

# Frames of wild boar by human inhabitants from Epe and Heerde (Veluwe), the Netherlands



Axel Buijs  
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Supervisors:  
MSc. S. H. (Susan) Boonman-Berson, PhD Candidate  
Wageningen UR, Forest and Nature Policy Group  
Dr. ir. B. H. M. (Birgit) Elands  
Wageningen UR, Forest and Nature Policy Group

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Axel Buijs

Registration Number: 861112151120

Wageningen University

Master Thesis Forest and Nature Conservation

Forest and Nature Conservation Policy group

FNP-80436

Supervisors:

MSc. S. H. (Susan) Boonman-Berson, PhD Candidate

Wageningen UR, Forest and Nature Policy Group

Dr. ir. B. H. M. (Birgit) Elands

Wageningen UR, Forest and Nature Policy Group

## Abstract

In human-wildlife conflict studies, the focus is mainly on the damage caused by wildlife and/or on the social context of the conflict. Both approaches are legitimate choices, because damage of wildlife is in most cases where the conflict originates from and the perceived conflict mitigation or solution is in most cases located in the social context. However, in these studies geographical space is not included as an explicit element of the human-wildlife conflict. It is mentioned in some studies, but not as an integral part of the conflict. While human-wildlife conflicts are spatially bounded; where wildlife is present and has its activities determines whether there is a conflict or not. In this study, geographical space is included as an explicit part of the human-wild boar conflict on the Veluwe (the Netherlands).

On the Veluwe, the area where wild boar and humans live overlap, resulting in human-wild boar conflicts. The conflicts mainly entail damage and traffic accidents caused by wild boar. This is reflected in the wild boar management; in order to limit the damage caused by wild boar, population control (culling) and limiting the movement of wild boar (e.g. placing fences) are applied. It is not clear whether the humans that live on the Veluwe share this view on wild boar wild boar management. Not including their viewpoints can imply that there is a discrepancy in how local inhabitants and policy makers/managers think of the human-wild boar conflict. This in turn can result in little support for the wild boar management in place and protests against it.

This study focuses on two towns located on the Veluwe, namely Epe and Heerde. A human-wild boar conflict occurs there; wild boar get as close as the fences surrounding the private gardens, and sometimes even get inside the gardens and cause damage. In order to keep wild boar out of Epe, the municipality of Epe has approved the plan to build a fence. There have been protests (e.g. discussion evenings, complaints) against this fence, by both inhabitants from Epe and local associations. There was a public participation event about the fence, though only on the route and not the fence itself. The protests and the contents of the public participation event suggest that in the fencing decision the viewpoints of the local inhabitants are not included.

Analyzing how the inhabitants of Epe and Heerde perceive wild boar management and the planned fencing of Epe is an important result of this study, although not the main aim. The main aim of this study is to understand how these perceptions are related to the specific social and geographical context of Epe and Heerde. Especially the planned fencing of Epe makes this specific context important to include. How the inhabitants think of the relationship between humans and nature/wild boar is included to better understand how wild boar, wild boar management and the fence are perceived.

Frames are used to analyze and categorize the perceptions, resulting in 'wild boar frames'. Social space is part of these frames, in order to include the social context of Epe and Heerde. Geographical space is part of these frames, in order to include the geographical context of Epe and Heerde. The HaN-scale is the concept that is used in the frames, to include people's perception of the relationship between humans and nature/wild boar. Frames and these three concepts are used to answer the main research question of this study; *What wild boar frames exists among the inhabitants from Epe and Heerde and how can these frames be interpreted by social space, geographical space and the HaN-scale?*

A total of 20 interviews (10 in Epe, 10 in Heerde) with inhabitants have been conducted to examine how they perceive wild boar, wild boar management and the planned fencing. Additionally, a focus group evening was organized in Epe where the same topics were discussed. The study concludes with an interview that is conducted with the local association 'Behoud Kwaliteit Epe'.

For the human-wild boar conflict, an important aspect of the context of Epe and Heerde is that most interviewees have placed their own fences or have taken other measures. This implies that wild boar caused no damage in their garden and that wild boar are not a problem for all of the interviewees. Their own measures seem to have resulted in a more lenient stance towards wild boar. Due to their own fences, the planned fence of Epe is perhaps considered as a needless solution. This might have been different if the interviewees had not already taken their own measures. This suggests that how human-wildlife conflicts are perceived by local inhabitants, is tightly related to the magnitude of the damage caused by wildlife and the availability/affordability of solutions (e.g. own fences around garden).

The protests prior to and after the fencing decision was made, indicates that there is a discrepancy between what some inhabitants of Epe want (no fence) and what the municipality wants (the fence). This is reflected in this study, where some interviewees from Epe stated that in its fencing decision the municipality of Epe did not consider their viewpoints. The public participation corresponds with this; some interviewees consider it as a sham, because it was only about the route and not the fence itself. This notion is confirmed in the interview with the local association Behoud Kwaliteit Epe. This study draws no quantitative conclusions, but there are signs that support for the fence does not apply to most inhabitants.

The main conclusion drawn in this study is that, in the human-wild boar conflict of Epe a general division can be identified for the wild boar frames. This division is about what makes up the problem for the interviewees; the main problem is either related to wild boar and the effects of their presence, or wild boar are not a problem and the main problem is related to other actors and their activities. Social space is most important if the main problem is related to actors and their activities (e.g. culling, the fence). Geographical space is most important and clearly defined if the main problem is related to wild boar and the negative effects of their presence. In these wild boar frames, including geographical space was essential to understand where wild boar are a problem and where not. The relationships of the HaN-scale also reflect this division. In frames where the main problem are wild boar, the relationships that have a more instrumentalist (anthropocentric) view on nature are part of the frame. In frames where wild boar are not a problem but human activities are, the relationships that have a more intrinsic (ecocentric) view on nature are part of the frame.

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# Chapter 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Problem Statement

In the Netherlands, wild boar live on the Veluwe (1000 km<sup>2</sup>, situated in the Province of Gelderland). On the Veluwe, there are numerous towns and smaller cities as well. This combination of human and wild boar presence results in human-wild boar conflicts. Wild boar come close to the towns, where they walk through the streets and enter private gardens. Wild boar cause damage during these 'visits' and are the cause of traffic accidents on the Veluwe (Provincie Gelderland, 2009). Epe and Heerde are two towns located on the northeastern part of the Veluwe and form the research location of this study.

Occasionally, wild boar enter the town of Epe and parts of Heerde. In the year 2011 they even reached the Epe's city center (Verdouw, 2013). Wild boar have caused damage (e.g. to agricultural land, private gardens) and 'nuisance' (e.g. people being scared) in Epe and parts of Heerde. The municipality of Epe wants to stop this (Provincie Gelderland, 2009) and has approved the plan of fencing off parts (northern, northwestern border) of Epe (Provincie Gelderland, 2009). The fence should keep wild boar out of Epe and prevent future human-wild boar conflicts within Epe's city limits (Gemeente Epe, 2012). The neighboring town of Heerde does not want to financially cooperate with a full fencing off of Epe's northern border; the fence stops at the communal border of Epe (Elskamp, 2013a). In this report, the situation in Epe and Heerde that is characterized by wild boar presence and the planned fencing will be referred to as the 'fencing case'.

The human-wild boar conflict in Epe is an example of a human-wildlife conflict; conflicts that occur all around the globe. Potential human-wildlife conflicts exist whenever people and wildlife are present in the same areas. Human-wildlife conflicts occur both in cities and in rural areas (Cahill et al., 2012; Chen et al. 2013). The conflicts relate to nuisance (e.g. people being scared, people need to drive extra carefully) and damage (e.g. to crops, agricultural fields) (Hill and Webber, 2010; Chen et al. 2013). In the cases where wildlife cause damage, this can have a significant negative effect for peoples incomes and be a threat to their livelihoods (Barua et al., 2013; Chen et al., 2013).

One of the reasons why wildlife management is applied is to cope with these situations, where humans and wildlife are present in the same areas. Management of wildlife might aim at preventing or lessen the human-wildlife conflict. On the Veluwe, wild boar are managed according to the Wildlife Management Plan of the Veluwe. In this management plan, wild boar are perceived as animals that have the potential to cause damage and therefore require active management (Provincie Gelderland, 2012). The management activities focus mainly on population control (how many wild boar there may live) and fencing (where wild boar may live) (Provincie Gelderland, 2009; Provincie Gelderland, 2012). The planned fence of Epe fits this approach of the wildlife management plan.

Within human-wildlife conflicts, the way managers and policymakers perceive wildlife matters. Their perception guides what actions and measures are taken in relation to wildlife and thus what wildlife management is applied (Tversky and Kahneman, 1981; Dewulf et al. 2009; Murer, 2012). Due to the perception of wild boar in the Wildlife Management Plan, culling and the placement of fences are the applied management activities on the Veluwe (Stoett, 2010; Barua et al., 2013).

In wildlife management (plans), it is not always clear if the local inhabitants share the wildlife perception on which the management is based. The perceptions of the local inhabitants matter, because they are part of the human-wildlife conflict. Local inhabitants are not always involved in wildlife management decisions, something that is especially bothersome if the management aims at resolving the human-wildlife conflict (Barua et al., 2013). If a discrepancy exists between how policymakers/managers and inhabitants perceive wildlife, this lack of involvement can be a significant obstacle for management support and conflict resolution (Pinkley and Northcraft, 1994; Putnam, 2010; Van Leeuwen, 2010).



This lack of management support seems to be present in the fencing case. The municipality of Epe had organized a public participation event, where inhabitants of Epe could comment on the route of the fence but not on the fencing decision itself. Most inhabitants that participated in the public participation stated that they are against the fence (Elskamp, 2013b). Despite these public participation reactions, the municipality of Epe has not changed its decision (Elskamp, 2013c; Gemeente Epe, 2013b). This suggests that the inhabitants of Epe are not involved in the decision whether to place the fence or not.

Protests of different local associations, both prior to and after the fencing decision was made, supports this notion (Epernet, 2013; Van der Wal, 2014). The discontent about the fencing decision has not subsided, which is reflected in the so-called 'Kieskompas' (online application that helps voters to choose what political party to vote) for the municipal elections in Epe on the 19th of March 2014. In this 'Kieskompas', one of the statements relates to whether different local political parties are in favor of the fence or not (Elskamp, 2014). More recently, it became clear that it is uncertain whether the fence will be placed at all. Because the proposed route goes through protected nature areas (NATURA-2000), the route of the fence at least needs to be changed to be in full compliance with legislation (Elskamp, 2013d, Veluweland, 2014)

While the wildlife perceptions of local inhabitants matter, in the human-wild boar conflict of Epe and Heerde it is not clear what the perceptions are. It is not clear whether wild boar are considered as a problem, or the fence as a solution. Nor is it clear what other elements are considered as problematic. The municipality of Epe wants to place the fence to keep wild boar out of Epe, while the official stance of Heerde is that the fencing is not needed because wild boar cause no damage in Heerde. These two standpoints are held by the municipalities; the question is whether these are reflected in the perceptions of the inhabitants. A good way to analyze perceptions is by analyzing how these are framed. In this study the theoretical approach of *frames* is used for analyzing the perceptions of inhabitants of Epe and Heerde (Fairhead and Leach, 1995; Dewulf *et al.*, 2009).

Frames are embedded in the social context of the person who holds the frame; frames about human-wildlife conflicts are no exception to this (from now on referred to as HWC-frames) (Fiss and Hirsch, 2005; Dewulf *et al.*, 2009, Silverman, 2011). Due to this embeddedness in the social context, the frames of the inhabitants from Epe and Heerde are influenced by how other actors within the fencing case are perceived (Pinkley, 1990; Van Leeuwen, 2010). For a better understanding of the social context that influences the different frames, the concept of social space is studied as an integral part of the frames (Ingold, 2000). The social context in which HWC-frames are embedded is often an explicit part of frame studies (Hill and Webber, 2010; Barua *et al.*, 2013; Chen *et al.*, 2013). However, the geographical context and how people perceive the relationship between humans and nature have not yet been studied as an explicit part of HWC-frames. While both help in understanding and specifying the HWC-frames.

The geographical context is sometimes touched upon in a frame, but it is not studied as an integral part of HWC-frames. The geographical context is relevant in HWC-frames, because wildlife and wildlife management both have an important spatial component. Wildlife is not static and in the fencing case, where wild boar are present is important for how they are being framed. To have a better understanding of the geographical context of the fencing case frames, geographical space will be studied as part of the frames (Jerolmack, 2008; Reynolds, 2010).

The fencing case frames of the inhabitants touch upon wild boar and wild boar management. The planned fencing is a measure that directly relates to wild boar. This makes the way people regard the position and role of humans in relation to nature and wild boar an important aspect of the frames (Van den Born, 2008). The concept that is used to study this aspect is the different views of the human-nature relationship (De Groot and Van den Born, 2007). These relationships involve the position of man in nature, but also the role humans take towards their natural environment (De Groot and Van den Born, 2003; Van den Born, 2008). The human-nature relationships help in understanding how wild boar and wild boar management (e.g. culling, the fence) are framed.

It is thus unclear what variety of frames regarding the fencing case exists among the inhabitants of Epe and Heerde. The resistance against the fence suggests that there is a discrepancy between how the municipality of Epe and some of the inhabitants perceive the fencing case. Social space is used to study to social context of the fencing case. Geographical space has not yet been studied as an integral part of HWC-frames, but it is considered to matter in the fencing case frames. Geographical space is the used concept in this study, to better understand the (indispensable) geographical context of the fencing case. The social and geographical spaces are the concepts used in this study to grasp the complexity of the fencing case. The human-nature relationships are used to understand the frames better, especially how wild boar, the fence and wild boar management are framed.

## **1.2 Research Objectives**

This study explores what variety of frames regarding the fencing case exist among the inhabitants of Epe and Heerde. The main objective of this study is to analyze how these frames relate to the perceived social space, geographical space and the human-nature relationships. These three concepts are used to get a hold on the complexity of the fencing case and to have a better understanding of the identified frames. Analyzing the social and geographical spaces includes the social and geographical context of the fencing case as part of the frames. The human-nature relationships are used to better understand the frames, especially how the perceived position and role of humans towards nature and wild boar is reflected in the different frames.

Insight in the variety of frames allows for an examination of how they might deviate or show similarities with the planned fencing as a solution of the human-wild boar conflict. The different frames are used to analyze what makes up the problem (if any) in the fencing case: is it mostly about wild boar, the effects of their presence, wild boar management and/or the managers, the planned fencing or the decision making process regarding this fencing. The frames are also used to analyze what differences exist between inhabitants of Epe and Heerde.

The specific research questions of this study that are answered to reach these objectives are given at the end of the *Theoretical Framework* (chapter 2.5).

## **1.3 Structure of the report**

The structure of this report is organized in the following manner. Chapter 1 functions as an introduction to the topic and the aim of the research. In chapter 2 the theoretical framework is presented, which forms the theoretical backbone of this study. Frames, social and geographical space and the human-nature relationships are explained here. Chapter 3 presents the research design; what research methods were used and how the data was collected and analyzed. Chapter 4 shows the main results of the study. Chapter 5 shows the results of the focus group evening and the interview with association 'Behoud Kwaliteit Epe' (local association), and how these results correspond with and deviate from the individual frames. In chapter 6 the results, methodology and data analysis are discussed in relation to other studies. Chapter 7 concludes the report, with a conclusion of the most important findings.

## Chapter 2. Theoretical Framework

In this chapter, the theories and concepts that are used in this study are explained, as well as how they are operationalized. Five sections are used to structure this chapter. In the first section, the theory behind frames is explained, as well as what frame categories are used in this study. In section 2 both social and geographical space are explained, and how within this study these concepts relate to the frames. In section 3 the human-nature relationships of the HaN-scale are explained, and how this concept relates to the frames. In section 4 the conceptual framework, based on the theories and concepts of section 1 – 3, is presented. Section 5 gives the research questions of this study, based on the research objective (chapter 1.2) and specified by using section 1 – 4 of this chapter.

### 2.1 Frames

#### ***Two approaches to frames***

Two general approaches exist in the field of frame studies: cognitive framing and interactional framing. Cognitive framing is the study of frames. Frames are constructions of reality using information and knowledge. Interactional framing is the study of the interaction process in which frames come about. This reality construction takes place during interaction with other people and their knowledge (Pinkley and Northcraft, 1994; Brummans et al., 2008; Dewulf et al., 2011).

These can be seen as two separate approaches, which Dewulf et al. (2009) refer to as the studying of “cognitive representations” and “interactional co-constructions”. Benford and Snow (2000) however argue that these two approaches are not strictly divided and show overlap. Despite the possible overlap, this study used the cognitive framing approach in the analysis. The aim of the study is primarily to analyze what frames exist and how these relate to the concepts of spaces and the HaN-scale, not how the frames are shaped during interaction (Rogan, 2006).

#### ***Frames***

Frames are like lenses through which people perceive situations; the frame denotes how the reality of that situation is perceived (Benford and Snow, 2000; Stoett, 2010). People make sense of complex situations by using frames; the frame simplifies the situation and makes it understandable (Van Leeuwen, 2010; Matthes, 2012; Murer, 2012). The fencing case is quite complex and the frames show how the inhabitants make sense of the fencing case. Although, as a ‘measure’ of perceived reality, frames are constrained by what inhabitants consciously know and by what they are willing to share (Fiss and Hirsch, 2005).

In frames, the different aspects that form a situation are ordered into a comprehensive idea (Benford and Snow, 2000). The frames of the inhabitants of Epe and Heerde reveal how the fencing case is understood; the frames are created by generating coherence between fragmented ideas, experiences and events (Van Leeuwen, 2010). In order to make sense of complex situations, some aspects of a situation are emphasized on in frames while other aspects are excluded (Pinkley and Northcraft, 1994; Scheufele, 2004). Frames can be seen as the selection of important attributes of a situation; important for the one that frames (Scheufele, 2004; Matthes, 2012). The frames of inhabitants of Epe and Heerde not only show how the fencing case is understood, but also what elements are found most important.

The reality that is constructed in the frames not only entails how people think that the fencing case *is*, but also how they think that it *should be* (Brummans et al., 2008, Dewulf et al., 2009, Garcia, 2011). In that sense frames have a moral; there is an opinion about the situation, the situation is valued. The frame entails what (e.g. issues, actors, interactions) is considered to be good or wrong in the current situation (Rogan, 2006; Stoett, 2010; Dewulf et al., 2011). The frames of the inhabitants of Epe and Heerde thus not only reveal how the fencing case is perceived and what is important, but also what aspects are perceived as being problematic or wrong.

**Frames in analysis of the fencing case**

In the frames of the fencing case, the variety of aspects that can be characterized is virtually limitless. For instance, an actor can be framed in terms of: trustworthiness, friend or foe, active or passive, knowledgeable or not and so on (Murer, 2012). This variety makes it not useful to come up with the frames *a priori*; rather the different frames are deducted out of the data (Garcia, 2011). It is however useful to have the *types* of frames defined prior to the analysis (Dewulf et al., 2009).

In frame studies, different classifications of frame types are used; there is no consensus on what number and what sort of frame types is most applicable (Rogan, 2006). The chosen types of frames depends on the research context and objectives (Dewulf et al., 2009). In the study by Brummans et al. (2008) five types of frames (identity, characterizations, conflict management, social control and power) are identified, that entail mainly the interactions and relationships between the different actors in a situation. Rogan (2006) identified six types of frames (instrumentality, other assessment, affect, face, affiliation, and distributiveness), that mainly entail relationships, responsibilities and the distribution of benefit/losses in a situation. Dewulf et al. (2009) in turn identified three types of frames (issue, identity and relationship, process), that focus both on the content of a situation as well as on the interaction processes.

These frame types are all in their own way helpful for analyzing the perceptions of the inhabitants from Epe and Heerde. The three frame types as identified by Dewulf et al. (2009) are the ones used in the analysis of the frames. These three frame types are expected to fit studying the frames of the fencing case most, because these types also give attention to how the contents of the situation are perceived (not only the interactions). The contents are for instance wild boar and the planned fence, important elements of the human-wild boar conflict. The frame types as identified by Brummans et al. (2008) place their emphasis on interactions and relationships; these types suits interactional framing better than the cognitive framing approach used in this study. The frame types of Rogan (2006) would suit a situation that is more clearly a conflict situation, where people may directly lose or benefit by different outcomes. The fencing case is not necessarily perceived problematic by the respondents; it is not restricted to losers and winners. The frame types of Dewulf et al. (2009) allow for frames where the fencing case is not perceived as a conflict or problem.

| <i>What is the nature of frames?</i> | <i>What is it that gets framed?</i>  |  |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|
|                                      | <i>Issues</i>  | <i>Identities and relationships</i>  | <i>Process</i>   |
| Frames as cognitive representations  | (Cell 1) Cognitive issue frames  | (Cell 2) Cognitive identity and relationship frames  | (Cell 3) Cognitive process frames  |
|                                      | How parties cognitively represent the substantive issues in the conflict situation | How parties cognitively represent self, others and relationships in the conflict situation | How parties cognitively represent the interaction process between them in the conflict situation |

Figure 1: Overview of the three frame types (Dewulf, et al., 2009)

This study bases the analysis on the three types as defined by Dewulf et al. (2009). These types are shown in Figure 1. The three types of frames reflect what aspect of the fencing case is framed. In this study, the three frame types do not result in separate frames; the three types together are used to construct 'wild boar frames'. In these wild boar frames the main issue, main identity and relationship and main process are part of the same frame. The wild boar frame is schematically presented in the conceptual model (section 4).

In the fencing case, the main issues are determined by what interviewees consider to be the most problematic aspects of the fencing case. It is about the contents of the fencing case (e.g. wild boar, the fence, culling) or about problematic events (e.g. public participation, fencing decision) related to the fencing case. The contents can relate to actors and their activities. However, the main issue cannot be the actor itself but is related to what an actor *does* or the effects of its activities.

In the fencing case, the main identities and relationships are determined by the actors that interviewees perceive as being the most important and problematic in direct relation to the main issue. These actors can be perceived as the cause of the issue, as maintaining the issue, not taking responsibility or care of the issue or to be hampering the solution to the issue. The main identity and relationships not only entail what actors are important in relation to the issue; how actors are characterized is also part of the identity and relationships frames.

In the fencing case, the main processes are determined by the interactions that interviewees perceive as being the most important and problematic in direct relation to the main issues. Similar to the actors, these interactions can be perceived as the cause of the issue, as maintaining the issue, denial of taking responsibility or care of the issue or to be hampering the solution to the issue. These interactions are mainly linked to the actors of the identity and relationships frames. The main processes not only entail what interactions are important in relation to the issue; how the interaction process is characterized is also part of the process frames.

These definitions of the three frame types are used in the analysis. How these types relate to spaces and human-nature relationships follows in the section 2 and 3 of this chapter.

## **2.2 Spaces**

The inhabitants can frame the fencing case in a large possible variety of perceived spaces. Examples of these spaces are: social, geographical, psychological, imaginative or virtual spaces. The perceived spaces which are expected to be of most relevance in the frames of the fencing case are the social space and the geographical space (Jerolmack, 2008; Reynolds, 2010).

### ***Social spaces***

In the different wild boar frames, the social space depict what actors are identified as important (problematic and unproblematic) in relation to the perceived issues of the fencing case. The importance of the actors can for instance relate to actors that are perceived to cause the issue, are the 'victim' of the issue or have a perceived responsibility to solve the issue.

Social space is not limited to the main issues, but also relates to the main actor and interaction characterizations that are part of the frames. Importance of actors can for instance relate to actors that are not involved in the interaction process, are the victim of the main problematic actor or are protesting to the problematic interaction process. The social spaces are not predefined, but examples of actors are other inhabitants of Epe and Heerde, hunters and the municipalities of Epe and Heerde. The social spaces that are identified as part of the different frames, are based on what actors the interviewees brought up themselves.

### ***Geographical spaces***

Living in a town or neighborhood where wild boar come near your house and garden makes the spatial aspect of the fencing case part of the frames. Geographical space gives insight on what locations surrounding Epe/Heerde, or at what distances from the city center or municipal border, wild boar presence is perceived as a problem (Jerolmack, 2008; Reynolds, 2010). Not only locations are part of the geographical space, also specific spatial categories such as roads or agricultural fields can be part of it. Geographical space mainly considers the presence of wild boar on different locations. Geographical space is however not limited to the wild boar issues of the fencing case; activities of actors that are spatially bounded are also part of the geographical space. These activities for example are culling, driving on forest roads, the fence. Geographical space is therefore not limited to the wild boar.

### ***Frame types and spaces***

In issue frames, people attach meaning to the contents of the fencing case (Dewulf et al., 2009; Dewulf et al., 2011). The content is for instance wild boar itself, culling and feeding of wild boar or the fence of Epe. Geographical space is an important part of the frame if the main issue relates to wild boar or to the fence. These issues can be for instance about the locations where wild boar presence is seen as problematic, the location of the fence or what spatial boundaries are perceived between humans and wild boar. Social space plays a smaller role in the issue frames, since the main issues are about the perceived problems of the fencing case and not about the actors themselves. However, in frames where the issue entails the activities of an actor or if the issue is directly related to actors (e.g. culling as solution), social space is more important as part of the wild boar frame. This is for example the case when the public participation or culling are the main issue.

In identity and relationship frames, people attach meaning to other actors in relation to the perceived issues of the fencing case (Dewulf et al., 2009; Dewulf et al., 2011). Social space is an important part of the identity and relationship frames, because of the focus on the actors within the fencing case. The social space within these frames is not limited to the actors that are being characterized, but also includes other actors that are in some way related to the main actor or are influenced by its activities (e.g. being perceived to protest against or being the 'victim' of the main problematic actor activities). However, the actors and their activities are not completely separated from the physical context. For instance, the perceived responsibility of hunters to apply culling is related to the spatiality of wild boar (geographical space).

In process frames, people perceive the interaction process of the fencing case; how much input the respondent has had in the interaction, but also how the communication and interaction of other actors is perceived (Dewulf et al., 2009; Dewulf et al., 2011). Like in the identity and relationship frames, the focus of this frame type is mostly on the actors in the fencing case. Although the objects of communication (e.g. the fence, culling) are related to the geographical space, the social space is the most important space of this frame type.

## **2.3 Human-nature relationships**

### ***HaN-scale***

The concept of the human-nature relationship has two main elements: the (hierarchical) position of humans in nature and the 'role' that humans play in nature (Zweers, 1995). The human-nature relationships entail the view of people on how this relation should be, not how it is considered to be in reality. The position and role are co-constructed and interwoven; the role shapes the position of humans, while the position of humans influences the role (De Groot and van den Born, 2003).

In the different human-nature relationships, the position of humans in nature lies somewhere on the continuum ranging from being superior to nature to being a part of nature (De Groot and van den Born, 2007). In that sense, the view on the human-nature relationship reflects the extent to which a dichotomy is perceived or experienced between humans and nature (Cronon, 1996; Van den Born et al., 2001; De Groot and van den Born, 2007). The role of humans in nature has two further aspects: the role humans can play and the role humans are allowed to play. What role can be played is tightly bounded to the perceived possibilities and capacities of humans and their technologies. What role humans are allowed to play depends on which (ethical) responsibilities and restrictions there are considered to be regarding human actions (Van den Born et al., 2001).

