

MACHAIR LIFE+ CONFERENCE

Thursday 29 August 2013, 09:00 – 17:00
Talla an lochdar, South Uist



CONSERVING SCOTLAND'S MACHAIR
A' DÌON MACHRAICHEAN NA H-ALBA

There is no charge to attend this event, but booking is required at: www.machairlife.eventbrite.co.uk

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| | Bus pick up will be available from Benbecula | |
| 09:00 | Arrival and registration | |
| 09:20 | Welcome | |
| 09:30 | Opening speech | TBC |
| 09:40 | Context: the project partners <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The importance of crofting• Why machair habitats/species are special• Crofting issues and barriers• Q&A | Norman MacDonald, Convener, CnES TBC, SNH Patrick Krause, SCF |
| 10:00 | Introducing Machair LIFE+ <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Aims and objectives of project• Film screening | George Campbell, RSPB Rebecca Cotton, Machair LIFE+ |
| 10:30 | BREAK | |
| 11:00 | Machair LIFE+ project actions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project management works• Community engagement• Crop protection• Q&A | Machair LIFE+ team Matthew Topsfield & Donald MacInnes Hazel Smith Rory MacGillivray |
| 12:15 | Machair highlights <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Flora• Late-cutting for corncrake• Waders and corn bunting• Hemiptera | TBC Julia Gallagher, RSPB Jamie Boyle, RSPB Dr Michael Wilson, National Museum of Wales and Dr Alan Stewart, University of Sussex |
| 12:55 | Introduction to workshop sessions | |
| 13:00 | LUNCH & exhibition | |
| 14:00 | Workshops <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Seed conservation2. Agri-environment policy3. Sustainable crofting communities <p>Delegates attend each workshop in rotation. Workshops consist of a short introduction providing the context for an open discussion.</p> | Maria Scholten, Machair LIFE+ Bill Dundas, Scottish Government and Amy Corrigan, RSPB Murdo MacKay, Development Department, CnES |
| 15:30 | BREAK | |
| 16:00 | Plenary <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Workshop feedback• Panel discussion / Q&A | Chair: George Campbell, RSPB Workshop scribes Panel guests and ALL |
| 17:00 | Closing remarks and CLOSE | |
| | Bus drop off will be available to Benbecula | |



MACHAIR LIFE+ FIELD TRIPS

Friday 30 August 2013, 10:00 – 17:00
Balranald, North Uist and Drimdsdale, South Uist



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Places are limited to 30 delegates

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| | Bus pick up will be available from Benbecula Travel to Balranald | |
| 10:00 | Guided tour at RSPB Balranald | Jamie Boyle and Stuart Taylor, RSPB and local crofters |
| 11:30 | Return to bus for travel to Talla lochdar | |
| 12:30 | LUNCH | |
| 13:30 | Bus travel to Drimdsdale township then walk onto machair | |
| 14:15 | Harvest demonstration at Drimdsdale | Machair LIFE+ staff and local crofters |
| 15:15 | Guided walk to Howmore | TBC |
| 16:45 | Return to bus Drop off will be available to Benbecula | |

OTHER EVENTS

Delegates are also welcome to attend to following events, which are part of our summer 2013 events programme. Booking is not necessary for these events.

MACHAIR LIFE+ CEILIDH

Friday 30 August 2013, 20:00 – late
Talla an lochdar, South Uist
Bus pick up / drop off will be available from / to Benbecula

MAD MACHAIR TEA PARTY

Saturday 31 August 2013, 14:00 – 18:00
Talla an lochdar, South Uist

