



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

Press Release

16th February 2011

Free Community Workshop - Invasive Weeds

Free Community Workshop:

‘Dealing With Invasive Weeds in the Mulkear Catchment’ – Saturday, 26th February 2011 – 10.00 to 14.00hrs (including field trip) in Newport Community Centre, Newport, Co. Tipperary.

MulkearLIFE / Inland Fisheries Ireland is hosting a training workshop entitled ‘Dealing With Invasive Weeds in the Mulkear Catchment as part of the Lower Shannon Special Area of Conservation’. The training element of the workshop is designed to be interactive and the workshop will focus on how community groups and local individuals can undertake conservation work to address the considerable problem of invasive weeds.

The workshop will focus on the three main problem weeds found in the Mulkear Catchment, namely Giant Hogweed, Japanese Knotweed and Himalayan Balsam but the particular focus will be on community efforts to control and eradicate Himalayan Balsam.

Pre-Booking Is Essential: The workshop is free and open to all but pre-booking is essential as spaces are limited. To Book your place e-mail: Tel. 061 300 238 or e-mail info@mulkearlifec.com.

Directions: The workshop will take place in Newport Community Centre, Newport, Co. Tipperary. The Centre is located just off the Square in Newport town on the Nenagh Road, next to the Clonbealy Business Centre.

Who Should Attend: The workshop is open to all but is primarily aimed at members of the local community living within the Mulkear Catchment in Counties Limerick and Tipperary and those living in Limerick city and in other major towns bordering the catchment. It should be of particular interest to locals who have been dealing with the ongoing problem of invasive weeds. The workshop will be practical and hands-on and will focus on control and manual removal of Himalayan Balsam to support the regeneration of the riparian zone of rivers and their native riparian vegetation.

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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