



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

Press Release

12th October 2011

Free Community Workshop - Otters & Their Homes

MulkearLIFE will host a free community workshop on ‘Otters and their Homes’ which will focus on the European Otter in the Mulkear Catchment. The workshop will take place on Saturday, 22nd October 2011 from 10.00hrs in Crokers Bar & Restaurant, Murroe, Co. Limerick. It will include input from MulkearLIFE and other local experts. The workshop will include an optional field trip from 13.30hrs to 16.30hrs

The workshop will focus on otter biology and ecology, otter identification and surveying techniques and the work of MulkearLIFE with otters throughout the Mulkear Catchment. This work has focused on the protection and enhancement of habitat for otter. Most excitingly, the workshop will also focus on the construction of Otter holts both from natural materials and artificial materials. The workshop will also include an optional fieldtrip in the afternoon to view designs of newly constructed otter holts and may also construct an otter holt (weather dependant).

While the workshop is open to all, the key target audience for the workshop is members of the Mulkear Conservation Volunteers, local wildlife enthusiasts, local landowners and members of the general public living in the Mulkear catchment. The workshop is free and tea / coffee and lunch will be provided but participants must book and register in advance. Places are limited so please book early.

Further information regarding the workshop may be obtained from info@mulkearlifec.com or from MulkearLIFE, Inland Fisheries Ireland (Limerick) on telephone number 061 300 238 / 087 062 5582.

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.mulkearlifec.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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