The HaN-scale (Human and Nature scale) is the concept that is used to analyze the human-nature relationships. The HaN-scale is developed by the research group of Social Environmental Sciences of the Nijmegen University and is largely based on the work of Dutch philosophers like Achterberg, Kockelkoren and Zweers (Zweers, 1995; Van den Born et al., 2001). The HaN-scale consists of four views on the human-nature relationship. The four views in the HaN-scale differ in the position of humans in nature and their role towards it (Van den Born, 2008). The four relationships are described in more detail below, accompanied by Figure 2 (Van den Born, 2008).

- *Master*: in the master view, humans stand above nature. Humans and nature are considered to be opposites. The master clearly has an instrumental view of nature: it is a mean to reach human (materialistic) goals by exploiting the natural environment. Humans are more or less free to use nature the way they like it, without being restricted by moral constraints or knowledge on nature's fragility. The value of nature is determined by its use for humans; nature is not sacred and has no intrinsic value (value not based on its use for humans). Economic growth and technology are trusted by the master to solve possible environmental problems. There are considered to be no limits to growth; in fact economic growth is considered to be a necessity for human life and continuing economic growth is possible. There is optimism in the solving capacities of technology and innovation. Humans have the capacity to get more out of nature (than nature would have delivered if left in its original state).
- *Guardian*: in the guardian view, humans do not stand above nature<sup>1</sup>. Above humans and nature there is God. Humans do not rule over nature, but are responsible managers of nature; nature is a gift of God which means we as humans have the responsibility to care for it. In the secular view of the guardian, this responsibility is to future generations rather than towards God. The guardian view still has an instrumental view of nature: it is a mean to reach human benefits (now and for future generations). Securing of these benefits in the future is essential and is one of the biggest differences with the master view. The essence is that humans may use the 'rent' that can be taken from nature, but that they not touch or harm the capital. This capital needs to be available for the future generations or capital as the gift of God.
- *Partner*: in the partner view humans stand side by side with nature. Nature has its own status, not under humans but beside them. Nature and humans are considered to have equal value; nature not only has an instrumental value but also has a value regardless of its use to humans (intrinsic value). Human and nature can cooperate on the basis of equality and common goals. Aim is to have a harmonization of the societal goals and the 'goals' of the natural system. Goals for nature are hard to define, but goals that are defined in policy (based on ecological insights and thinking) are for instance: biodiversity, self ordering, autonomy of nature, authenticity etc. An important notion here is that nature can have goals and achieve them, while not having an actual consciousness of these goals. The partner view is mainly ecological, but has instrumental aspects. Human intervention is allowed, as long as it doesn't harm the goals of nature. Nature allows both material and immaterial societal goals to be accomplished. Human intervention can even benefit nature and enrich nature (for instance diversity). In the partner view humans are still located outside nature. Though both human as nature's goals may be met, the relation between humans and nature does not have to be strong.
- *Participant*: in the participant view humans are part of nature. Not only in a biological sense, but also on an emotional level. It is due to the human psychology that more than just a biological participation can be experienced. Humans can take part in nature. Nature is bigger than the human world, though humans are not inferior to nature; they just have the possibility to participate in nature. Humans may participate but not dominate over nature. Besides, nature will go on without humans. The participant clearly has an ecological view of nature; nature has an intrinsic value, a value in its own right. Being part of nature is important for the participant; meaning is derived from nature and constitutes identity and the self-image. Nature is centre of meanings and experiences people have. Humans may use modern technology to reach their goals, as long as they 'behave' well in the natural environment. Humans do not rule nature from the outside, but rather reach their goals from within their place in nature.

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<sup>1</sup> The guardian view is a slight adaption of the original view of the Steward: humans are not placed above nature, but are regarded to be more or less equal to nature. Adaption follows from the rejection most respondents had with the original view, where humans were under God but above nature. (De Groot & van den Born 2007, Van den Born 2008)

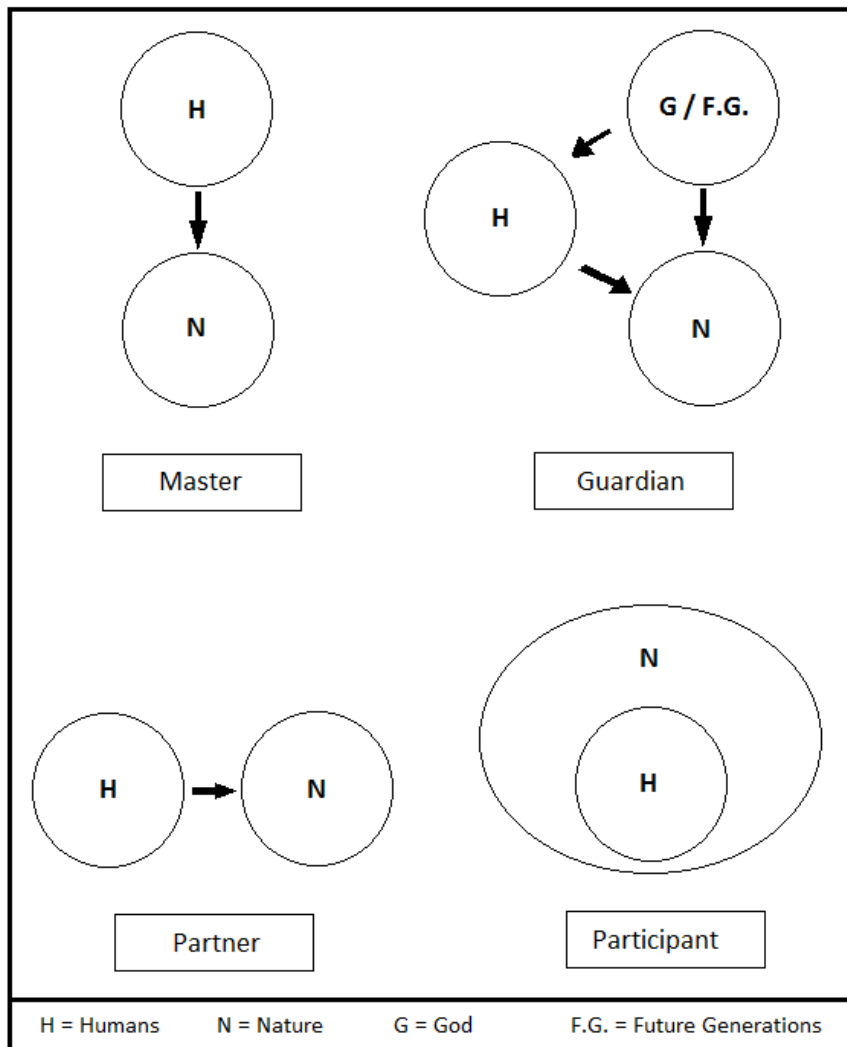


Figure 2: Schematic drawing of the four human-nature relationships (Van den Born, 2008)

These four views function as a concept; people's responses to the views of the human-nature relationships have not always fitted the theory (De Groot and Van den Born, 2007). The HaN-scale theory has proven to allow adaptations when this is needed (Van den Born, 2008). In the study by Van den Born (2008) for instance the 'Man responsible for nature' view was used; a combined view of the Guardian and Partner view. In this study, the only adaptation to the original HaN-scale that was made *a priori* is changing the Steward view into the Guardian view; placing humans not above nature but next to it has proven to fit the relationship view of people better (De Groot and Van den Born, 2007). Though the classification of the four roles of humans towards nature has not worked in all studies, the four relationship types are maintained in this study.

### **Frame types and the HaN-scale**

The HaN-scale in relation to the issue frames is mostly related to issues about wild boar, the fence and wild boar management. The position of humans in nature plays an important role; the continuum of a perceived dichotomy (master view) between humans and wild boar or no clear division (participant view) influences if wild boar are an problematic issue. Also how the fence is framed, relates to this perceived separation between human and wild. The perceived role humans can and are allowed to play towards wild boar is also present in the issue frames (e.g. culling, the fence).



The HaN relationships in the fencing case are mainly related to issues about wild boar, the fence and wild boar management. Identity and relationship frames are focussed on the perceived actors within the fencing case. Similar to geographical space, this focus on actors makes the role of the HaN-scale less important than in the issue frames. It does relate to the activities of the actors that affect wild boar and/or nature, but it is a more indirect part of the identity and relationship frames. The role of the HaN-scale in relation to the process frames is limited. Process frames are about interactions and communication between actors. Process frames where the perceived interaction process is about wild boar, wild boar management or the fence, the HaN scale is part of the frame in a similar indirect way as in the identity and relationship frames. Thus a less important part of the frame as in the issue frames.

## 2.4 Conceptual Model

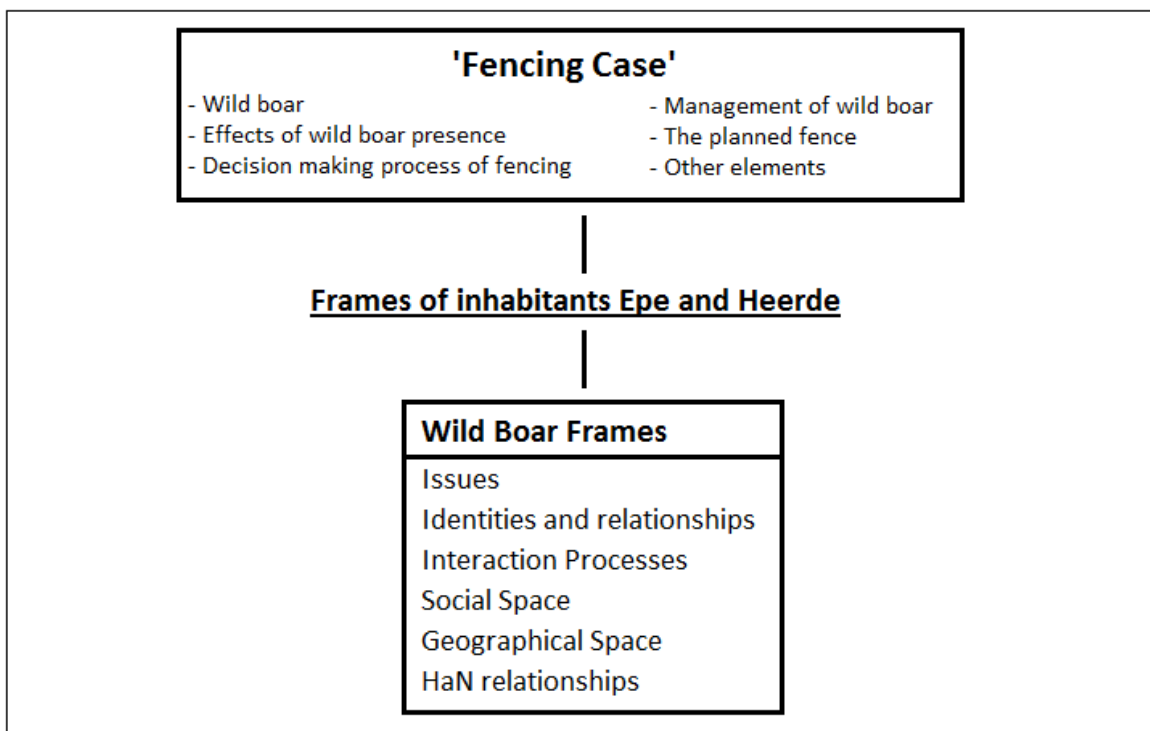


Figure 3: Conceptual Model

The wild boar frames, the perceived social and geographical spaces and the HaN-scale together form the theoretical framework in this research. This has been translated into a conceptual model, which is presented in Figure 3. Cognitive framing is used to organize and identify the groups of frames of the inhabitants of Epe and Heerde. Within the frames the analysis focused on three frame types: issue frames, identity and relationship frames and process frames. These three frame types are not studied as separate frames, but as three categories that together are part of the same wild boar frames.

Further analysis is focused on the perceived social and geographical spaces as part of the frames, because the wild boar frames are bounded to the perceived actors and spatiality of the fencing case. The HaN-scale is used to further study the frames, to focus on how the respondents frame humans in relation to wild boar and what the perceived role of humans towards wild boar is. The HaN-scale, like the social and geographical spaces, is part of the frames but also helps in understanding the frames.

## 2.5 Research Questions

In order to reach the research objectives as described in chapter 1.2, the following research questions will be answered in this study:

- What different wild boar frames regarding the fencing case exist among the inhabitants of Epe and Heerde?
- How can the wild boar frames be interpreted with use of the concepts of social space, geographical space and the HaN-scale.
- How can differences between the individual wild boar frames of inhabitants from Epe and Heerde be interpreted by the concepts of social space, geographical space and the Han-scale?
- How can similarities and differences between the individual wild boar frames and the collective frame of the focus group evening be interpreted by the concepts of social space, geographical space and the Han-scale?
- How can similarities and differences between the individual wild boar frames and the frame of the association Behoud Kwaliteit Epe be interpreted by the concepts of social space, geographical space and the Han-scale?

## Chapter 3. Research Methods

In this chapter, the used methodology and research design of this study are presented. Six sections are used to structure the chapter. In section 1, the overall research design of the study is explained. A detailed description of the fencing case is given in section 2. Section 3 explains the methods used for data collection. The individual interviews and their analysis are explained in section 4, as well as the selection of the research location and respondents. In section 5, the focus group evening is explained, as well as how the data of the focus group is analyzed. Section 6 provides a short background description of the association Behoud Kwaliteit Epe. The interview with this association and the analysis of this interview are explained in this section as well.

### 3.1 Research Design

The general approach of this study is best characterized as being analytical. The study focuses on how the wild boar frames relate to and can be understood by the concepts of social space, geographical space and the HaN-scale relationships. The specific context of each wild boar frame was examined in the analysis. Identifying these three concepts (spaces and HaN) as part of the frames has allowed for analyzing this context. The study does not aim at getting insight in the distribution of the different wild boar frames among the inhabitants of Epe and Heerde; no quantitative conclusions or analyses are drawn (Martin and Lynch, 2009; Silverman, 2011; Paull et al., 2013).

The case study is the chosen research approach to study the fencing case. Case studies are a suitable method to generate rich and detailed data out of a local context; the fencing case forms such a local context (Crouch and McKenzie, 2006). The context of the fencing case is mainly formed by wild boar presence, wild boar management (culling), the planned fencing and the decision making process of the fencing. The rich data generated in case studies is suited for analyzing frames; this also entails frames of which the contents relate to perceived issues, identities and relationships and interaction processes (Gudmundsdottir, 1996; Flyvbjerg, 2006; Silverman, 2011). Data generated by the case study approach is not only suitable to analyze frames, it is also a method to retrieve rich data about the perceived social space, geographical space and the adapted HaN-scale. This adapted HaN-scale is translated to wild boar and the context of the fencing case.

### 3.2 The fencing case

The fencing case is situated at the towns of Epe and Heerde. Both towns are located on the northeastern part of the Veluwe. Epe is a town of around 15.000 inhabitants (municipality around 32.000 inhabitants), Heerde is a neighboring town of around 12.000 inhabitants (municipality around 18.000 inhabitants). Both municipalities include some smaller towns; hence the larger number of inhabitants for the municipalities as a whole. The towns of Epe and Heerde are the main towns within each municipality, with the largest number of inhabitants. The map of Epe and Heerde is shown in Figure 4.

As was mentioned in the problem statement (chapter 1.1), the town of Epe has in recent years been 'visited' by wild boar. The year 2011 was the most extreme year, when wild boar got as far as the city center. During these wild boar visits, the municipality of Epe and the inhabitants of Epe have experienced damage (e.g. to road sides, private gardens) and 'nuisance' caused by wild boar (Provincie Gelderland, 2009). This nuisance for instance consists of fear for wild boar while walking your dog or being extra careful while driving on the roads (Verdouw, 2013).

The town of Heerde has not experienced any damage by wild boar, nor are wild boar present in the urban areas of Heerde. Wild boar are present in the forest north of Heerde, but do not go as far as Heerde town. And from the west, the motorway A50 functions as a buffer for wild boar; they do not cross this motorway. This can be seen in Figure 4, where the Veluwe is depicted by the green area west of the A50. Epe has direct contact with the forests of the Veluwe, while the motorway separates Heerde town from these forests.

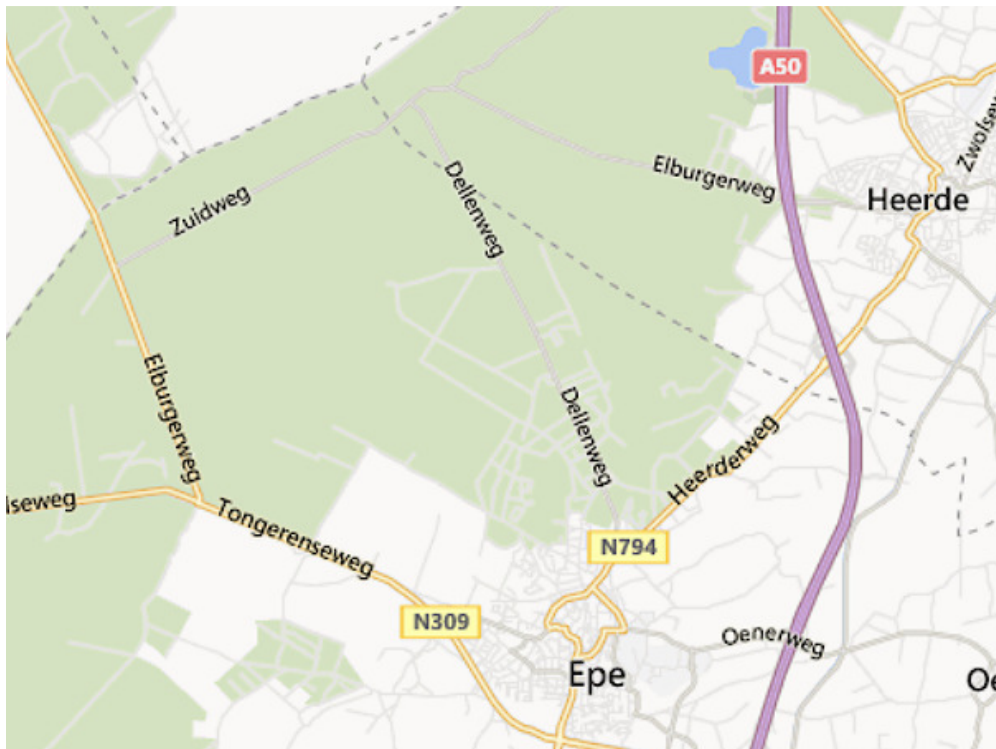


Figure 4: Map of Epe and Heerde (created with Bing Maps)

By the end of 2012, the city council of Epe approved the plan of fencing off parts (northern, northwestern border) of Epe, in order to keep wild boar out of the city center of Epe and the suburbs of Epe-North. The fence should prevent future ‘conflicts’ with wild boar within Epe’s city limits (Gemeente Epe, 2012). The neighboring town of Heerde does not want to financially cooperate with a full fencing off of Epe’s northern border. The municipality of Heerde states that Heerde does not experience damage caused by wild boar and thus sees no direct need for the fence (Elskamp, 2013a).

In July 2013, the city council of Epe decided upon a route proposal of the fence. The municipality organized a public participation event, from the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July till the 14<sup>th</sup> of August, in which inhabitants of Epe had the chance to give input in the planned route of the fence (Gemeente Epe, 2013a). Most reactions (200 out of 285) in the public participation were about the fence itself, in which inhabitants stated that they are against the fence as a whole (Gemeente Epe, 2013c). The municipality of Epe responded that the public participation was about the route and not the fence itself. On the 15<sup>th</sup> of October the municipality of Epe announced the approval of the final route of the fence (Elskamp, 2013b; Gemeente Epe, 2013b). This decision of the municipality did not silence the protests against the fence, in which the local associations Behoud Kwaliteit Epe and LOKT have a leading role (Epernet, 2013; VBKE, 2013; Van der Wal, 2014).

With inclusion of these route changes, the total length of the fence will be around nine kilometers (Elskamp, 2013b). The final route of the fence is shown in Figure 5. It is not the clearest map, but it is published by the municipality of Epe as the official map of the new route. The green line depicts the new fence, the purple line depicts existing fence (around a camping). As aforementioned, the municipality of Heerde does not want to (financially) cooperate with the fence (Verdouw, 2013). The implication of no cooperation is that the fence stops at the municipal border of Epe-Heerde, the fence ending on the right in Figure 5 (eastern end of the fence). The initial plan of building the fence all the way up to the motorway A50 is not completed. The fence ending on the left (western end of the fence) in Figure 5 is at the main road (N309) from Epe to Nunspeet.

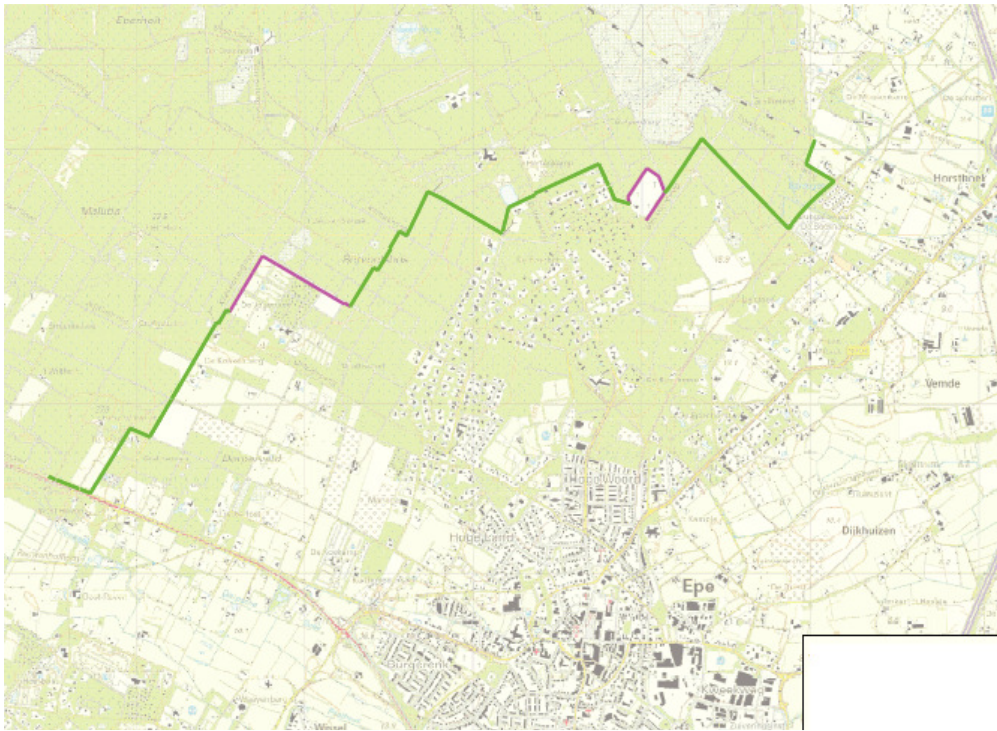


Figure 5: The fence of Epe (source: Gemeente Epe, 2013)

### 3.3 Methods

The main source of information in this study are the inhabitants of Epe and Heerde; the analysis is about *their* frames. Interviews were conducted to analyze the individual frames of the inhabitants of Epe and Heerde. Additionally, a focus group evening was organized to compare these individual frames with the collective frame that is formed in a group discussion. The focus group evening led to a follow up appointment for an interview with the association Behoud Kwaliteit Epe (from now on referred to as BKE). The local association BKE is thus also a source of information. How this association frames the fencing case is compared to the individual wild boar frames of the inhabitants Epe and Heerde. The frame of the association can be considered as a social movement or activist frame; the association is protesting against the fence and the fencing decision (Benford and Snow, 2000). The collected data of this study is primary data; it was generated during the interviews with the inhabitants, the focus group evening and the interview with association BKE.

Interviews are the applied research method in this study, because frames are mainly manifested in verbal expressions. The individual frames of the inhabitants of Epe and Heerde are not readily available in other formats, like written texts (Pinkley and Northcraft, 1994). Interviews are an applicable instrument collect data with high detail, which allows for an analysis of the different frames (Fiss and Hirsch, 2005). Interviews have the potential to generate rich data, because interviews are interactions/conversations where there are enough chances to get clarification and explanation on the given answers. This elaboration of the given answers is not usual in questionnaires or surveys (Rubin and Rubin, 2005; Flyvbjerg, 2006).



### 3.4 Interviews Inhabitants Epe and Heerde

#### **Location selection**

To increase the chance of ending up with detailed and varied frames, a selection criterion for the research locations was used. The research location had to be streets or neighborhoods that had experienced the presence of wild boar in the past, or where (during the research) wild boar were present. Potential interviewees living in these streets and neighborhoods are expected to have more vivid and detailed frames (Crouch and McKenzie, 2006). Generating rich data was not the only expectation about conducting interviews with these interviewees, the frames were also expected to be more varied due to the direct presence and possible nuisance/damage caused by wild boar. The fencing case was expected to be a more important part of everyday life if wild boar are actually present in the direct surroundings of the interviewee.

For Heerde the research location was a neighborhood called 'Bakhuisbos', because it is the only part of Heerde where wild boar are actually present. It is located on the other side of the motorway A50. The location of Bakhuisbos is shown in Figure 6, where the area within the black lines depicts the research area for Heerde. Bakhuisbos consists mostly of (luxurious) houses, most of them standing on their own parcel. The gardens and the areas between the different parcels are very green and 'forest like'. There were signs of wild boar presence (mostly plowed road sides and lawns). Most inhabitants had a fence around their garden.



Figure 6: Interview location in Heerde (created with Bing Maps)

The research location of Epe is the neighborhood on northeastern part of Epe, which from now on will be referred to as Epe-North. In Figure 7 this area is shown, where the area within the black lines denotes the research area for Epe. This area was chosen because the houses are part of a forest-like area and where wild boar were actually present at the beginning of the study. There is a big apartment building in Epe-north, called the 'Rozenhof'. They had taken their own measures against wild boar damage, consisting of fences and grids in the driveway. In 2011, wild boar came inside the garden of the Rozenhof and they were present there at the beginning of the study as well. This is another reason why the location as shown in Figure 7 was chosen for Epe.

The neighborhood as depicted in Figure 7 is very similar to Bakhuisbos; most houses have their own parcel and the neighborhood is very green. There are patches of forest that people use to walk (their dog). Like in Bakhuisbos, there were many signs of wild boar presence, mostly plowed road sides, lawns and wild boar footprints. Similar to Bakhuisbos, almost all inhabitants had fenced off their garden.

