

THE HERITAGE COUNCIL
AN CHOMHAIRLE OIDHREACHTA



Proposing Policies and Priorities
for the National Heritage

**RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF A NATIONAL BIOLOGICAL
RECORDS CENTRE**

OCTOBER 2003

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*Distribution map of the Marsh Fritillary
courtesy of Butterfly Conservation*

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...our understanding of biodiversity is still relatively basic... we need to improve the quality of our biodiversity knowledge, and make it more relevant to human development



Mark Collins,
Director UNEP World Conservation
Monitoring Centre

FOREWORD

The availability of high quality and reliable information is one of the cornerstones of effective heritage conservation and management. All aspects of heritage management require information, be it for educational programmes to raise awareness of our heritage, or to ensure that large infra-structural projects are planned and constructed efficiently and according to principles of best practice.

One of the key performance areas identified by the Council in The Plan 2001- 2005 is the collection and dissemination of heritage information. The Council identified this as a priority work area as it recognised that in many areas an information deficit exists. This is nowhere more apparent than with the natural heritage.

The establishment of a National Biological Records Centre is an essential element in the management of information on Ireland's biological diversity. It would ensure that the existing information is managed effectively, it will make information more readily available to all interested parties, and it would stimulate interest in Ireland's rich natural heritage.

The recommendations contained in this policy paper set out how a National Biological Records Centre could be established, and identifies the resources needed. It is significant that these recommendations have widespread support from a range of state agencies, academic institutions and environmental non-governmental organisations. The Heritage Council looks forward to working with these partners and the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government in the establishment of a National Biological Records Centre.



Dr Tom O'Dwyer,
Chairperson



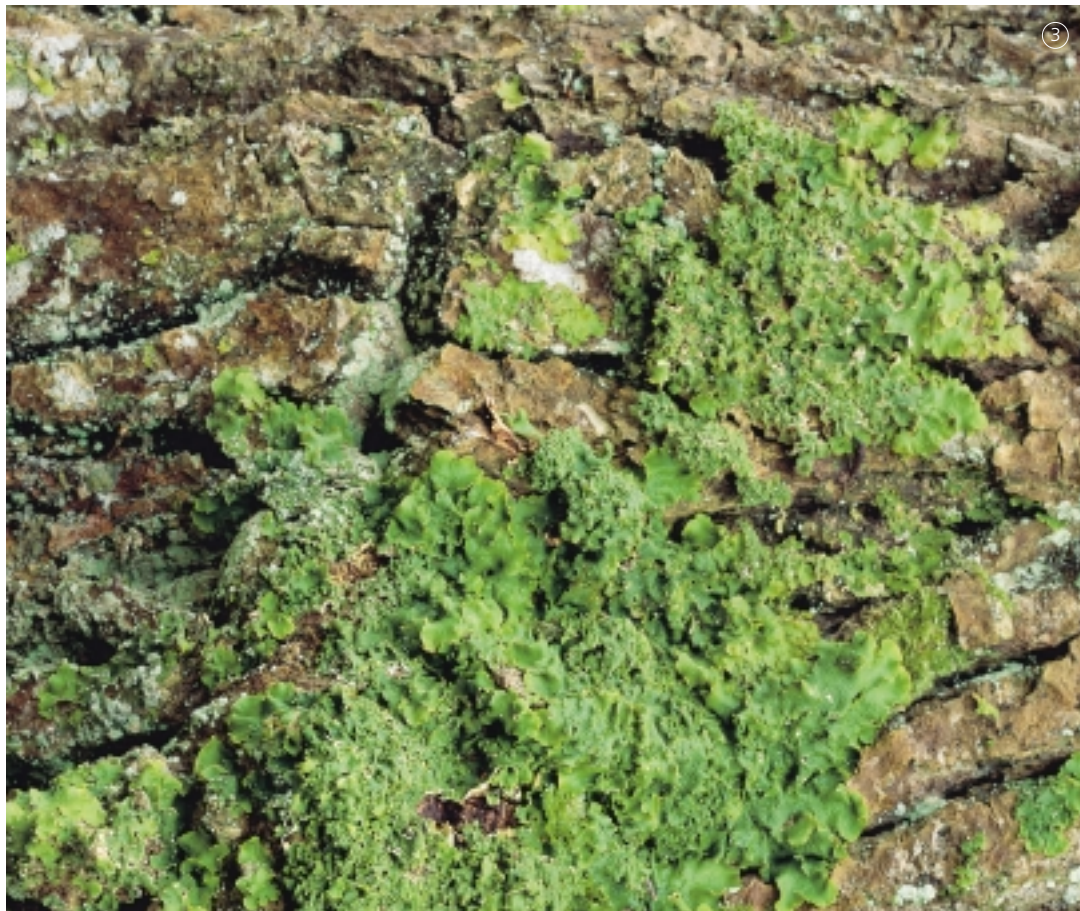
Mr. Michael Starrett
Chief Executive

October 2003



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Heritage Council is grateful for the assistance of a number of people in the development of these proposals. The proposals were developed by a Working Group comprised of Simon Berrow (Chair), Cornelius Breen, Liam Lysaght, Eilis Nic Donncha, Colman O Criodáin, Aileen O'Sullivan and Oran O'Sullivan. The development of these proposals built upon a study *Towards a National Framework for the Management of Biological Data* undertaken by Ecoscope Applied Ecologists on behalf of Council. The Heritage Council is appreciative of the enthusiasm and professionalism shown by Nathalie Stephenson and Philip McGowan in preparing this report. The Heritage Council also thanks all of those recorders who provided information on the databases they hold on different aspects of the natural heritage.



R A T I O N A L E

One of the actions contained in the National Biodiversity Plan is to 'put in place a national biological data management system to be co-ordinated by a National Biological Recording Centre' (Action 42).

A Biological Records Centre is needed to ensure the management of data on Ireland's biological diversity. Biological data provide information on:

- Where species and habitats occur
- Which areas are important for conservation
- How the status of species and habitats change over time.

Biological data can be used to assess the impact of changing land-uses. Information of this kind is required for:

- Decision making and policy formulation
- Research and monitoring
- Public awareness programmes.

Much of the existing biological information is currently held by different sources, and is not in a readily available format. The establishment of a Records Centre would greatly assist the more efficient use of available data. It would also facilitate the introduction of a more efficient planning process by ensuring that important information is available as and when decisions are taken. A Records Centre is essential for underpinning the implementation of the plans and programmes of government, such as the National Development Plan, the Sustainable Development Strategy, the Rural Development Plan and the National Heritage Plan, National Biodiversity Plan, and the Water Framework Directive.

The Environmental Protection Agency considers that a properly resourced central database is essential for the monitoring of species diversity (*Ireland's Environment – A Millennium Report 2000*). The Heritage Council proposes the establishment of such a central database.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF BIOLOGICAL DATA MANAGEMENT

The aims and objectives of biological data management are as follows.

