



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

Press Release

12th February 2014

Winter in the Upper Mulkear Catchment

It was a case of a winter wonderland in parts of the Upper Mulkear Catchment early this morning and much of yesterday.

The short cold snap yesterday brought snow to the Upper Catchment for the first time this year. Snow accumulations were minimal and in the lower lying sections of the catchment the snow melted almost immediately.



Wildlife making do with their new surroundings (Image: Ruairí Ó Conchúir)

As February 2014 rolls on, the snow of yesterday has been short lived and has been replaced by wind and the rain. The temporary winter wonderland in the upper Mulkear catchment has today been replaced by storm conditions and the water levels throughout the catchment are again on the rise.



The beautiful Dooglasha River in the Upper Catchment (Image: Ruairí Ó Conchúir)



Clare Bridge, Clare River in winter flow (Image: Ruairí Ó Conchúir)



Coillte Forestry in the Upper Mulkear Catchment (Image: Ruairí Ó Conchúir)

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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