



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

Press Release

18th October 2012

Free Community Seminar - Control & Management of Non Native Invasive Plant Species - Fri. 2 Nov 2012

MulkearLIFE / Inland Fisheries Ireland is delighted to announce details of a major community training and networking seminar to be held Friday 2nd November 2012 in Crokers Bar & Restaurant, Murroe, Co. Limerick. The free event is entitled ‘Community Involvement in the Control and Management of Invasive Plant Species Along Rivers & Water Bodies’.

The training element of the seminar is designed to be interactive and will focus on how community groups and local individuals can undertake work to address the considerable problem of invasives plants along rivers and water bodies. Case studies of community involvement in such work in counties Cork, Limerick and Carlow will be presented.

The seminar will in particular focus on the main problem riparian invasive plants, namely Giant Hogweed, Japanese Knotweed, other knotweeds, Himalayan Balsam, other balsam and Pheasant Berry. Particular focus will be placed on community efforts to control and eradicate Giant Hogweed, Himalayan Balsam and Japanese Knotweed.

The full seminar programme is available here: [Final Programme](#)

Booking Is Essential: The seminar is free and includes lunch and all refreshments. It is open to all but pre-booking is essential as spaces are limited. To book your place: either telephone 061 300 238 or e-mail info@mulkearlifec.com.

Directions: The seminar will take place in Crokers Bar and Restaurant, Murroe Co. Limerick which is approximately 15 minutes by car from Limerick (19km)- [Crokers – Map of How To Get There](#). Lifts will be available from the IFI Offices, Dock Rd, Limerick and Mill Bar, Annacotty but pre-booking (as above) is required.

Who Should Attend: The seminar is open to all but is primarily aimed at members of local community groups, farmers / landowners, Tidy Town committees, local development associations, and locals who have been dealing with the ongoing problem of non native invasives. While the seminar is open to all it will be especially interesting to those within the Mulkear Catchment in Counties Limerick and Tipperary and those living in Limerick city and in other major towns bordering the catchment. The seminar will be practical and hands-on and will focus on the control and manual removal of Himalayan Balsam and the application of chemical spraying on other invasives to support the regeneration of the riparian zone of rivers and native riparian vegetation. The afternoon session will be in the field.

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.mulkearlif.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

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