- i. To manage collected data on the state of Ireland's biological diversity, with a view towards providing baseline and up-to-date information on the distribution and frequency of biota, both plant and animal, in Ireland.
- ii. To make these data available for the following uses:
 - The implementation of international conventions and European directives
 - Monitoring programmes
 - Distribution mapping
 - Publications
 - Future scientific programmes
 - Informing sustainable development planning
 - Documentation of ecological and biogeographical information.
- iii. To be a repository of data and respond to enquiries.
- iv. To provide information on where key datasets are held, what they contain, and who is the main contact for further information.
- v. To co-ordinate and build upon the current efforts of state agencies, NGOs, academic institutes, professional consultants and others to store and retrieve biological data.
- vi. To contribute to global initiatives such as Species 2000, European Network on Biodiversity Information, Global Biodiversity Information Facility, and to fulfil Ireland's legal obligations at an international level.
- vii. To stimulate interest in the living environment by encouraging the collection of biological data at national and local level.
- viii. To provide guidance on what data should be collected and how it should be stored.
- ix. To facilitate environmental education.

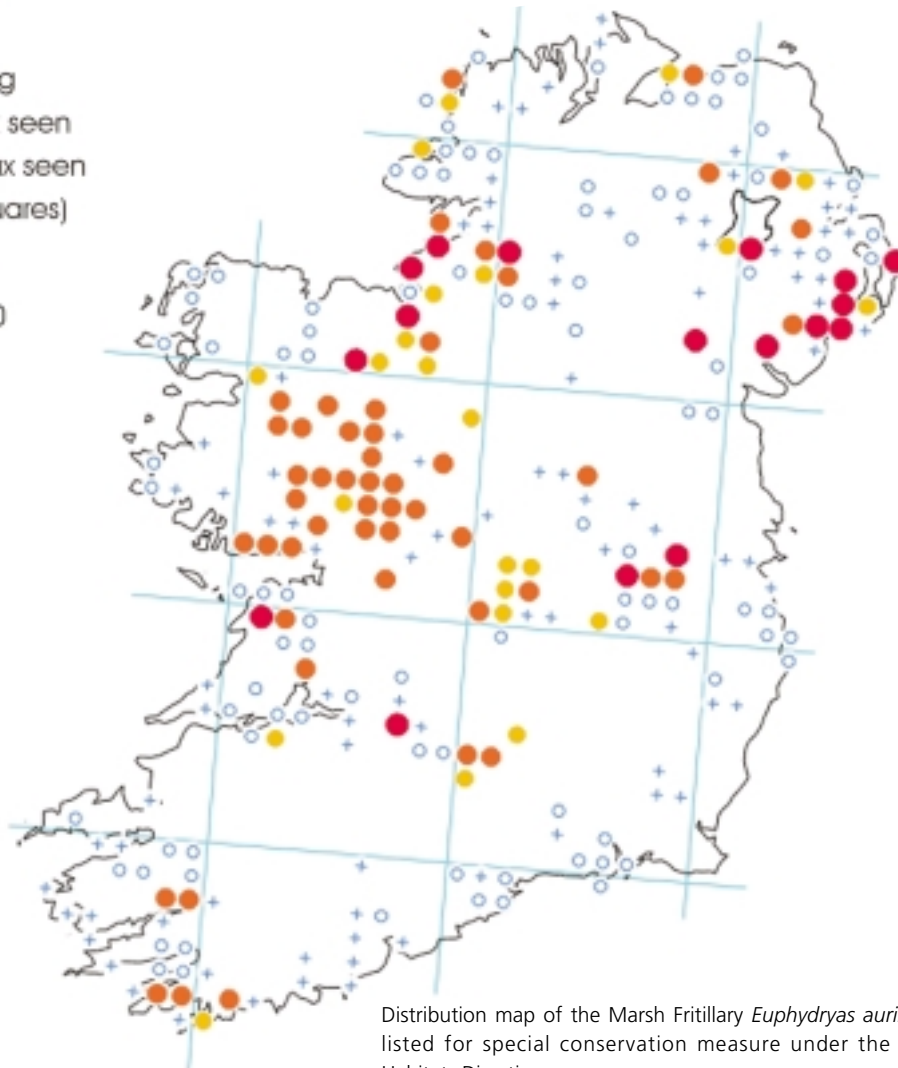
SCOPE

The scope of a Records Centre would include species and habitat information relating to the terrestrial, freshwater and marine environment. Interest in the marine would extend to the boundary of the potential Exclusive Economic Zone. The information managed by the Records Centre would link with earth science, landscape/seascape and other environmental data.

Marsh Fritillary *Euphydryas aurina*

1995-9

- 1 sighting
- 2-9 max seen
- 10+ max seen
(314 squares)
- 1970-82
- + Pre-1970



Distribution map of the Marsh Fritillary *Euphydryas aurina*, listed for special conservation measure under the EU Habitats Directive.

(From The Millennium Atlas of Butterflies in Britain and Ireland. 2001 Oxford University Press)

STRUCTURE

An independent Biological Records Centre would act as a central co-ordinating unit, where biological data from a variety of existing sources can be centralised in the short term. This does not mean that all data will need to be centralised; the intention is not to replace existing initiatives, but rather to co-ordinate and complement them. The Records Centre would develop strong links with existing bodies, such as the Botanic Gardens and the Natural History Museum, which currently are great sources of professional expertise and reference collections. It would also initiate new projects for the collection of biological data.

An independent Biological Records Centre would establish a specialist validation committee responsible for determining policy on quality assurance of records. Members of this committee would also adjudicate on specific queries.



LOCATION OF A NATIONAL BIOLOGICAL RECORDS CENTRE

The Records Centre must be established as a separate and independent entity, and managed by an appropriate, independent steering group. The steering group must be representative of the major users and suppliers of biological data, and will have a central role in driving the concept of a Biological Records Centre.

The Records Centre will have to be under the remit of one government department, the most appropriate being the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government. It must be clearly seen to be separate from the other areas of this department's functions and must have its funding clearly ring-fenced.

The establishment of a National Records Centre as a separate and independent entity, but supported by central government, is a common model for biological record centres in other European countries. Among the advantages of such a structure is that it facilitates the creation of a broadly representative and independent decision-making steering committee, it encourages greater participation by recorders in the work of the Records Centre, and it encourages staff to actively pursue additional funding sources for specific projects.

The establishment of a Records Centre will require a commitment to funding and must have suitably qualified permanent scientific staff. One of the initial tasks of any staff appointed to the Centre must be the early preparation of a plan for the Centre's development. This plan must be submitted for approval to the steering group.

R E S O U R C E S

The establishment of an effective Records Centre requires resources in two areas.

- Costs associated with the establishment and day-to-day running of a Records Centre
- Costs involved in undertaking and promoting data collection.

A Records Centre must employ full time professional staff. The staff must comprise a director, supported by three additional professionals, and appropriate administrative/technical support. The competencies required would include expertise in IT, botany, zoology, and marine ecology. To reflect the importance of this service, and the need to ensure data of the highest quality, the staff structure should include a director who would be employed at equivalent to Grade I, one Grade II, and two Grade III employees.

One of the most successful methods of data generation is through individual recording schemes. The costs associated with each recording scheme are currently estimated at between €20,000 and €30,000 per annum.

As an incentive for participation in data sharing by all recorders, a grant scheme should be established for joint purchase of computer hardware and software amongst accredited recorders to improve IT capabilities. These costs would be modest relative to the overall day-to-day costs associated with the Records Centre. A grants scheme of this kind would be cost effective as a great deal of data would be inputted in the correct format at the earliest stages, thus reducing the drain on the resources of the Records Centre.

