

Colreavy pledges support to Boleybrack Red Grouse Project

THE Boleybrack Red Grouse Habitat Management project were delighted to meet with local Sinn Féin TD Michael Colreavy on Boleybrack Mountain Friday morning, July 6.

Deputy Colreavy, Sinn Féin spokesperson on agriculture, marine and food gave his full support

to the Boleybrack project.

The Boleybrack Project has been up and running for five years, partners involved in the project include Glenfarne Gun Club, NPWS, NARGC, the Golden Eagle Trust and Coillte.

General discussions with the Dáil deputy revolved around the

importance of heather management, predator management and the maintenance of a correct grazing regime for the benefit of Red Grouse and all other upland birds, including birds of prey.

Although, no Red Grouse were seen during the short visit by Deputy Colreavy to the mountain, he was graced with the presence of a Buzzard flying down the mountain. Buzzards, once widespread throughout Ireland are now making a welcome comeback.

Soaring Buzzards are now regularly seen on all of the five valleys extending out from Manorhamilton. Buzzards tend to take small animals only, such as rabbits, young hares, and small birds.

The project's new Gamekeeper John Carslake also demonstrated the heather regeneration on the mountain, and the benefit of controlled burning of small plots of heather under licence at the correct time of year (i.e. between September to February).

The Boleybrack Project continues to enjoy the support and goodwill of upland farmers and the wider Glenfarne community.



Pictured (L-r): Fiona Wheeldon (Conservation Ranger NPWS), Pat McGurn (European Forum on Nature Conservation & Pastoralism), Tommy Slevin (Boleybrack Sheep Farmer), Tommy Gallagher (NPWS), Tim Roderick (NPWS), Eamonn Brennan (Glenfarne Gun Club), Michael Colreavy TD, John Carslake (Gamekeeper, Glenfarne Gun Club), David Scallan (National Association of Regional Game Councils) and Lorcan O'Toole (Golden Eagle Trust).



Pictured above is the new interpretive sign erected on Boleybrack Mountain which was visited by Deputy Michael Colreavy last week.

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