

**LIFE18 NAT/IE/000090 LIFE Atlantic Crex**

**Improving Corncrake conservation status in Ireland by the enhancement of the SPA network and surrounding farmland**

**Briefing note for pilot programme**

The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage have recently initiated a new EU LIFE project targeting the conservation of the Corncrake. The project will be operating across Donegal, Mayo and Galway over the next 5 years and will be working with a range of stakeholders, including farmers and private landowners, to develop and implement conservation measures for the protection and restoration of the Corncrake.

The project is now seeking expressions of interest from farmers within the target areas for a pilot programme that will be operated in 2021.

The objective of this pilot programme will be to develop a results-based payment scheme for landowners within the projects target areas. A limited number of participants will be afforded the opportunity to be part of the development phase of the project. Pilot participants and their advisers will need to be willing to afford a degree of flexibility and availability to the project in order for the scheme successfully developed. Successful pilot participants and their advisers will work with the project team in 2021 to develop plans for each farm to benefit the target species. This pilot phase will be utilized to build a wider scheme from 2022 onwards.

Participation in GLAS does not exclude farmers from participation in this pilot scheme.

Rates of payment will be determined during the development phase.

Both participants and their advisers will be expected to attend knowledge exchange groups and training workshops.

Farmers with lands in Corncrake SPAs and within the target areas will be prioritized. For target areas see: https://www.corncrakelife.ie/project-areas

The closing date for applications is 17:00 on Friday April 30th 2021. Applications received after this time cannot be considered.

For further information please contact julie.kearney@housing.gov.ie

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To express your interest in participating in the pilot phase of the Corncrake LIFE project, please fill out your details below. Please return completed form by (date) and post to the Corncrake LIFE Project, C/O National Parks & Wildlife Service, Ballinafad, Co. Sligo F52 K752 or by email to: julie.kearney@housing.gov.ie

The closing date for application for the pilot phase is **Friday April 30th 2021**.

Please note, that the pilot phase of the project is for developmental purposes and access to the project wider programme will be available in the future.

* I wish to express my interest in participating in the Corncrake/Traonach LIFE Project - LIFE18 NAT/IE/000090 LIFE Atlantic Crex, hereafter Corncrake LIFE.
* I authorise the Corncrake/Traoanach LIFE Project and Associated Beneficiary Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) to access my herd number, GLAS participation status and land parcel information from records held by BPS and GLAS Divisions of the DAFM, for the duration of the project.
* I authorise the Corncrake/Traonach LIFE Project and National Parks & Wildlife Service-Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage to access my participation status in any of their Conservation Programmes or other Farm Plan Schemes.
* I understand that the data collected for this purpose will be held by the Corncrake/Traonach LIFE Project for as long as there is a business need to do so, in line with the purpose(s) for which it was collected.
* The data provided for this purpose is being requested in order that an assessment of eligibility for participation in the Corncrake/Traonach LIFE Project can be made. If I chose not to provide this consent I understand that my application for the Corncrake/Traonach LIFE Project cannot proceed.
* I agree to the above terms and conditions and understand that there is no guarantee that a contract offer will be made in response to this expression of interest.
* I acknowledge that this form only declares my expression of interest to be listed as a potential project participant. Following the EOI process, a selection and prioritisation process will be applied.

Please use BLOCK CAPITALS when completing your details

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name** |  |
| **Address** |  |
| **Phone number** |  |
| **Email** |  |
| **Herd number**  |  |
| **Adviser/Planner name** |  |
| **Adviser Planner phone/email** |  |

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

# Please complete the following questionnaire:

**Do you currently farm lands within a Corncrake Special Protection area?**

Yes ☐ No ☐

**If yes- what proportion of your lands: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_%**

**Do you currently undertake Corncrake measures through GLAS?**

Yes ☐ No ☐

**If yes- how many hectares:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Have you previously been a recipient of the NPWS Corncrake Grant Scheme?**

Yes ☐ No ☐

**If yes- most recent year of receipt:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Have you had the Corncrake recorded on your lands within the last 5 years?**

Yes ☐ No ☐

**If yes- what was the most recent year:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Please give any other information which may assist in your application to the pilot programme.

Max (200 words)

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