

# Farming & Forestry issues

Each group heard an outline of context, and questioned and commented on that, before discussing two questions. Key points were then chosen.

## Key points:

- Concerns about physical and economic damage
- Manage populations? What levels are acceptable?
- Need eco-framework to support new costs
- Human safety / risks
- There are forestry benefits eg. boar for natural regeneration; pest control
- Farmers are stewards of the land therefore managing reintroductions could be a logical extension of that
- Landowners are key to connectivity issues
- It all comes down to local involvement (esp. farmers), respect and education

## Comments on context:

- Damage – physical, economic & psychological
- Management – culling? Biological and social thresholds/carrying capacity
- Farming & forestry modifying animal behaviour
- Modifying land to accommodate re-introductions
- Costs & economics
- Preparation & education
- Open dialogue?
- Politics & media
- Human safety / livelihoods

## What factors will encourage farming & forestry interests to accept or participate in a reintroduction project?

- Money – financial incentives, broader agri – environmental schemes
- Improved dialogue between land users & policy makers/conservationists
- Zones of reintroduction
- Training, raising awareness, visiting examples

## What can farming and forestry interests contribute to reintroduction projects, and how can these benefits be harnessed?

- Local input & involvement
- Pest control
- Habitat creation, management & connectivity
- Providing land
- More trees in forestry