



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

---

## Press Release

14<sup>th</sup> March 2012

### EC LIFE Programme - Sixth LIFE+ call for proposals

The EC LIFE Programme yesterday (13 March 2012) published the sixth LIFE+ call for proposals, with up to €276 million available for co-financing of projects across Europe including Ireland.

Funding will be made available under three headings: Nature and biodiversity; Environment policy and governance; and Information and communication.

Project proposals should be sent to the relevant national authority no later than 26 September, 2012. National authorities will then send them to the European Commission by 2 October, 2012. The earliest possible starting date for 2012 projects is 1 July, 2013.

Full details [here](#)

May 2012 marks the 20th Anniversary of the EC LIFE Programme across Europe and the 20th Anniversary of the Habitats Directive and the establishment of the Natura 2000 Network. To mark this key milestone in Ireland, an important one day seminar entitled ‘Celebrating 20 Years of the LIFE Programme In Ireland’ has been jointly organised by MulkearLIFE and co-hosted and supported by all four current LIFE projects in Ireland, as represented by MulkearLIFE /IFI; Coillte; IRD Duhallow LIFE and CAISIE LIFE+ Project /IFI. This will hopefully result in new LIFE proposals coming from Ireland. Regrettably, the seminar is by invite only due to restrictions on size.

#### 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:**

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](mailto:info@mulkearlif.com)

Web: [www.mulkearlif.com](http://www.mulkearlif.com) / [www.inlandfisheries.ie](http://www.inlandfisheries.ie)

