



“Restoration of the Lower Shannon SAC (Mulkear River) for Sea Lamprey, Atlantic Salmon and the European Otter”

Press Release

28th January 2014

Mulkear Conservation Volunteers – Schedule of Outings for 2014

The Mulkear Conservation Volunteers (MCV) work to help protect, manage and enhance the Natural Heritage of the Mulkear Catchment through volunteer participation in practical conservation projects. Despite a very wet start to the New Year, which resulted in the cancellation of the first scheduled outing last Saturday, the provisional schedule of MCV outings for the rest of 2014 is available here: * [Mulkear Conservation Volunteers – Schedule of Outings for 2014](#) *. Please download and keep for the year. It includes 14 events for MCV members.



MCV members doing path repair work, November 2013 (Image: Ruairí Ó Conchúir)

All events listed are free of charge. Membership of the MCV is open to all and becoming a member is free of charge. A membership form is available here: [Membership Form](#)

Areas of conservation work include removal of non-native invasive riparian plant species, path clearance and scrub clearance work, river clean-ups, assisting in otter survey work, building and installing artificial otter holts, installing bird boxes (dipper, kingfisher and other riparian woodland birds), tree planting, assisting with field trips (Heritage Week events), organising talks, workshops, training, etc.

The Mulkear Conservation Volunteers help to enhance biodiversity through volunteer participation in practical conservation activities linked to MulkearLIFE's work programme within the Mulkear catchment – covering Limerick & Tipperary.



MCV members install bird boxes in the Clare Glens (Image: Ruairí Ó Conchúir)

The MCV also assist in the work of local authorities (Limerick County Council / Tipperary County Council North & South Riding) and the National Parks & Wildlife Service in maintaining access to, conservation of and protection of the natural environment of the Mulkear Catchment.

In addition, the MCV assist in the conservation work of local community groups and Tidy Town committees to maintain the natural environment of the Mulkear Catchment while helping to promote awareness of the natural environment through practical conservation activities.



Members undertake a major clean-up of the Clare Glens (Image: Ruairí Ó Conchúir)

Anyone wishing to find out more about the work of the MCV can contact the MulkearLIFE project office 061 300 238. Please forward this information to anyone you feel might be interested in becoming a member.

Looking forward to a great year practical conservation outings and fun in 2014

Notes for Editors

1. High Resolution Digital Images are available to accompany this Press Release.

2. Interviews can be arranged with the Project Manager by using the contact details below.
3. MulkearLIFE is a new €1.75 million European Commission funded LIFE Nature project working on the restoration of the Lower Shannon Special Area of Conservation (with a focus on the Mulkear River catchment) for Atlantic Salmon, Sea Lamprey and European Otter. Further details may be viewed on the project website www.mulkearlifeproject.com
4. Inland Fisheries Ireland (Limerick) is lead partner together with the OPW and Limerick County Council. Additional funding support comes from National Parks and Wildlife Service. Other supporters include Teagasc, IFA, ICMSA, and local angling groups.
5. The project is one of the first and most important integrated catchment management projects in Ireland. It is a flagship EU LIFE Nature project –covering some 650 sq km which contain a variety of habitats and protected species. Much of the area is designated as a Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) under the EU Habitats Directive and forms part of the Natura 2000 Network.

Issued by:

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