



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

Press Release

28th November 2011

Mulkear Conservation Volunteers- Great Outing

The Mulkear Conservation Volunteers undertook some great practical conservation work in the Clare Glens last Saturday (26th November 2011). Nine members of the Mulkear Conservation Volunteers (MCV) braved the cold to undertake a very considerable body of work.

The outing focused on litter removal and a general cleanup of the Clare Glens. Litter was removed from the car park area and along the looped walk trail on both sides of the Clare River. The stairs leading down to the river and the trails were tidied up. In total 12 bags of rubbish and a bicycle was removed from the riparian zone and river. Sincere thanks to all MCV members who gave so generously of their time.

The Mulkear Conservation Volunteers are helping to enhance biodiversity through volunteer participation in practical conservation activities linked to MulkearLIFE's work programme. They are assisting in the conservation efforts of local community groups in maintaining the natural environment of the Mulkear Catchment. The work includes the removal of the invasive plant 'Himalayan Balsam' and helping to organise outings, talks, workshops, training, on biodiversity in the Mulkear. New members are always welcome.

The next outing of the Mulkear Conservation Volunteers is planned for the 10th of December.

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.

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