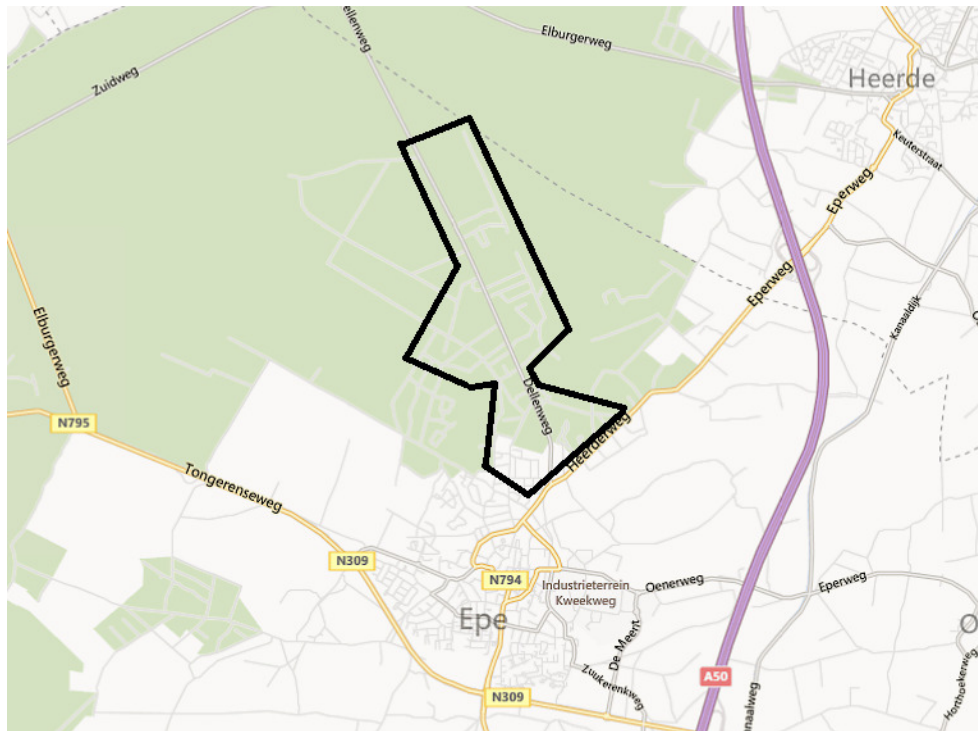


Figure 7: Interview location in Epe (created with Bing Maps)

### ***Respondent selection***

Two selection criteria were used for the potential interviewees. The first is that the respondent should have lived in Epe or Heerde since at least 1-1-2011. This criterion ensured that the respondents have lived in Epe or Heerde when wild boar were progressing furthest into Epe. The expectation was that if the respondent met this criterion, the frames would be more vivid and detailed than when he or she would have lived there for say a month or two. The longer period of living in Epe or Heerde is likely to increase the number of wild boar experiences.

The second selection criterion was that respondents should be permanently living in Epe or Heerde; so no tourists or people with a holiday home. This selection criterion was chosen, because the studied frames relate to what it is like sharing your living environment with wild boar. Although some tourists may be present throughout the year, Epe and Heerde as main living environment was expected to be more applicable to the inhabitants of Epe and Heerde than to the average tourist. Including tourists would have increased the chance of ending up with frames of people who experience wild boar only when they are on holiday (in a holiday mood) or who do not have had that many experiences with wild boar.

Two approaches were applied to reach the potential interviewees, namely going from door-to-door (houses chosen randomly; then walking street by street) and snowball sampling. Going from door-to-door was chosen because it gave the chance to explain directly what the interview was about. It is also less distant than calling or mailing (Rubin and Rubin, 2005). Calling or e-mailing potential interviews in advance was expected to result in a smaller response rate than having a personal first contact. Snowball sampling implied that when an interview had ended, the interviewee gave the name and address of someone he or she thought was interesting to talk to and who would be willing to participate. The interviews were on a voluntary basis; the expectation was that the respondents that were willing to participate would also be willing to share their perceptions of the fencing case (Crouch and McKenzie, 2006). Having a chance to share their story has contributed to rich and vivid data (Rubin and Rubin, 2005).

To end up with detailed frames and elaborated insights was more important than the sample size, since the data is not used for generalization of the findings (Crouch and McKenzie, 2006). There have been conducted a total of 20 interviews; 10 interviews with inhabitants of Epe and 10 interviews with inhabitants of Heerde. Conducting 20 interviews has delivered sufficient varied data while it has proven to be realistic in the given time scheme of the research.

## **Interviews**

The conducted interviews were semi-structured, using open-ended questions. The open-ended questions created a fair chance and better circumstances to capture the inhabitants' frames, because the interviewees were free to articulate their own perceptions of the fencing case (Gudmundsdottir, 1996; Silverman, 2011). An interview guide was used to structure the interview, using main and follow-up questions. This structure had to make sure that all elements of the fencing case were touched upon (Rubin and Rubin, 2005). Included in the interview guide were the five *a priori* defined elements of the fencing case, namely:

- The wild boar
- The effects (both negative and positive) of wild boar presence
- The management of wild boar
- The planned fencing
- The decision making (process) regarding this fencing

Other elements brought up by the interviewees themselves are included in the analysis of the interviews and eventually as part of the identified wild boar frames. The interview guide is included in the appendix (Appendix A).

These five elements of the fencing case were defined with the planned fencing as basis; the fence denoted the actual situation in Epe and seemed to be a lively topic (Elskamp, 2013a; Verdouw, 2013). The five elements are defined in an effort to include the essence of the fencing case, but also to get data which contains the perceived issues, identities and relationships and interaction processes. The sequence of the main and follow-up questions was not static. The questions were asked in a flexible sequence that fitted the conversations most; aiming at keeping the interviews as natural as possible while touching upon all elements (Rubin and Rubin, 2005).

All 20 interviews were conducted in the living room, kitchen or garden of the interviewee. In all cases at the interviewee's home. A voice recorder was used to record the interviews, with consent of the interviewees. Using the voice recorder ensured more complete data and that no word of the interview was lost (Rubin and Rubin, 2005; Silverman, 2011). The transcripts of the interviews are anonymous, as to ensure the privacy and anonymity of the interviewees. Anonymity was promised to all interviewees.

The results presented in chapter 4 are accompanied by citations from these 20 interviews. All citations come from interviews with inhabitants of either Epe or Heerde. If a citation comes from another source this is specifically mentioned. In order to keep the citations as anonymous as possible, no names are mentioned in the citation and for all citations the interviewee (both male and female) is referred to as *he* or *his*. The source of each citation is denoted by the filename of the transcript and the page number within this transcript. The capital E stands for Epe, the capital H stands for Heerde. An example is 'E7 page 9', meaning the seventh interview with an inhabitant of Epe and page 9 of the transcript.

## **Data analysis**

For analyzing the frames it is important how issues, actors and interactions are described and characterized (Rubin and Rubin, 2005). The different themes that were identified in the transcripts received a thematic code (Silverman, 2011). These themes consist of the different fencing case elements or of other elements brought up by the respondents. These thematic codes received an additional code which is linked to either one of the three frame types (issue, identity and relationship or process), social space, geographical space or one of the four human-nature relationships.

This coding has helped in organizing and analyzing the data. The interviewees were grouped on basis of similarities in their perceptions, using the codes as the organisatory principle. The wild boar frames were constructed based on this grouping (Brummans et al., 2008). The thematic coding helped in analyzing which themes were part of each frame, in relation to the three frame types, social spaces, geographical spaces and human-nature relationships.



The first part of the analysis entailed the identification of the three frame types as part of the wild boar frames. The main issues were constructed by identifying what issues were put most emphasis on, or what was explicitly stated as being problematic. These issues received the *issue* code. The main identity and relationship characterizations were constructed by identifying which actor(s) were considered to be important and how these actor(s) were characterized. These descriptions received the *identity and relationship* code. The main process characterizations were constructed by identifying the interaction and communication of the different actors that were considered to be important, and how this interaction was characterized. These descriptions received the *process* code.

Grouping the interviewees on basis of these three codes resulted in different issue, identity and relationship and process groups. A specific issue, identity description or interaction characterization had to be acknowledged by at least half of the interviewees in the group to become part of the wild boar frame. If a group consisted of two or three interviewees, at least two interviewees should underline the specific issue/identity/process characterization in order for that topic to become part of the frame.

As part of the wild boar frames, the social space was analyzed. The perceived social spaces of the interviewees are identified by analyzing which actors the interviewees consider to play an important role or have an important position in the fencing case. Whether an actor is considered important in relation to the fencing case is determined by the interviewees themselves. The important actors in turn can be considered as problematic or unproblematic in relation to the fencing case.

In the 20 transcripts, many different actors were mentioned as being important. Chosen was to group the different actors into functional groups, with shared characteristics like responsibilities, activities and hierarchical position. If at least half of the interviewees considered the functional group to be important, this functional group was part of the social space of the frame these interviewees belonged to. If a frame was held by two or three interviewees, at least two of the interviewees should consider the functional group as being important in order for that group to become part of the social space.

As part of the wild boar frames the geographical space was analyzed. The perceived geographical spaces are identified by analyzing at what locations or specific spatial objects wild boar are considered to be a problem. Two problem categories came forward in the interviews. The first category applies to locations where wild boar presence is always considered to be problematic, whether measures were taken or not. The second category was formed by locations where wild boar presence was potentially problematic, but was considered to be no problem because humans can adapt.

Going through the 20 transcripts delivered many areas at which one or both of the aforementioned categories applied. Compared to what was done with the actors in the social space, these areas were clustered into different groups of 'geographical units'. These units shared the same characteristics, like distance from city center. If at least half of the interviewees considered the geographical unit to be important (either one of the categories), this geographical unit was part of the geographical space of the frame these interviewees belonged to. If a frame was held by two or three interviewees, at least two interviewees should consider the geographical unit as being important in order for that unit to become part of the geographical space.

As part of the wild boar frames the HaN-scale relationships were analyzed. The interviewees' views on the HaN-scale relationship are identified by analyzing what statements are made about the role of humans towards and the position of humans relative to nature and wild boar. The four view definitions, as described in the theoretical framework (see chapter 2.3), were used as the basis for categorizing the different statements. The statements can both apply to wild boar and/or nature in general.

The statements that were included in the HaN-scale construction of the fencing case were those statements that interviewees found most important and put most emphasis on. The HaN-scale statements are normative; they express the preferred way of how humans should deal with nature and wild boar. The grouping of statements is based on this normative aspect; the statements needed a shared norm or judgment in the scope of position and role of humans to be in the same cluster.

Going through the 20 transcripts created different combinations of HaN-scale relationships. Some interviewees fitted best in one singular relationship, other interviewees did not fit into one view but made statements that relate to different relationships. If at least half of the interviewees agreed upon the relationship (or combination of them), this HaN relationship was part of the frame these interviewees belonged to. If a frame was held by two or three interviewees, at least two interviewees should consider the relationship as being important in order for that relationship to become part of the frame.

### **3.5 Focus Group Evening**

The focus group evening was arranged in Epe, on the 30<sup>th</sup> of October 2013. An advert in the local newspaper was used to invite people to join the discussion evening about wild boar on the Veluwe (e.g. Polman, 2013). Interviewees that at the time had already done an interview were invited too. Eventually there were 17 participants, 16 from Epe and 1 from Heerde. These participants were split into two smaller discussion groups (one of nine and one of eight persons).

The focus group evening started with an introduction of the topic and the statements of that evening. The following five statements were used in the focus group evening:

1. *"Wild boar is a troublemaker."*
2. *"Wild boar belong outside the urban areas."*
3. *"The 'fence of Epe' is the best management measure."*
4. *"Living in Epe means living in nature, so no fence."*
5. *"Managers and civil servants do not listen to us."*

The two discussion groups got about 45 minutes to discuss these statements among themselves (Silverman, 2011). At the end of these 45 minutes a plenary session was scheduled, in which each group presented the main findings for each statement to the other group. Large flip-over sheets were used by both groups, on which they could write down their answers/findings for each statement. Similar to the one-on-one interviews, voice recorders were used; one for each group. The plenary session has also been recorded. The two discussion groups as well as the plenary session have been transcribed.

#### **Data analysis**

The analysis of the focus group used both the flip-over sheets and the transcribed discussions as data. The analysis used the three frame type categories to identify what the most important issues and actors are, and how the communication/interaction of these actors was characterized. The concepts of social and geographical space were used to identify what actors made up the fencing case and on what locations wild boar are considered to be problematic or unproblematic. The HaN-scale is not included in this analysis, because it is not useful for group discussions; the HaN-scale applies to an individual viewpoint.

The concepts of the three frame types, social space and geographical space were used to identify a collective wild boar frame. This frame denotes how both discussion groups make sense of the fencing case; it is a collectively held frame (Fiss and Hirsch, 2005). This collective frame shows the prevailing perceptions of the fencing case, or the perceptions that have most consensus. The wild boar frame of the discussion groups is compared to the wild boar frames that were identified in the individual interviews.

### **3.6 Interview Association Behoud Kwaliteit Epe**

The association BKE (Preservation of Epe's Quality) is a citizens' initiative. The association was founded in 2003. The association aims at preserving the forest-like environment of Epe, especially that of Epe-North. They try to alter (big scale) projects that in their view do harm to the quality of the living environment of Epe. The fence is considered as such a project and the association stands fiercely against the fence (Van der Wal, 2013; VBKE, 2013).

A board member of this association was one of the participants of the focus group evening. When the focus group evening came to an end, a follow-up appointment for an interview was made. The interview took place in Epe-North, on the 4<sup>th</sup> of November 2013. The interview was conducted with two board members of this association, who both lived in Epe-North.

The interview was mostly about the mission of the association in relation to the planned fencing. The interview contents relate to what the association has experienced in its efforts to be involved in the decision process and ultimately to stop the fence from being built. A voice recorder was used to record the interview. The recorded interview has been transcribed.

#### ***Data analysis***

The transcribed interview is the data used in the analysis. The analysis used the three frame type categories to identify what the most important issues and actors are and how the communication/interaction of these actors was characterized. The concepts of social and geographical space were used to identify what actors made up the fencing case and on which locations wild boar are considered to be problematic or unproblematic. The HaN-scale is not included in this analysis because it is not useful for the association BKE; the HaN-scale applies to an individual viewpoint.

The concepts of the three frame types, social space and geographical space were used to identify the wild boar frame of the association. This frame denotes how the association makes sense of the fencing case. Because the association is publicly protesting against the fence, the frame has the characteristics of a social movement or activists frame (Benford and Snow, 2000). The wild boar frame of the association is compared to the wild boar frames that are identified in the individual interviews.

## Chapter 4. Results

In this chapter, the wild boar frames of the interviewees from Epe and Heerde are presented. Four sections are used to structure this chapter. Section 1 presents the general findings of the individual interviews. In section 2, the wild boar frames of the interviewees are presented. Section 3 presents the main linkages between the main issues, the main actor and interaction characterizations, the social space, the geographical space and the HaN relationships that make up the different wild boar frames. Section 4 presents the main differences in the individual frames between the interviewees from Heerde and the interviewees from Epe.

### 4.1 General Findings

Seven general topics of the fencing case emerged during the interviews. The opinions of the 20 interviewees about these topics are presented in Table 1; the results are split to interviewees from Epe and interviewees from Heerde. These general topics relate to wild boar, wild boar management and the fence. Not all 20 interviewees have a yes or no opinion for the different topics. Some interviewees had a neutral opinion about the topic or did not even mention the topic.

The last two topics (gravel and wild boar diet) are included in the table, even though these are not really general topics. These two topics consist of rather specific knowledge about wild boar, yet remarkably many interviewees know about them. This indicates that wild boar is a vivid topic for some interviewees, a topic which they are interested in and remember specific aspects of. This makes the two topics worthwhile to include.

Table 1: General findings about the fencing case

| Element   | Epe |    | Heerde |    |
|---|-----|----|--------|----|
|   | Yes | No | Yes    | No |
| Wild boar is considered to be a problem                                   | 4   | 6  | 5      | 3  |
| Interviewee has a fence around garden or has taken other measures         | 9   | 1  | 9      | 1  |
| Culling is considered as a necessity                                      | 5   | 1  | 6      | 2  |
| Fence is considered as a good solution                                    | 2   | 8  | 5      | 4  |
| Interviewee already knew about the fence when interview started           | 9   | 1  | 7      | 3  |
| Interviewee mentioned that wild boar dislikes surfaces of stone or gravel | 5   | 0  | 4      | 0  |
| Interviewee knows wild boar needs animal protein in its diet              | 4   | 0  | 3      | 0  |

About half of the interviewees considers wild boar as a problem, even with regard of the measures they have taken themselves. Almost all interviewees have fences around their garden or have taken other measures (e.g. grids in the drive way, electric fence around the lawn). The other half of the interviewees explained that they do not consider wild boar as problematic, because they have placed a fence around their garden.

In the citation below, the interviewee explains that he has put electrical wire around his lawn to protect it. By taking this measure he considers wild boar as unproblematic. This citation reflects that even though wild boar is potentially a problem it is considered as unproblematic, because people can take their own measures against wild boar damage.

*“I did indeed put an electrical fence around the lawn. Because we rather not have it plowed over. Then you just place a wire around it.” (source: H9 page 3)*

There are more interviewees that consider culling of wild boar as a necessary management activity than there are that consider wild boar as problematic. This implies that culling of wild boar is sometimes seen as a necessity, even if wild boar are not perceived as a problem. This relates to the fences people have placed around their garden. Because of their own measures, wild boar are not a problem for them personally. Still they consider the wild boar population being too big and therefore culling needs to be applied.

Most interviewees do not think of the fence as a good solution. This is partly because most of them have taken their own measures, which makes wild boar presence unproblematic. There is no perceived need for the fence of Epe, because they already have their own fences. The fence as an unwanted project also relates to culling as the perceived solution. If the wild boar population is considered being too big, culling is a solution and the fence is not. Most interviewees already knew about the planned fence before the interview started. Although, not in all cases about the planned length and location of the fence. Most interviewees read it in the papers or heard it via neighbors and friends.

Wild boar having a dislike of stone or gravel surfaces is mentioned by nine interviewees. Most of these interviewees know about this via neighbors or experienced this in their own garden or driveway. That is how they are aware of this specific knowledge about wild boar. In the citation below, this dislike is mentioned by an interviewee. He thinks this dislike is absolute (hate).

*“You know, they hate stones. Gravel and stones, they hate it.” (source: H3 page 2)*

Seven interviewees know about and mentioned the need for animal protein in wild boar diet. This need for animal protein is considered as a reason for wild boar to plow lawns and road sides. Lawns and road sides being attractive because of the animal protein is considered as a reason why wild boar go out of the forest, into the direction of urban areas. In the following citation, an interviewee describes the need for animal protein and how this drives wild boar to lawns:

*“But they need a certain compensation, which they find in grubs and other animals that are located underground. Before they become a cockchafer or something like that. Precisely, the larvae. Well, if they plow the lawns they seek those larvae. That is what it is about.” (source: H6, page 8)*

## 4.2 Wild Boar Frames

In the analysis of the transcripts, a total of six wild boar frames were identified. Although some overlap exists between these six frames, their overall focus on the fencing case is different. The six wild boar frames are presented in Table 2. For each wild boar frame, the separate (Epe and Heerde) and total number of interviewees is denoted in the table.

Table 2: The six Wild Boar Frames

| Wild Boar Frame   | Epe | Heerde | Total    |
|---|-----|--------|----------|
| 1. Wild boar are a problem; just shoot them                 | 2   | 6      | <b>8</b> |
| 2. We don't want the fence!                                 | 4   | 0      | <b>4</b> |
| 3. Don't shoot wild boar, place the fence                   | 0   | 2      | <b>2</b> |
| 4. The problem is our land use; so no fence and no shooting | 1   | 1      | <b>2</b> |
| 5. The fence is a good idea                                 | 2   | 0      | <b>2</b> |
| 6. Wild boar are not a problem                              | 1   | 1      | <b>2</b> |

In the following section, the six wild boar frames are presented in more detail. In a short description the most important contents of each frame are summarized. Each wild boar frame is described using the following structure: the 1<sup>st</sup> part describes the main issue(s), the 2<sup>nd</sup> part describes the main actor characterization(s), the 3<sup>rd</sup> part describes the main interaction characterization(s), the 4<sup>th</sup> part describes the social space, the 5<sup>th</sup> part describes the geographical space and the 6<sup>th</sup> part describes the HaN relationship(s). The descriptions are accompanied by some citations, as an illustration of the frame contents. All citations belong to interviewees who fit the frame the citation is used for. After these six sections, a short summary of the complete wild boar frame is given. The detailed wild boar frames are provided in Appendix B.

## **Wild Boar Frame 1: Wild boar are a problem; just shoot them**

### ***Main issues***

The main issue of the fencing case are wild boar. Wild boar are perceived as a problem, mainly because they create traffic accidents when crossing the roads and because of the damage they cause (e.g. to private gardens, to road sides). Most interviewees think that the wild boar population size is too big, which increases the number of traffic accidents and the frequency at which damage is caused. The interviewees also think that the large wild boar population results in wild boar progressing further away from the forest, into the urban areas (Epe-North and Bakhuisbos). The solution to the wild boar (population size) problem is considered to be culling. The fence is therefore an unwanted solution, because it does not solve the problem of the big wild boar population. However, the culling that currently is being applied is perceived as inadequate; one where the culling targets are not met.

In the citation below, the interviewee explains that wild boar are the problem because on the Veluwe they are often the cause of traffic accidents:

*“I think that the presence of wild boar is much bigger problem for traffic. Accidents do happen on the Veluwe, when these animals are hit. That the driver lost control over the wheel and for instance drove into a tree. Then it often means the end. Many accidents happen.” (source: H6 page 4)*

In the following citation, the interviewee stresses how much damage wild boar can cause. The damage he refers to was done in Epe-North, in another person’s garden. High financial costs were the consequence of this damage caused by wild boar.

*“At a client they had ruined the swimming pool. Those wild boar got behind it, and started digging. They found something and... There is an iron frame there, and they bent it. One of them fell in there and tried to get out. A lot of the canvas was destroyed. This man has a lot of financial damage.” (source: H7 page 1)*

In the following citation, the interviewee touches upon the main issues of this wild boar frame. He states that there are too many wild boar, which is due to inadequate culling. Culling is seen as the solution for the wild boar issue. The fence is not the solution, because it does not solve the problem of the big wild boar population size.

*“Because no matter how you put it, there are too many wild boar. Why? Hunting is increasingly bounded to more strict conditions. And those animals have 8, 9 piglets. So everyone can figure out that the fence won't help. Because than those animals will die in the forest.” (source: E9 page 2)*

### **Main characterization of the identities and relationships**

The main actor characterization applies to people and environmental organizations that are against hunting. These environmental organizations are not specified by all interviewees, most of them refer to environmental organizations or environmental movements in general. These people and environmental organizations are perceived to hinder the solution (culling) to the main issue. The current culling is perceived as inadequate, of which little societal support for hunting and hunters is thought to be the underlying reason. This low societal support is fueled by people and environmental organizations that are against hunting. Via their statements, communication and actions they create a negative connotation with culling. Not only do these people and environmental organizations fuel this negative connotation, they are also perceived to base their standpoints on emotions and wrong information. In discussions about wild boar, they are perceived to be just making stuff up. They are not basing their standpoints on facts and rationale. The people who are against hunting are also suspected of not having any damage caused by wild boar themselves. This makes it is easier to be lenient towards wild boar.

Different (new) rules that increasingly restrict culling is described in the citation below. The interviewee describes that the number and types of allowed culling methods have become less and less. He perceives these restrictions to culling are implemented because the public feels sorry for wild boar. These tight restrictions in turn have led to an inadequate population control.

*"I do not know how many currently may get shot, because there are so many rules of what is not allowed. It is allowed using a high seater, but not doing a battue because that is pitiful. In former times they went through the corn fields with 20 man, and at the end of the field they waited for the wild boar. Than at least you got them all. Because now no real progress is made."* (source: H7, page 14)

One interviewee describes how people can change their attitude about culling, once they have actually experienced damage themselves. In this citation he refers to damage caused by wild boar in a garden in Epe-North. The owner of this garden changed his standpoint about culling after wild boar had damaged his garden and fence. This indicates that leniency to wild boar may become less or disappear if a person has experienced damage himself.

*"For years that has been a client of us in Epe, and he was against culling. He thought you should make sure you have your garden properly fenced off, he was against culling. He had it properly fenced off, and his neighbor had just placed a new decorative fence. At a particular moment wild boar were going through there each night. This man had a compost pile, and those wild boar think that it smells good. They just started pushing, but the fence is a bit higher. Once a wild boar has put his snout under the fence, the rest of the fence comes along. So that fence consisting of 4, 5, 6 elements was completely bended. Garden plowed, neighbors garden plowed. And then he was suddenly all like "The damage needs to be compensated." But it was not compensated. "Then they need to be shot." Then they were suddenly not against hunting any more. I think that is a bit hypocritical."* (source: H7 page 1)

### **Main characterization of the interaction process**

The main interaction characterization applies to the discussions in relation to the fencing case. Especially the discussions about wild boar and culling are perceived to be problematic. The actors to which this problematic interaction is mainly ascribed are the people and environmental organizations that are against hunting. The standpoints of these actors, which they communicate in discussions about wild boar and culling, are perceived to be based on emotions instead of on rationale and facts.

In the citation below, the interviewee describes the discussion about culling is held on basis of emotions:

*"You know, the whole discussion is carried out on the wrong grounds. It is about sad or not sad, culling or not culling."* (source: H7 page 3)

Emotions are not the only troubling factor in discussions about culling. That people who are against culling also base this statement on the wrong information is expressed in the citation below. The interviewee stresses the need of culling in order to keep nature in balance; something which he argues is neglected by the people who are opposed to hunting.

*“And that is of course the whole characteristic of the culture here. Of people from the city, who say that everything should keep on living. Without looking at the balance of flora and fauna. Because that is getting a bit awry right now.” (source: E10 page 1)*

### **Social Space**

The main actor characterization is reflected in the social space, where the people and environmental organizations that are against hunting are the most important problematic actor. These actors constrain culling, because they create a negative connotation with culling. The inhabitants of Epe and Heerde are the most important unproblematic actor in the social space. They are the ones who face the presence of wild boar and have to deal with the consequences (inadequate culling) of the negative connotation caused by people and environmental organizations that are against hunting. Hunters are perceived as important, because they can solve the wild boar issue. Hunters are not perceived as problematic, because the inadequate culling is not perceived as their fault. They are in way also a 'victim' of the troubled discussion.

In the citation below, the interviewee explains that hunters are not the fault of the inadequate culling; they are constrained by the negative public connotation with hunting. The interviewee refers to the practice of battue (*drijfjacht* in Dutch) which is currently a forbidden hunting method.

*“There where perhaps 10 hunters and 20 'pushers' involved in a battue. And that has got a very nasty connotation, because it is not allowed anymore. But then they went around it [field of corn] and everything [wild boar] that got out shot them down. There were that many hunters that it was just finished like that.” (source: H7 page 28)*

### **Geographical Space**

Wild boar being the main issue is reflected in the geographical space. In areas where many people live, more specifically the city center of Epe, Epe-North and Bakhuisbos, wild boar presence is perceived as a problem. On private gardens/land wild boar presence is also problematic, even if people take their own measures (e.g. fence around garden). Wild boar presence is also perceived as a problem in the road sides, because they do cross the roads when they are searching food there. Driving more carefully is not the solution; wild boar crossing the roads are the problem.

The city center of Epe as a location where wild boar presence is problematic comes forward in the citation below, where is referred to the year 2011:

*“What happened in Epe should not be repeated. That is clear. That those wild boar really got to the center of the village.” (source: H6 page 7)*

In the next citation the interviewee describes how inhabitants of Bakhuisbos placed fences around their gardens. But that despite these fences being in place, wild boar presence is still an issue.

