



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

Press Release

11th June 2012

MulkearLIFE delighted to present at the LIFE+ Information Seminar

MulkearLIFE was delighted to be offered the opportunity to present at the LIFE+ Information Seminar. The aim of the LIFE+ Seminar was to inform potential applicants about the LIFE+ Programme and the new e-proposal process of applying for LIFE funding. The seminar was hosted by the Department of the Environment in the Custom House, Dublin.

Ms. Breda Bailey and Mr. Brian Earley, LIFE+ Programme National Contact, Department of the Environment, outlined the process laid down in the sixth LIFE+ call for proposals which was published on 13 March 2012. The deadline for applicants to submit proposals to Member State authorities is 26th September 2012. The calendar of the LIFE+ 2012 selection procedure was outlined as follows:

- 13/03/2012 Publication of the call in the Official Journal
- 26/09/2012 Deadline for applicants to send proposals to Member State authorities
- 02/10/2012 Deadline for the Member States to forward proposals to the European Commission
- 16/10/2012 Deadline for the Member States to enter comments on proposals
- 01/07/2013 Earliest project start date

Full details here:

[LIFE Funding 2012](#)

MulkearLIFE's presentation outlined various practical tips (do's & don'ts) prior to the LIFE+ application stage and at application stage. The project also outlined the experience of MulkearLIFE in the start-up phase and the success the project has achieved over the past three years. This segment of the presentation focused on the work of Inland Fisheries Ireland as coordinating project partner, and the work of the two main associated project partners, the Office of Public Works and Limerick County Council and the project main co-financer National Parks & Wildlife Service.

The seminar included an excellent presentation by Mr. Philip Murphy, Manager of EU Affairs with Coillte on the Coillte project 'Demonstrating Best Practice in Raised Bog Restoration in Ireland'

On the theme Policy and Governance, Gillian Bruton, Project Manager of the DEPOTEC project 'Depolymerisation Technology for Rubber with Energy Optimisation to produce Carbon Products' gave an interesting presentation. Mr. Timothy Hayes, Head of Information and Communication, with the European Commission Office in Dublin also presented at the seminar. His presentation focused on the importance of information dissemination activities and the need for a greater number of LIFE+ projects from Ireland.

Ms. Anne Seekings-Le Quement, from the DG Environment of the European Commission, gave an extremely interesting, detailed and interactive presentation on the E-Proposal System for LIFE+ projects an overview of the registration process. Ms. Anne Seekings-Le Quement is the Project Manager for the new system which is being introduced for the first time with the 2012 Call For Proposals. The Commission will check projects against the LIFE+ eligibility criteria and will assess the e-proposals on the basis of the LIFE+ selection and award criteria.

The seminar also included an excellent presentations by Dr. Andy Bleasdale from the National Parks & Wildlife Service, outlining the priorities of the NPWS over the next 8 years and the potential for LIFE+ projects in priority areas, and by Mr. Kevin Greene from the Department of Environment encouraging local partnerships for LIFE+ projects from a wide variety of areas.

MulkearLIFE is extremely grateful to the Department of Environment and in particular to Ms. Breda Bailey and Mr. Brian Earley in LIFE+ Programme National Contact point and to Mr. Kevin Greene in the Department of Environment for giving MulkearLIFE the opportunity to present at the event.

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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