The costs associated with the establishment of a Records Centre of the kind outlined above are approximately €673,000 in the first year, and just under €600,000 annually in subsequent years (An indicative breakdown of the costs is given in Appendix 1).

RELATIONSHIP WITH NORTHERN IRELAND, GREAT BRITAIN, OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, AND THE NORTH ATLANTIC AREA

In view of the special biological relationship between the Republic and Northern Ireland, the Records Centre must seek to build links with Northern Ireland with the objective of encouraging the sharing and presentation of data on an all-Ireland basis. This could be promoted as part of the ongoing North/South Initiative.

Experts visiting Ireland from abroad generate a considerable number of valuable biological records, which are invariably held abroad and generally not easily available to Irish users. The contribution of these visiting experts is welcome, and they should be encouraged to lodge all their Irish data in the National Records Centre.

The Records Centre will develop relationships with recording initiatives in other jurisdictions; however, collaborative initiatives should only be developed on a partnership basis.

The Records Centre must work within the remit of the Sub-committee on Biological Recording (ScoBR) of the International Designations Group (IDG) to facilitate effective co-ordination of biological recording initiatives between the Republic of Ireland, Northern Ireland, and Great Britain. The Centre must also participate in other relevant European initiatives, which seek to promote the more effective co-ordination of biological data management.



ACCESS TO DATA AND THE RIGHTS OF DATA OWNERS

It is recognised that biological data have a value, and there are rights associated with ownership of those data. However, as data collectors are largely motivated by nature conservation, it is important that these data are managed in a manner that promotes nature conservation. The establishment of a Records Centre can support this role so that there are altruistic reasons for submitting biological records.

There is an understanding that any data submitted to a Records Centre will be freely available, unless the data collector seeks special conditions for the release of those data. If such requests are made, the Records Centre should make every effort to accommodate them. Recorders who submit data to the Records Centre should, in return, be able to view their data in context at a national level.

The Records Centre should adopt the custodianship principles outlined by World Conservation Monitoring Centre, subject to some modifications.

The responsibilities and rights of data owners and users as agreed are:

Responsibilities

- To build a dataset; with partners, as appropriate
- To respect the intellectual property and other rights of data owners and suppliers
- To maintain a dataset; keeping it up-to-date, assuring its quality, keeping it abreast of standards and best practice, and restructuring it as necessary
- To secure a dataset; ensuring physical integrity from loss or damage, including unauthorised access
- To provide appropriate documentation of the dataset (Metadata)
- To provide appropriated access to a dataset (by legitimate users following agreed protocols, and having regard to the conservation requirements of protected species)
- To provide advice on appropriate users of a dataset
- To provide advice on suggested unwise or improper use of a dataset
- To co-ordinate further development of a dataset with appropriate partners and with guidance from key users



Rights

- To regulate access depending on category of user
- To safeguard intellectual property; requiring acknowledgement, regulating copying or further distribution
- To recover costs as appropriate: market value, original investment, or marginal cost of supply

Adoption of these principles must be matched by appropriate agreements with all data owners. These agreements must address issues of confidentiality (if appropriate), and the conditions under which data can be released. It should be noted that Access to Information on the Environment Regulations (1993) apply to public bodies, but that any data supplied voluntarily to such a body is exempt.

Where the Records Centre might act as a portal for access to existing datasets, the adoption of these principles by existing data holders will be promoted. To ensure that the Records Centre is established with correct procedures, one of the initial tasks will be the preparation of a records and archival policy for managing electronic and paper records. Specialised advice in this area must be commissioned at the outset to guide the establishment of the Centre.



ENCOURAGING PARTICIPATION IN A BIOLOGICAL RECORDS CENTRE AND THE GREATER USE OF BIOLOGICAL DATA.

The Records Centre must provide support and incentives for existing data record holders to share their data, and must make those data more widely available. The principal incentive provided by the Records Centre is the provision, free of charge, of presentations of the data submitted by all recorders, shown in a national, regional or local context, as appropriate. Support and advice must also be made available to recorders who wish to publish records of note. The establishment of a grants scheme would provide financial assistance to accredited recorders to improve their IT capabilities.

There is currently a pressing need to assist key data holders to computerise their records, and to encourage the inclusion of biological data in existing schemes and inventories. As a first stage in this process, priority should be given to working with agencies where current data storage is such a low priority that information is being lost. The Records Centre would offer training in methods of biological data management to these agencies, which would ensure greater efficiency, and reduce the risk of data being lost.

Opportunities also exist to promote the collection of biological data as part of existing schemes and inventories. Enhancing the collection of biological data in schemes such as the Rural Environment Protection Scheme, and inventories such as the Forestry Inventory, can only benefit these projects. Also, the implementation of the Water Framework Directive will require the establishment of a comprehensive data collection and management system for river basins. The establishment of a Biological Records Centre can greatly assist the more effective development of these and similar initiatives.

APPENDIX I. INDICATIVE ANNUAL BUDGET OF A RECORDS CENTRE

SET UP COSTS (CAPITAL)

Trealamh	€19,000
Photocopier (high spec, black & white)	12,000
LCD Projector & Cameras	6,000
Fax	1,000
Computer equipment	€31,000
Server	4,000
PCs (5) & Laptops (2)	13,000
Printers (3) & Scanner	4,000
Software (GIS) incl. licences	10,000
Office furniture	€12,000
Chairs, tables, PC stands, filing cabinets, kitchen etc.	
Initial set-up costs	€12,000
Wiring of offices for PC equipment & server installation	5,000
Miscellaneous	7,000
Records and Archival advice	€8,000
Commission advice to guide best practice on archives	
Sub-total:	€82,000

ANNUAL RUNNING COSTS

Staff costs	€305,000
Salaries (incl. PRSI & Pension)	
Director – Grade I	70,000
Profession Officer – Grade II	50,000
Professional Officers – Grade III (2)	75,000
Technical/secretarial support	40,000
Travel and subsistence	20,000
Training and development (5% of payroll)	10,000
Contract data processors	40,000
Steering Committee	€6,000
Quarterly meetings- mileage, room hire, meals, etc.	
Establishment expenses	€65,000
Rent and service charges	40,000
Power, heat and light	6,000
Canteen, catering & cleaning	5,000
Repairs and maintenance	4,000
Insurance	10,000
Office supplies and administration	€65,000
Telephone and postage	15,000
Stationery and printing	20,000
Library	3,000
Computer supplies and maintenance	7,000
Legal, professional & consultancy fees	20,000
Promoting and encouraging recording	€150,000
Establishing specific recording scheme	50,000
Recorders' grant scheme (50% grants for IT and software)	50,000
Publications & promotional material	50,000

Sub-total €591,000

TOTAL COSTS €673 000

These proposals are supported by the following organisations:

- The Environmental Protection Agency
- The Forest Service – Department of Marine and Natural Resources,
- Teagasc
- Coillte
- National Roads Authority
- The National Botanic Gardens
- The National Herbarium
- The Martin Ryan Institute, NUI Galway
- Environmental Change Institute, NUI Galway
- Coastwatch
- Royal Irish Academy – National Committee on Biology
- Irish Whale and Dolphin Group
- An Taisce
- Friends of the Irish Environment
- National Association of Regional Game Councils
- Environmental Sciences Association of Ireland
- Department of Zoology and Animal Ecology, University College Cork
- Applied Ecology Unit, Centre for Environmental Science, NUI, Galway
- Faculty of Science, University College Dublin
- Irish Wildlife Trust
- BirdWatch Ireland

THE HERITAGE COUNCIL

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AN CHOMHAIRLE OIDHREACHTA



Ag moladh Polasaithe agus Tosaíochtaí
don Oidhreacht Náisiúnta

**MOLTAÍ
LE HAGHAIDH BHUNÚ
IONAD NÁISIÚNTA
DO THAIFID BITHEOLAÍOCHTA**

DEIREADH FÓMHAIR 2003

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Gach ceart ar cosnamh.