*“Well, the people there are now sensible enough to put electrical wire at this height [+/- 30 cm. above the ground]. At this height above the ground they have put poles with electrical wire along the garden. Well, that keeps them [wild boar] off. Than the garden stays neat. Would these people refrain from this measure than there whole garden would be plowed over. And that of course is a problem.” (source: H1 page 11)*



### **HaN-scale relationship(s)**

The master view as part of this frame is reflected by the main issue being wild boar. Wild boar are an issue because their presence has negative effects (e.g. damage, traffic accidents) for humans. Most interviewees focus on damage caused by wild boar and perceive this damage as problematic. The perceived importance of damage caused by wild boar to human property fits the anthropocentric master view. Perceiving culling as the solution is tangent to both the master and guardian view. Culling is seen as the solution, because it is expected to reduce wild boar damage and traffic accidents (master view). But culling is also seen as a human responsibility to take care of wild boar populations, to prevent populations from becoming too big causing wild boar to starve (guardian view).

In the citation below, the interviewee describes an accident he had years ago while driving in his car. The accident involved a young wild boar. The focus in this event lies mainly on the damage to the car. Although it was not too bad and they were well insured, this focus fits the master view.

*“Well, at a certain moment you will hit such an animal. It has happened to us, a couple of years ago. It was a brand-new [car]; I do not remember exactly what it was. But it was a new one, and only the bumper had to be replaced. And we had an all-risk insurance so.”*  
(source: E9 page 4)

In the next citation, an interviewee describes the need for culling. Not only because this reduces the damage caused by wild boar, but also for the sake of wild boar wellbeing. This caring role of humans when they apply culling is part of the guardian view.

*“But I think that the population size needs to be managed. Also with consideration for the animals. Because at some point there will be limitations in food.”* (source: H4 page 6)

### **Frame summary**

Wild boar are the problem within the fencing case, a problem which is mainly caused by the large wild boar population. The solution to reduce the excessive wild boar population is culling. The fence is no solution and is therefore unwanted. However, the current culling is inadequate due to a negative connotation with hunting. This negative connotation is fueled by people and environmental organizations that are against hunting, which results in low societal support and culling being increasingly restricted. This negative connotation with hunting not only constrains culling, the connotation is also based on emotions and wrong information.

Social space is an important part of this frame, mainly because the solution (culling) to the wild boar issue is constrained by people and environmental organizations that are against culling. Geographical space is also an important and clearly defined part of this frame. Wild boar presence is problematic. It is specifically problematic on the roads, in the city center of Epe, suburbs (Epe-North and Bakhuisbos) and the private gardens/land. Damage caused by wild boar is a problem, which is reflected in the master view being part of the frame. Culling is not only the solution, it is also the responsibility of humans to take care of wild boar populations. This latter aspects is reflected in the guardian view being part of the frame.

## Wild Boar Frame 2: We don't want the fence!

### **Main issues**

The main issue of the fencing case is related to the planned fencing. The fence is perceived as an unneeded and expensive project, because wild boar are not perceived as a problem. Wild boar are not a problem, because we as humans can adapt to their presence (e.g. fences around the garden). The fence is an unwanted 'solution' to a problem that does not exist. The fence itself is not the only issue, also the decision making process of the fence is perceived as a problem. Through the public participation the inhabitants had no real influence on the decision, because it was only about the planned route. Especially this lack of influence that the inhabitants had is considered as problematic. Although wild boar are not perceived as a problem, the population size is considered as being too big. Culling of wild boar is therefore thought of as a necessity, while the fence does not solve the large wild boar population issue.

In the next citation, the fence as a highly unwanted project is expressed by an interviewee:

*"I feel the fence should go. No fences. Than they should go to Auschwitz, there you have a fence." (source: E3 page 11)*

In the citation below, the interviewee explains his concern about the planned fencing. Besides wild boar being unproblematic and the fence thus an unneeded project, he argues that the fence might even lead to problematic situations. He wonders what will happen if the fence is damaged and wild boar get through to the other side. He fears those wild boar will get, shot because it is hard to get them back into the forest (through the fence).

*"If a wild boar or a couple of them escape. Because they are never alone but with a herd. For what ever reason, imagine the fence is damaged. Because there are many, I wanted to say 'vagabonds', who like it to make a hole in the fence. Imagine wild boar going through that hole, it is questionable whether they find their way back through the fence. What might happen then is that wild boar get shot on this side of the fence. Because it is that hard to drive them back into the forest." (source: E5 page 1)*

### **Main characterization of the identities and relationships**

The main actor characterization applies to the municipality of Epe, in relation to the planned fence and the fencing decision. In its fencing decision, the municipality of Epe is perceived to have little or no consideration for the standpoints of its inhabitants. The municipality simply wants to place the fence and does not involve the inhabitants of Epe in the decision making process. This is reflected in the public participation that the municipality of Epe organized, that gave the inhabitants no real influence on the fencing decision. The municipality is also perceived to show no consideration for its inhabitants afterwards, because now that it becomes clear there is little support for the fence the municipality still does not change its decision. The municipality of Epe as problematic actor is not limited to the fencing decision, the municipality is also suspected of feeding wild boar to enhance tourism benefits. At best, the municipality is accused of not doing anything to stop tourists and locals of feeding wild boar.

In the citation below, the interviewee refers to the fencing decision. He fears that is a decision that once made, will not be undone. He fears it is already too late for the municipality of Epe to consider the inhabitants of Epe.

*"It is an afterthought, because the decision is already made. I am afraid it is. Maybe it has already been put out to contract, and they cannot go back. It has already been put to contract and that's why we can't go back. And the frustration and distrust towards the municipality is only increasing." (source: E5 page 7)*

An interviewee describes his suspicion that the fencing decision was already made on forehand, indicating that the municipality of Epe does not include the standpoints of its inhabitants:

*“That the municipality had decided that the fence should come, no matter what. While a lot of people were against the fence. It is a sort of one-sided decision. That is the feeling we have about it.” (source: E5, page 1)*

In the citation below the interviewee expresses his indignation about the fencing decision, because the municipality of Epe feeds wild boar at the same time. But he states that not only the municipality is to blame, also the people who feed wild boar and lure them into town are to blame. And who now start to complain about wild boar presence.

*“But they feed them. They enter here because they are feeding them with corn. So it is as unjust as it can be. Because they do not want the animals inside the village. But the people feed them as well, with bread. And then they complain and a fence costing 600.000 must be placed all of a sudden. So I am actually very indignant.” (source: E8 page 1)*

### **Main characterization of the interaction process**

The main interaction characterization applies to the municipality of Epe and the decision making process of the fence. The perception is that most inhabitants do not want the fence, but that the municipality panicked when a few people started to complain about wild boar and mentioned that they felt unsafe because of wild boar. Especially the latter aspect, safety, is considered to have sped up the decision to place the fence. The public participation event about the planned fencing is perceived as a sham; it was only about the planned route and not about the fencing decision itself. In a way it gave the inhabitants the illusion of influence on the decision, while this was not the case. And now that the inhabitants of Epe communicate en masse that they disagree with the fence, the decision is still not changed.

In the following citation, the interviewee expresses his feelings about the public participation event. He perceives it is useless to participate, because the decision to place the fence is already made. It will not be changed due to the public participation.

*“I have not responded at all, because it does not help. There was a possibility I guess, I could have responded but I have not. They [municipality of Epe] will decide it themselves; they do not care about our views. I sometimes say that we are only a burden for them.” (source: E3 page 5)*

In the next citation, the interviewee describes that inhabitants who fear wild boar have a bigger impact on the decisions of the municipality than those inhabitants who appreciate wild boar. The decision to place the fence was accelerated by inhabitants who stated to the municipality that they are scared of wild boar.

*“But fear, if you as a citizen indicate that you do not feel safe within the municipality. That has of course an enormous impact. And the municipality immediately feels responsible. And if someone would say “We like the wild boar so much, because it gives us the feeling of really living in nature”, that has not that much impact as if someone would say “But I do not dare to walk my dog here in this town.” (source: E5 page 9)*

### **Social Space**

The main issue and actor characterization are reflected in the social space; the municipality of Epe is the most important problematic actor. Problematic mainly because they neglect the inhabitants of Epe, and because they organized the inconsequential public participation. The inhabitants of Epe are important in the social space, because these are the people whose voices are not heard, who are not involved in the fencing decision. People who have complained about wild boar are perceived as important and problematic, for their influence overruled the majority of the inhabitants of Epe. They have sped up the fencing decision. These people are also perceived as being incorrect, because wild boar presence is seen as an inseparable part of living near the forest.

In the following citation, an interviewee expresses that if inhabitants of Epe feel bothered by wild boar presence they should take their own measures. The fence is unwanted, because people can take their own measures.

*"I mean, than you should take measures yourself. And not burden the whole community with such an insane fence." (source: E2 page 7)*

### **Geographical Space**

The geographical space reflects the notion that people should take their own measures (e.g. fence around garden) if they are bothered by wild boar presence. Due to this human adaption, wild boar presence is not seen as a problem in Epe-North and in private gardens/land. The locations where wild boar presence is considered to be problematic are the roads and road sides. Careful driving is not considered as enough; wild boar crossing the road are a problem. The fence is not believed to solve this problem, maybe even makes the situation worse because it directs wild boar to the roads.

That the fence might even direct wild boar in the directions of the roads, which they will then cross, is expressed by an interviewee:

*"That means that wildlife at a certain point will concentrate at the places where the fence stops. And cross the roads there." (source: E5 page 7)*

### **HaN-scale relationship(s)**

Culling as the perceived solution to have a healthy wild boar population makes the guardian view part of this frame. The interviewees perceive a responsibility for humans to take care of wild boar populations, making sure that these populations do not get too big. Wild boar are not a problem and it is up to humans to make adaptations, which is one of the main aspects of the partner view. Most interviewees think we should let wild boar roam freely through Epe-North, because we as humans can place fences around our gardens. In this frame it is not only considered important that wild boar have much free movement, it is also 'acknowledged' that wild boar have as much right to be there as the inhabitants. Seeing wild boar as part of living in the forest and having a sense of a shared environment makes the participant view an important part of this frame.

In the citation below, an interviewee explains the need for culling because wild boar and people are living in the same areas. Human intervention is needed, preferably culling and not the fence. This perceived responsibility of humans to intervene in nature is an important part of the guardian view.

*"Of course it can't be totally natural. Because you are in an area where many people live as well. If it would have been totally deserted like in the Middle Ages, than who cares. But it is not, so you should cultivate it. And this cultivation you need to combine with beautiful nature policy. A policy of hunters. That what I want, and no dragging with fences." (source: E2 page 16)*

In the following citation the interviewee explains that we as humans need to consider wild boar, because they have a right to be in Epe-North as well. This notion is part of the participant view and implies a lenient stance towards wild boar presence.

*"Also when you consider humans and animals living together. This land is of the wild animals. If you take it very seriously than we have come to live in it." (source: E8 page 5)*

In the participant view, wild boar are appreciated and living nearby them is considered as a quality. In the citation below the interviewee expresses his wild boar experiences as being something special. The small house which is referred to is a small building in his garden, where guests of his could sleep when they stayed over.

*"I have built a small house here; it is like a guest house. At night those guest hear "oink oink". That is how they lay in their beds, in that little house. In my little atelier. And they say "God, we heard the wild boar last night". To which I respond "Great, is not it?" They tell me to place the head end of the beds at the other side. I say "No, I won't do that". Yes, it is very special. The tourist here come for the wild animals as well." (source: E8 page 6)*

### **Frame summary**

The fence and the fencing decision are the problems within the fencing case. The fence is a highly unwanted project, because wild boar are not a problem. The decision making process of the fence is a problem, because the inhabitants of Epe are not involved. The municipality of Epe is to blame, because they neglect the inhabitants. The municipality did organize a public participation event about the fence, but it was only about the route. It gave the inhabitants of Epe no real influence on the fencing decision. Even now it becomes clear that most inhabitants do not want the fence, the municipality of Epe is not willing to change its decision. The municipality badly wants to place the fence, a decision which seems to have been sped up by a few people who complained about wild boar and mentioned feeling unsafe because of the wild boar presence. These few people have overruled the standpoint of the majority of the inhabitants.

Social space is the most important part of this frame, because the frame is mostly about the municipality of Epe and the neglected inhabitants of Epe. The fence and the lacking involvement of inhabitants of Epe in the decision making process are the main issues, of which the municipality of Epe is the underlying reason. Geographical space is a less important and less clear part of this frame. Because wild boar presence is not a problem, where wild boar are present is also less important. The guardian view is part of the frame because humans have a responsibility to take care of wild boar population. Humans do intervene with culling, but should simultaneously allow free movement of wild boar. The partner view is part of the frame because of this latter aspect, and is also a reason why the fence is unwanted (obstacle to free movement). Wild boar and humans share the same environment, in which wild boar have equally the right to be there. This is reflected in the participant view being part of the frame.

### **Wild Boar Frame 3: Don't shoot wild boar, place the fence**

#### **Main issues**

Culling of wild boar is the main issue of the fencing case. A problematic issue, because it is perceived as an unnecessary and cruel act. Unnecessary because wild boar are not perceived as a problem. Although wild boar are not a problem, the fence is considered to be a good solution. It may reduce nuisance and damage for the people who do find wild boar problematic. Altering wild boar movement is preferred over shooting wild boar; the fence is seen as a more wild boar friendly solution. Culling is not the only human action in relation to wild boar that is considered to be a problem. Reckless driving with little consideration for wild boar is also problematic issue.

In the next citation, the interviewee explains why he is opposed to hunting. He considers the presence of wild boar as unproblematic; culling than is an unnecessary and cruel act.

*"We have to take wild boar into account, just like we need to do with deer or what so ever. You should do that there [Epe] as well. You know, and I do not see any reason for shooting the animals just like that. I get very angry about it." (source: H2 page 7)*

An interviewee explains that the fence is a wild boar friendly solution, because there will be no need for shooting wild boar anymore:

*"I think you should do it, because else you will get the same situation again where they [wild boar] do cause damage. And then there are too many and they will begin to shoot again." (source: H5 page 2)*

In the next citation, the interviewee explains that we as humans build roads through the habitat of wild boar. He feels we as humans should consider the wild boar and adapt our driving.

*"We as humans have built a road straight through the forest. That animal did not ask for it to be built. So if you have to use the road, do it with respect." (source: H2, page 9)*

### **Main characterization of the identities and relationships**

The main issue is reflected in the main actor characterization, which applies to both hunters and drivers. Hunters are perceived as being unnecessarily cruel for shooting wild boar. This cruelty is especially perceived in cases where hunters first lure wild boar with food, before shooting them. Some drivers are perceived to be acting irresponsible, because they drive too fast and too reckless. They are perceived to have little consideration for wild boar.

In the next citation, the interviewee describes that wild boar may be fed if they would otherwise die of starvation. At the same time, he expresses the perceived cruelty of using food for hunting purposes.

*"So I feel they may be fed, but not to shoot them afterwards from a hunting spot. That is something I find very terrible." (source: H2 page 8)*

### **Main characterization of the interaction process**

The perceived interaction processes of the different actors are not that important in this frame. The main actor characterization is about the actions of hunters and drivers, not about their communication. The interaction characterization that is part of the frame relates to the municipality of Heerde, though the interviewees did not put much emphasis on this characterization. The municipality of Heerde had not informed the interviewees about the fence, something which did not surprise them. They perceive the municipality of Heerde as a very bad provider of information, in this case about the planned fencing. They feel that they should have been informed about an important project like the fence (even if it is a project from the municipality of Epe).

That the information provision from Heerde is bad is expressed in the next citation. The interviewee uses the current road construction work as illustration.

*"The information provision is really as bad as can be. Because like now, they are busy near Epe. It is almost impossible to get out of Heerde, but nowhere is said how long it will take, nor is said what is being done." (source: H2 page 10)*

### **Social Space**

Culling as the main issue and the main actor characterization being about hunters is reflected in the social space; hunters are the most important problematic actor. Drivers are also a problematic actor, because they are perceived to have little consideration for wild boar while driving. This is not applicable to all drivers of course, but both interviewees have experienced other people driving fast on (dark) forest roads. Important but unproblematic in the social space are inhabitants of Bakhuisbos. The interviewees both live in Bakhuisbos and feel their neighbors do adapt to wild boar presence and have consideration for them, in contrast to hunters and drivers.

In the citation below, the interviewee describes the irresponsible drivers which are overtaking them even if it is still dark:

*“At 10 past 6 we are in the car and you would not believe how we are being overtaken. Like real idiots they’re overtaking us.” (source: H2 page 9)*

### **Geographical Space**

Wild boar presence is not a problem, which comes forward in the geographical space of this frame. The interviewees feel that both in private gardens/land and on the roads people should adapt to wild boar. This may entail putting a fence around your garden or driving more carefully.

In the citation below the interviewee explains that, because it is the responsibility of inhabitants to close the gate, wild boar cannot be blamed for entering the gardens. Because of the ability of humans to place fences around the gardens, wild boar presence is not a problem here.

*“You know, I can imagine that we will forget to close the gate one day. And in the morning I see the whole garden is plowed by wild boar. Of course I will not like that. But it is inherent to the fact that I decided to live here and that I forgot to close the gate.” (source: H2 page 4)*

### **HaN-scale relationship**

The interviewees prefer a situation where natural regulation of wild boar populations takes place, instead of humans actively intervening in wild boar populations. This is described as a situation where humans and wild boar are living side by side rather than wild boar living under human dominion. These preferences make the partner view an important part of this frame.

The interviewee expresses his preference of natural regulation over culling in the citation below. In this case, natural regulation comes from the natural food supply. The interviewee dislikes the current situation where wild boar are being fed in harsh times and then need to be shot later, because they come too close to the houses.

*“If they do not have food because of the cold, about half of the animals survives. And then you would not have all these problems right now. That is what I find bothersome. That they find it necessary to feed them. And now it is becoming annoying because they come that close, and they need to start shooting them again.” (source: H5, page 5)*

### **Frame summary**

Culling of wild boar is the most problematic issue of the fencing case. It is a cruel and unnecessary human act. Culling is not the only problematic human activity, driving with little consideration for wild boar is also a problem. The people who perform these actions, hunters and drivers, are to blame. Hunters are cruel, especially when they use food to lure wild boar. Drivers should drive with consideration for wild boar, but some do not drive carefully but reckless and too fast.

Hunters are the most important actor in the social space, because they are the ones that perform the cruel act of culling. Both the act of culling and hunters themselves are cruel, because hunters are the ones that in the end pull the trigger. Drivers are a problematic actor within the social space, though less important than hunters. Not all drivers are a problem, just the ones that drive too fast and reckless. Because wild boar presence is not a problem, geographical space is a less important and less clear part of this frame. People can place their own fences; wild boar progressing into urban areas is therefore unproblematic. Natural regulation being preferred over culling is reflected in the partner view as part of the frame.

## **Wild Boar Frame 4: The problem is our land use; so no fence and no shooting**

### **Main issues**

Human land use is the main issue of the fencing case. Wild boar are perceived as unproblematic, it is the way we arrange our land and manage the road sides that is the problem. Our current land use is perceived to be problematic, because wild boar are attracted by our nutrient rich lawns and road sides. The road sides even guide wild boar into the city center of Epe. The fence is considered as highly unwanted, because wild boar are not a problem and it distracts from the issue of our current land use. We as humans are the problem and the solution lies in how we use our land.

In the citation below, an interviewee explains how the landscape features of Epe-North (e.g. lawns, green road sides) attract wild boar. He describes that these areas with food even lure wild boar into the city center of Epe. He thinks it is our task to make these areas less attractive for wild boar.

*“If you make sure that the entrance to the village is not attractive, by not having green lawns but places where wild plants grow. You will thereby prevent the attractiveness for wild boar to stick their nose into the ground. Because that is the only interesting thing for them, there is no other food there. Except for the road sides maybe.” (source: E7 page 4)*

How we manage our road edges attracts wild boar, as the interviewee argues in the citation below. Like in the previous citation, it is considered to be the responsibility of humans to change this situation. Wild boar are not the problem, it are our road edges that attracts them and which are the problem.

*“The Elburgerweg has been renewed, They replaced the road surface. They changed the road sides. In turn they sow it again with new seeds. With beautiful, fast growing grass. That needs to be mowed, they leave the clippings lying there. That attracts all sorts of insects. And that in turn attracts wild boar. It is that simple. If you would do something about these road edges, making sure they can't find insects there. Than wild boar will not come.” (source: H8 page 7)*

In the next citation, the interviewee explains why he considers the fence to be an unwanted project. Not only is wild boar presence not a problem, the fence also hampers the accessibility of the forest to inhabitants of Epe. The fence cuts Epe-North off from the rest of the forest.

*“Secondly I think those psychological objections, that you are cutting off a residential area from the direct connection with nature. Constraints for disabled people, who must now always move through the grids and gates.” (source: E7 page 9)*

### **Main characterization of the identities and relationships**

Although the main issue of this frame is related to human activities (land use), actor characterizations are not an important part of this frame. Land use is not directly linked to a single actor or group of actors, while a characterization would be about a clearly distinctive actor. The municipality of Epe is the exception; it is characterized as an actor that simply wants to place the fence, without wondering why wild boar are present in the city center of Epe in the first place. The municipality is perceived as not being interested in the underlying reasons (e.g. land use) of wild boar behavior and movement.

In the citation below, the interviewee reacts to the planned fencing. He stresses the importance of understanding wild boar behavior first, before we should decide on activities like culling or place the fence. Or even better, change our land use instead of placing fences and apply culling.

*“But I have a question; why do they enter the village? Why do wild boar do that? And that is something they [municipality of Epe] do not think about. Why do wild boar plow along the road sides, why do they plow along the Elburgerweg. That is something that they do not seem to ask themselves.” (source: H8 page 7)*



### **Main characterization of the interaction process**

The main interaction characterization is linked to the decision making process of the fence. The interviewees doubt whether most inhabitants of Epe are in favor of the fence. In relation to the perceived low support for the fence, the public participation is considered as an event that gave little influence to the inhabitants on the fencing decision. The moment that the public participation took place is considered to correspond with this, because the fencing decision was already made at the time.

An interviewee expresses the remarkable moment the public participation took place in the planning process. He feels that public participation should take place in an earlier stage, when the involvement of the inhabitants is not about the route but about the fencing as a whole.

*“That is of course remarkable. There needs to be in between phase, a design and then the public participation. Or in an even earlier stage, that you hear people about the planning. “We are going to make some plans, what do you guys think about it.” Public participation on forehand.” (source: E7 page 9)*

### **Social Space**

An important unproblematic actor in the social space is the municipality of Heerde. Unproblematic, because they decided not to cooperate with the highly unwanted fence. The problematic actor within the social space is the municipality of Epe, though this actor was not that important as part of the social space. It is mainly problematic because it is going to place the fence. Drivers and the inhabitants of Epe and Heerde are considered as unproblematic, because they are perceived to have enough consideration for wild boar (mainly by placing fences around garden and driving carefully).

Heerde is an important actor in relation to the planned fencing, because it does not cooperate with the planned fencing. The interviewee considers this as an additional reason why the fence is an unwanted project, because it will not work.

*“But the funny thing is, yes perhaps even the ridiculous aspect. That Heerde does not cooperate. A wild boar that is a bit clever will walk in the direction of Heerde and enters [town of Epe] anyway.” (source: E7 page 3)*

### **Geographical Space**

Presence of wild boar is not a problem in both the suburbs (Epe-North and Bakhuisbos) and on private gardens/land, because we as humans can adapt to wild boar (mainly placing fences around the garden). On the roads wild boar presence is neither a problem, because we as humans should adapt our driving. One of the reasons why the fence of Epe is unwanted, is that people can place their own fences. Even though wild boar presence in the city center of Epe is not a problem for the interviewees themselves, they recognize that it can be a problem for the inhabitants who live there.

Taking measures yourself, as to make your garden less attractive for wild boar, is described in the following citation. Because of the own measures the interviewee had taken, wild boar presence is not a problem.

*“My garden is not attractive for wild boar. I do not have a lawn that I mow. I have some grass, but I do not mow it. It's all moss by now. And the gravel is also not attractive, because that is way too solid. They will not dive in there with their snout.” (source: H8, page 5)*

### **HaN-scale relationship(s)**

Changing our current land use is the preferred solution, because it influences the locations where wild boar are present without direct human intervention. In combination with a preference for free movement of wild boar, the partner view is part of this frame. A more important part is the participant view, because the interviewees regard humans to be living in the habitat of wild boar. The sense of a shared environment is a key point of the participant view. Also the expressed need to understand wild boar behavior, trying to grasp what is going on in their heads is reflected in the participant view. Humans are seen as being part of nature, together with wild boar.

In the next citation, the interviewee expresses how the fence disrupts the open connection with nature; an aspect of living in Epe-North that the interviewee appreciates. Feeling part of nature, instead of being separated from it (reserve) is a key aspect of the participant view.

*“It gives a feeling of being locked up. It is like we are living in some sort of reserve now. The open connection with nature is lost. While that is a more psychological aspect of course. But that feeling is also related to walking through the forest and then there is this large fence you encounter.” (source: E7 page 4)*

### **Frame summary**

Our current land use is the main issue of the fencing case. Our nutrient rich lawns and road sides attract wild boar; wild boar are not a problem. The fence is not needed, because wild boar presence is unproblematic and it distracts from the land use issue. The municipality of Epe is not interested in the relation between land use and wild boar presence, it simply wants to place the fence. Not only is the fence not needed, it is also not supported by the majority of the inhabitants of Epe. The inhabitants did not get the change to give or not give their support; the public participation event gave the inhabitants no influence on the fencing decision.

Social space was not that important in this frame, because the current land use issue is not clearly linked to an actor or group of actors. The municipality of Epe is a problematic actor, because they are not interested in the land use issues and simply want to place the unwanted fence. The geographical space is clearly defined in the frame, wild boar presence is never a problem because we as humans can adapt to their presence. Where wild boar are is not a problem, with the city center of Epe as the only exception. The preference of free movement of wild boar and no human intervention in wild boar populations (no fence, no culling), makes the partner view part of the frame. Considering humans and wild boar to share their environment, in which both have a right to be, makes the participant view an important part of the frame.

## **Wild Boar Frame 5: The fence is a good idea**

### **Main issues**

The main issue of the fencing case are wild boar. Wild boar are considered to be problematic, because they come too close to the houses of Epe-North. Wild boar are progressing further away from the forest, into the urban areas. They are in search of food, because their population size is too big. Because there are too many of them, the risk of traffic accidents in which wild boar are involved is also higher. The fence is considered as a good solution to solve the wild boar issue, for it is expected to keep them out of Epe. The fence will not only stop wild boar from progressing, it is also seen as a more wild boar friendly solution than shooting. Feeding of wild boar is an additional problem, mainly because it results in an even bigger wild boar population.

For the interviewees, wild boar presence is especially problematic because they come that close to the houses of Epe-North. In the next citation, the interviewee tells about a wild boar experience he appreciates. Despite his appreciation of wild boar, he does not like wild boar getting that far into Epe. The citation is about a group of wild boar that were in his garden and that went away after he had yelled to them.

*"It happened like this: they retreated. But daddy, the boar, went as first. Then the youngsters went in a neat row after daddy. And the mother concluded the row. And they really went very neat along the road side, back into the forest. Well, I found that amazing. I had never seen that before, magnificent. Really beautiful. So I do enjoy those animals, but them going this far is absurd." (source: E4 page 3)*

The fence as a solution to keep wild boar in the forest and out of Epe, is described by an interviewee in the following citation. The fence is also considered to be a wild boar friendly solution, because you do not have to shoot them.

