



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

Press Release

1st September 2010

Important Visitors to MulkearLIFE

MulkearLIFE was delighted to host the Senior Management Team of the newly established Inland Fisheries Ireland on their recent visit to Limerick. The project team was in a position to make a detailed presentation to Dr. Ciaran Byrne, CEO, and the various heads of function including Head of Finance, Mr Pat Doherty, Head of Human Resources, Mr Kieran Murphy, Head of Operations, Dr Greg Forde, Head of Research & Development, Dr Cathal Gallagher and Head of Logistics, Mr Brian Sheerin. Also present was Shannon River Basin District Manager Mr Sean Ryan. Following the presentation and a discussion on the future work plans of MulkearLIFE up until June 2011, the project team was delighted to take the visiting party on a field trip. The field trip offered the visiting party an opportunity to review the ongoing work of MulkearLIFE on the Newport River where the Office of Public Works (OPW) have been extremely busy in recent months undertaking instream enhancement work. The OPW together with Limerick County Council are the two Associated Beneficiaries (main project partners).

The Senior Management Team was given an opportunity to review a newly constructed vortex weir below Ballymackeogh Bridge and bank protection below the bridge. The visiting party was also given an opportunity to review a Giant Hogweed monitoring site used to assess levels of kill-off of Giant Hogweed. The visitors expressed their delight with the progress that MulkearLIFE is making.

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.mulkearlifecom
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:

Ruairí Ó Conchúir, Project Manager – MulkearLIFE

Inland Fisheries Ireland (Limerick Office)

Ashbourne Business Park, Dock Road, Limerick

Tel: 061 300 238 / Fax: 061 300 308 / Mob: 087 062 5582

E-mail: info@mulkearlif.com

Web: www.mulkearlif.com / www.inlandfisheries.ie

