



# LIFE on Machair

SAOL ar an Mhacaire



An Roinn Tithíochta,  
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta  
Department of Housing,  
Local Government and Heritage



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,  
Bia agus Mara  
Department of Agriculture,  
Food and the Marine



**Fáilte Ireland**  
National Tourism Development Authority



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SAOL ar an Mhachaire



*Protecting and restoring Ireland's network of machair systems and associated breeding wader and pollinator communities*



# LIFE on Machair

## PROJECT AREAS

- Horn Head + Rinclevan Co. Donegal
- Gweedore Co. Donegal
- Mullet Peninsula Co. Mayo
- Inishkea Islands Co. Mayo
- Doogort Machair Co. Mayo
- Roonagh Cahasy Baun Loughs Co. Mayo
- Dooaghtry Co. Mayo
- Doonloughan Co. Galway
- Murvey Machair Co. Galway

Mullet Peninsula

Inishkea Islands

Doogort Machair

Roonagh Cahasy  
Baun Loughs

Dooaghtry

Doonloughan

Murvey Machair

Horn Head + Rinclevan

Gweedore

Falcarragh

Dungloe

DONEGAL

Donegal town

LEITRIM

Sligo

SLIGO

MAYO

ROSCOMMON

GALWAY

Spiddal

Galway City

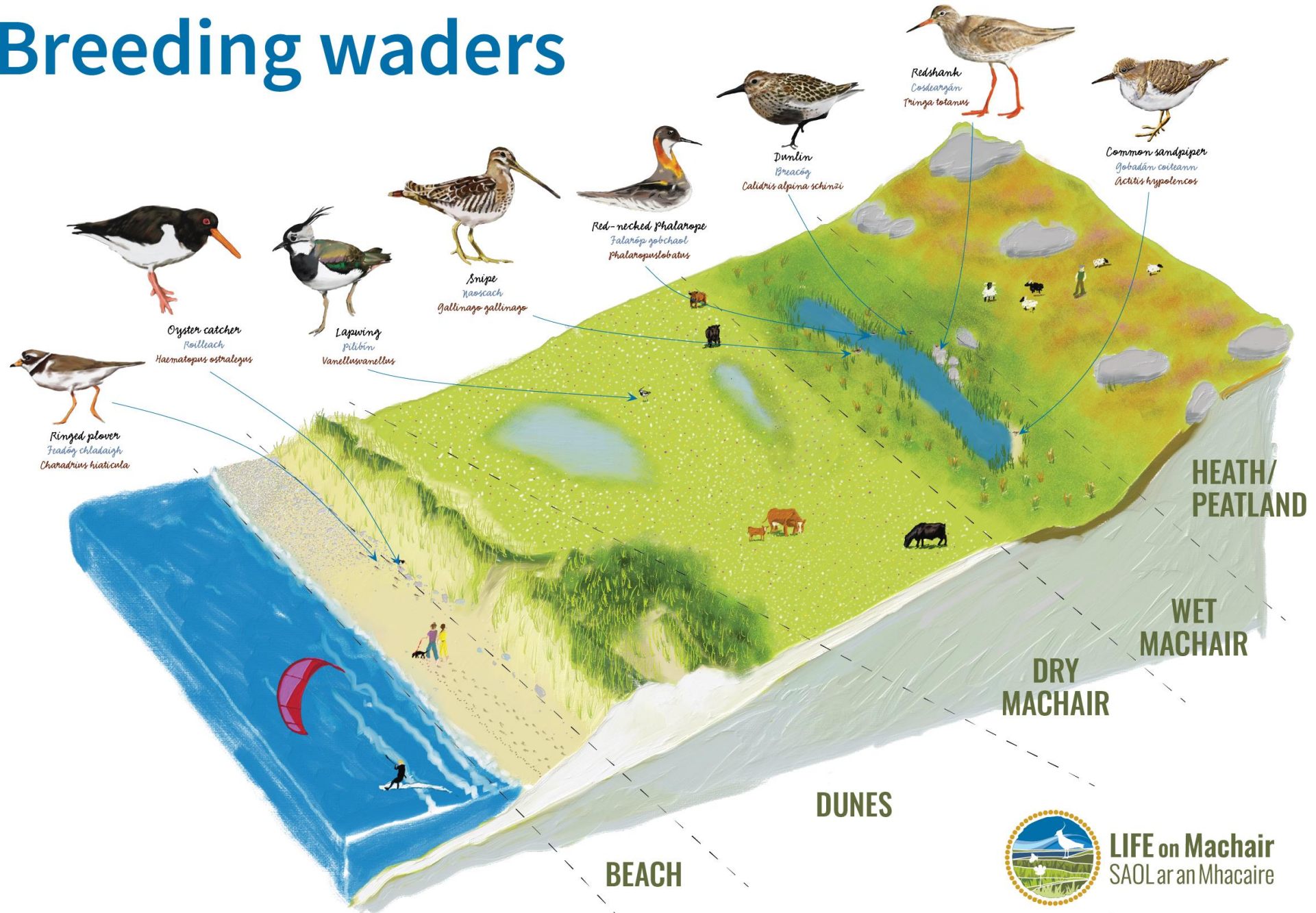
# What is a Machair system?



