

Supporting High Nature Value Farming in the Irish Uplands



Uplands Community Partnership Conference

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Work of HNV Ireland project (2010-2014)

- EFNCP, IT Sligo partnerships (Heritage Council funded)
- Work with a range of partners (e.g. Uplands Working Group)
- Aim to ensure that HNV farming in Ireland receives workable, appropriately-funded support in the 2014-2020 CAP round, with a package of complementary well-designed measures which can achieve concrete positive results for HNV farmers and the taxpayer.
- 3 months left: plan to concentrate on
 - Where actions are best located (GLAS, GLAS+ and Local Targeted AES)
 - Ensuring complementarity between measures
 - Securing results on commonages (a much neglected 8.5% of our agricultural land base)



Outline

- Extensive farming systems: sustaining upland communities and maintaining upland landscapes for generations.
- Increasingly under threat from changes in farm practice and land abandonment.
- This forum is organised to discuss how measures included in Ireland's draft RDP can support HNV farming in the Irish Uplands.



Key Questions

- How proposed agri-environment measures (GLAS, GLAS+ and Locally Led Agri-environment schemes) will work in a HNV upland setting?
- How do we ensure that commonage farmers (majority of farmers in Upland areas) are not disadvantaged?
- Can practical delivery mechanism be developed for commonages?