*"I am a proponent of it. Because as I said before, it is animal friendly. While they will stay outside of the village. So you won't have the same situations as in the last couple of years. Yes, I think it is a good solution." (source: E4 page 6)*

### **Main characterization of the identities and relationships**

The frame is mainly focused on wild boar and the fence, and the main actor characterization is related to the problematic issue of feeding wild boar. People who feed wild boar are perceived to do this feeding deliberately, even though the consequences (e.g. big population size, luring wild boar to urban areas) are known to them. They are characterized as being consciously neglecting the consequences of their own actions.

The next citation expresses that people who feed wild boar neglect the negative consequences of feeding. The interviewee refers to the stories he hears when he visits people in the western part of the Netherlands, people that go to Epe on holidays.

*"Then they are on holiday in Epe or somewhere around here. And they say "So nice, we feed them". Only then I tell them "How could you do that? We have so much nuisance of them." "Yes, but it is so much fun." (source: E6 page 5)*

### **Main characterization of the interaction process**

In the frame, there is not much emphasis on the interaction processes of the fencing case. The sole interaction characterization is related to people who have complained at the municipality of Epe about wild boar. This interaction is not perceived as a problem, it is good and logical that many inhabitants of Epe have complained. Which in turn has sped up the decision to place the fence, a decision which the interviewees are in favor of.

In the following citation, the interviewee explains why he thinks the municipality of Epe decided upon placing the fence; many inhabitants have complained about wild boar. The interviewee thinks the wild boar situation was worse enough to take measures like the fence.

*"I think that many people have called, saying "Is there not something that can be done about it? Because there is so much nuisance now.". It should be controlled of course. And that was really getting out of control. Yes, it was really getting out of control." (source: E6 page 4)*

### **Social Space**

Wild boar being a problem is reflected in the social space. The inhabitants of Epe and Heerde are important, because these are the people who face the problems (damage and traffic accidents) of wild boar. The people who feed wild boar are an important problematic actor, because they worsen the wild boar issue. The municipality of Epe is part of the social space, because this is the actor that has decided to place the fence.

In the next citation, the interviewee explains why he thinks that the wild boar population size has increased and has become too big. He thinks that tourists that feed wild boar are (one of) the cause.

*"I have got an idea what the cause is. Because I think it are mainly tourists that go into the forest with large bags filled with bread. I heard people talking about it. Well, at a certain moment you will meet them [wild boar]. And well, they start feeding them and of course it [population size] will expand." (source: E4 page 1)*

### **Geographical Space**

Wild boar as the perceived problem is reflected in the geographical space. Wild boar presence is considered to be problematic in all areas of Epe where many people live. The roads where people drive on are problematic locations to have presence of wild boar as well. The fence as a solution is in correspondence with the geographical space, because the interviewees expect it will keep wild boar out of the city center of Epe and Epe-North.

In the next citation, the interviewee refers to wild boar walking in the streets of Epe. He feels wild boar belong in the forest and considers the fence as a measure to keep wild boar out of Epe and inside the forest.

*"Those animals belong in the forest, no matter what. And they [municipality of Epe] should stop them somehow; the fence will solve it." (source: E4 page 5)*

### **HaN-scale relationship(s)**

The focus on the negative aspects that wild boar presence has for humans (e.g. damage, risks of traffic accidents), makes the master view fit this frame. However, the interviewees do take wild boar wellbeing into consideration when they refer to the fence as solution, a caring standpoint which is reflected in the guardian view. The guardian view relates to the fence being preferred above culling of wild boar.

In the citation below, the interviewee explains that wild boar need to be controlled because there are too many of them. This includes, among other things, not feeding wild boar. But he sees the control of the wild boar population also as a human act which is better for wild boar wellbeing.

*"I think they should temper them. That it should not get out of control. That soon there will again be that many around here. Because well, I do not know what will happen then. Maybe they will hurt their counterparts, which is something I would not like to happen" (source: E6 page 9)*

### **Frame summary**

Wild boar are the main problem of the fencing case, because they are progressing further into the urban areas in search of food. This is due to their too big population size, something which simultaneously increases the number of traffic accidents caused by wild boar. The fence is a good solution to alter the movement of wild boar into Epe-North and the city center of Epe. Feeding of wild boar increases the problem of the big wild boar population. People who feed wild boar are bad, because they are aware of the negative consequences of their behavior.

The inhabitants of Epe and Heerde are the most important actor within the social space, because these are the people that have to deal with the consequences of wild boar presence. Consequences that are worsened by the people that feed wild boar. The municipality of Epe is providing the solution, namely the fence. Geographical space is important and clearly defined, because the wild boar problems are directly linked to where they are present. Wild boar presence is problematic in all areas where many people live (city center Epe and Epe-North) and on the roads. The importance of the negative effects of wild boar is reflected in the master view being part of the frame. However, in the fence as solution the wellbeing of wild boar is considered, making the guardian view part of the frame as well.

## Wild Boar Frame 6: Wild boar are not a problem

### **Main issues**

The main issue of the fencing case is that wild boar are not a problem. Wild boar damage is considered as unproblematic, because around gardens people can place their own fences. Wild boar are not a problem for crossing the road, because on the roads people should adapt their driving. Because wild boar are not perceived as a problem, there is no need for placing the fence. Being a needless measure, the fence is unwanted since it restrains the free movement of wild boar.

An interviewee does not understand why the fence is wanted so badly, while wild boar are not a problem:

*"I think there is no problem right now. I do not get why they want the fence so badly, because in the end nothing has been really damaged and no one has been seriously hurt."*  
(source: E1 page 4)

That there is no reason to fear wild boar is expressed in the next citation. The interviewee explains that the only exception is, when you as human pose a threat for the young wild boar. He regards it as our responsibility to not pose a threat, the protective wild boar mothers are not the problem.

*"Then you just stumble into a herd of wild boar. Yes, it is a bit awkward. But it is fun as well. They won't hurt you, as long as you are no threat for their young. Or for the babies. Then all is well."* (source: E1 page 2)

Wild boar are not considered as problematic and instead its presence is appreciated. This is described by an interviewee in the next citation.

*"Not for me, I do not see it as a problem. No, I think it is a beautiful animal and I feel glad when I see one. And I find it wonderful when they get in the garden sometimes."*  
(source: H9 page 3)

### **Main characterization of the identities and relationships**

The main actor characterization is about people who don't accept the presence of wild boar in the suburbs (Epe-North and Bakhuisbos). The interviewees characterize the people who complain about wild boar damage as unreasonable, because wild boar are part of living there. People who are afraid of wild boar are not understood by the interviewees and perceived as irrational, because there is not considered a need to fear wild boar.

In the citation below, the interviewee explains that he does not understand people who are scared of wild boar. No one has ever been hurt, so he feels the fear of those people is irrational.

*"I don't get where all the fear comes from. Those animals have never hurt anyone so why all the fear?"* (source: E1 page 4)

### **Main characterization of the interaction process**

The perceived interaction process is not that important in this frame, the focus is on wild boar being not a problem. The main interaction characterization relates to the irrationality of the different standpoints in discussions about wild boar and hunting. Fear and emotions are perceived to be sometimes more important in discussions than facts and rationale.

In the next citation, the interviewee describes the troubled discussion about hunting and hunters. He argues that the extent to which people are opposed to hunting depends on which animal is being killed. Hunting is especially found problematic by people, if the animal that is being shot is considered to be sweet and cuddly. Animals like deer and wild boar. This implies that standpoints about culling are (also) based on emotions.

*“If a muskrat enters the country, then nobody has objections when those animals are killed and altered in an organized way. But when it is a wild boar, or a red deer or a roe deer. Than Walt Disney like pictures bear to mind. And those animals all wear gloves, they are actually quite like humans. And they are especially sweet, extremely sweet. Wearing pajamas and all. They do look cute. And you are not allowed to harm them of course.”*  
(source: H9 page 13)

### **Social Space**

The social space is limited to the inhabitants of Epe and Heerde. These are considered to be an important actor but unproblematic, because according to the interviewees most of the inhabitants have some consideration for wild boar. The exception are the inhabitants who complain about wild boar, which are perceived to be unreasonable towards wild boar.

That local people (inhabitants of Epe) have consideration for wild boar is expressed in the citation below. In this case, the interviewee refers to the way most local people drive.

*“People who are from around here drive more carefully there [when on roads that go through the forest]. Especially when it is late in the evening.”* (source: E1 page 5)

### **Geographical Space**

Wild boar being unproblematic and the responsibility to adapt being on the human side is reflected in the geographical space. The interviewees do not perceive areas where wild boar presence is problematic. In the suburbs, on private gardens/land and on the roads we as humans should adapt.

An interviewee argues that living in Bakhuisbos means you decided to live in nature, so you need to accept the nature (and wild boar) there:

*“But I think that in a neighborhood like Bakhuisbos you should accept nature as it is. Because you consciously went to live there in nature.”* (source: H9 page 7)

### **HaN-scale relationship(s)**

Perceiving no need to separate the areas where wild boar and humans are living, but rather a sense of sharing the same environment, makes the participant view an important part of this frame. The interviewees feel we as humans have decided to live in areas whereof nature is an inseparable part.

In the participant view, humans are not separated from nature but part of it. This comes forward in the citation below, where the interviewee recognizes in humans the same instincts as in other animals. In this case he refers to a cat that has never been outside the house.

*“That instinct, when that cat hears the birds through the chimney. That cat is truly an animal from nature. Despite the captivity and despite the fact she has never been outdoors. And this instinct is also present in humans. Maybe not in all of us, but it is there.”*  
(source: H9 page 10)

### ***Frame summary***

The most important issue of the fencing case is that wild boar are not a problem. Wild boar are unproblematic, because humans can adapt to their presence. The fence is unwanted, because there is no need for it and its placement restricts the free movement of wild boar. Wild boar is part of living near the forest (Epe-North and Bakhuisbos), so people that complain about wild boar are unreasonable. People who fear wild boar are irrational, because there is no need to fear them.

Social space is not that important as part of the frame, because the focus is on wild boar. Most inhabitants of Epe and Heerde are unproblematic, because they have some consideration for wild boar. The exception are the people who complain about wild boar. Because we as humans can adapt to wild boar presence, there are no areas where wild boar presence is a problem.

Geographical space is therefore also not that important as part of the frame. Having a sense of a shared environment, instead of separating the areas where humans and wild boar live by placing the fence, is reflected in the participant view being an important part of the frame.

## **4.3 Linkages of wild boar frames, social and geographical space and the HaN-scale**

### ***Issues, identities and relationships and interaction processes***

In the different wild boar frames, the actor and interaction characterizations are more explicit and more emphasized on if the main issue is linked to an actor(s) or their activities. For instance, if the main issue is the planned fencing and public participation event, the characterization of the municipality of Epe is detailed and elaborated (frame 2). The actor and interaction characterization are an important part of the frame if the solution to the main issue is hindered by an actor (frame 1, culling is hindered by negative connotation) or if the decisions and plans of an actor are the main issue (frame 2). In frames where the main issue is formed by the activity of an actor (such as culling), the actor characterization (of hunters) is an important part of the frame while the interaction characterization is less important.

In wild boar frames where the issue is mainly focused on wild boar, either as a problem or as no problem, the actor and interaction characterizations are less important (frames 4, 5 and 6). These characterizations are also less important if the main issue is not linked to a clearly defined actor, as in frame 4 where the current land use is the perceived problem. This land use is not linked to a specific actor.

### ***Social space***

Social space as part of the wild boar frame is most important if the main issue is related to an actor within fencing case (frame 2, municipality of Epe), or to the activities and interaction of an actor (frame 1 and 3). This is reflected in frame 1, in which the interaction of people and environmental organizations is perceived as a problem and in frame 3, where culling is the problematic activity. These are also the frames where the actor and interaction characterizations are emphasized on the most. Social space is still an important part of the wild boar frame if actors are perceived to suffer from the consequences of the main issue. Such as in frame 5, where the inhabitants of Epe have to deal with the consequences of wild boar presence. If the wild boar frame focuses on wild boar, the social space is less important and limited to actors that are perceived to have little consideration for wild boar (frame 4 and 6).

### ***Geographical space***

Geographical space as part of the wild boar frame is most important and clearly defined in the frames where wild boar are perceived as a problem. In these frames it matters most where wild boar are present (frame 1 and 5). Interviewees who fit these frames are very resolute on where wild boar may be present and where their presence is a problem, such as all areas where many people live in frame 5. If wild boar are not a problem in the frame, it also matters less where they are and geographical space is a less important and clearly defined part of the frame (frame 2, 3, 4 and 6).

### ***HaN-scale***

The specific human-nature relationship(s) that is part of the frame, relates to how wild boar, the fence and the human activities of culling and driving are perceived. The master view is part of the frame where wild boar presence and damage is considered to be problematic (frames 1 and 5). The guardian view is part of the frame if culling is perceived as a responsibility of humans to take care of wild boar populations (frames 1 and 2) or if the fence is seen as a wild boar friendly measure (frame 5). The partner view is part of the frames where free movement of wild boar is considered to be important and the fence is seen as a barrier to this free movement (frames 2, 3 and 4). The participant view is part of the frame, if humans and wild boar sharing the same environment is preferred and when it is acknowledged that wild boar have a right to be there as well (frame 2, 4 and 6). Although content wise the partner and participant view differ, as part of the wild boar frames the distinction between these two relationships is less clear.

## **4.4 Differences Epe - Heerde**

The main differences between the individual wild boar frames of the interviewees from Epe and Heerde are presented in this section. These differences relate to the general findings, main issues, the main actor characterizations, the main interaction characterizations, social space, geographical space and the HaN-scale relationships. This is the sequence that is used in the subsequent sections.

### ***General findings***

There are two main differences in the general findings between interviewees from Epe and interviewees from Heerde. In Epe there are relatively less people that consider wild boar as a problem (6 out of 10) than in Heerde (3 out of 8). This is somewhat remarkable, because in Epe wild boar have progressed furthest into town. The other main difference is that in Epe almost all interviewees think of the fence as an undesired solution or project (8 out of 10), while in Heerde this group consists of about half of the interviewees (4 out of 9).

### ***Differences in main issues***

One of the main differences is that only interviewees from Epe have a frame where the main issue is formed by the fence and/or the fencing decision. The fence is also part of the frames held by interviewees from Heerde, but in none of these frames it is the main issue. In addition to this, the public participation event was also only a main issue in frames held by interviewees from Epe.

Another difference between the interviewees from Epe and Heerde is how the fence is perceived. Among the interviewees that perceive wild boar as a problem, only interviewees from Epe perceive the fence as a solution. Some interviewees from Heerde considered the fence as a wild boar friendly solution, but not as a solution because wild boar are a problem. Another difference is that only in Heerde there are interviewees who perceive culling of wild boar as the main issue of the fencing case. The last main difference is that feeding as a problematic issue is only part of the frame of some interviewees from Epe.

### ***Difference in main actor characterizations***

The actor characterization as part of the frame is most important in wild boar frame 2, which is only held by interviewees from Epe. This actor characterization is the one that is most elaborated and emphasized on, compared to the actor characterizations of the other frames. An actor characterization in which the problematic main issue (culling) is translated to a problematic actor (hunters) is only part of a frame held by interviewees from Heerde. In the frames of both interviewees from Epe and Heerde, the people and environmental organizations that are against hunting are characterized as a constraint for culling. But most of the interviewees who have this perception come from Heerde.



### ***Differences in main interaction characterizations***

There are two main differences in the interaction characterizations. The first one is that the public participation being perceived as a sham, because it was only about the route and not the fencing decision itself, is only an important part of the frames held by interviewees from Epe. The second one is that sympathy for people who complain at the municipality about wild boar is only part of frames held by interviewees from Epe. These people are considered to be right about wild boar and their complaints are appreciated, for it has sped up the fencing decision.

### ***Differences in social space***

Social space is a more important part of the wild boar frames held by the interviewees from Epe because of wild boar frame 2, where the issues relate to the municipality of Epe and the fencing decision. In the frames that are both held by interviewees from Epe and Heerde, the social space does not differ in its importance as part of the frame. Though the specific actors belonging to the social space are different.

The main difference in actors applies to the municipality of Epe and the municipality of Heerde. In general, interviewees of Epe consider the municipality of Epe to be more important (and more often also problematic) than the municipality of Heerde. If the municipality of Heerde is mentioned at all. In general this is the other way around for the interviewees of Heerde. Subsequently the inhabitants of Epe and Epe-North are more often part of the social space of interviewees from Epe, while the inhabitants of Bakhuisbos and Heerde are more often part of the social space of interviewees from Heerde.

### ***Differences in geographical space***

Content wise the geographical space does not differ between interviewees of Epe and Heerde, the specific locations however do. This is illustrated in the following example. If wild boar presence is considered to be problematic, both interviewees from Epe and Heerde mention roads and suburbs as problematic locations to have wild boar present. The interviewees from Epe refer more often to Epe-North, while the interviewees from Heerde refer more often to Bakhuisbos.

This implies that the reasoning of why wild boar presence is problematic at some locations and not at other locations, does not differ between interviewees from Epe and Heerde. The reasoning is the same, only the specific locations are different. Compared to the suburbs, the city center of Epe is a more general part of the geographical space of interviewees from both Epe and Heerde; it is mentioned by all interviewees from Epe, but also by nine from Heerde.

### ***Differences in HaN-scale relationships***

The HaN-scale relationships that are part of the different frames, do not differ between the interviewees from Epe and Heerde. Interviewees from Epe and Heerde who share the same wild boar frame in most cases also share the same HaN relationship(s). The HaN relationships statements regarding wild boar and nature do not reveal any clear differences between the interviewees from Epe and those from Heerde. The relationships seem to be overarching the context differences of respectively Epe and Heerde, and apply to the human-nature/human-wild boar relationship in general.

## Chapter 5. Focus Group and association Behoud Kwaliteit Epe

In this chapter, the results of the focus group evening and the results of the interview with the association Behoud Kwaliteit Epe are presented. Two sections are used to structure this chapter. Section 1 presents the main findings of the focus group evening and what the main similarities and differences are with individual wild boar frames (see chapter 4.2). Section 2 presents the main findings of the interview with the association and what the main similarities and differences are with the individual wild boar frames.

### 5.1 Focus Group

The main findings of the focus group evening are presented in this section. These main findings relate to the five statements that participants had to discuss among themselves (see chapter 3.5). The main findings of both groups are presented using the same sequence (with exception of the HaN-scale) as is used to present the individual wild boar frames. The wild boar frame that is identified for the focus group evening is *Wild boar not a problem, there are just too many of them*. The detailed wild boar frame of the focus groups is given in Appendix C. Some citations taken from the discussions will accompany the main findings. The source of the citation is specified in the following manner; the transcript of group 1 is denoted as FG1, that of group 2 as FG2. In the last subsection, the main similarities and differences between the individual frames and the findings of the focus group evening are examined.

#### Wild boar not a problem, there are just too many of them

##### **Main issues**

The main issue of the fencing case is that the wild boar population is too big. Wild boar presence is in essence not a problem; it is just that there are too many of them. Feeding of wild boar by both inhabitants/tourists and the municipality of Epe makes the situation (big population size) even worse. The fence does not solve the issue of the big wild boar population and is therefore a highly unwanted project. Culling is the perceived solution, although the current culling is considered as inadequate because culling targets are not met.

In the citation below, the participant expresses his doubts about the fence as a proper solution. He thinks that in time wild boar will go around the fence at the location where it stops, because Heerde does not cooperate. He also thinks the fence itself is not totally waterproof, because people may deliberately make holes in it so that wild boar can get through.

*“But I do not get it that the fence stops at the municipal border. And there you have not reached the motorway yet, so I think that at some point enough wild boar will find their way around it. They will reach the other side of the fence. And another thing that worries me is that there will always be some funny guys who think “I like to have some wild boar on the other side” and who will cut some holes in the fence using pliers.” (source: FG2 page 5)*

A participant feels that the only reason why wild boar may become problematic is because the culling of wild boar is inadequate. Culling is the proposed solution to end up with a limited wild boar population.

*“If you have and keep to a proper culling policy, than there is no problem.”  
(source: FG2 page 2)*

In the citation below, a participant stresses that wild boar are not a problem. Wild boar have only become problematic because we as humans feed them; this increases their population size but also lures them into the urban areas of Epe.

*“That it goes wrong is only logical, if only we would not feed them. Than the animals will stay in the forests. Than they are no nuisance.” (source: FG1 page 1)*

### **Main characterization of the identities and relationships**

The fence as a highly unwanted solution is reflected in the main actor characterization, which applies to the municipality of Epe. The municipality is perceived as not listening to its inhabitants and thus not considering the standpoints of its inhabitants. This is also indicated in the public participation about the fence, where the inhabitants had no real influence on the decision. Hunters are characterized as not reaching their targets, although whether they are the ones to blame is less clear.

The participant in the next citation explains that civil servants and local politicians may sometimes listen, but it seems like their standard way working is not to listen to the inhabitants:

*"I am not saying that they do not ever listen, but they made it a pleasant habit."*  
(source: FG1 page 7)

### **Main characterization of the interaction process**

The main interaction characterization relates to the public participation and the fencing decision. The public participation gave the inhabitants the illusion of influence on the decision, while this was not the case. The municipality did not make a serious effort in responding to the reactions of the public participation.

In the following citation, the participant describes the answering of the public participation by the municipality of Epe. The complaint is that the municipality did not truly answer to the contents of the public participation, and by doing so revealed that they do not really listen to the inhabitants.

*"I do not know if you have read the public participation note? And compared that to the content of many of the letters that have been sent? That is really terrible. How you can neglect something like that."* (source: FG2 page 13)

### **Social Space**

Social space is an important part of the frame, because the fence and fencing decision are related to the municipality of Epe. The municipality is a problematic actor because it has decided to place the unwanted fence, while it has not consulted the inhabitants of Epe. Hunters are also an important actor within the social space, because they are the key actor in the solution to the big wild boar population. There was no consensus though, on whether they are the ones to blame for the inadequate culling. The inhabitants of Epe are an important but unproblematic actor, because their voices are not heard in the decision making process of the fence. Their voices should have been heard.

That there is a distinction between local politicians and hunters is expressed in the next citation, where the participant stresses that hunters merely do as they are being told. Not all participant agreed upon this, whether hunters are to be blame remained unsolved.

*"You should say 'local politicians do not listen'. These are people who execute, they do as they are being told."* (source: FG2 page 13)

### **Geographical Space**

The geographical space is an important part of the frame, though it is specified in quite general terms. The most important areas where wild boar presence is perceived as a problem is the city center of Epe and the suburbs of Epe-North. Eventually it was agreed that wild boar presence is problematic within the municipal borders; outside of these borders wild boar presence is not problematic.

In the citation below, the participant states that wild boar do not belong in the town of Epe, but should be kept outside.

*"The town is not really the habitat of wild boar. We should keep them out of there."*  
(source: FG2 page 4)

In the following citation, the participant wants to get clear first what is meant by urban area. His first definition is the one which eventually was agreed upon; the urban area is where the sign of Epe is.

*"I think that is important, what your definition of urban area is. The urban area as we denote it, the sign of Epe and a speed limit of 30 or 50 km/h, is that the urban area? Or is meant, there where houses are present?" (source: FG2 page 4)*

### **Similarities and differences with the individual wild boar frames**

The focus group frame has most similarities with the wild boar frames of inhabitants from Epe (mainly wild boar frame 2). Both the public participation event and the decision making process of the fence are important in the focus group frame and in the individual frames of some inhabitants from Epe. Most participants of the focus group are inhabitants of Epe (16 out of 17). In that sense it is not unexpected that the focus group frame has more similarities with the individual frames of inhabitants from Epe. Another similarity is that both the individual interviewees as the focus group participants referred to their own experiences with wild boar, as to illustrate and strengthen their argumentation with their own observations/experiences. This indicates that for both the focus group participants and the individual interviewees, wild boar are an actual subject to them.

Although most participants of the focus group evening perceive wild boar as unproblematic, their presence in the suburbs and city center of Epe is considered as a problem. This is different from the individual frames where wild boar presence is perceived as unproblematic. In most of these individual frames the wild boar presence is also unproblematic in the suburbs and city center, because we as humans can place our own fences. In comparison to the individual frames, wild boar presence being unproblematic because people can place their own fences is less discussed in the focus groups.

The focus groups put more emphasis on the fence as an insufficient solution, because it will not stop wild boar from progressing into Epe town. Also the fact that the fence is not completed due to no cooperation with Heerde is highlighted more in the focus groups than in the individual frames. In focus group 2, the situation is described where the fence will be used for hunting practices. Hunters will drive wild boar towards the fence, where flight route of the wild boar is blocked by the fence and they will be shot. This type of hunting is not mentioned in the individual interviews.

Compared to the individual frames, the focus groups focus more on the hunters themselves instead of on culling in general. In the individual frames, the issue is more about culling being inadequate. During the focus group evening, participants discussed why hunters do not reach their targets. The unreached targets is part of the individual frames as well, though the underlying reasons get less attention than during the focus group discussion.

One of the differences with the individual frames is that the collective geographical space is less detailed than the geographical spaces of the individual frames. In the individual frames the interviewees denote specific areas in relation to wild boar presence (e.g. road sides, private gardens), while in the focus groups the distinction is in general between forest and urban areas (suburbs and city center Epe). The definition of the urban area is discussed in the focus groups, while this plays no role in the individual frames.

## **5.2 Association Behoud Kwaliteit Epe**

The main findings of the interview with the association Behoud Kwaliteit Epe are presented in this section. The main findings of this interview are presented using the same sequence (with exception of the HaN-scale) as is used to present the individual wild boar frames. The wild boar frame that is identified for the association BKE is *The stubborn municipality of Epe just wants to place the fence, regardless of facts and rationale*. The detailed wild boar frame of the association is given in Appendix D. Some citations taken from the interview will accompany the main findings. The source of the citation is specified in the following manner; the transcript of the association is denoted as VBKE. In the last subsection, the main similarities and differences between the individual frames and the wild boar frame of the association are examined.

## **The stubborn municipality of Epe just wants to place the fence, regardless of facts and rationale**

### ***Main issues***

The main issue of the fencing case is that the municipality of Epe will place the fence, without having done a real consultation of the inhabitants of Epe. The public participation gave the inhabitants no influence on the fencing decision. The association estimates that most inhabitants do not want the fence, making the lack of consultation even more problematic. The fence itself is thereby an unwanted project, because wild boar are not perceived as a problem. The only perceived wild boar issue is that their population is too big, an issue that is not solved by the fence. Presence of too many wild boar and an increase of their population size is perceived to be caused by inadequate culling, where culling targets are not met. Adequate culling is perceived as the solution to have a limited wild boar population.

That the public participation was deliberately not about the fencing decision is expressed by the interviewee in the citation below:

*“It has been consciously decided to not have public participation, for example also not for this wild boar stopping fence.” (source: VBKE page 11)*

In the next citation, the interviewee expresses that wild boar are not a problem for being present in Epe-North. He thinks that we as humans came to live in the habitat of wild boar and that the responsibility to adapt is on the human side.