# Why is Life on Machair special?



# Breeding waders



# Pollinators



*Northern Colletes*  
Beach phlastrala thraiscartach  
*Colletes floralis*



*Belted beauty*  
Scoilhog chriosach  
*Lycia zonaria*



*Six-spot Burnet moth*  
Buirnead sibhallach  
*Zygaena filipendula*



*Great yellow bumblebee*  
Bumbag bhui mhór  
*Bombus distinguendus*



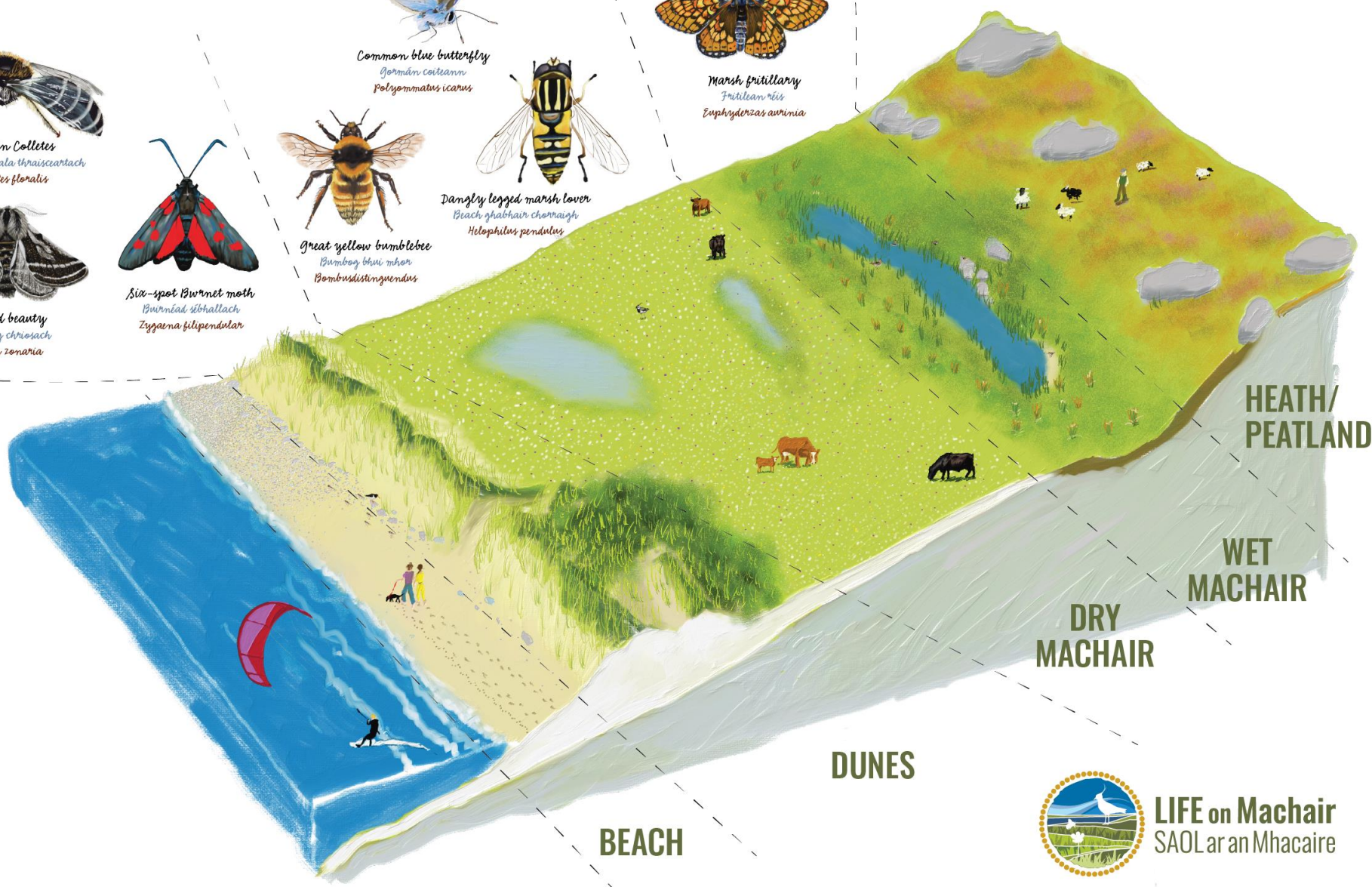
*Common blue butterfly*  
Gormán coilteann  
*Polyommatus icarus*