Foilsithe ag an gComhairle Oidhreachta.

Deartha agus Táirgthe ag B. Magee Design.

Griangrafanna le Robert Thompson.

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le caoinchead Butterfly Conservation.*

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“

*...tá ár dtuiscint ar bhithéagsúlacht sách
bunúsach go fóill... is gá caighdeán an eolais atá
againn ar an mbitheolaíocht a fheabhsú, agus é a
dhéanamh níos ábharthaí ó thaobh na
daonfhorbartha de*”

Mark Collins,
Stiúrthóir UNEP Ionad Monatóireachta
an Chaomhantais Dhomhanda

R É A M H R Á

Ceann de na clocha coirnéil a bhaineann le caomhnú agus bainistiú éifeachtach na hoidhreachta ná go mbeadh teacht ar fhaisnéis atá ar ardchaighdeán agus iontaofa. Éilíonn gach gné de bhainistiú na hoidhreachta faisnéis, bíodh sí do chlár oideachasúla a chothóidh aird ar ár n-oidhrecht, nó lena chinntiú go bpleanálfaid agus go dtógfaid mórthionscadail bonneagair ar bhealach éifeachtach agus de réir na bprionsabal sárchleachtais.

Ceann de na príomhréimsí feidhmíochta a d'aithin an Chomhairle sa Phlean 2001-2005 ná bailiú agus scaipeadh faisnéise faoin oidhrecht. D'aithin an Chomhairle seo mar réimse tosaíochta oibre, toisc go bhfeictear go bhfuil easpa faisnéise ann i mórán réimsí. Níl áit is folasaí seo ná i gcás na hoidhreachta nádúrtha.

Gné bhunúsach de bhainistiú faisnéise faoi éagsúlacht bitheolaíochta na hÉireann ná go mbunófaid Ionad Náisiúnta do Thaifid Bitheolaíochta. Chinnteodh sé seo go ndéanfaid an faisnéis atá againn a bhainistiú go héifeachtach, d'éascódh sé soláthar faisnéise do gach páirtí leasmhar, agus chothódh sé spéis in oidhrecht shaibhir nádúrtha na hÉireann.

Luann na moltaí sa pháipéar polasaí seo conas a bhunófaid Ionad Náisiúnta do Thaifid Bitheolaíochta agus aithníonn sé na hacmhainní a bheadh riachtanach chuige. Díol suntais é go bhfuil tacaíocht leathan ag na moltaí seo ó raon gníomhaireachtaí stáit, ó institiúidí acadúla agus ó eagraíochtaí comhshaoil neamh-rialtasacha. Tá an Chomhairle Oidhreachta ag tnúth le bheith ag obair leis na comhpháirtithe seo agus leis an Roinn Comhshaoil, Oidhreachta agus Rialtais Áitiúil d'fhonn Ionaid Náisiúnta na dTaifead Bitheolaíochta a bhunú.



Dr Tom O'Dwyer,
Chairperson
Cathaoirleach



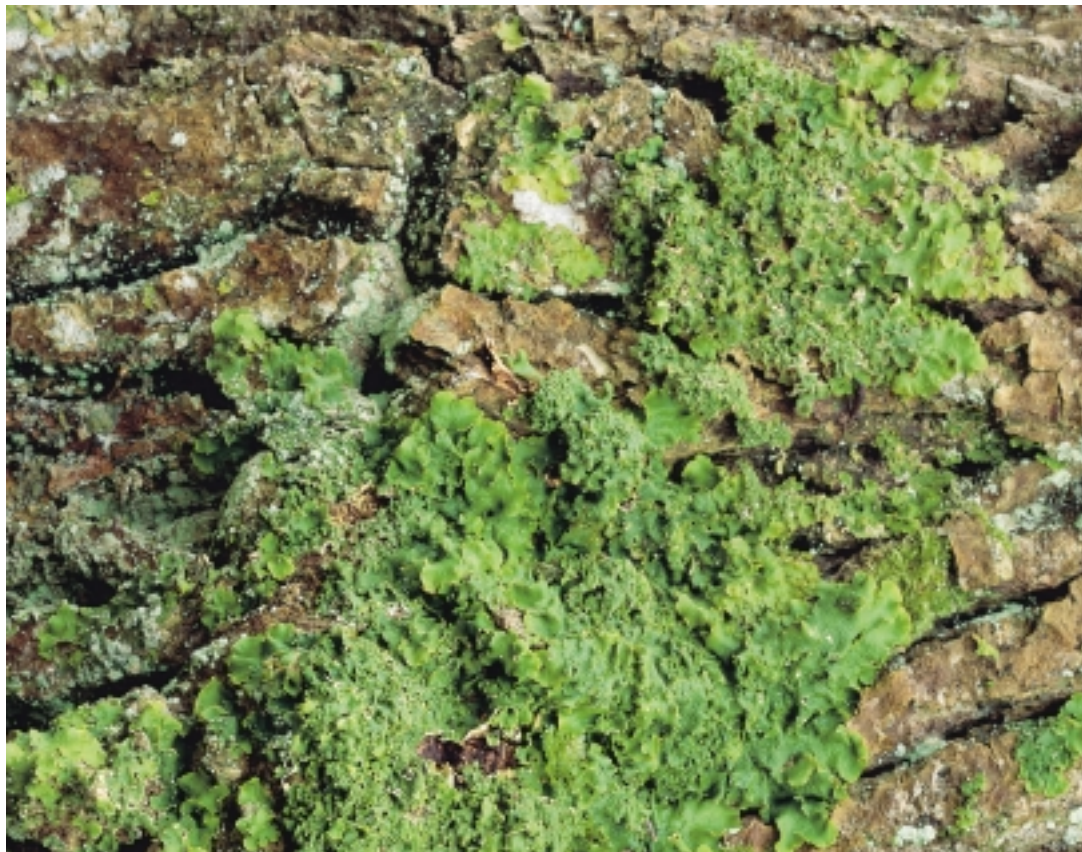
Mr. Michael Starrett
Chief Executive
Príomhfheidhmeannach

Deireadh Fómhair 2003



ADMHÁLACHA

Tá an Chomhairle Oidhreachta buíoch as an gcabhair a chuir daoine áirithe ar fáil chun na moltaí seo a fhorbairt. Grúpa Oibre comhdhéanta de Simon Berrow (Cathaoir), Cornelius Breen, Liam Lysaght, Éilis Nic Dhonncha, Colmán Ó Críodáin, Aileen O'Sullivan agus Oran O'Sullivan a rinne amhlaidh. Forbraíodh na moltaí ar bhonn an staidéir "Towards a National Framework for the Management of Biological Data", a rinne EcoScope Applied Ecologists thar ceann na Comhairle. Is mór leis an gComhairle Oidhreachta an díograis a léirigh Nathalie Stephenson agus Philip McGowan agus iad ag ullmhú na tuairisce seo. Ba mhian leis an gComhairle Oidhreachta, freisin, buíochas a ghabháil leis na cláraitheoirí uile a thug eolas faoi na bunachair sonraí atá acu i dtaobh gnéithe éagsúla den oidhreacht nádúrtha.