*“But do not blame those wild boar for walking around here. Because this has always been their living environment.” (source: VKBE page 3)*

That the current culling is inadequate because culling targets are not met, is expressed in the citation below. The interviewee refers to the culling around Epe of the last 9 years. This inadequate culling is perceived as the cause of the big wild boar population size.

*“Therefore it is known that if needed, inside the 'nulstand' area, the measure of culling is allowed throughout the year. To control the wild boar population, but also to prevent them going to the city center. Having wild boar progressing towards the city center. That (culling) has not been applied systematically for the last 9 years.” (source: VKBE page 6)*

### ***Main characterization of the identities and relationships***

The main actor characterization is about the municipality of Epe. It is perceived as an actor which is not willing to consider the standpoints of the inhabitants of Epe and just wants to place the fence. The public participation is seen as being in line with this, since the inhabitants did not get the chance to discuss the fencing decision. Only the route could be commented on, the fencing decision was already made. The municipality is accused of not following all juridical procedures in its fencing decision, which makes the fence a project being pushed through. The municipality of Epe is also characterized as being stubborn, because the municipality is not changing its mind on the fencing decision now that many inhabitants state that they do not want the fence. The thought is that most inhabitants do not want the fence and that only a few people have complained about wild boar, mentioning that they feel unsafe. People who state that they are afraid are perceived to be unrealistic, because wild boar are not considered to be dangerous.

In the following citation, the interviewee describes his thought that the municipality is not willing or not able to communicate with its inhabitants.

*“I think that we lack a dialogue with the inhabitants. Inhabitants and other stakeholders with the municipality. The municipality is in fact not able, I will put it like that because I do not see signs of it being otherwise, not able to start the dialogue with its inhabitants.” (source: VBKE page 10)*

The association thinks that most inhabitants of Epe do not want the fence. For some inhabitants the feelings about the fence are very negative, as is expressed in the next citation:

*“It is not without reason that some people say “I get the feeling of living in a concentration camp”. With all the negative associations that go along with it. Because that is how negative these feelings are.” (source: VBKE page 28)*

### **Main characterization of the interaction process**

The main interaction characterization is about the communication of the municipality Epe towards its inhabitants. The municipality deliberately uses the word safety in its argumentation about the planned fencing, a way to push the decision through. This has resulted in people being afraid of wild boar, because the municipality has made them afraid in the way they talk about wild boar. Mentioning safety implies that the problems and safety issues of wild boar are highly dramatized, because wild boar are not dangerous. The communication of the municipality about the fence is lacking; little information is provided. The lack of communication around the public participation event and the unprofessional responses of the municipality to the public participation reactions are a symptom of this lacking communication.

In the following citation, the interviewee describes that the public participation gave no real influence to the inhabitants on the fencing decision. The fencing decision was already made, without a consultation of the inhabitants on beforehand.

*“There is no communication. And by communication I mean helping each other. Listening to each other, explore each other’s ideas. And to do something with that. But here it is more like “This is the plan, you can say yeas or no”. And in fact all you can say is no.” (source: VBKE page 34)*

In the following citation, the interviewee explains that how the municipality of Epe talks about wild boar changes how some inhabitants perceive wild boar. In this case, he refers to the municipality of Epe that keeps saying wild boar are a problem.

*“If you keep saying it is a problem for long enough, then it will become a problem. Because that is how it often works in the psychology of people.” (source: VBKE page 7)*

### **Social Space**

Social space is an important part of the frame, because the frame focuses mainly on the municipality of Epe and the decision making process of the fence. This reflected in the social space, where the municipality of Epe is by far the most important problematic actor. Inhabitants that have complained about wild boar are a problematic actor as well, because they sped up the fencing decision. The majority of the inhabitants from Epe (that have not complained) are the most important unproblematic actor, because they are the ones being neglected by the municipality. Hunters are a problematic actor, because they have not reached their culling targets for years.

In the citation below, the interviewee expresses his thoughts about the people that complained about wild boar. He thinks these people can be characterized as being very intolerant towards nature, and who want nature in their surroundings that is under their control.

*“I think that we are dealing with two types of people. You have people who think that everything should be controlled by humans. If a leaf falls, or something sticky falls from trees... A tree is just an impediment to them, because the roots go upwards. They will start to complain and the tree will be removed. Everything must be neat and tight. They will run to a garden center. They buy a potted plant and they have some nature themselves. So that is the first type of people, who feel wild boar should not be walking in their garden. That should not happen, it is not totally under control and they hate it.” (source: VBKE page 20)*

### **Geographical Space**

There are no locations where wild boar presence is a problem. This implies it is not problematic where wild boar are. Geographical space is therefore not that important and clearly defined as part of the frame. The decision of the municipality to place the fence suggests that it matters where wild boar are, but the association states the whereabouts of wild boar are not a problem.

In the following citation the interviewee expresses why wild boar are not a problem, because we as humans need to accept nature and make adaptations ourselves:

*“But I think you should be able to make yourself subordinate to nature. To let nature be nature and to let you be the one that adapts.” (source: VBKE page 31)*

### **Similarities and differences with the individual wild boar frames**

Similar to the focus group, the wild boar frame of the association has most similarities with the frames of inhabitants of Epe (again mainly wild boar frame 2). The similarities related mostly to how the municipality of Epe, the public participation event and the fencing decision are perceived. These similarities are illustrated by the document that the municipality of Epe provided to all inhabitants that participated in the public participation. This document contained an overview of all public participation reactions and the responses of the municipality on these reactions (Gemeente Epe, 2013c). In this document, the municipality of Epe responds by stating that the decision to place the fence is already taken and that the fence itself is not part of the public participation (Elskamp, 2013b; Gemeente Epe, 2013c). This seems to correspond with how the association BKE and some interviewees from Epe perceive the public participation; as a sham.

The main difference between the individual wild boar frames and the frame of the association is that the association focuses mainly on the decision making process of the fence. This is also part of some individual frames, but for the association this is more important than the fence itself or wild boar. The decision making process is not only a more important part of the frame of the association, their frame also focuses more on the juridical procedures around the fencing decision than is done in the individual frames. The association had been researching the fencing decision for quite some time. This results in a very detailed and information rich perception of the decision making process, compared to the individual frames.

The members of the association have attended meetings of the city council, to which is referred in their actor and interaction characterization of the municipality of Epe. These 'inside' experiences and information are not present in the individual frames, because the interviewees had not attended (or at least not that many) those city council meetings. In the frame of the association, more often is referred to official documents and records of council meetings than in the individual frames, because the members of the association have been reading many of these documents. During the interview was also referred to data provided by the hunting association (FBE; Fauna Beheer Eenheid), that relates to culling around Epe. To this data is not referred in the individual frames.

In their characterization of the municipality of Epe, the association refers to other decisions/examples that are made by the municipality. In that sense, the characterization of the municipality of Epe is more linked to historical observations than the characterizations of the individual frames. In the individual frames, the municipality of Epe is characterized mainly in relation to the fencing decision and not to other (and older) decisions.

## Chapter 6. Discussion

This chapter consists of three sections. In the first section the main findings of this study are discussed, using the findings and results as found in the literature for reflection. In the second section, the theoretical framework is discussed in relation to the main findings of this study. In the third and last section, the used methodology is reflected upon.

### 6.1 Reflection on the main findings of this study

Not all interviewees from Epe and Heerde perceive wild boar as a problem. Nevertheless, almost all (18 out of 20) interviewees have placed a fence around their garden or have taken other measures (e.g. grids in the driveway). Placing fences around your garden is perhaps a relatively simple measure, it seems to have mitigated the human-wild boar conflict. Wild boar are not able to enter the gardens due to the fences, thus the wild boar conflict is not activated. This is reflected by interviewees who state that wild boar are not a problem because they have taken their own measures.

This is different from other human-wildlife conflict studies, where the human-wildlife conflict is a problem for most local people and where a relative simple and affordable solution is not available or known (Barua et al., 2013; Chen et al., 2013). Comparing the human-wild boar conflict of the fencing case with other human-wildlife conflicts, indicates that these conflicts have large differences in the magnitude of the negative effects of wildlife and the availability/affordability of possible solutions (Cahill et al., 2012; Barua et al., 2013; Chen et al., 2013)

Chen et al. (2013) focused on the material losses caused by wildlife. Their case is about the damage elephants cause to rubber plantations. The study aimed at constructing an insurance scheme that results in 'fair' damage compensation for the owners of these damaged rubber plantations. In the study of Barua et al. (2013), the focus is also on the material damage caused by wildlife. This study researches the (hidden) disruption of livelihoods as a result of human-wildlife conflicts. The studies of both Chen et al. (2013) and Barua et al. (2013) depict cases where material damage caused by wildlife is an important factor. In Epe and Heerde, material damage caused by wild boar is less of an issue. Both for livelihood disruption as for how this damage is perceived. Not all interviewees think there is a problem or conflict between humans and wild boar. If the interviewees had been farmers or other people who have to deal professionally with damage caused by wildlife, the fencing case might have shown more similarity with the aforementioned two human-wildlife conflict studies.

The wild boar frames of this study are not limited to how wild boar are perceived, but also include the perceived spatiality of wild boar and the social context of the fencing case. This is somewhat similar to what Cahill et al. (2012) indicated for perceptions about wild boar. The study of Cahill et al. (2012) refers to inhabitants' perceptions of wild boar presence in a Barcelona city park, Spain. Similar to the fencing case, the perceptions of the inhabitants of Barcelona are not only related to wild boar, but also to other aspects such as wild boar management and different actors.

These findings are different than those found by Hill and Webber (2010), where different case studies were conducted in relation to perceptions about primates as 'problem animals'. Their focus was on how primates are perceived; other elements such as local politics are not included in the study. This implies that human-wildlife conflict studies can focus only on wildlife, but can also include other elements like the social context of the conflict. Though these different approaches can deliver useful results, it is necessary to acknowledge that the chosen focus on the human-wildlife conflict influences what type of results are found.



All interviewees fitted one of the six wild boar frames; frames that denote a clear perception of the fencing case. This corresponds to what Murer (2012) states; frames are a simple but powerful representation of reality. A simpler representation of reality maybe than the interviewee has described in the interview, because frames depict the perception without necessarily denoting the doubts or hiatuses. This suggests that, while reading the results of frame studies, one should consider that the frames are more resolute and less nuanced than the actual perceptions. A bit comparable to catchy headlines in the newspapers.

This relates to what Fiss and Hirsch (2005) argued; frames can only reproduce what interviewees are willing to share or what they consciously know. In addition to this, it seems that frames are also limited by the possible level of nuance that can be included in the identified frames, or by the level of nuance an interviewee applies in the interview. Not only what is consciously known, but also the ability of the interviewee to communicate this is a limitation for frame studies.

Social space is most important as part of the wild boar frames where the issues relate to actors and their activities. Actors are considered to be important if they are seen as the cause of the problem (e.g. driving too fast, complaining about wild boar) or as the ones who can solve the problem (e.g. hunters). Actors are also considered to be important if they are seen as an obstacle to or be actively hampering the solution of the problem (e.g. people against hunting constrain culling, which is the perceived solution). How actors are perceived to cause or sustain the issue, hinder or are a key to the solution of the issue is also important in other frame studies (Benford and Snow, 2000; Rogan, 2006; Brummans et al., 2008). The perceived responsibilities and tasks of the different actors regarding the issue are part of most frames (Pinkley, 2010, Dewulf et al., 2011).

However, the resulting six wild boar frames in this study reveal that the frames are not limited to wild boar and the social context of the fencing case. The geographical context of the fencing case is an important part of the wild boar frames, especially if the issues relate mainly to wild boar. The importance of geographical space as a factor that determines how wild animals are perceived, also comes forward in the study of Jerolmack (2008). Jerolmack (2008) states that where animals are present is an important factor for how these animals are perceived. Considering geographical space as part of the frames differs from other frame studies, where frames are mostly limited to the social context. In other studies, the frames relate mostly to how other actors and their actions are perceived (Fiss and Hirsch, 2005; Rogan, 2006; Dewulf et al., 2009; Van Leeuwen, 2010).

Being able to understand the issue, geographical space was a crucial part of the wild boar frames. It is most crucial in the frames where wild boar are perceived as problematic; whether wild boar are actually perceived as a problem depends on the geographical locations where they are present. The perceived impact of wildlife activities, in this case wild boar sticking his nose into the ground, depends on the geographical location where this activity takes place. Not including geographical space would have resulted in little understanding of the specifics of the wild boar issues. Researching frames of human-wildlife interaction or conflict is perhaps quite a specific field within framing, including geographical space in these frames matters because wildlife issues are tightly bounded to the locations where wildlife is present.

As part of the wild boar frames, no clear distinction is identified between the partner and participant views. The relationships had overlap in the perceived role and position of humans regarding wild boar. Both in the partner and the participant view, direct human intervention in wild boar populations is unwanted and wild boar should be able to live as freely as possible. In the study of Van den Born (2008) a combined relationship of the guardian and the partner ('Man responsible for nature') was used, because it better fitted the respondents. For this study, a combination of the partner and participant view could have been used. This implies that, although the HaN relationships have significant differences in their contents (see Appendix F for examples), the four views are not always that distinguishable when studied.

## 6.2 Reflection on the theoretical framework

In the study of Dewulf et al. (2009), it is suggested that the three frame types can be studied next to each other. For identifying the wild boar frames this worked well. Combining the three types into an overarching wild boar frame has resulted in frames that entail both issues as the perceived actors and interactions in relation to the issues. If one chooses to study only one frame type, issue frames would have worked for the fencing case. Issue frames cover the main issues, but also indirectly the actors and activities that are perceived as most problematic. Studying only the identity and relationship or process frames would not have worked in the fencing case, because if the issue relates mainly to wild boar these two frame types are not that important.

Studying frames as 'cognitive representations' suggests that the frames capture the perception of how the interviewee thinks that reality is. This reality construction is based on information and knowledge the interviewee has at its disposal (Pinkley and Northcraft, 1994; Murer, 2012). The frames that are identified in this study all have a clear notion of what the problem is, what actors are involved in the problem and what locations are important in relation to the problem. The frames as identified in this study correspond to the characteristics of cognitive framing (Dewulf et al., 2009).

Studying social space as part of the wild boar frames is useful, for it shows that the relative importance of social space is dependent on what the perceived issue is. The importance of social space differed among the six wild boar frames, hinting that some issues are mainly about actors and their activities/interaction, while for other issues the focus is on wild boar. This shows that in human-wildlife conflict studies it might be the case that the issue is no longer about wildlife, but that the issue is related to actors, their activities and social interactions.

Studying geographical space as part of the wild boar frames is especially useful if the main issue is about wild boar. In some frames wild boar are perceived as a problem, for which different underlying reasons exist (e.g. damage, traffic accidents, and closeness to houses). Wild boar as a perceived problem is related to the spatiality of wild boar. Where wild boar are present determines whether they are perceived to be a problem or not. In that sense, geographical space is crucial to understand the specifics of the human-wildlife conflicts. Not only to know what the wildlife issues are, but also on what locations they arise.

Social space and geographical space differed in their importance as part of the wild boar frames, which corresponds to frames denoting a selective perception of reality. Similar to what Pinkley and Northcraft (1994) stated, within the wild boar frames a selection of the most important aspects is made. Roughly speaking, the basis of this selection is whether the wild boar frames focused on wild boar as a problem, or on wild boar not being a problem and the issue being related to the social context of the fencing case.

Including the HaN-scale relationships as part of the wild boar frames, helped in clustering the interviewee's statements about wild boar and wild boar management. The HaN-scale is also helpful in categorizing the different viewpoints regarding how we as humans should relate to nature in general. This resulted in an identification of the preferred role of humans towards wild boar and nature for each interviewee. Statements about nature and wild boar are in some cases contradictory. This is for example the case if an interviewee stated that we as humans have an obligation to care and protect nature, even if this means we have to intervene in wild boar populations. The human-nature relationship in this example fits the guardian view, while the master view is most fitting for the human-wild boar relationship. This implies that one can have a HaN view to nature as a whole that differs from the HaN view translated to a specific animal.

The HaN-scale was initially identified to categorize the preferred role and position of humans towards nature in general (Van den Born et al., 2001; De Groot and van den Born, 2007). Adapting the HaN-scale from the human relationship to nature in general to a specific animal (wild boar), did work in analyzing interviewees preferred human-wild boar relationships. The statements the interviewees made about the position of humans and their role towards nature are mostly in line with their statements about wild boar. Though as aforementioned, in some cases the statements about nature and wild boar are contradictory. Perhaps only the statements about wild boar could have been used as part of the wild boar frame. Or identifying the human-nature relationships and human-wild boar relationships as two separate parts of the wild boar frames could also have been done.

The master and guardian views fit the wild boar frames where wild boar are perceived from an instrumentalist viewpoint. However, in these frames it was not about the value of wild boar but about the costs to human property due to their presence. In these wild boar frames, it was considered a bad thing that wild boar cause damage and this formed enough legitimation to intervene in wild boar populations. The partner and participant views fit the wild boar frames where the interviewees think that wild boar have an intrinsic value as well. Wild boar have a right to be here, without a need to link this to human benefit or costs, is part of these wild boar frames. In these frames it was considered a bad thing that humans intervene in wild boar populations just because they do damage to human property. This shows that whether the prevailing value of wildlife is perceived as instrumental or intrinsic, determines how wildlife damage and wildlife management in human-wildlife conflicts are judged upon.

### **6.3 Reflection on the used methodology**

The wild boar frames are quite resolute and contain a clear perception of the fencing case. However, some interviewees indicated during the interviews that they had doubts about the indisputability of their own knowledge. At times they openly doubted the information they considered to be most plausible. These interviewees reflected on their own knowledge and placed doubts by their own reality. They perceived the fencing case in a certain way; this formed their reality of the fencing case, but they acknowledged that their capability of knowing with certainty has its limits. This implies that in the interviews, a more nuanced and flexible perception of the fencing case came forward than in the final frames.

The research locations of Epe-North and Bakhuisbos (see chapter 3.4) were selected to increase the chance of reaching interviewees that would generate more detailed and vivid data regarding the fencing case (Rubin and Rubin, 2005). This selection criterion seems to have worked out well, for wild boar was an actual matter for all interviewees. All interviewees knew about presence of wild boar near their house and most interviewees had taken their own measures against wild boar. Also the planned fencing by the municipality of Epe was known to most interviewees, of which most had a clear negative or positive opinion about the fence. The transcripts contain rich data about the fencing case.

It was the first time for the interviewer to conduct interviews. This implies that the interviews are conducted by an unexperienced interviewer. An experienced interviewer could perhaps have asked better probing questions and get more to the bottom of the fencing case. This effect is presumably most significant for the interviews where the interviewee is very concise in its story. Sometimes it was difficult to stay on topic, especially in the interviews where the interviewee has a lot to say and is very enthusiastic in its talking. Although this delivers rich and detailed data, an experienced interviewer is better trained in keeping the conversation related to the fencing case.

In 2011, wild boar progressed farther into the urban area of Epe than in other years. Multiple interviewees stated that in recent years wild boar presence was almost permanent, but that 2011 was by far the worst year. At the time that the interviews were conducted, this extreme situation was already two years ago. The subsiding of wild boar issues may have made the wild boar presence a less urgent/actual matter than in 2011. This in turn may have led to more lenient opinions about wild boar.

Epe-North and Bakhuisbos are urban areas close to the forest edge. Most of the interviewees appreciated living close to the forest; they considered it to be an important and unique aspect of living there. Some interviewees had actually moved to those areas to be able to live close to nature and wildlife. The interviewees in this study may therefore be more lenient towards wild boar than the inhabitants that live closer to the city center of Epe. The neighborhoods where the interviews were conducted are the wealthier districts of Epe and Heerde, which may make wild boar damage less of an issue because the inhabitants can financially deal with wild boar damage. Epe-North was close to the future location of the planned fencing, which may have made the fence a more important issue than for other inhabitants of Epe. In that sense the research locations have influenced the identified frames. If other research locations would have been included, like the city center of Epe, it is most likely that different frames would have been identified. Although these frames might have been less detailed and vivid.

In each interview, the introduction and first question related to the planned fence (see Appendix A). Starting with the fence functioned well to get the conversation going. It made clear to the interviewee what the actuality and context of the research was. At the same time, it may have affected the focus point of the interviews towards the fence (Rubin and Rubin, 2005). The data shows that the issues interviewees have put forward during the interviews are not limited to the fence. All elements of the fencing case were touched upon in the interviews, so in that sense the structure of the interviews seems not to be problematic.

The interviewees were approached by going from door-to-door. Most of the interviews (17 out of 20) were conducted immediately after the first introduction; no appointments were used to plan the interview in advance. As a result, interviewees did not have the opportunity to reflect on their opinion or to acquire additional information (for instance about the planned fence) in advance. Instead, most interviewees were able to talk about their opinions on the fencing case as they were at the particular time of the interview. If they had some time to consider all the aspects on forehand, perhaps they would have had a slightly different or more detailed opinion. The immediate interview on the other hand, may have extracted the main issues for the interviewees that were most urgent and actual for them.

The focus group evening has delivered less detailed issue descriptions than the one-to-one interviews, because it is based on multiple perceptions. It has resulted in descriptions about the fencing case that are based on consensus. Especially the findings of focus group 1 seem to be biased by a dominant story of inadequate culling and a municipality of Epe that does not listen. These are drawbacks of focus group evenings (Dandy et al., 2010) and makes direct comparison to the individual frames more difficult.

## Chapter 7. Conclusion

This chapter consists of three sections. In the first section, the main research questions of this study are answered. In the second section, the recommendations for future research are given. In the third and last section, the practical implications for big projects such as the fence are presented. The implications for the fencing decision making process are also presented in the last section.

### 7.1 Conclusion

A general finding is that almost all (18 out of 20) interviewees had placed a fence around their garden or had taken other measures. This seems to have resulted in wild boar not being a problem for all interviewees. The fact that most interviewees have taken their own measures might explain why the fence of Epe is not desired and perceived as being a needless project. Had people not taken their own measures, or not being able to do so, then the fence of Epe might have been judged differently. Knowing what measures are already taken (e.g. by interviewees themselves) influences how the human-wildlife conflict is perceived, something to keep in mind when studying a human-wildlife conflict.

Some of the wild boar frames focus mainly on wild boar and geographical space, where the actors within the fencing case are a less important part of the frame. Other wild boar frames focus on the social context of the fencing case, where wild boar are not an important part of how the human-wild boar conflict is perceived. It is important to consider that in human-wildlife conflicts, wildlife is not the sole issue per se. Limiting the focus of the study on wildlife and its effects may imply that you do not include other important aspects, such as actors and their activities.

This is not to say that wild boar are not an unimportant part of the wild boar frames that focus on the social context of the fencing case. What makes up the issues in the social context is related to how wild boar are perceived. This is for instance the case when the fence is perceived as a problematic decision by the municipality of Epe, because wild boar are not a problem. Neither is the social context unimportant if a wild boar frame focuses mainly on wild boar. Especially if the perceived wild boar issue is related to the activities of an actor (mainly culling), the actors within the fencing case are important as well. Whether wild boar frames focus on wild boar or the social context, both are interwoven and the main difference is on what aspect the interviewee puts most emphasis. This suggests that in studying human-wildlife conflicts, consideration for both wildlife and the social context is recommendable.

Social space is in general a more important part of the wild boar frame, if the main issue is related to the social context of the fencing case. This is best illustrated in wild boar fence 2 (*We don't want the fence!*), where the municipality of Epe is as problematic actor the cause of the main issue (the fence). Social space is to a lesser extent important if the main issue relates to human actions and behavior (e.g. hunting, driving). If the main issue is mainly focused on wild boar, social space is even less important as part of the frame. Including social space in studying human-wildlife conflicts helps to indicate whether the main issue is related to wildlife or to the social context of the conflict.

Social space includes more actors than that there are included in the main actor and interaction characterizations. Especially actors that are perceived as important but unproblematic are part of the social space as well. In that sense, social space helps to grasp more of the important social context than if only the main actor and interactions are included in the frames. Frames denote resolute and clear perceptions of reality, including social space can result in ending up with a more detailed and nuanced social context than when only identity and relationship frames and process frames are used. It will depend on the research objective how detailed the social context in the human-wildlife conflict study needs to be, because a nuanced social context might distract from the actors that matter most (dilution).

In general, geographical space is most important as part of the wild boar frame if the main issue is related to wild boar. Geographical space is especially important if wild boar are perceived as a problem; in these frames the interviewees are very resolute on what specific locations wild boar are a problem. Geographical space is a less important part of the frame if wild boar are not perceived as a problem, or if the main issue is not focused on wild boar. The importance of social space and geographical space as part of the frames differs in relation to the issue. Social space is more important in the frames where the main issue is located in the social context of the fencing case, geographical space is more important in the frames where the main issue is related to wild boar. Including geographical space in human-wildlife conflict studies helps to indicate where, if wildlife is perceived as a problem, the presence or activities of wildlife are problematic.

The relationships of the HaN-scale, as part of the wild boar frames, is linked to how wild boar and humans activities towards wild boar are perceived. The HaN-scale relationship entails not only what human-wild boar relation is preferred, the preferred role and position of humans towards nature in general is also part of the HaN-scale. For most interviewees the statements about the human-wild boar relationship and the human-nature relationship correspond with each other, though there are exceptions in which the preferred human-nature relationship is contradiction with the human-wild boar relationship. A possible discrepancy between the perceived HaN view towards nature and the perceived HaN view towards specific wildlife is something that should be considered when using the HaN-scale in human-wildlife conflict studies.

The master view is part of the frame if wild boar are perceived to be problematic. In the master view, the focus is on damage caused by wild boar. This is reflected in the instrumentalist view of this relationship. The guardian view is part of the frame if the interviewee has consideration for wild boar wellbeing and if there is a perceived responsibility of humans to care for nature and wild boar. Considering wild boar wellbeing while seeing a need for human intervention is reflected in the softened instrumentalist view of this relationship. The partner view is part of the frame if the interviewees prefer free movement of wild boar, without obstacles like the fence. The participant view is part of the frames where humans are perceived to live in the habitat of wild boar. Both wild boar and humans are perceived to have a right to be in Epe-North or Bakhuisbos. The partner and participant view both acknowledge the intrinsic value of wild boar, which is reflected in the disapproval of human intervention in wild boar populations only because wild boar cause damage. Though the partner and participant views are different, as part of the wild boar frames the distinction is less clear.

A wild boar frame where the main issue is mainly related to an actor is only held by inhabitants from Epe. This is wild boar frame 2 (*We do not want the fence!*), in which the planned fencing by the municipality of Epe forms the main issue. The public participation about the fence was also only part of wild boar frames held by inhabitants from Epe. These are the only major differences between the frames of inhabitants from Epe and Heerde. This means that the different official stances of the municipality of Epe and the municipality of Heerde are not reflected in the frames of the inhabitants from both towns. At least not for the inhabitants of Heerde that live in Bakhuisbos. The standpoint of the municipality of Heerde might be reflected in the frames of inhabitants that live east of the motorway A50, where wild boar are not present. These people are not interviewed in this study, thus it is unclear whether their frames might correspond with the official stance of the municipality.

The rest of the issues and reasoning behind those issues does not differ between the inhabitants of Epe and Heerde. The importance of social space as part of the frames is not different for inhabitants from Epe and Heerde; only the specific actors within the social space are different. This is similar for geographical space, which was equally important as part of the frames of inhabitants from Epe and Heerde; only the specific locations differed. The HaN-scale relationships do not differ between the frames of inhabitants from Epe and Heerde.

