

Ireland: solutions – question 1

- ◆ REPS (Irish agri-env scheme)
- ◆ NPWS Natura-only scheme



Ireland: solutions – question 2

- ◆ Schemes ignore changes in farming esp dropping stock numbers
- ◆ 2 LU/ha limit is too high
- ◆ Need more targeted prescriptions
- ◆ Farmer is entrusted with implementing the conditions



Ireland: solutions – question 3

- ◆ Compulsory elements limited to notifiable actions
- ◆ No required prescriptions per se
- ◆ Old versions of REPS too general – new one must be more targetted
- ◆ Education and training necessary for farmers, planners and officials



Ireland: solutions – question 4

- ◆ **Ideally:**

- ◆ Specify what ‘favourable status’ means for the sites
- ◆ Review site conservation plans and make better use of them
- ◆ Put place favourable regime that will lead in time to favourable status
- ◆ Use LEADER or similar community-based approach to projects



Ireland: solutions – question 5

- ◆ Can work with care
- ◆ Can work if managed at community level
- ◆ Can work if planners have skill and knowledge to assess the site and match plans to its requirements



Ireland: solutions – question 6

- ◆ **Uptake:**
 - ◆ Participation of all farms should be requirement
 - ◆ Whole farm approach
 - ◆ All prescriptions site specific;
 - ◆ E.g. guidelines on housing
 - ◆ Where to spread slurry
- ◆ **Education**
- ◆ **LEADER aspec**
- ◆ **Allocation of adequate resources**



Ireland: solutions – question 7

- ◆ A positive aspect might be the use of consultation
- ◆ Joined-up Government - an attempt to solve problems in an integrated manner – is good, but hard to organise



Ireland: solutions – question 8

- ◆ Competent authority is NPWS but they are not well able to use RDP for delivery
- ◆ Each agency has different remit
- ◆ Difficulties to get agreement, even meetings, between agencies

