

# Commonage



- Commonage land is land that is owned collectively or by one person over which other land persons have rights.
- These rights such as grazing rights are in common with other shareholders.
- Commonages are generally used for grazing or for turbarry cutting turf or peat.
- Grazing rights are allocated proportionate to the share of land owned.
- There is approximately 422,415 ha of commonage in Ireland. (CSO 2012)

Examples of commonages across Ireland include Owenduff catchment in Co. Mayo Twelve Bens/ Maumturks in Co. Galway , Cahal mountains in West Cork, the Galtees in Tipperary and Limerick, the Cooley peninsula in Co. Louth, the McGillicuddy Reeks in Co. Kerry



- In the 1980's & 1990's Commonages were overgrazed.
- Commonage framework management plans were put in place to protect the commonages.
- Over 4,500 commonage framework management plans are in place.



### Commonage framework management plans assess:

- Grazing levels- Plant litter levels, Damage around feed sites & water troughs
- Stocking levels
- Conservation value (Burren lowland grasslands)
- Any damaging activity to habitat such as burning, dumping.

