



Bringing the bogs back to **LIFE**

Funded by LIFE Nature and Coillte

"RESTORING ACTIVE BLANKET BOG IN IRELAND"

End-of-Project Conference: 4-5 October 2007

Westport, County Mayo, Ireland



coillte



- 10.00 – 10.30 Registration and tea/coffee
- 10.30 – 10.45 **David Gunning, Chief Executive, Coillte**
Opening Address

(Session 1: Chair: Tim Crowley, Managing Director, Coillte Forest)

- 10.45 – 11.00 **Tim Crowley, Managing Director, Coillte Forest**
Forestry and blanket bogs
- 11.00 – 11.30 **Dr Micheál O'Briain, DG ENV, European Commission**
EU biodiversity policy, NATURA 2000 and opportunities Under LIFE+
- 11.30 – 11.50 **Kevin Donnellan, Project Manager, Coillte**
Restoring blanket bog – Coillte's experience
Joe McEvey, Site Manager, Coillte
Operational management
- 11.50 – 12.10 **Dr John Conaghan, Project Ecologist**
Vegetation recovery on project sites
- 12.10 – 12.30 **Dr Philip O'Dea, Research & Environment Scientist, Coillte**
Water monitoring on selected project sites
- 12.30 – 13.00 Questions and Conclusions
- 13.00 – 14.15 Lunch – Light Buffet

(Session 2 – Chair: Gerry Riordan, Region Director, Coillte Forest)

- 14.15 – 14.35 **Neil Wilkie, Freelance Conservation Consultant**
LIFE-funded bog restoration – Scottish experience

- 14.35 – 14.55 **Dr Catherine O'Connell, Chief Executive, Irish Peatland Conservation Council**
The role of the IPCC in bog conservation and restoration in Ireland
- 14.55 – 15.15 **Caitriona Douglas, Conservation Science & Research Branch, National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)**
Overview of blanket bog conservation in the Irish context
- 15.15 – 15.35 **Denis Strong, Deputy Region Manager, National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS)**
The benefits of Coillte's LIFE project from a regional perspective
- 15.35 – 15.50 Tea - Coffee

(Session 3 – Chair: George McCarthy – Chairman, Project Management Group, Coillte)

- 15.50 – 16.10 **Pat Neville, Company Ecologist, Coillte**
Nature conservation and biodiversity management in Coillte
- 16.10 – 16.30 **Caroline White, Project PR Manager**
Public awareness and dissemination of results
- 16.30 – 17.00 Questions and Final Conclusions
- 19.30 Conference Dinner

Friday - 5 October 2007 - Field Trip

DAY 2

Optional Field Trip to Project Sites (packed lunch provided).

9.30 - 10.30	Travel to Derry LIFE extension site near Bellacorick
10.30 - 12.30	Restoration actions on site Bellacorick Bog Complex management
12.30 - 1.15	Lunch
1.15 - 1.30	Travel to Eskeragh
1.30 - 2.30	Site management Visitor management and interpretation Feedback and close
2.30 - 3.45	Return to Hotel

Please bring raingear and suitable footwear