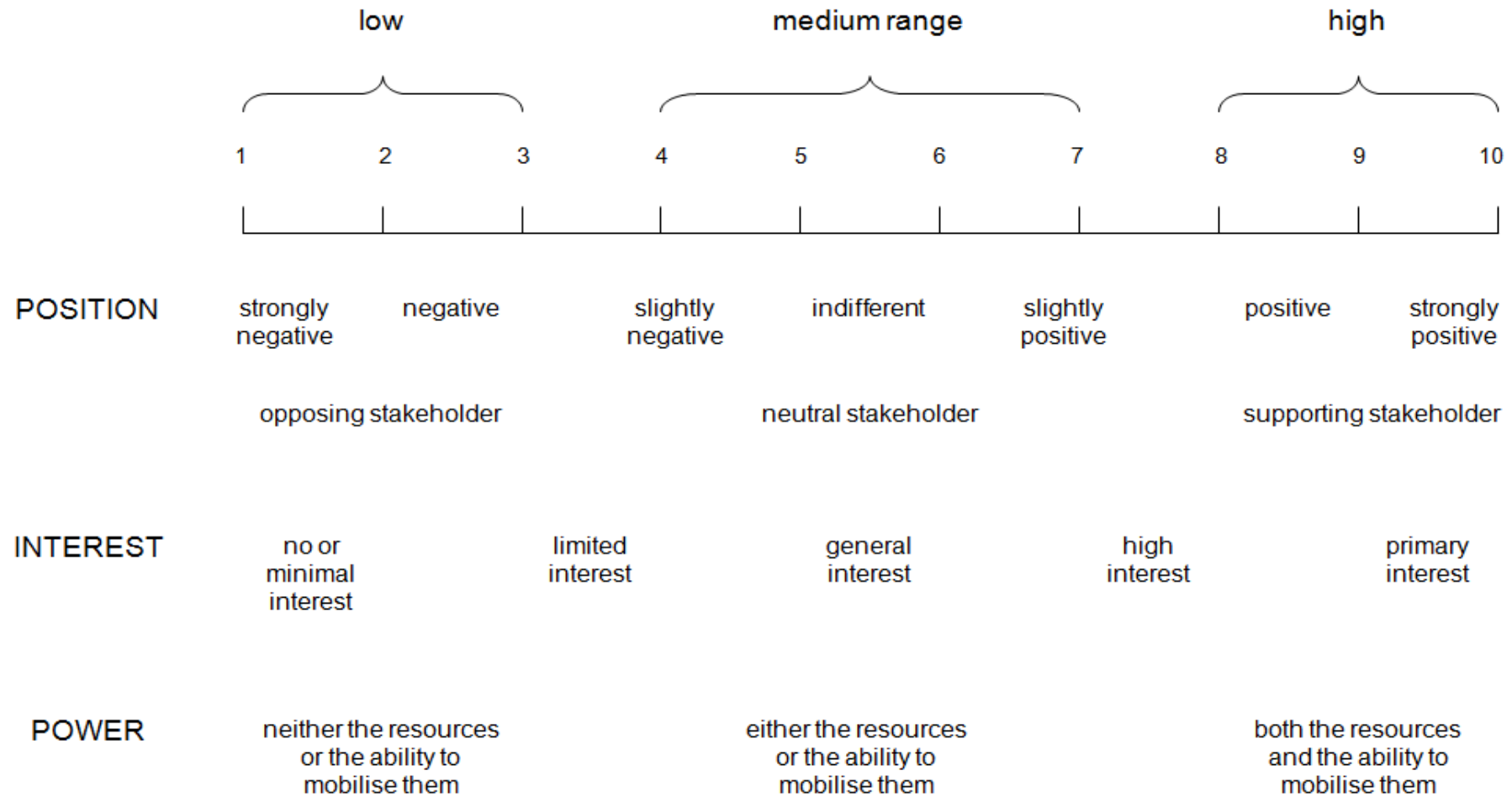


Appendix 3



The 10-point scale used to score stakeholder attributes

The dimensions of stakeholder characteristics analyzed are position, interests, and power. We used 10 points (1-10) to allow for more comparisons of the system under study and to create a wider distribution since the extremes are often avoided in scales with smaller numbers (Oppenheim 2003). Semantic differentials indicated the cognitive meaning of concepts along the scale (e.g. a stakeholder is strongly negative or opposes the expansion of the protected area due to the potential of more predators in the general vicinity and the perceived increase in human-wildlife conflict). As opposed to using linguistically anchored, Likert-type scales where perceptual judgements about the urgency or importance of the concept is classified as 'very important' to 'not important' (Osgood et al. 1957). The latter are based on perceptual judgments and classifications such as 'very important', which must be clearly defined and reduces the potential of comparisons across stakeholder groups of different sizes and functions. (For example, the way in which individuals valued costs and benefits to being adjacent to the national park, which represents interest, had a strong cultural and socio-economic component. This potentially influences their perceptions of being part of the social-ecological system and how they may be affected by changes). The 10-point scales therefore allow for potential comparisons and by having more points, it increases discrimination and creates a wider distribution since assessors often avoid the extremes in scales with smaller numbers (Oppenheim 2003). As pointed out by Heidrich et al. (2009) using 10-point scales creates a fuzzy set for each individual or group evaluated. Across the dimensions of position, interest and power, scores of 4-7 inclusive, are considered as the middle range and those falling outwith could be viewed as particularly high or low/negative or positive.