



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

Press Release

29th February 2012

A Great Day Volunteering

A great day's work was undertaken through the combined efforts of the Mulkear Conservation Volunteers and the Annacotty Tidy Towns Committee last Saturday.

A large number of people from the two bodies gathered to undertake practical conservation work while working in teams on both sides of the river. This included the removal of new shoots of Giant Hogweed from the banks of the Mulkear River, above and below the two bridges. It also included a considerable amount of tree planting. This included native Irish specimen species in the area next to the MulkearLIFE wall mural and the planting of a large number of native Irish alder on both sides of the river.

A general clean up of the riparian zone next to the Mill Bar and below the new bridge also took place. This practical conservation work was made considerably easier due to the combined efforts of Mulkear Conservation Volunteers and the Annacotty Tidy Towns Committee.

The site in question will be a central focus for the Annacotty Tidy Town Committee in entering the national Tidy Town Competition in 2012. It will also form part of MulkearLIFE's celebrations of the 20th Anniversary of the LIFE Programme in May of this year.

MulkearLIFE would like to sincerely thank all Mulkear Conservation Volunteers and the members of Annacotty Tidy Towns for all their hard work in helping to make such a success of the outing.

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.mulkearlife.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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