*Dangle-legged marsh lover*  
Beach ghabhair chomraigh  
*Helophilus pendulus*



*Marsh fritillary*  
Fritilean réis  
*Euphydryas aurinia*



HEATH/  
PEATLAND

WET  
MACHAIR

DRY  
MACHAIR

DUNES

BEACH



**LIFE on Machair**  
SAOL ar an Mhacaire

An aerial photograph taken from an elevated perspective, likely from an aircraft, showing a rugged coastal landscape. The foreground is dominated by dark, jagged rock formations meeting the sea. Turquoise waves with white foam are crashing against the rocks. Beyond the rocks, the terrain transitions into a vast, flat expanse of land with a mix of brown, tan, and green hues, suggesting a mix of soil types and vegetation. A winding river or stream is visible in the middle ground. In the distance, low hills or mountains are visible under a clear blue sky with a few wispy clouds. The wing of the aircraft is visible in the top left corner.

Health check?



Corncrake  
Traonach LIFE



ACRES WEST  
CONNACHT



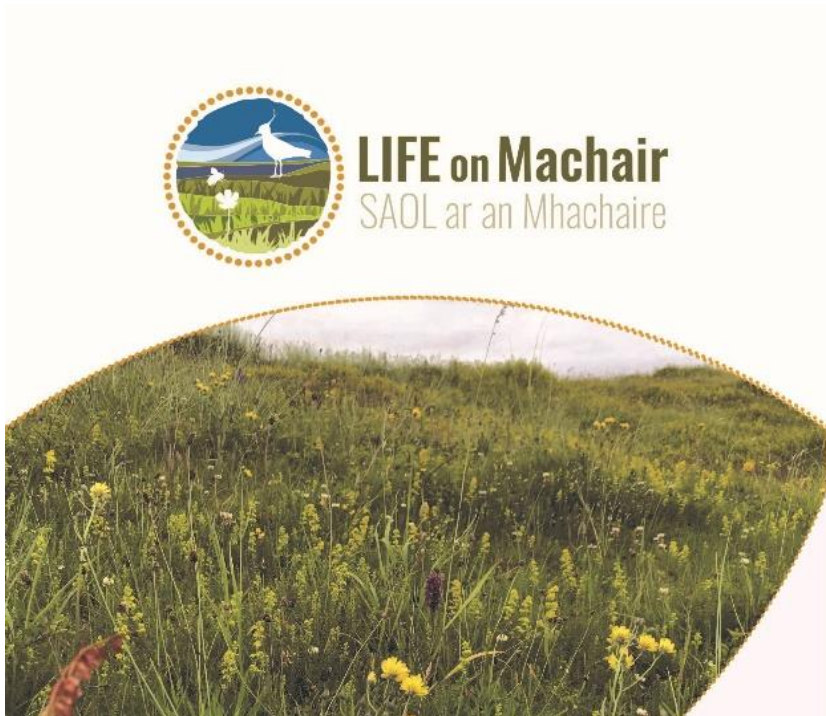
An Roinn Talmhaíochta,  
Bia agus Mara  
Department of Agriculture,  
Food and the Marine



