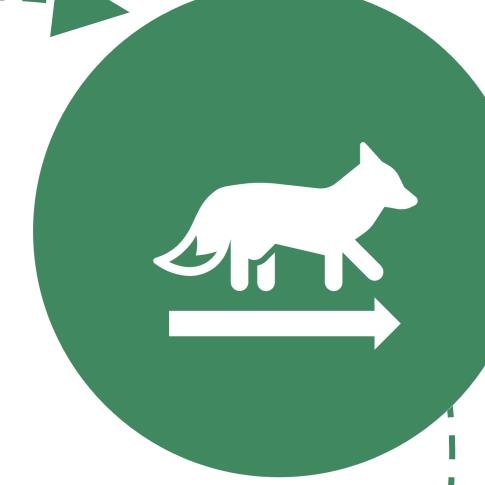
This research combines **animal recordings** with **electroacoustic compositional techniques** to create new sonic means for nature connection. Electroacoustic music's capacity for **transmodal linking**<sup>2</sup>—connecting to other senses during a sonic experience—makes it the perfect medium to create emotional bonds, as engagement through the senses is a key pathway to nature connection.<sup>3</sup>

### Methodology



Record sounds from animals at conservation facilities and nature reserves





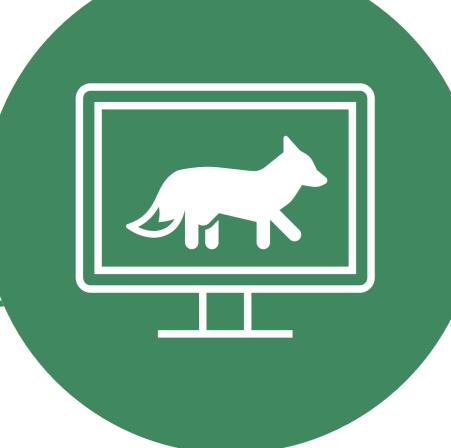
# 2. Observing

Make notes on the animals' behaviours and body language

#### 4. Sharing

Create and disseminate music that allows listeners to form emotional bonds with the animals featured





## 3. Composing

Develop sounds in the studio, using animal behaviours as inspiration and considering transmodal linking

# **Further Steps**

The next step is the distribution of surveys to detect whether people feel a **greater connection to nature** after listening. Take the survey here



#### References

- [1] Elizabeth Kals et al., 'Emotional Affinity toward Nature as a Motivational Basis to Protect Nature', *Environment and behaviour*, 31 (1999-03), 2: 178-202.
- [2] Denis Smalley, 'Space-form and the acousmatic image', *Organised Sound*, 12 (2007), 1: 35-58.
- [3] Ryan Lumber, 'Beyond knowing nature: Contact, emotion, compassion, meaning, and beauty are pathways to nature connection', *PloS one*, 12 (2016), 5: e0177186.