R É A S Ú N A Í O C H T

Ceann de na gníomhartha a luaitear sa Phlean Náisiúnta Bithéagsúlachta ná ‘bunú córais náisiúnta um bhainistiú sonraí bitheolaíochta, a chomhordódh Ionad Náisiúnta do Thaifid Bitheolaíochta’ (Gníomh 42).

Tá gá le hIonad do Thaifid Bitheolaíochta d’fhonn a chinntiú go ndéanfar bainistíocht ar shonraí faoi éagsúlacht bhitheolaíoch na hÉireann. Tugann sonraí na bitheolaíochta faisnéis ar an méid seo a leanas:

- Áiteanna ina mbíonn speicis agus gnáthóga
- Áiteanna atá tábhachtach ó thaobh chaomhantais de
- An tslí a athraíonn stádas na speiceas agus na ngnáthóg thar thréimhse.

Is féidir sonraí bitheolaíochta a úsáid chun tionchar an athraithe ar úsáid na talún a mheas. Bíonn eolas dá shórt de dhíth i dtaca le:

- Cinnteoireacht agus cumadh polasaí
- Taighde agus monatóireacht
- Cláir feasachta don phobal.

Go leor den fhaisnéis bhitheolaíoch atá againn, coinnítear í ag foinsí éagsúla agus níl sí i bhformáid inar féidir í a sholáthar go héasca. Chuideodh bunú Ionaid Taifead go mór le húsáid níos fearr a bhaint as na sonraí atá ar fáil. D’éascódh sé an bealach do phróisis phleanála níos éifeachtaí, freisin, trína chinntiú go mbeidh eolas tábhachtach ar fáil nuair a bhíonn cinntí á nglacadh. Tá Ionad Taifead riachtanach mar thacaíocht d’fheidhmiú pleananna agus cláir an rialtais mar atá, an Plean Forbartha Náisiúnta, an Straitéis um Fhorbairt Inbhuanaithe, An Plean Forbartha Tuaithe, An Plean Náisiúnta Bitheolaíochta, Plean na hOidhreachta Náisiúnta agus Treoir an Chreata Uisce.

Measann an Ghníomhaireacht um Chaomhnú an Chomhshaoil go bhfuil fíorghá le lárbhunachar sonraí leis na hacmhainní cuí chun monatóireacht a dhéanamh ar éagsúlacht speiceas (Comhshaol na hÉireann – Tuairisc Mhílaoise 2000). Molann an Chomhairle Oidhreachta go mbunófaí lárbhunachar sonraí dá shórt.

AIDHMEANNA AGUS CUSPÓIRÍ A BHAINNEANN LE BAINISTIÚ SONRAÍ BITHEOLAÍOCHA

Is iad na haidhmeanna agus na cuspóirí a baineann le bainistiú sonraí bitheolaíocha:

i. Na sonraí a bailíodh faoin staid ina bhfuil éagsúlacht bhitheolaíoch na hÉireann a bhainistiú, d'fhonn faisnéis bunlíne nuashonraithe a sholáthar maidir le scaipeadh agus minicíocht biothra, idir phlandaí agus ainmhithe, in Éirinn.

ii. Na sonraí seo a chur ar fáil do na húsáidí a leanas:

- Feidhmiú na gcoinbhinsiún idirnáisiúnta agus na dtreoracha ón Eoraip
- Monatóireacht ar chláir
- Léarscálaíocht an dáileacháin
- Foilseacháin
- Cláir eolaíocha sa todhchaí
- Foirmiú a dhéanamh ar phleanáil forbartha inbhuanaithe
- Doiciméadú na faisnéise éiceolaíochta agus bithgheografaíochta.

iii. A bheith ina stór sonraí agus ina áis freagartha ar fhiosruithe.

iv. Eolas a sholáthar ar an ionad ina gcoinnítear na príomhthacair sonraí, ar a bhfuil iontu agus ar an bpríomhtheagmhálaí a thabharfadh eolas breise.

v. Comhordú a dhéanamh agus tógáil ar iarrachtaí reatha na ngníomhaireachtaí stáit, na nEagraíochtaí Neamh-Rialtasacha (NGOs), institiúidí acadúla, comhairleoirí gairmiúla agus daoine eile chun sonraí bitheolaíocha a stóráil agus a aisghabháil.

vi. Cur le tionscnaimh dhomhanda mar, Speicis 200, An Gréasán Eorpach um Fhaisnéis Bithéagsúlachta, An Áis Faisnéise um Bithéagsúlacht Domhanda, agus le comhlíonadh dualgais dhlíthiúla na hÉireann ag an leibhéal idirnáisiúnta.

vii. Spéis a chothú sa chomhshaol maireachtála trí bhailiú sonraí bitheolaíocha a spreagadh ag an leibhéal náisiúnta agus áitiúil.

viii. Treoir a sholáthar faoi na sonraí is cóir a bhailiú agus an dóigh inar chóir iad a stóráil.

ix. Oideachais comhshaoil a éascú.

