



Clár Éire Ildánach  
Creative Ireland  
Programme



NPWS

An tSeirbhís Páirceanna  
Náisiúnta agus Fiadhúla  
National Parks and Wildlife  
Service

# Natura 2000 Day 21 May 2026 Biodiversity Brunch & Networking

*Bringing people, organisations and businesses together to exchange knowledge and share insights for nature conservation*

**08.30 Gather at the Festival Marquee**

**09.00 Welcome address - Sue Callaghan, Divisional Manager NPWS & Emmett Johnston, Park Manager**

**09.30 Nature for the People – Ray Ó Foghlú, Hometree**

*Discussion on the role of community, local custodianship & importance of bottom up nature restoration in an Irish context.*

**09.45 Natura Communities “Where Community Meets Landscape” – Hugh Tunney, Cairde na hEaragaile**

*A community-led approach to protecting and restoring nature, while supporting people and tourism.*

**10.00 Peat Resilience in Glenveagh National Park - Rory McKenna & Josphine Gallagher, ATU**

*An overview of the PEAT+ project and how it will benefit habitats, humans and research over the coming years.*

**10.15 Turning Darkness into Data - Daragh McDonough, IS Project Leader, Donegal County Council**

*Using Internet of Things technologies to gather evidence on a journey towards Dark Sky accreditation in County Donegal*

**10.30 Biodiversity Brunch in Nellies Restaurant Supported By Donegal County Council**

**11.30 “Na Fianna Óga – Young Ranger Éire” – Máire Nic Fhearraigh, Machaire Beo / LIFE on Machair**

*A community-led collaboration for future nature custodians “Mol an Óige le meas ar an Dúlra “*

**11.45 Glenveagh to Grab-and-Go: Turning Ecosystem Challenges into Opportunity - John Duffy, Wild&Co**

*Turning challenges of overgrazing around the Park into an opportunity to produce a modern, sustainable food solution.*

**12.00 Leave No Trace: a way for young people to care for nature - Aoibhín Ryan, Leave No Trace Ireland**

*How Leave No Trace can play a role in young people's lives in connecting and caring for nature.*

**12.15 Partnership Approaches to Art, Ecology and Nature Conservation - Seoidín O’Sullivan, NCAD**

*Celebrating Glenveagh’s collaboration with the National College of Art & Design*

**12.30 The Listening Bench - How It Came To Be – Roscoe Holt, ATU**

*How the principles of calm design allow technology and furniture to work with the landscape*

**12.45 Launch of Glenveagh National Park’s New Wildlife Maps - Robert Vaughan, Wildlife Artist**

# Le Chéile don Dúlra Together for Nature

Celebrating Glenveagh’s biodiversity through  
creativity, conversation and community



Páirc Náisiúnta Ghleann Bheatha  
Glenveagh National Park

# Natura 2000 Day 21 May 2026 Biodiversity Brunch & Networking

Take a break, enjoy live music in the Festival Marquee, wander around the Park, discuss the morning's talks & join us for further exploration of some of those topics.

## Optional Afternoon Walks & Conversations

**Woodland Walk About – What Native Woodland Restoration looks like in Glenveagh**  
Enjoy a walk to hear more in-depth insights into Glenveagh's plans for the expansion and renewal of native Irish woodlands throughout the Park. Learn about our work from seed collection to propagation, tree nursery development to new native plantations as well the challenges of deer management and invasive species control. Meet at the Bus Stop at 2.30pm

**Art, Biodiversity & Conservation: Can art play a role in helping people connect with and protect nature?**  
Come along for conversations with NCAD, our Artist in Residence, Barbara Sullivan and Creative Schools Programme members. Along with our expert Glenveagh Education staff we will share experiences, best practice and new ideas for nature awareness through art. Pull up a chair around the marquee stage at 3pm.

**Peat + and Glenveagh National Park**  
Join Glenveagh Conservation Staff, Peat + and ATU on a visit to some of the locations within the Park where peatland restoration is underway. Learn how this challenge is being undertaken and the plans for the future of this important habitat in the Park. How can we right the wrongs of the past and restore our beautiful bogs to the carbon holding wonders that they are?

**Is Nature Losing the Battle for Attention Today?**  
Join a discussion to learn how nature competes with online & social media ads designed to capture, hold & monetise on a daily basis. Attention has become a battleground.

This session will explore how storytelling, media & communication shape the way people see, value & act for nature. Drawing on real-world work across multiple sectors, we will unpack what actually drives attention & engagement, not in theory but in practice. We will also look at how we create the conditions for people to feel, imagine & connect plus the role communication can play in making that possible.

Expect honest insights and strong, real examples, the good, the bad and the genuinely effective, alongside practical ways to help nature-based initiatives break through crowded narratives and connect in ways that stick. We'll explore how communication can shift culture at scale, and discuss what needs to change if we're serious about accelerating nature restoration.

RSVP for Morning Talks & Afternoon Sessions to [N2000GNP@npws.gov.ie](mailto:N2000GNP@npws.gov.ie)

# Le Chéile don Dúlra Together for Nature

**Páirc Náisiúnta Ghleann Bheatha  
Glenveagh National Park**