The main difference between the individual frames and the findings of the focus group evening is related to the geographical space. The collective geographical space of the focus group evening is less detailed; less specific locations are identified in the focus group evening compared to the individual wild boar frames. Another difference relates to wild boar being perceived as unproblematic. In the individual frames where wild boar are not perceived as a problem this is reflected in the geographical space; no or few locations where wild boar presence is considered to be problematic. In the focus groups, most participants thought of wild boar as being unproblematic. The suburbs and city center of Epe are however considered as locations where wild boar presence is a problem. A collectively held frame seems to result from consensus on geographical space, which is stricter on where wildlife is perceived as a problem.

The main difference between the individual wild boar frames and the wild boar frame of the association BKE, is that the latter focuses on the decision making process and the flaws that are part of that process. The association has been studying the decision making process and gives more attention to the juridical procedures than is done in the individual frames. In that sense, it has the characteristics of a social movement or activist frame (Benford and Snow, 2000). In studying human-wildlife conflicts, it matters whether the ones you interview are inhabitants, people who are professionally involved in the conflict (e.g. farmers, hunters) or local groups that protest. The resulting frames are different for these different people/groups.

## **7.2 Recommendations for future research**

In future frame studies about human-wildlife conflicts or human-wildlife interactions, it is advisable to include geographical space as part of the frames. Geographical space helps in understanding and specifying the perceived issues related to wildlife or the measures taken (e.g. the fence). Geographical space matters in wildlife frames, because the location where wildlife is present or is active influences how wildlife is perceived. An extreme example is when within a frame, wild boar is considered as a problem. Not including geographical space may imply that it is unclear whether wild boar are a problem in the city center of Epe, the suburbs, the agricultural fields or even all the way in the forest.

Issue frames, identity and relationship frames and process frames are all three part of the wild boar frames. But all three types being included in a frame study is not the standard approach (Dewulf et al., 2009). If only one of these frame types is used to study human-wildlife conflicts, the issue frames will be most applicable. In the fencing case, the wild boar frames are not limited to the social context. Issue frames may therefore be sufficient to study people's frames about wildlife. Especially if the characterizations of actors and their interaction are included in the issue frames and/or when the case is not clearly a conflict situation. Not being considered as a conflict, the perceived tasks and responsibilities of different actors are less important. The identity and relationship frames and process frames are less relevant if the main issues are not about the social context.

Future research on human-wild boar interactions may focus on a case where damage is caused by wild boar, but without a planned fencing. As a comparison with the results of this study it would be interesting, because the planned fencing as part of the fencing case might have changed the frames. If people have a dislike of the planned fencing, they might for instance be more lenient to wild boar or think differently about culling. This seems to be reflected in the general findings, where relatively more interviewees from Epe think of wild boar as unproblematic (6 out of 10) compared to Heerde (3 out of 8). At the same time, almost all interviewees (8 out of 10) of Epe do not think of the fence as a preferred solution while in Heerde this applies to half (4 out of 9) of the interviewees. The fence is a project from the municipality of Epe and does directly affect the situation of Bakhuisbos. Including people who are professionally hurt by wild boar damage (e.g. farmers, owners of gardening companies) would also change the study, it would become a clearer human-wildlife conflict (frame) study.

### **7.3 Practical implications**

The wild boar frames of the fencing case make clear that some people are not bothered by the presence of wild boar, because of their own measures (e.g. fence around garden, adapting driving). Wild boar presence is appreciated by people as well, it is perceived as one of the unique qualities of living in Epe-North or Bakhuisbos. A big scale public project like the fence of Epe, that separates these areas from the forest, is perhaps not needed nor is it the best solution. It costs a lot of money and for some inhabitants it means a degradation of the quality of living in Epe-North. There might be more subtle solutions, inspired by the measures people have taken themselves. The fence installs a fixed border between Epe and the forest, a border which is in conflict with the perceived geographical space of some interviewees.

The results suggest that the public participation about the fence gave no real influence to the inhabitants on the fencing decision. There do not seem to have been other activities or ways in which the inhabitants are involved in the decision. This suggestion is confirmed by the association BKE. Some of the wild boar frames indicate that some inhabitants feel neglected by the municipality of Epe. Or even fooled, because the public participation suggested some influence of the inhabitants on the fencing decision. How the situation would have been if inhabitants had been involved is not known, but it seems that the decision making process of the fence has not contributed to public support for the fence. 'Real' public participation and involvement of inhabitants in the decision making process is expected to lead to a better and more detailed problem definition; what exactly is the problem and where (geographical space). If inhabitants had a saying in the problem identification and in the proposed solution, public support for the implemented solution is expected to be higher.



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# Appendix A: Interview Guide

## Introductie

*Wat er met het gesprek gebeurt (informatie vooraf):*

- *Ik gebruik een voice recorder omdat het lastig is te noteren, luisteren en bij het gesprek te blijven tegelijkertijd. (toestemming gebruik voice recorder nodig)*
- *Ik schrijf de opnamen uit (wederom anoniem) en vernietig daarna de oorspronkelijke opnamen.*
- *Uiteindelijk gebruik ik de uitgewerkte gesprekken met de inwoners Epe/Heerde (anoniem) voor het schrijven van mijn eind verslag.*
- *Ik gebruik alleen de gesprekken, overige data noteer ik niet met oog op privacy/anonimiteit (zoals geslacht, leeftijd, woonadres etc.)*

*Introductie van mijzelf en het onderwerp:*

*Ik ben Axel Buijs, 26 jaar oud. Ik studeer aan de Wageningen Universiteit, waar ik de studie Bos- en Natuurbeheer volg. Ik zit in het laatste jaar van de studie. Ik ben momenteel met mijn afstudeervak bezig, waarin ik onderzoek doe naar de ideeën van mensen op de Veluwe over het wilde zwijn en haar beheer.*

*Hierbinnen heb ik uiteindelijk voor Epe en Heerde gekozen omdat deze dorpen dichtbij het leefgebied van de zwijnen liggen en er een plan ligt voor een nieuw wild zwijn raster. Het geplande raster is verscheidene malen in het nieuws geweest, waardoor mijn interesse in Epe en Heerde gewekt werd. In de berichtgeving over het raster wordt genoemd dat de gemeente Epe het raster wil plaatsen terwijl de gemeente Heerde dit niet wil, of in ieder geval niet wil mee betalen.*

*Ik heb begrepen dat het wild zwijn raster ten noorden van Epe geplaatst zal worden, en dat dit op de planning staat voor komende november. Uit de berichtgeving in de media komt naar voren dat dit niet zonder slag of stoot is gebeurd, dat het besluit tot het plaatsen van het hek met veel discussie gepaard is gegaan. Ik zou graag meer inzicht krijgen in die discussies, zodat hiervan geleerd kan worden voor toekomstige besluiten bij wildbeheer, in dit geval vraagstukken omtrent het wild zwijn. Hiervoor ben ik geïnteresseerd in hoe de inwoners van Epe/Heerde denken over het geplande raster. Hier is weinig over bekend, terwijl de inwoners wel te maken hebben met het raster in hun directe woonomgeving. Ik ben niet enkel geïnteresseerd in wat de inwoners denken, maar ook in de achtergrond verhalen van de inwoners.*

***Het interview (waar ik naar refereer als gesprek/verhaal van bewoners):***

*Openingsvraag:*

**Zou u mij kunnen vertellen wat u weet over dit raster?**

- *Waarom wordt het raster geplaatst?*
- *Van wie uit is het plan voor het raster gekomen?*
- *Bent u geïnformeerd over het raster (wel/niet)?*
  - o *Had u er beter over geïnformeerd willen zijn?*
- *Wat vindt u van de komst van het raster?*

*Vervolg vragen / topiclist (volgorde niet vaststaand, afhankelijk van het interview)*

**Wat weet u over het wilde zwijn hier rondom Epe en Heerde?**

- Heeft u een idee waar de wilde zwijnen zitten hier in de omgeving?
  - o Komen de wilde zwijnen ook in de bebouwde kom?
    - Over zwijnen die de bebouwde kom betreden; heeft u een idee hoe vaak ze dit doen?
    - En tot waar ze komen?
    - Is dit ieder jaar hetzelfde?

**Kunt u beschrijven in hoeverre het wild zwijn overlast of schade veroorzaakt hier in Epe/Heerde?**

- Waar bestaat die overlast of schade uit?
- Wordt het wild zwijn naar uw idee hierdoor als een probleem gezien?
- In krantenartikelen las ik over angst onder bewoners voor het wilde zwijn; heeft u zelf angst gevoelens voor het zwijn (gehad)?
  - o Ja: waaruit bestond uw angst voor het zwijn?
  - o Nee: vindt u deze angst bij andere bewoners begrijpelijk?
    - Waarom wel/niet?

**Wat heeft u zelf meegemaakt met wilde zwijnen hier rondom Epe/Heerde?**

- Heeft u overlast of schade ondervonden door toedoen van wilde zwijnen?
  - o Waar bestond/bestaat de overlast/schade uit?
  - o Hoe vaak komt de schade/overlast voor?
  - o Heeft u de schade ergens verhaalt?
    - Waarom wel/niet?
  - o Heeft u uw verhaal bij de gemeente geuit?
    - Waarom wel/niet?
      - Heeft u uw verhaal ergens anders geuit dan bij de gemeente?
    - Werd uw verhaal gehoord?
- Waaraan merkt u dat er wilde zwijnen aanwezig zijn?
  - o Merkt u de aanwezigheid van wilde zwijnen ook in de bebouwde kom?
    - Waaraan merkt u deze aanwezigheid?

**Wat betekent de aanwezigheid van het wilde zwijn voor u?**

- Wat vindt u er van dat er wilde zwijnen in de bebouwde kom rondlopen van Epe?
  - o Heeft u maatregelen genomen om uw tuin te beschermen tegen het wilde zwijn of neemt u het risico dat de zwijnen uw tuin om woelen?
    - Waarom wel/niet maatregelen genomen?
      - Waar bestonden de maatregelen uit?
- Vormt het wild zwijn voor u een probleem?
  - o Waarom wel/niet?
  - o In welke gebieden vormen zij een probleem?
  - o Is de aanwezigheid van wilde zwijnen in de bebouwde kom een probleem?
    - Of pas wanneer zij daadwerkelijk schade berokkenen?
- Welke voordelen ziet u in de aanwezigheid van het wilde zwijn?
  - o Gaat u zelf wel eens zwijnen kijken?
    - Waarom kijkt u naar de wilde zwijnen?
    - Waar ziet u ze?
    - Hoe zou u die ervaring omschrijven; het zien van wilde zwijnen?
    - Wat betekent het zien van wilde zwijnen voor u?

### **Wat voor beperkingen zouden er volgens u aan het wilde zwijn moeten zijn?**

- Is er wat u betreft een beperking aan waar de wilde zwijnen mogen komen?
  - o Dient het wild zwijn geweerd te worden uit de gebieden waar mensen wonen?
    - Waarom wel/niet?
- Is puur de aanwezigheid van het zwijn een probleem?
  - o Waarom wel/niet?
- Zijn de gevolgen van zijn aanwezigheid (schade/overlast) een probleem?
  - o Waarom wel/niet?
- Vindt u dat er een bepaalde mate van overlast/schade door zwijnen toelaatbaar is?
  - o Wat voor soort overlast/schade is toelaatbaar?
    - Bij wat voor schade of overlast is het wild zwijn niet meer toelaatbaar?
  - o Hoeveel overlast/schade door wilde zwijnen vindt u toelaatbaar?

### **Hoe zou u de besluitvorming rondom het nieuwe raster omschrijven?**

- Heeft u de mogelijkheid tot inspraak gehad?
  - o Heeft u gebruik gemaakt van uw inspraakmogelijkheid?
    - Waarom wel/niet?
  - o Hoe wist u af van de mogelijkheid tot inspraak?
  - o Bent u geïnformeerd over de mogelijkheid tot inspraak?
    - Vindt u dat u voldoende bent geïnformeerd?
      - Waarom wel/niet?
  - o Waarover kon u inspraak leveren?
  - o Heeft uw inspraak invloed gehad op de besluitvorming denkt u?
    - Waarom wel/niet?
      - Wat voor invloed?
  - o Wat had er qua inspraak mogelijkheden beter gekund?
- Wie zijn er betrokken geweest bij de besluitvorming omtrent het raster?
  - o Wie waren naar uw idee de belangrijkste betrokken partijen?
  - o Misten er nog mensen/partijen in de besluitvorming?
  - o Wat vindt u van de houdingen van de verschillende partijen?

### **Hoe zou u het beheer van het wild zwijn hier rondom Epe en Heerde beschrijven?**

- Vindt u dit beheer wenselijk?
  - o In welke mate vindt u dat wij als mens het wild zwijn mogen beheren?
    - In hoeverre kunnen wij het wild zwijn beheren?
    - Vindt u dat er een beperking zit in hoeverre het gewenst is dat wij het wild zwijn beheren?
- Hoe denkt u over afschot van wilde zwijnen?
  - o Leidt afschot volgens u tot minder schade en overlast?
    - Waarom wel/niet?
      - Welke schade/overlast verwacht u dat minder (of niet) wordt?
  - o Ik heb in de krant gelezen dat ze in Epe wilde zwijnen hebben afgeschoten binnen de bebouwde kom; wat vindt u hier van?
- Wat ziet u als het doel van het beheer?
  - o Wijkt het daadwerkelijk beheer af van dit doel?
- Hoe vindt u de communicatie vanuit beheer?
  - o Wat kan er beter in deze communicatie?

### *Slotvraag:*

- Kent u (andere) mensen die overlast hebben gehad van het zwijn?
  - o Ja wie, naam/adres voor benaderen?

OF

- Kent u andere mensen die allicht in de gelegenheid zijn en zin hebben om hun verhaal met mij te delen?

## Appendix B. Individual Wild Boar Frames

### Wild Boar Frame 1. Wild boar are a problem, just shoot them

Table 3: Wild Boar Frame 1. Wild boar are a problem, just shoot them

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Number of interviewees:</b> 8 (6 of Heerde, 2 of Epe)  |   |
| <b>Issues</b>   |   |
| <i>Wild boar are a problem<br/>Culling of wild boar is needed<br/>Fence is not the preferred solution</i>   |   |
| <b>Actor characterization</b>   |   |
| <i>People and environmental organizations who are against hunting base this on false assumptions<br/>People who are against hunting have not experienced damage by wild boar themselves</i> |   |
| <b>Communication, interaction process</b>   |   |
| <i>Discussion is based on emotions, instead of on rationale and facts</i>   |   |
| <b>Social Space</b>   |   |
| <b>Problematic social actors (functional groups)</b><br>- People and environmental organizations who are against hunting<br>- Municipality of Heerde  | <b>Unproblematic social actors (functional groups)</b><br>- Hunters<br>- Inhabitants of Epe and Heerde<br>- Municipality of Epe |
| <b>Geographical Space</b>   |   |
| <b>Problematic locations (geographic units)</b><br>- City center of Epe<br>- Suburbs (Epe-North, Bakhuisbos)<br>- Roads<br>- Gardens/private land   | <b>Unproblematic locations (geographic units)</b>   |
| <b>HaN relationships</b>  |   |
| <i>Master<br/>Guardian</i>  |   |



## Wild Boar Frame 2. We do not want the fence!

Table 4: Wild Boar Frame 2. We do not want the fence!

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Number of interviewees:</b> 4 (4 of Epe)   |   |
| <b>Issues</b>   |   |
| <i>Municipality of Epe has little consideration for its inhabitants</i><br><i>Fence is not the preferred solution</i><br><i>Culling of wild boar is needed</i><br><i>Wild boar is not a problem</i><br><i>There is a need for education about wild boar</i>             |   |
| <b>Actor characterization</b>   |   |
| <i>Municipality of Epe makes decisions with little consideration for the public</i><br><i>Most inhabitants do not want the fence, only some have complained about wild boar</i><br><i>Municipality of Epe has fed wild boar to have large population size (tourism)</i> |   |
| <b>Communication, interaction process</b>   |   |
| <i>Public participation gave no real influence, was a sham</i><br><i>Fencing decision is made, will not be changed due to communication with inhabitants of Epe</i>   |   |
| <b>Social Space</b>   |   |
| <b>Problematic social actors (functional groups)</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Municipality of Epe</li> <li>- Inhabitants who complain about wild boar</li> <li>- People who feed wild boar (including forest managers)</li> </ul>                    | <b>Unproblematic social actors (functional group)</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Municipality of Heerde</li> <li>- Inhabitants of Epe (and Heerde)</li> <li>- Hunters</li> </ul> |
| <b>Geographical Space</b>   |   |
| <b>Problematic locations (geographic units)</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Roads + road sides</li> </ul>   | <b>Unproblematic locations (geographic units)</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Gardens/private land</li> <li>- Epe-North</li> </ul>  |
| <b>HaN relationships</b>  |   |
| <i>Guardian</i><br><i>Partner</i><br><i>Participant</i>   |   |

### Wild Boar Frame 3. Don't shoot wild boar, place the fence

Table 5: Wild Boar Frame 3. Don't shoot wild boar, place the fence

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Number of interviewees:</b> 2 (2 of Heerde)  |   |
| <b>Issues</b>   |   |
| <i>Culling of wild boar is undesired</i><br><i>Wild boar is not a problem</i><br><i>People drive too fast</i><br><i>Fence is the preferred solution</i> |   |
| <b>Actor characterization</b>   |   |
| <i>Hunters are unnecessarily cruel for shooting wild boar</i><br><i>People drive too fast and reckless, with no consideration for wild boar</i>         |   |
| <b>Communication, interaction process</b>   |   |
| <i>Municipality of Heerde is very bad in providing information (e.g. about the fence)</i>   |   |
| <b>Social Space</b>   |   |
| <b>Problematic social actors (functional groups)</b><br>- Hunters<br>- Drivers  | <b>Unproblematic social actors (functional group)</b><br>- Inhabitants of Heerde (Bakhuisbos) |
| <b>Geographical Space</b>   |   |
| <b>Problematic locations (geographic units)</b>   | <b>Unproblematic locations (geographic units)</b><br>- Gardens/private land<br>- Roads        |
| <b>HaN relationship</b>   |   |
| <i>Partner</i>  |   |

## Wild Boar Frame 4: The problem is our land use; so no fence and no shooting

Table 6: Wild Boar Frame 4: The problem is our land use; so no fence and no shooting

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Number of interviewees:</b> 2 (1 of Heerde, 1 of Epe)   |   |
| <b>Issues</b>  |   |
| <i>How we arrange our land and manage our road sides attracts wild boar</i><br><i>Wild boar is not a problem</i><br><i>Fence is not the preferred solution</i>     |   |
| <b>Actor characterization</b>  |   |
| <i>The municipality of Epe is not interested in the reasons why wild boar are present in Epe</i><br><i>The municipality of Epe simply wants to place the fence</i> |   |
| <b>Communication, interaction process</b>  |   |
| <i>Public participation gave no real influence to the inhabitants of Epe on the fencing decision</i>   |   |
| <b>Social Space</b>  |   |
| <b>Problematic social actors (functional groups)</b>   | <b>Unproblematic social actors (functional group)</b><br>- Municipality of Heerde<br>- Drivers<br>- Inhabitants of Epe and Heerde |
| <b>Geographical Space</b>  |   |
| <b>Problematic locations (geographic units)</b><br>- City center of Epe  | <b>Unproblematic locations (geographic units)</b><br>- Gardens/private land<br>- Roads  |
| <b>HaN relationships</b>   |   |
| <i>Partner</i><br><i>Participant</i>   |   |

## Wild Boar frame 5. The fence is a good idea

Table 7: Wild Boar Frame 5. The fence is a good idea

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Number of interviewees:</b> 2 (2 of Epe)   |  |
| <b>Issues</b>   |  |
| <i>Fence is the preferred solution</i><br><i>Wild boar are a problem</i><br><i>Feeding of wild boar is a problem</i>                  |  |
| <b>Actor characterization</b>   |  |
| <i>People who feed wild boar consciously neglect the negative consequences (big population, luring wild boar)</i>                     |  |
| <b>Communication, interaction process</b>   |  |
| <i>Many inhabitants of Epe complained about wild boar (sped up fencing decision, a good thing)</i>                                    |  |
| <b>Social Space</b>   |  |
| <b>Problematic social actors (functional groups)</b><br>- People who feed the wild boar   | <b>Unproblematic social actors (functional group)</b><br>- Inhabitants of Epe and Heerde |
| <b>Geographical Space</b>   |  |
| <b>Problematic locations (geographic units)</b><br>- City center of Epe<br>- Suburbs (Epe-North)<br>- Gardens/private land<br>- Roads | <b>Unproblematic locations (geographic units)</b>  |
| <b>HaN relationships</b>  |  |
| <i>Master Guardian</i>  |  |

## Wild Boar Frame 6. Wild boar are not a problem

Table 8: Wild Boar Frame 6. Wild boar are not a problem

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Number of interviewees:</b> 2 (1 of Heerde, 1 of Epe)  |  |
| <b>Issues</b>   |  |
| <i>Wild boar are not a problem</i><br><i>Fence is not the preferred solution</i>  |  |
| <b>Actor characterization</b>   |  |
| <i>People who complain about wild boar are unreasonable</i><br><i>People who are afraid of wild boar are irrational</i> |  |
| <b>Communication, interaction process</b>   |  |
| <i>Irrational standpoints of people (emotions and fear) in discussions about wild boar and culling</i>                  |  |
| <b>Social Space</b>   |  |
| <b>Problematic social actors (functional groups)</b>  | <b>Unproblematic social actors (functional group)</b><br>- Inhabitants of Epe and Heerde |
| <b>Geographical Space</b>   |  |
| <b>Problematic locations (geographic units)</b>   | <b>Unproblematic locations (geographic units)</b><br>- Gardens/private land<br>- Roads   |
| <b>HaN relationship</b>   |  |
| <i>Participant</i>  |  |

## Appendix C. Wild Boar Frame (focus groups)

### Wild boar are not a problem, there are just too many of them

Table 9: Wild Boar Frame of the focus groups

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Number of participants:</b> 17 (1 of Heerde, 16 of Epe)   |   |
| <b>Issues</b>  |   |
| <p><i>Wild boar population is too big</i><br/> <i>Culling of wild boar is needed</i><br/> <i>Current culling targets are not met</i><br/> <i>Fence is not the preferred solution</i><br/> <i>Feeding by tourists, local people and the municipality of Epe</i></p>                                     |   |
| <b>Actor characterization</b>  |   |
| <p><i>Municipality of Epe makes decisions with little consideration for the public</i><br/> <i>Municipality of Epe does not listen to its inhabitants, is reflected in the public participation</i><br/> <i>Hunters do not reach their targets (if hunters are the ones to blame is not clear)</i></p> |   |
| <b>Communication, interaction process</b>  |   |
| <p><i>Public participation gave no real influence to the inhabitants of Epe on the fencing decision</i></p>  |   |
| <b>Social Space</b>  |   |
| <p><b>Problematic social actors (functional groups)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Municipality of Epe</li> <li>- Hunters</li> <li>- People who feed wild boar</li> </ul>  | <p><b>Unproblematic social actors (functional groups)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Hunters</li> <li>- Inhabitants of Epe</li> </ul>     |
| <b>Geographical Space</b>  |   |
| <p><b>Problematic locations (geographic units)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- City center of Epe</li> <li>- Suburbs (Epe-North)</li> </ul>   | <p><b>Unproblematic locations (geographic units)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Locations outside the municipal borders of Epe</li> </ul> |

## Appendix D. Wild Boar Frame (association Behoud Kwaliteit Epe)

**Stubborn municipality of Epe just wants to place the fence, regardless of facts and rationale**

Table 10: Wild Boar Frame of association BKE

| <b>Issues</b>  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><i>Fence is not the preferred solution</i><br/> <i>Municipality of Epe has little consideration for its inhabitants</i><br/> <i>Wild boar is not a problem</i><br/> <i>Culling of wild boar is needed</i></p>   |  |
| <b>Actor characterization</b>  |  |
| <p><i>Municipality of Epe makes decisions with little consideration for the public</i><br/> <i>Most inhabitants do not want the fence, only some have complained about wild boar</i><br/> <i>Municipality of Epe has not followed all juridical procedures in the fencing decision</i></p>   |  |
| <b>Communication, interaction process</b>  |  |
| <p><i>Public participation gave no real influence, was a sham</i><br/> <i>Municipality of Epe is very reluctant in answering the public participation reactions</i><br/> <i>Fencing decision is made, will not be changed due to communication with inhabitants of Epe</i><br/> <i>Municipality of Epe has dramatized the wild boar issues</i></p> |  |
| <b>Social Space</b>  |  |
| <p><b>Problematic social actors (functional groups)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Municipality of Epe</li> <li>- Inhabitants who complain about wild boar</li> <li>- Hunters</li> </ul>   | <p><b>Unproblematic social actors (functional group)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Inhabitants of Epe</li> <li>- Municipality of Heerde</li> </ul>                |
| <b>Geographical Space</b>  |  |
| <p><b>Problematic locations (geographic units)</b></p>   | <p><b>Unproblematic locations (geographic units)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- City center of Epe</li> <li>- Gardens/private land</li> <li>- Epe-North</li> </ul> |

## Appendix E: HaN-scale relationship statements

Table 11: HaN-scale relationship statements

| Relationship | Description of viewpoint   | Frequency |
|--------------|--|-----------|
| Master       | Damage, caused by wild boar, to private property (garden, car, road sides etc.) is an important problem.   | 7         |
| Master       | Humans have too many stakes and interests to let nature go unregulated   | 2         |
| Master       | We are on top of the food chain; we may apply culling to protect our crops.  | 1         |
| Guardian     | By applying culling and population size control, humans can take care of wild boar, which would otherwise suffer from food shortage and area size limitations.           | 5         |
| Guardian     | Wild boar have their own areas, like forests, where they can freely move.  | 5         |
| Guardian     | Intervening in wild boar populations may be needed to protect nature, to take care of issues like environment, biodiversity, endangered species etc.                     | 3         |
| Guardian     | Humans need to protect nature, take care of issues like environment, biodiversity, endangered species etc.   | 2         |
| Guardian     | Humans help in making wild boar populations healthy, by applying culling to keep population size under control. To shoot sick or weak individuals                        | 2         |
| Guardian     | Humans have different possibilities to reduce the suffering of wild boar; preventing road kills, starvation and sick animal control.                                     | 2         |
| Partner      | Wild animals need to be able to move freely through the landscape, without much obstacles like the fence.  | 5         |
| Partner      | Humans may give nature the chance to grow/develop, nature creation. To create special chances and circumstances for nature to develop.                                   | 4         |
| Partner      | Humans and wild boar both have their own goals, humans should adapt their behavior (e.g. driving, fence around garden) to allow wild boar to live as freely as possible. | 4         |
| Partner      | Humans and nature both have their own goals, humans should try to ensure nature can go its own way. Even if this means intervening in wild boar populations.             | 4         |
| Partner      | Wild boar population is regulated by nature, natural population dynamics. No need for culling.   | 3         |
| Partner      | Humans can arrange their world as to attract, or not attract wild boar. Without interrupting in wild boar life, no population control.                                   | 2         |
| Participant  | Living in nature or forest to be living in nature. To be more a part of it.  | 7         |
| Participant  | Living in Epe North, Bakhuisbos means living in the habitat of the wild boar. It is their world (as well).   | 4         |
| Participant  | Humans are also part of nature, with instincts and natural drives. We are (like) animals.  | 2         |
| Participant  | When humans decide to shoot wild boar, they act as God.  | 1         |
| Participant  | Humans interact with wild boar, we should try to understand their behavior. When we feed them or shoot them, wild boar change their behavior.                            | 1         |