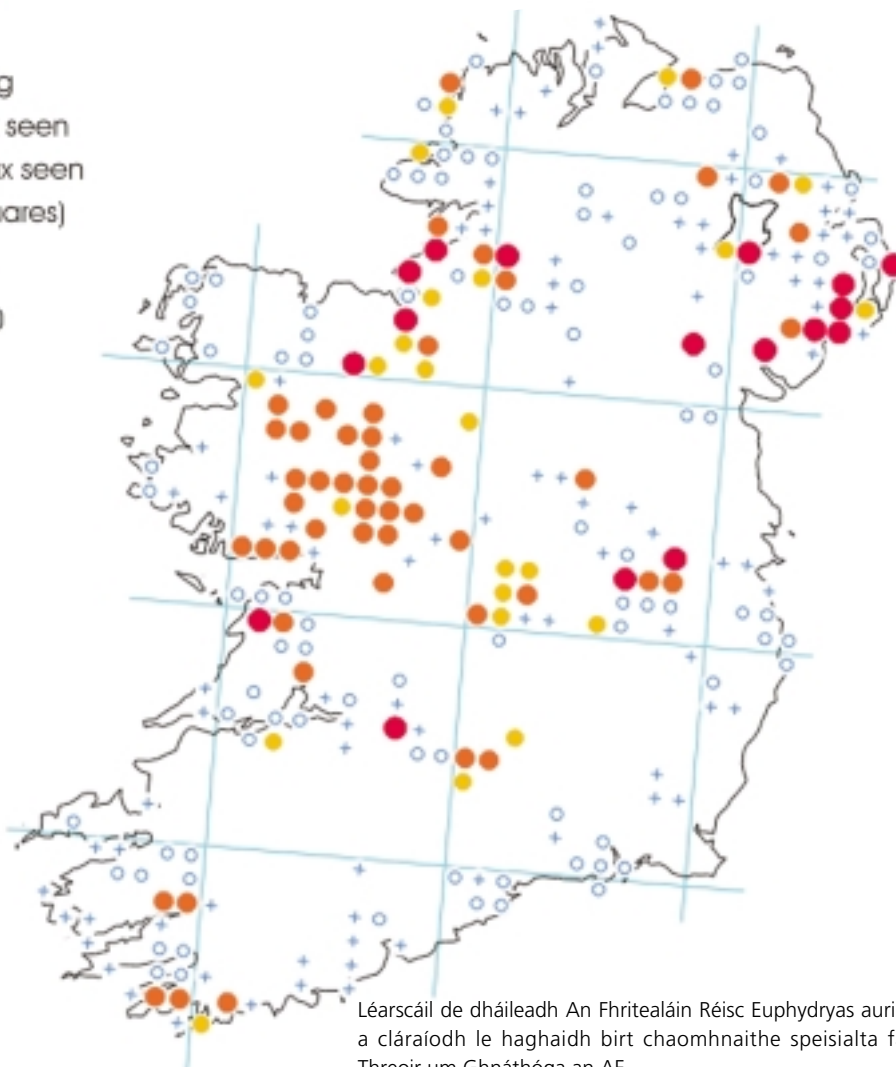
SCÓIP

Chuimseodh scóip lonad na dTaifead faisnéis faoi speicis agus gnáthóga a bhaineann leis an gcomhshaol talmhaí, fíoruisce agus muirí. Leathnódh spéis sa chomhshaol muirí chomh fada le teorainn fhéideartha an Chreasa Eisiaigh Eacnamaíochta. Nascfaí an t-eolas a bheadh á bhainistiú ag lonad na dTaifead le sonraí maidir le heolaíocht talún, tírdhreach / muirdhreach agus le sonraí eile comhshaoil.

Marsh Fritillary *Euphydryas aurina*

1995-9

- 1 sighting
- 2-9 max seen
- 10+ max seen
(314 squares)
- 1970-82
- + Pre-1970



Léarscáil de dháileadh An Fhrithéaláin Réisc *Euphydryas aurina*, a cláraíodh le haghaidh birt chaomhnaithe speisialta faoi Threoir um Ghnáthóga an AE.

(Ón Millenium Atlas of Butterflies in Britain and Ireland, 2001 Oxford University Press.)

STRUCHTÚR

D'fheidhmeodh Ionad do Thaifid Bitheolaíochta mar láraonad comhordaithe neamhspleách, ina bhféadfaí sonraí bitheolaíochta as foinsí éagsúla láithreacha a lárú sa ghearrthréimhse. Ní chiallaíonn sin gur ghá na sonraí uile a lárú; níl sé i gceist na tionscnamh reatha a dhíothú, ach iad a chomhordú agus a chomhlánú. Chothódh Ionad Taifead naisc láidre le comhlachtaí atá ann cheana, ar nós Gháirdíní na Lus agus Mhúsaem Stair an Dúlra, atá ina mórfhoinsí saineolais ghairmiúil agus ina mbailiúchán tagartha faoi láthair. Thionscódh sé, freisin, tionscadail nua chun sonraí bitheolaíocha a bhailiú.

Chuirfeadh Ionad do Thaifid Bitheolaíochta neamhspleách sainchoiste dearbhaithe ar bun a bheadh freagrach as polasaí maidir le ráthú chaighdeán na dtaifead. Thabharfadh baill an choiste seo breith, freisin, ar fhiosruithe saineolaí.



SUÍOMH AN IONaid NÁISIÚNTA DO THAIFID BITHEOLAÍOCHTA

Ba ghá Ionad Taifead a bhunú mar aonán neamhspleách ar leith, á bhainistiú ag grúpa stiúrtha cuí a bheadh neamhspleách. Ba ghá go mbeadh ionadaithe ó na húsáideoirí agus ó sholáthróirí móra na sonraí bitheolaíocha ar an ngrúpa stiúrtha, agus go mbeadh ról lárnach acu i gcur chun cinn choincheap Ionad na dTaifead Bitheolaíochta.

Níor mhór d'Ionad Taifead a bheith faoi théarmaí tagartha roinne rialtais amháin, agus is í an Roinn Comhshaoil, Oidhreacht agus Rialtais Áitiúil ab oiriúnaí chuige. Chaithfeadh sé a bheith soiléir gur ar leith ó fheidhmeanna eile na roinne atá sé, agus chaithfí imfhálú soiléir a dhéanamh ar a mhaoiniú.

Is eiseamlár coitianta é ag ionaid na dtaifead bitheolaíochta i dtíortha Eorpacha eile, Ionad Náisiúnta Taifead a bhunú mar aonán neamhspleách ar leith, ach tacaíocht an Rialtais láir a bheith ann dó. Tá sé ar cheann de bhuntáistí struchtúir dá shórt go n-éascaíonn sé bunú coiste stiúrtha atá leathan-ionadach neamhspleách chun cinnteoireacht a dhéanamh, go spreagann sé páirteachas breise na gcláraitheoirí in obair an Ionaid Taifead, agus spreagann sé an fhoireann chun dul ar thóir foinsí breise airgid do thionscadail ar leith.

Éileoidh bunú Ionaid Taifead go mbeidh tiomantas ann dá mhaoiniú agus do sholáthar buanfhoirne eolaíochta a bheidh cáilithe go cuí. An chéad ghnó don fhoireann a cheapfar ná plean forbartha don Ionad a ullmhú go luath. Chaithfí an plean seo a chur faoi bhráid an ghrúpa stiúrtha.

ACMHAINNÍ

Éilíonn bunú Ionaid Taifead éifeachtach acmhainní i dhá réimse:

- Costais a bhaineann le bunú agus reáchtáil laethúil an Ionaid Taifead
- Costais a bhaineann le bailiú sonraí agus leis sin a chothú.

Ní mór d'Ionad Taifead buanfhoireann lánaimseartha ghairmiúil a fhostú. Caithfidh an foireann a bheith comhdhéanta de stiúrthóir, le triúir gairmithe breise ann mar thaca, agus leis an tacaíocht chuí riaracháin / teicneolaíochta. Ar na cumais ba ghá a bheith acu tá, saineolas ar TF, luibheolaíocht, zó-eolaíocht agus éiceolaíocht mhuirí. Mar léiriú ar thábhacht na seirbhíse seo, agus ar an ngá atá ann sárchaighdeán sonraí a chinntiú, ba chóir go gcuimseodh struchtúr na foirne stiúrthóir a fhostófaí ag leibhéal cothrom le Grád I, fostaí ag Grád II agus beirt fhostaí ag Grád III.

