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

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## Press Release

24<sup>th</sup> November 2014

### Next Mulkear Conservation Volunteer Outing – Sat. 29 November @ 10.00hrs

The next Mulkear Conservation Volunteer outing will take place this coming **Saturday, 29th November 2014**, meeting point: Mill Bar Car Park, in **Annacotty @ 10.00hrs**. The practical conservation outing will be focused on habitat enhancement work on the Mulkear River and will include tree planting, erecting bird boxes and an examination of otter habitat.



Mulkear Conservation Volunteers at work, February 2014 (Image: Ruairí Ó Conchúir)

The work will also include a river clean-up (rubbish, plastics and other materials) which have been deposited during recent flood events. The outing will also focus on general riparian management and the connectivity between land and water. This will include a discussion on the importance of trees within riparian corridors and the interface between river and the adjacent land. It is planned to plant a large number of native Irish broadleaf trees to highlight the role of riparian corridors as conduits for the transfer of nutrients between terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems.



Tree planting by Mulkear Conservation Volunteers, February 2014 (Image: Cian Ó Conchúir)

Mulkear Conservation Volunteer outings are free and open to all members. Membership of the Mulkear Conservation Volunteer is also free and open to all. If you wish to join simply turn up on the morning or fill in the details on the Project website: [MCV Membership & Materials](#). **Please confirm your attendance by midday on Friday 28th November 2014.** MulkearLIFE will supply all equipment and materials needed. Please bring appropriate clothing and footwear. The event will take place from 10.00 to 13.00hrs approximately on Sat, 29th November 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](http://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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