



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

Press Release

31st December 2014

MulkearLIFE Draws To A Close

Today, the **31st December 2014**, marks the last operational work day of MulkearLIFE. The project has run for the past 5 years and will end today. MulkearLIFE would like to thank all involved in the successful implementation of this ambitious EU LIFE Nature co-funded project.



In particular, MulkearLIFE would like to thank the main project partners, the staff of Inland Fisheries Ireland staff at a local and national level, the Office of Public Works and Limerick City and County Council.



In addition, MulkearLIFE would sincerely like to thank the National Parks and Wildlife Service for acting as a co-financier of the project. Most of all the project would like to thank the various landowners who facilitated access for instream works and riparian management works and the various farmers who themselves participated in the work of MulkearLIFE.



There are a great many individuals to thank. This is a simple but heartfelt word of thanks to all of you who supported the work of the project in various ways over the past five years. Whether as a project partner, doing much of the work on the ground, a project supporter or a member of the Mulkear Catchment Management Group or a members of the Mulkear Conservation Volunteers, your support and encouragement has helped to guide the work of the project over the years and bring MulkearLIFE to a successful end.



MulkearLIFE would especially like to thank all the school teachers and pupils, members of the general public and local tidy town committees from throughout the Mulkear Catchment who participated in the work of project and who continue to make their local environment a better place to live.



MulkearLIFE now enters a reporting stage and will submit all final reports to the EC LIFE Unit by the 31st March 2015. The project is now in an operational phase referred to in the EC LIFE Programme as the ‘After

LIFE' phase. This will see an 'After LIFE' conservation plan and a communication plan being put into place.



This heartfelt word of thanks is to all of you who supported the work of the project in various ways over the past five years. This support, whether as a project partner doing much of the work on the ground, a project supporter or a member of the Mulkear Catchment Management Group, has helped guide the work of the project over the years and bring MulkearLIFE to a successful end.



MulkearLIFE offers thanks to all for their support over the past five years. For a review of this work please see an article written for the River Restoration Centre in December 2014 here: [MulkearLIFE Article \(December 2014\)](#)



Best wishes to all for a happy and peaceful New Year in 2015.

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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