Burren Life  
PROGRAMME



WILD ATLANTIC  
NATURE LIFE

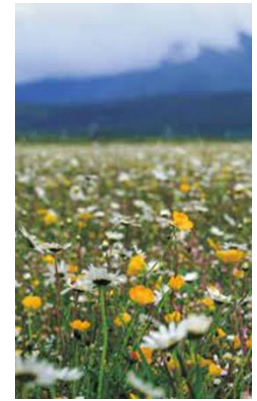


1. Work with farmers to develop and roll out **agricultural management agreements on project sites.**
2. Work with landowners to implement **site-specific conservation interventions** (e.g. revegetation, fencing, predator risk assessment).
3. Provide opportunities and **support for local farmers and communities** to engage / knowledge sharing.
4. Develop a **sustainable tourism model** for machair sites.
5. **Ensure replication and transfer** of project results.

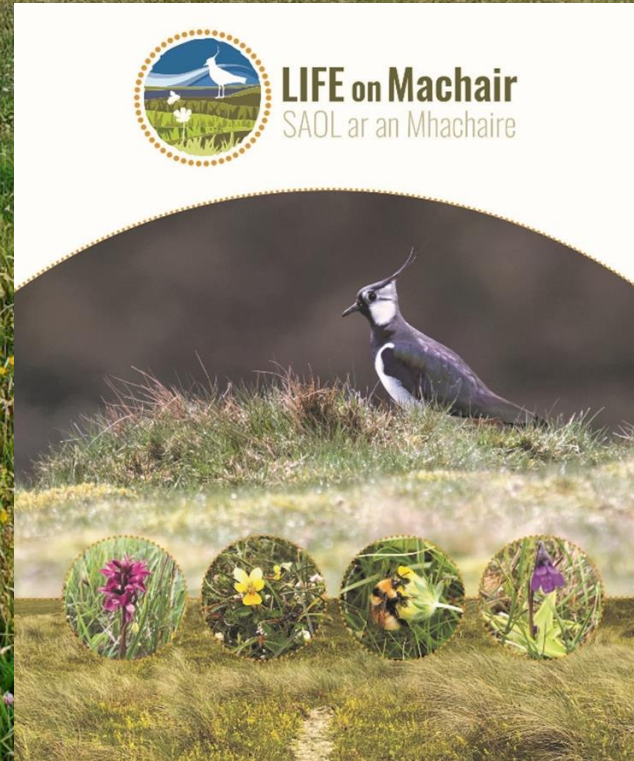


# LIFE on Machair 2022-2028

## five steps



1. Why is each site special? Cultural and natural heritage?
2. What changed over time from the way the site formed originally? How did the site develop over time? What animals grazed and when? How was the site used before and now?
3. How do we strike a balance for people and nature? How do we protect and restore? How do we make these robust to withstand climate change?
4. Develop a plan together (short and long targets). Who does what, where, when, how, why? Keep it realistic, flexible and adaptive as site recovers/changes.
5. How can we sustain that into the future? How do we integrate the learnings into CAP/ ACRES payments? How do we use these sites for amenity and tourism sustainably?



Go raibh maith  
agaibh le  
éisteacht