Ceann de na modhanna is rathúla le sonraí a ghiniúint ná trí scéimeanna taifeadta ar leith. Meastar go mbeadh na costais a bhaineann le gach scéim taifeadta faoi láthair idir €20,000 agus €30,000 sa bhliain.

Mar spreagadh do gach cláraitheoir a bheith páirteach i roinnt na sonraí, ba chóir scéim deontais a bhunú chun gur féidir le cláraitheoirí creidiúnaithe crua-earraí agus bogearraí ríomhaireachta a chomhcheannach, d'fhonn a n-acmhainní TF a fheabhsú.

Bheadh na costais seo sách beag i gcomórtas leis na forchostais laethúla a bhainfeadh leis an Aonad Taifead. Bheadh scéim deontais dá sórt costas-éifeachtach, mar go mbeadh mórán de na sonraí á gcur san fhormáid cheart ó thús, rud a laghdódh idiú ar acmhainní an Ionaid Taifead.

Is iad na costais a bhainfeadh le bunú Ionaid Taifead den sórt a léirítear thuas ná, thart ar €673,000 sa chéad bhliain, agus rud beag faoi €600,000 p.a. sna blianta dár gcionn. (Tugtar miondealú comharthach ar na costais in Aguisín I).

AN GAOL LE TUAISCEART ÉIREANN, LEIS AN mBREATAIN MHÓR, LE TÍORTHA EILE NA HEORPA, AGUS LE CEANTAR AIGÉIN AN ATLANTAIGH THUaidh

Toisc go bhfuil gaol speisialta idir an Poblacht agus Tuaisceart Éireann, níor mhór d'Ionad Taifead féachaint le naisc a chruthú le Tuaisceart Éireann, d'fhone roinnt agus léiriú sonraí ar bhonn Uile-Éireann a spreagadh. D'fhéadfaí seo a chur chun cinn mar chuid den Tionscnamh leanúnach Thuaidh / Theas.

Soláthraíonn saineolaithe eachtracha a thugann cuairt ar Éirinn líon measartha mór de thaifid luachmhara bitheolaíochta, a choinnítear thar lear de ghnáth agus nach mbíonn ar fáil ag úsáideoirí Éireannacha. Bíonn fáilte roimh chabhair na gcuariteoirí saineolaíocha seo, agus is cóir iad a spreagadh chun na sonraí Éireannacha atá acu a chur isteach in Ionad Náisiúnta na dTaifead.

Déanfaidh an tIonad Taifead gaol a chothú le tionscnaimh taifeadta i ndlínsí eile; ach, is ar bhonn comhpháirtíochta amháin is cóir tionscnaimh chomhoibrithe a fhorbairt.

Ní mór don Ionad Taifead oibriú laistigh de théarmaí tagartha an Fhochoiste um Thaifeadú Bitheolaíochta (ScoBR) den Ghrúpa Idirnáisiúnta Sonrúcháin (IDG), d'fhone comhordú éifeachtach a éascú do thionscnaimh taifeadta bitheolaíochta idir Poblacht na hÉireann, Tuaisceart Éireann agus an Bhreatain Mhór. Níor mhór don Ionad a bheith rannpháirteach i dtionscnaimh Eorpacha eile atá ábhartha agus atá ag iarraidh comhordú níos éifeachtaí a chothú ar bhainistiú sonraí bitheolaíocha.



ROCHTAIN AR SHONRAÍ AGUS CEARTA NA nÚINÉIRÍ SONRAÍ

Aithnítear go bhfuil luach ag baint le sonraí bitheolaíochta, agus go bhfuil cearta ag gabháil le húinéireacht na sonraí sin. Ós rud gurb é caomhnú an dúlra is mó a spreagann bailitheoirí sonraí, áfach, tá sé tábhachtach go ndéanfar na sonraí seo a bhainistiú ar bhealach a chuireann caomhnú an dúlra chun cinn. Is féidir le bunú Ionad Taifead tacú leis an ról seo ar shlí go mbeidh cúiseanna altrúíocha ann le taifid bhitheolaíocha a chur isteach.

Tá an tuiscint ann go mbeifear in ann teacht go héasca ar shonraí a chuirtear isteach in Ionad Taifead, ach amháin sa chás go n-iarrann bailitheoir sonraí go mbeadh coinníollacha speisialta ann leis na sonraí a scaoileadh. Ba chóir go ndéanfaidh Ionad Taifead gach iarracht chun freastail ar iarrataí dá sórt. Ba chóir, freisin, go bhféadfadh cláraitheoirí a chuireann sonraí isteach in Ionad Taifead a bheith ábalta iad a bhreithniú i gcomhthéacs an leibhéil náisiúnta.

Ba chóir d'Ionad Taifead glacadh leis na prionsabail caomhnóireachta atá leagtha amach ag an Ionad Monatóireachta um Chaomhnú Domhanda, faoi réir roinnt mionathruithe.

Is iad dualgais agus cearta na n-úinéirí agus na n-úsáideoirí sonraí, mar a aontaíodh iad, ná:

Dualgais

- Tacar sonraí a thógáil; le comhpháirtithe, mar is cuí
- Meas a léiriú ar mhaoin intleachta agus ar chearta eile na n-úinéirí agus na soláthróirí sonraí
- Tacar sonraí a chothabháil; é a choinneáil nuashonraithe, a chaighdeán a dhearbhu, é a choinneáil ar chomhchéim le caighdeáin agus sárchleachtais, agus é a athstruchtúru mar is gá
- Tacar sonraí a chaomhnú; ag cinntiú go bhfuil sé saor go fisiciúil ó chailliúint nó dhamáiste, lena n-áirítear rochtain air gan chead
- Doiciméadú cuí a sholáthar ar an tacar sonraí (Meiteasonraí)
- Rochtain cuí a sholáthar ar thacar sonraí (ag úsáideoirí dlisteanacha a leanann prótacail chomhaontaithe, agus le haire ar riachtanais chaomhnaithe na speiceas atá á gcosaint)
- Comhairle a thabhairt faoi na húsáideoirí is cuí a bheith ag tacar sonraí
- Comhairle a thabhairt faoi úsáid mhíchiallmhar nó mhíchuí an tacaí sonraí
- Forbairt bhreise ar thacar sonraí a chomhordú le comhpháirtithe agus le treoir na bpríomh-úsáideoirí.



Cearta

- Rochtain a rialú faoi réir chatagóir an úsáideora
- Maoin intleachtúil a chosaint; rud a éilíonn admháil, rialú na cóipeála nó an scaipthe bhreise
- Costais a athghabháil mar is cuí; luach an mhargaidh, tús-infheistíocht, nó imeallchostas soláthair.

Is gá go mbeadh comhaontú cuí le gach úinéir sonraí, ag gabháil le comhlíonadh na bprionsabal seo. Caithfidh na conarthaí déileáil le ceistanna rúndachta (más cuí), agus leis na coinníollacha faoinar féidir sonraí a scaoileadh. Is cóir go dtabharfaí faoi deara go mbaineann na Rialacháin maidir le Rochtain ar Fhaisnéis faoin gComhshaol (1993) le comhlachtaí poiblí, ach go bhfuil sonraí a thugtar go deonach díolmhaithe.

