CONNECTIONS, NETWORKS AND GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION

The purpose of this discussion is to explore important connections and networks, including governance arrangements, in the system. These features influence how people move, how issues spread, how information is shared, and how decisions are made. Connections and networks therefore have a large structuring role on system behavior, and are important to be aware of to be able to navigate towards more sustainable futures.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What are important ecological links in the system? This can be described in terms of e.g. movements of important species in the landscape, or in terms of the general landscape patchiness and mosaic.
- What are important links between people? This can be described in terms of e.g. who talks to who and shares information about what. But it could also be described in terms of infrastructure, trade routes and value chains.
- What governance arrangements exist? Where and how are decisions made regarding important issues? Who is involved in making those decisions and at what scale? How do impacts of those decisions ‘flow’ through the system?
• Can you identify any networks of people who do things differently, challenging current state of affairs, that may be relevant to the Wayfinder process? For example, while most people in a town might buy their food from supermarkets, there might be organizations of farmers who try to sell local organic produce at farmers’ markets?