



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

## Press Release

30<sup>th</sup> May 2013

### Otter Training Workshop & Survey Work - June 2013

The 4th annual comprehensive catchment wide rapid assessment survey of otter will take place on Friday and Saturday of next week (7 & 8 June 2013). Almost 100 sites will be included in the survey which will cover the entire catchment of 650sq Km. As has been the case in previous years, the work will include intermixed teams from MulkearLIFE/ Inland Fisheries Ireland, conservation rangers from the National Parks & Wildlife Service and members of the Mulkear Conservation Volunteers (MCV).

If you are a volunteer and want to be part of this important survey work you are every welcome to partake but participation in the survey requires participation in a pre-training workshop.

This training workshop will take place on Wednesday (5th June 2013) @ 19.00hrs in the offices of Inland Fisheries Ireland, Dock Road, Limerick, followed by field work on selected river sites. The training will focus on survey methodology and identification, site selection and health and safety issues.

The actual survey work will take place on Friday (7th June) full day from 9am approximately and on Saturday (8th June) – half day from 9am.

If you wish to be part of the otter workshop and / or survey please get in touch with MulkearLIFE on e-mail – [info@mulkearlife.com](mailto:info@mulkearlife.com) or telephone 061 300 238 / 087 062 5582. Please confirm your wish to attend ASAP and not later than Wednesday (midday) 5th June 2013.

#### 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](http://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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