

Irish Rural Link

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### **Irish Rural Link Delighted to Lead Consortium in new EIP Project**

Irish Rural Link (IRL) – the national network representing the interest of rural communities, are delighted to be leading the Consortium in the new European Innovation Partnership (EIP) project on Breeding Waders.

Together with its partners; Michael Martyn Agri-Environment, Irish Wildlife Services, Hen Harrier Project, Atlantic Technological University, University College Dublin, Zoological Society of Ireland and the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust, the project will work with farmers to secure existing wader populations at key sites, and to support population recovery via wider landscape management and policy development.

The project, worth €25 million, will work with farmers and other stakeholders to improve their land to ensure the Breeding Waders population can recover. A payment will be made to farmers engaging in the project.

Speaking about the project, Seamus Boland, CEO of Irish Rural Link, said: *“We are delighted to be part of this new and exciting project. We are looking forward to working with all our partners on the project and engaging with farmers across the country. This is a great opportunity for farmers to work with experts and protect the local biodiversity of their land”*. More details about the project and how farmers can participate will be available in the coming weeks.

#### **For further information, please contact (anytime):**

Seamus Boland (Chief Executive) 0862491153 or Louise Lennon (Policy and Communications Officer) 0861069244

#### **About Irish Rural Link:**

Irish Rural Link represents the interests of locally based rural groups in disadvantaged and marginalised rural areas by highlighting problems, advocating appropriate policies, sharing experiences and examples of good practice. It has a membership of nearly 600 rural community groups dedicated to sustainable rural development and represents rural communities at a national and international level

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