## Appendix F: Original citations (Dutch)

### Citations Individual Interviews

#### 1<sup>st</sup> citation (H9, page 3)

*“Voor het gazon heb ik inderdaad stroomdraad gezet. Omdat we dat toch, nou ja, liever niet op de kop hebben. Dus zet je zo'n draad er om.”*

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> citation (H3 page 2)

*“Want weet je, ze hebben een hekel aan stenen. Grind en stenen, daar hebben ze een hekel aan.”*

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> citation (H6, page 8)

*“Maar die hebben een zekere compensatie nodig. En die compensatie dat vinden ze in engerlingen en andere dieren die dus onder de grond zitten. Voordat ze dus als een meikever of weet ik wat... ja precies, die larven. En nou als ze het gazon omwoelen dan zoeken ze die larven vooral. Daar gaat het om.”*

#### 4<sup>th</sup> citation (H6, page 4)

*“Ik denk dat namelijk het aanwezig zijn van die zwijnen, een veel groter probleem is voor het verkeer. En er gebeuren ook ongelukken op de Veluwe, dat die beesten aangereden worden. Maar waarbij de chauffeur zover ja, de macht over het stuur kwijt raakte en tegen een boom bijvoorbeeld op rijdt en dan is het ook vaak afgelopen. Dus er gebeuren veel ongelukken.”*

#### 5<sup>th</sup> citation (H7, page 1)

*“Bij een klant hebben ze toen gewoon het hele zwembad geruïneerd. Die wilde varkens zijn daar achter gegaan, die zijn aan het wroeten gegaan. En die hebben wat gevonden, en die hebben die rand... Er zit zo'n framework in, die hebben ze naar binnen gewerkt. En daar is er één ingevallen en die is proberen daar uit te komen. Er is heel wat zeil gewoon kapot gegaan. Die man die heeft gewoon voor kapitalen aan schade.”*

#### 6<sup>th</sup> citation (E9, page 2)

*“Want hoe je het ook went of keert, er zijn veel te veel wilde zwijnen. En waarom? De jacht is steeds meer aan strikte voorwaarden gebonden. En die beesten, die hebben 8, 9 jongen. Dus iedereen kan uitrekenen dat dat hek, nou ja toch niet zal helpen. Want dan sterven de beesten in het bos.”*

#### 8<sup>th</sup> citation (H7, page 14)

*“Ik weet niet hoeveel er nu afgeschoten moeten worden, want ze zitten ook allemaal zoveel regels wat eigenlijk niet meer mag. Mag wel vanuit de hoogzit, mag geen drijfjacht, want dat is onvriendelijk. Dan denk ik; ja, eerst gingen ze door de maïs heen met 20 man, en dan wachten ze ze aan het einde van de maïs op en dan had je ze in ieder geval. Want dit schiet niet op.”*

#### 9<sup>th</sup> citation (H7, page 1)

*“Dat was een klant ook in Epe, dus dat was een klant van ons voor jaren en die was eigenlijk tegen het afschieten. Dan moest je maar zorgen dat je alles goed ingegaasd had. Hij was daar tegen. En hij had het goed ingegaasd en zijn buurman had daar net een nieuw sierhekwerk, zo'n smeed hekwerk. En toen op een goed moment, iedere nacht gingen daar de wilde varkens door. Maar die meneer die had een composthoop en die varkens denken “wat ruikt dat lekker.” En die zijn gewoon aan het duwen gegaan, maar dat hekwerk staat iets hoger. En als zo'n varken zijn neus een keer eronder door heeft dan gaat de rest ook mee. Dus heel dat hekwerk gewoon, 4, 5, 6 elementen, helemaal verwrongen. Tuin op de kop, tuin van de buurman op de kop. Toen was het in één keer op hoge poten “ja, maar nou moet er schade vergoed worden.” Maar die werd niet vergoed.... “dan moeten ze afgeschoten worden.” En toen waren ze in één keer niet meer tegen de jacht. En dan denk ik van “ja, dat vind ik dan een beetje hypocriet.”*

#### 10<sup>th</sup> citation (H7, page 3)

*“Maar weet je, de hele discussie wordt op verkeerde gronden gevoerd. Het gaat om wel of niet zielig, wel of niet afschieten.”*

#### 11<sup>th</sup> citation (E10, page 1)

*“En dat is natuurlijk de hele eigenschap van de cultuur hier, van de stadsmensen die dat “alles moet blijven leven enzovoorts.” Zonder dat men naar een evenwicht kijkt van flora en fauna. Want dat gaat toch wel een beetje scheef.”*

**12<sup>th</sup> citation (H7, page 28)**

*“Dan waren er misschien wel 10 jagers en 20 drijvers voor een drijfjacht. En dat heeft nu een hele vieze naam gekregen. Want dat mag niet meer. Maar dan gingen ze gewoon er omheen, en alles wat er uit kwam. Daar stond gewoon zoveel man en die legden ze neer. En dan was het gebeurd. Klaar.”*

**13<sup>th</sup> citation (H6, page 7)**

*“Wat in Epe gebeurd is moet natuurlijk niet herhaald worden. Dat is duidelijk. Dat die zwijnen echt midden in het dorp komen.”*

**14<sup>th</sup> citation (H1, page 11)**

*“Nou die mensen zijn daar nu zo verstandig, die hebben daar stroomdraad, laag tot deze hoogte (+- 30 cm), gewoon zo laag langs de grond paaltjes met schrikdraad zeggen ze hier dan, erlangs. Nou en daar blijven ze wel op een afstand. Dan blijft de boel netjes. Zouden die mensen dat niet doen dan hebben ze de hele tuin, de hele mikmak op de kop staan. Alles. En dat is natuurlijk wel een probleem.”*

**15<sup>th</sup> citation (E9, page 4)**

*“Nou, op een gegeven moment ga je zo'n beest aanrijden. En dat is ons ook al overkomen hoor. Een paar jaar geleden. Ja, een spiksplinternieuwe. Wat het was weet ik niet meer. Maar het was een jonkie, dus alleen de bumper moest vervangen worden. En we waren all-risk verzekerd dus.”*

**16<sup>th</sup> citation (H4, page 6)**

*“Maar ik vind wel dat de wildstand wel in stand gehouden moet worden. Ook voor de dieren zelf. Want je komt natuurlijk wel op een gegeven moment met voedsel en alles in de knoop.”*

**17<sup>th</sup> citation (E3, page 11)**

*“Dat raster mag van mij weg; weg met die boel. Geen rasters. Dan moeten ze naar Auschwitz gaan. Daar heb je een raster.”*

**18<sup>th</sup> citation (E5, page 1)**

*“Als er een zwijn ontsnapt, of een stelletje zwijnen. Want ze zijn eigenlijk nooit alleen, maar met een kudde. Om de één of andere reden. Stel je voor dat zo'n hek vernielt is. Want er zijn natuurlijk ook heel veel, ja ik wilde zeggen vagebonden. Die het dan leuk vinden om dan misschien toch een gat in het hek te maken. Ik weet het niet, maar goed. Stel je voor dat de wilde zwijnen er door heen komen, die moeten ook de weg maar weer terug vinden. En dan krijg je natuurlijk wel zwijnen die juist hier bij wijze van spreken afgeschoten moeten worden. Aan de andere kant van het zwijnen raster, omdat je ze bijna niet terug krijgt.”*

**19<sup>th</sup> citation (E5, page 7)**

*“Het is allemaal mosterd na de maaltijd, want het besluit is al genomen. Ik ben bang van wel. Het is misschien al aanbesteedt weet je wel, en daarom kunnen ze ook niet meer terug. Het is allang aanbesteedt we kunnen niet terug. En de frustratie en het wantrouwen tegen de gemeente neemt alleen maar toe.”*

**20<sup>th</sup> citation (E5, page 1)**

*“Dat de gemeente al besloten had dat het raster er sowieso zou komen. Terwijl een heleboel mensen er tegen waren. Het is eigenlijk een soort van eenzijdig genomen besluit. Die ervaring hebben we.”*

**21<sup>th</sup> citation (E8, page 1)**

*“Maar ze voeren ze hier. Dus ze komen hier binnen omdat ze ze voeren met mais. Dus het is zo dubbel als een deur. Want ze willen de beesten niet in het dorp hebben, maar de mensen voeren ze zelf ook hoor. Met brood. Ja, en dan klagen ze en dan moet er een hek komen voor 6 ton of weet ik hoeveel. Dus ik ben eigenlijk zeer verontwaardigd.”*

**22<sup>th</sup> citation (E3, page 5)**

*“Ik heb er helemaal niet op gereageerd, want dat helpt je toch niks. Het had wel gekund, denk ik. Ik had wel kunnen reageren maar ik heb het niet gedaan. Ja, dat beslissen ze toch zelf wel. Ze hebben ons toch niks in de regen. Wij zijn hun vijfde rad aan de wagen, zeg ik wel eens.”*

**23<sup>th</sup> citation (E5, page 9)**

*“Maar angst, als je aangeeft als burger dat je je niet veilig voelt in de gemeente. Dat heeft natuurlijk een grote impact. En dan voelt de gemeente zich gelijk verantwoordelijk. En als iemand zegt “we vinden het zo fijn die zwijnen, want dan heb ik het gevoel dat we tenminste echt in de natuur leven.” Dat heeft lang niet zo veel impact als iemand zegt “maar ik durf mijn hond niet meer uit te laten hier in de gemeente.”*

**24<sup>th</sup> citation (E2, page 7)**

*“En ik bedoel, dan moet je zelf maatregelen gaan nemen. Dan ga je toch niet de hele gemeenschap opzadelen met zo'n idioot hek.”*

**25<sup>th</sup> citation (E5 page 7)**

*“Dat betekent ook dat het wild zich op een gegeven moment concentreert daar waar het raster op houdt. En daar dan oversteekt.”*

**26<sup>th</sup> citation (E2, page 16)**

*“En het kan natuurlijk niet helemaal natuurlijk zijn. Want je zit toch in een gebied waar toch ook veel bevolking is. Als het net als in de Middeleeuwen het helemaal ruig gebied was, dan who cares. Maar dat is het niet, dus je zal toch moeten cultiveren. En dat gecultiveerde zul je toe moeten passen met een prachtig natuur beleid. Jagers beleid. En dan, dat zou ik gewoon willen. En dan niks geen gezeul met dat raster.”*

**27<sup>th</sup> citation (E8, page 5)**

*“En ook met dier en mens, dat die samen moeten leven. Dit is het terrein van de beesten. Als je het heel serieus neemt zijn wij hier in komen wonen.”*

**28<sup>th</sup> citation (E8, page 6)**

*“Ik heb hier een huisje gebouwd, dat is een logeer gelegenheid. En dan s'nachts dan horen die mensen “gnoink gnoink”. Zo liggen ze in bed. In dat huisje, in mijn atelierkje. En dan zeggen ze “god, we hebben de zwijnen vannacht gehoord.” Ik zeg “ja, geweldig hè?” “Zet dat hoofdeinde maar aan de andere kant” zeggen ze. Ik zeg “nee, dat doe ik niet.” Ja, dat is heel bijzonder. Het is zo bijzonder. En de toeristen komen hier ook voor het wild.”*

**29<sup>th</sup> citation (H2, page 7)**

*“En waar wij rekening hebben te houden met die zwijnen, evengoed als misschien met herten of wat dan ook, dat heb je daar ook. Snap je, en ik vind dat geen reden om dan die dieren dan gewoon af te knallen. Ja, ik wordt daar echt heel boos om.”*

**30<sup>th</sup> citation (H5, page 2)**

*“Ja ik vind dat je het beter wel kan doen want anders krijg je straks weer dat ze hier de boel slopen. En dan zijn ze met veel teveel en dan gaan ze ze weer afschieten en zo.”*

**31<sup>th</sup> citation (H2, page 9)**

*“Wij als mens zijnde hebben een weg dwars door het bos aangelegd, daar heeft dat beest niet om gevraagd. Maar ja, als je er dan toch gebruik van moet maken doe dat dan met respect.”*

**32<sup>th</sup> citation (H2, page 8)**

*“Dus van mij mogen ze best bijgevoederd worden, maar niet om ze daarna van een hoogzitter af te knallen. Dat vind ik gewoon echt heel erg.”*

**33<sup>th</sup> citation (H2, page 10)**

*“Die informatievoorziening is ook echt aller belabberdst. Want zoals nu ook, dan zijn ze bezig bij Epe. Je kan Heerde al zowat niet meer uit, maar er staat niet bij hoe lang het gaat duren, er staat niet bij wat er aan de hand is.”*

**34<sup>th</sup> citation (H2, page 9)**

*“Om 10 over 6 zitten wij in de auto en je moet eens weten hoe we worden ingehaald. Echt als achterlijken dat ze ons inhalen.”*

**35<sup>th</sup> citation (H2, page 4)**

*“Weet je, ik kan me heel goed voorstellen dat wij een keer vergeten dat hek dicht te doen. En ik kom s'morgens en de boel is overhoop gehaald door die zwijnen. Ja natuurlijk, dat zal ik niet leuk vinden. Maar dat is wel inherent aan het feit dat ik hier woon en dat ik het hek niet dicht heb gedaan.”*

**36<sup>th</sup> citation (H5, page 5)**

*“Als ze geen eten hebben omdat het zo koud is, dan overleeft de helft of zo. En dan had je nu niet dat gedoe. Dat vind ik zo vervelend. Dan moeten ze ze bijvoeren en nu is het irritant, want dan komen ze zo dicht bij en dan moeten we ze weer afschieten.”*

**37<sup>th</sup> citation (E7, page 4)**

*“Als je er voor zorgt dat de toegang tot het dorp niet aantrekkelijk wordt door daar geen gazons te hebben maar wilde planten te laten groeien. Daar voorkom je mee de aantrekkelijkheid voor de varkens om daar te gaan snuffelen. En dat is het enige wat interessant voor ze is, want verder is daar niks te eten. Behalve dan die berm.”*

**38<sup>th</sup> citation (H8, page 7)**

*“Die Elburgerweg is vervangen. Ze hebben het dek vernieuwd. Die berm is overhoop gehaald. Vervolgens strooien ze er weer nieuw zaad in. Met hartstikke mooi groeiend gras dat hard groeit. En dat moet weer gemaaid worden en dat maaisel laten ze liggen. Dat trekt allemaal insecten aan. En dat trekt weer varkens aan. Zo simpel loopt het gewoon. Als je wat doet aan die zijkanen van die wegen zodat ze daar geen insecten meer kunnen vinden, dan komen die varkens daar niet.”*

**39<sup>th</sup> citation (E7, page 9)**

*“En ten tweede vind ik dan die psychologische bezwaren. Dat je dan een woonwijk afschermt van verbinding met de natuur. Bezwaren voor de mensen die invaliden die toch altijd met klaphekjes en roosters omheen moeten bewegen.”*

**40<sup>th</sup> citation (H8, page 7)**

*“Maar ik heb dan de vraag: waarom komen ze het dorp in? Waarom doen varkens dit? En daar gaat men niet dieper op in. Waarom wroeten die varkens juist langs de weg, waarom wroeten ze daar juist langs de Elburgerweg? Dat vraagt men zich kennelijk niet af.”*

**41<sup>th</sup> citation (E7, page 9)**

*“Dat is natuurlijk merkwaardig he. Er moet een tussen fase zijn, en een ontwerp, en dan inspraak. Of al veel eerder, dat je de mensen hoort over de plan opstellen. We gaan een plan opstellen, wat denken jullie er van. En dan inspraak van te voren.”*

**42<sup>th</sup> citation (E7, page 3)**

*“Maar het grappige is ook, ja het belachelijke misschien wel. Dat Heerde doet niet mee. Dus een beetje slim varken loopt richting Heerde en komt dan alsnog naar binnen toe.”*

**43<sup>th</sup> citation (H8, page 5)**

*“Mijn tuin is niet aantrekkelijk voor varkens. Ik heb geen grasveld dat ik maai. Ik heb wel wat gras liggen, maar dat maai ik niet. Daar is allemaal mos inmiddels. En dat grind is niet aantrekkelijk, want dat is veel te hard. Daar gaan ze niet met hun snuitje in.”*

**44<sup>th</sup> citation (E7, page 4)**

*“En het geeft een gevoel, ja van opgesloten zijn. Het is net alsof je nu hier in een soort reservaat leeft. Van de open verbinding met de natuur is verbroken. Terwijl dat meer een psychologisch aspect is. Maar dat idee vind ik ook met, ja dat je echt door het bos gaat wandelen en dan kom je daar een groot hek tegen.”*

**45<sup>th</sup> citation (E4, page 3)**

*“Maar het ging als volgt; ze trokken zich terug. Maar pa, de beer, die ging voor op. Daar kwamen die kleintjes, die gingen keurig achter elkaar, achter pa aan. En moe die sloot het af. En ze gingen echt keurig langs de rand, langs de weg gingen ze het bos weer in. Nou dat is onvoorstelbaar. Had ik nog nooit gezien, schitterend. Echt heel mooi. Dus ik, ja even tussen haakjes. Ik geniet van die beesten maar ik vind het om ze hier zo ver te hebben dat is belachelijk.”*

**46<sup>th</sup> citation (E4, page 6)**

*“Ik ben er wel voorstander van. Want nogmaals, het is diervriendelijk. En ze blijven dan toch buiten het dorp. Dus je hebt geen toestanden zoals afgelopen jaren. Ja, ik vind het prima.”*

**47<sup>th</sup> citation (E6, page 5)**

*“En dan zijn ze dus hier in Epe of hier in de omgeving op vakantie. En dan zeggen ze “Zo leuk. We geven ze eten.” Alleen zeg ik, hoe haal je het in je hoofd? Want wij hebben er zo last van. “Ja, maar het is zo leuk.””*

**48<sup>th</sup> citation (E6, page 4)**

*“Ik denk dat er veel mensen gebeld hebben van “joh, kan daar niet iets aan gedaan worden? Want er is zo'n overlast nu.” Kijk, het moet wel een beetje binnen de perken blijven natuurlijk. En dat liep nou echt uit de hand. Ja, liep echt uit de hand hoor.”*

**49<sup>th</sup> citation (E4, page 1)**

*"Ik heb ook wel een idee waar dat aan ligt. Want het zijn met name denk ik toeristen. Die met grote zakken vol brood het bos in gaan. Dat heb ik ook wel eens gehoord. Nou ja, dan kom je ze op een bepaald moment wel tegen. En ja, die gaan ze dan bijvoeren. En ja, dan breidt het zich uit natuurlijk."*

**50<sup>th</sup> citation (E4, page 5)**

*"Die beesten horen in het bos. Hoe dan ook. En ze moeten dan toch maar, op die manier een beetje tegengaan denk ik. En zo'n wildraster zorgt er voor."*

**51<sup>th</sup> citation (E6, page 9)**

*"Ik vind wel dat ze het in toom moeten houden hoor. Dat het niet uit de hand moet lopen. Dat straks weer zo ontzettend veel rondlopen. Want ja, ik weet niet wat er dan gebeurt. Dat ze hun soortgenoten iets aan doen, nou dat wil je toch ook niet."*

**52<sup>th</sup> citation (E1, page 4)**

*"Ik vind het op zich wel allemaal prima zo. Ik snap ook niet dat ze dat raster zo graag willen, want uiteindelijk is er nog niks echt kapot gegaan en is nog niemand echt gewond geraakt."*

**53<sup>th</sup> citation (E1, page 2)**

*"Dan kom je gewoon een hele kudde zwijnen tegen. Ja, dat is wel raar. Maar het is op zich ook wel heel leuk. Ze doen je niks, zolang je maar geen bedreiging vormt voor de kinderen zeg maar. Of voor de babytjes. Dan is het allemaal wel goed."*

**54<sup>th</sup> citation (H9, page 3)**

*"Voor mij niet, ik zie het niet als een probleem. Nee ik vind het een mooi beest, en ik ben blij als ik er eens een keer één zie. En ik vind het prachtig als ze daar ook een keer in de tuin komen."*

**55<sup>th</sup> citation (E1, page 4)**

*"Ik snap niet waar al die angst vandaan komt. Die beesten hebben nog niemand kwaad gedaan dus waar komt al die angst vandaan?"*

**56<sup>th</sup> citation (H9, page 13)**

*"Kijk, als een Muskusrat het land binnen dringt heeft niemand er bezwaar tegen als die beesten georganiseerd te vuur en te zwaard worden bestreden. Ja, maar een wild zwijn, of een hert, of een ree. Ja, dan krijg je al snel Walt Disney achtige beelden in je hoofd. En ja, die beesten hebben allemaal handschoentjes aan, en het zijn eigenlijk ook mensen. En ze zijn heel lief vooral. Heel lief. Met pyjamaatjes aan, ja. Die zien er ook schattig uit. Die mag je niks doen natuurlijk."*

**57<sup>th</sup> citation (E1, page 5)**

*"Tenminste, mensen hier uit de omgeving rijden dan wel wat rustiger. Zeker s'avonds laat."*

**58<sup>th</sup> citation (H9, page 7)**

*"Maar ik vind dat eigenlijk dat in een wijk als Bakhuisbos je de natuur moet accepteren zoals die is. Want je bent daar bewust in de natuur gaan wonen."*

**59<sup>th</sup> citation (H9, page 10)**

*"Dat instinct, als die kat die vogels hoort bij de schoorsteen. Ja dat beest is dus echt een natuurbeest. Ondanks gevangenschap en ondanks dat ze nooit buiten is geweest. Ja, ook dat instinct zit in de mens. Misschien niet bij allemaal. Maar het zit er wel in."*

## Citations Focus Group Evening

### 60<sup>th</sup> citation (FG2, page 5)

*“Maar wat ik niet snap, hij houdt daar bij de gemeentegrens, daar bij Epe, houdt dat raster op. En dan ben je nog niet bij die snelweg. Dus volgens mij zijn er op een gegeven moment genoeg zwijntjes die de weg daar omheen vinden. Die komen aan de andere kant van het raster. En waar ik mij ook zorgen over maak bij het raster; er zijn altijd een paar lolbroeken die denken van “goh, ik wil die zwijntjes toch wel aan deze kant” en die knippen er met een combinatie tangetje een gat in.”*

### 61<sup>th</sup> citation (FG2, page 2)

*“Als je een goed afschotbeleid hebt. En vasthoudt. Dan is er niets aan de hand.”*

### 62<sup>th</sup> citation (FG1, page 1)

*“het is logisch dat het fout loopt, maar als wij hem niet voeren. Blijft het dier rustig in de bossen. En dan is ie niet lastig.”*

### 63<sup>th</sup> citation (FG1, page 7)

*“Ik wil niet zeggen dat ze nooit luisteren. maar ze maken er wel een prettige gewoonte van.”*

### 64<sup>th</sup> citation (FG2, page 13)

*“Je zou moeten zeggen “bestuurders luisteren niet”. Dit zijn uitvoerders. En die doen wat er gezegd wordt.”*

### 65<sup>th</sup> citation (FG2, page 13)

*“Ik weet niet of u de inspraaknota gelezen heeft? En dat gelegd heeft naast de inhoud van een hoop van die brieven die verstuurd zijn? Ja, dat is echt heel vreselijk. Hoe je zoiets kan negeren. Dus dat is dan het antwoord daar.”*

### 66<sup>th</sup> citation (FG2, page 4)

*“Het dorp is niet echt de habitat van het wilde varken zullen we maar zeggen. Daar zouden we hem buiten moeten houden.”*

### 67<sup>th</sup> citation (FG2, page 4)

*“Ik denk dat dat een heel belangrijk punt is, van wat is je definitie van bebouwde kom. De bebouwde kom als wat wij aangeven, bordje Epe en je mag niet harder rijden dan 30, 50. is dat de bebouwde kom? Of is er mee bedoeld; daar waar huizen staan?”*

## Citations Interview association Behoud Kwaliteit Epe

### 68<sup>th</sup> citation (VBKE, page 11)

*“Er is bewust voor gekozen om geen inspraak te verlenen, bijvoorbeeld ook bij dit zwijnenkerend raster.”*

### 69<sup>th</sup> citation (VBKE, page 3)

*“Maar ga nou niet die zwijnen de schuld geven dat die hier rond lopen. Want dit is altijd hun woongebied geweest.”*

### 70<sup>th</sup> citation (VKBE, page 6)

*“Daarvoor is ook de maatregel bekend dat je, in het nul-gebied, het hele jaar door als het nodig is afschot mag plegen. Ook om de stand te beheersen, maar ook om te voorkomen dat dat naar de dorpskernen gaat. Dat zwijnen naar de dorpskernen trekken, en ook in het centrum. Dat is 9 jaar lang niet systematisch gebeurd.”*

### 71<sup>th</sup> citation (VBKE, page 10)

*“Ik denk dat we missen de dialoog met de burgers. En bewoners en belanghebbenden. Met de gemeente. De gemeente is in feite niet in staat, zeg ik dan maar even. Want ik zie het niet, niet in staat om de dialoog met de burger op te pakken.”*

### 72<sup>th</sup> citation (VBKE, page 28)

*“Het is ook niet voor niets dat sommige mensen zeggen “ik krijg het gevoel dat ik in een concentratiekamp terecht kom.” Met alle bijbehorende associaties. Want zo negatief zijn die gevoelens.”*

### 73<sup>th</sup> citation (VBKE, page 34)

*“De communicatie is er niet. En onder communicatie versta ik onder over en weer elkaar helpen. Naar elkaar luisteren, elkaars ideeën aftasten. En daar iets mee doen. Maar het is hier “dit is het plan. Je kunt ja of nee zeggen.” En je kunt eigenlijk alleen maar nee zeggen.”*

### 74<sup>th</sup> citation (VBKE, page 7)

*“Dat als je maar lang genoeg verteld dat het een probleem is, dan wordt het ook een probleem. Want zo werkt het vaak in de psychologie naar mensen toe.”*

### 75<sup>th</sup> citation (VBKE, page 20)

*“Ik denk dat je te maken hebt met twee mens types. Je hebt het mens type die vind dat alles maakbaar moet zijn. En als er een blaadje valt, of er kleeft wat uit een boom. Een boom staat in de weg want de wortels komen omhoog. Dan gaan ze lopen klagen, moet die boom weg. Alles moet strak en dan rennen ze naar het tuincentrum. En dan komt er een plantje in een potje en dan hebben ze natuur. Dus dat is het ene mensbeeld, en die vinden dus ook dat het zwijn niet in hun tuin hoort rond te lopen. Dat hoort niet. Dat is niet helemaal onder controle en dat vinden mensen vervelend.”*

### 76<sup>th</sup> citation (VBKE, page 31)

*“Maar ik denk dat je je ook wat ondergeschikt moet kunnen maken aan de natuur. De natuur de natuur te laten en jezelf aan te passen.”*