Sa chás gur féidir leis an Ionad Taifead feidhmiú mar dhoras rochtana do thacair sonraí láithreacha, cothófar comhlíonadh na bprionsabal seo ag sealbhóirí sonraí láithreacha. D’fhonn a chinntiú go mbunófar Ionad Taifead leis na gnáthaimh chearta, is cóir tosú le hullmhú na dtaifead agus le hullmhú an pholasaí chartlannaíochta faoi bainistiú taifead leictreonach agus páipéir. Ba ghá sainchomhairle a choimisiúnú sa réimse seo ar dtús, d’fhonn bunú an lonaid a threorú.

COTHÚ AN PHÁIRTEACHAIS SAN IONAD DO THAIFID BITHEOLAÍOCHTA AGUS IN ÚSÁID BHREISE NA SONRAÍ BITHEOLAÍOCHA.



Ní mór d'Ionad Taifead tacaíocht agus dreasachtaí a sholáthar do shealbhóirí láithreacha thaifid na sonraí chun go ndéanfaidh siad na sonraí a roinnt agus a chur ar fáil ar bhonn níos leithne. An phríomhdhreasacht a sholathraíonn Ionad Taifead ná léirithe saor in aisce a chur ar fáil de na sonraí a thairgeann cláraitheoirí, á dtaispeáint i gcomhthéacs náisiúnta, réigiúnach nó áitiúil, mar is cuí. Ní mór tacaíocht agus comhairle a thairiscint freisin do chláraitheoirí ar mian leo taifid shuntasacha a fhoilsiú. Trí scéim deontais a bhunú, d'fhéadfaí cabhair airgid a sholáthar do chláraitheoirí creidiúnaithe d'fhonn a gcumais i gcúrsaí TF a fheabhsú.

Tá sé práinneach faoi láthair go dtabharfaí cabhair do shealbhóirí sonraí a gcuid taifead a ríomhairiú, agus go spreagfaí cuimsiú na sonraí bitheolaíocha i scéimeanna agus i bhfardail láithreacha. Mar chéadchéim den phróiseas seo, ba ghá tosaíocht a thabhairt do chomhoibriú le gníomhaireachtaí a bhfuil a laghad sin tábhachta acu i stóráil sonraí go bhfuil faisnéis á cailliúint acu.

Tá deiseanna ann freisin, chun bailiú na sonraí bitheolaíocha a chur chun cinn mar chuid de scéimeanna agus d'fhardail láithreacha. Ní féidir ach go mbainfidh na tionscadail seo buntáiste as feabhsúcháin ar bhailiú sonraí bitheolaíocha i scéimeanna ar nós an Scéim um Chosaint Chomhshaol na Tuaithe agus fardail ar nós an Fhardail Foraoise. Ina theanntas, éileoidh feidhmiú Threoir an Chreata Uisce go mbunófar bailiúchán cuimsitheach sonraí agus córas bainistíochta d'abhantraigh. Ba mhór a chabhródh bunú Ionaid do Thaifid Bitheolaíochta le forbairt níos éifeachtaí a dhéanamh orthu seo agus ar thionscnaimh dá sórt.

Aguisín 1. Buiséad Comharthach Bliantúil d’Ionad Taifead

Costais Bhunaithe (Caipiteal)	
Trealamh	€19,000
Fótachóipeálaí (ardluas, dubh & bán)	12,000
Teilgeoir LCD & Ceamaraí	6,000
Facs	1,000
Trealamh Ríomhaireachta	€31,000
Freastalaí	4,000
Ríomhairí Pearsanta (5) & Ríomhairí Glúine (2)	13,000
Printéirí (3) & Scanóir	4,000
Bogábhar (GIS) maraon le ceadúnais	10,000
Troscán Oifige	€12,000
Cathaoireacha, boird, seastáin ríomhairí, caibinéid comhad, cistin etc.	
Túschostais bhunaithe	€12,000
Sreangú oifigí le haghaidh trealaimh suiteála na RP & an fhreastalaí	5,000
Ilchineálacha	7,000
Taifid agus comhairle Clárlainne	€8,000
Comhairle threorach maidir le sárchleachtais clárlainne a choimisiúnú	
Fo-iomlán	€82,000

COSTAIS REÁCHTÁLA BLIANTÚLA

Costais Foirne	€305,000
Tuarastail (maraon le ASPC & Pinsean)	
Stiúrthóir – Grád I	70,000
Oifigeach Gairme – Grád II	50,000
Oifigigh Ghairmiúla – Grád III (2)	75,000
Tacaíocht theicniúil / rúnaíochta	40,000
Taisteal agus cothabháil	20,000
Traenáil agus Forbairt (5% den phárolla)	10,000
Próiseálaithe sonraí ar chonradh	40,000
Coiste Stiúrtha	€6,000
Cruinnithe ráithiúla – míleáiste, fruiliú seomra, béilí etc.	
Costais Teaghlachais	€65,000
Cíos agus muirir seirbhíse	40,000
Cumhacht, teas agus solas	6,000
Ceaintín, lónadóireacht & glantachán	5,000
Deisiúcháin agus cothabháil	4,000
rachas	10,000
Soláthairtí Oifige agus Riaracháin	€65,000
Postas Teileafóin agus	15,000
Stáiseanóireacht agus clódóireacht	20,000
Leabharlann	3,000
Soláthairtí agus cothabháil ríomhairí	7,000
Táillí dlí, gairmiúla & comhairliúcháin	20,000
Cothú agus Spreagadh Taifeadta	€150,000
Bunú sainscéim taifeadta	50,000
Scéim deontais do chláraitheoirí (deontais 50% do TF agus bogábhar)	50,000
Foilseacháin & ábhair bolscaireachta	50,000

Fo-iomlán €591,000
Costais Iomlána €673 000

Tacaíonn na heagraíochtaí a leanas leis na moltaí seo:

- An Ghníomhaireacht um Chaomhnú Comhshaoil
- An tSeirbhís Foraoiseachta – An Roinn Mara agus Acmhainní Náádúrtha,
- Teagasc
- Coillte
- An tÚdarás um Bóithre Náisiúnta
- Gáirdíní Náisiúnta na Lus
- An Luslann Náisiúnta
- Institiúid Mhairtín Uí Riain, ONÉ Gaillimh
- An Institiúid um Athrú Comhshaoil, ONÉ Gaillimh
- Faire Cóta na hÉireann
- Acadamh Ríoga na hÉireann – An Coiste Náisiúnta Bitheolaíochta
- An Grúpa Éireannach maidir le Míolta Móra agus Deilfeanna
- An Taisce
- Cairde Chomhshaoil na hÉireann
- Cumann Náisiúnta na gComhairlí Áitiúla Géime
- Cumann na hÉireann um Eolaíochtaí an Chomhshaoil
- An Roinn Zó-eolaíochta agus Éiceolaíocht Ainmhithe, Coláiste na hOllscoile Corcaigh
- An tAonad Éiceolaíochta Feidhmigh, Ionad Eolaíocht an Chomhshaoil, ONÉ Gaillimh
- Dámh na hEolaíochta, Coláiste na hOllscoile, Baile Átha Cliath
- Iontaobhas Fiadhúlra na hÉireann
- Cairde Éanlaith Éireann

NOTES