



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

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## Press Release

4<sup>th</sup> March 2011

### MulkearLIFE Present at LIFE+ Info Session

MulkearLIFE was delighted to be offered the opportunity to present the work of the project to such a wide and varied audience at the EC LIFE+ Information Session in the Custom House, Dublin. The aim of the Information Session was to inform potential applicants about the LIFE+ Programme and a very large number of people attended. MulkearLIFE is extremely grateful to the EC and the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, Ms. Breda Bailey and Mr. Brian Earley, in LIFE+ Programme National Contact point – for giving MulkearLIFE the opportunity to present and have a stand at the event.

MulkearLIFE presented on a range of practical do's and don't's at the LIFE+ application stage during the presentation as well as focusing on the work of Inland Fisheries Ireland, as coordinating project partner, and the work of the two main project partners, the Office of Public Works and Limerick County Council.

On the 26 February 2011, the European Commission published the fifth LIFE+ call for proposals, with up to €267 million available for co-financing of projects under three headings: nature and biodiversity; environment policy and governance; and information and communication. Project proposals should be sent to the relevant national authority no later than 18 July, 2011. National authorities will then send received proposals to the European Commission by 9 September, 2011. The Commission will check the outline projects against the LIFE+ eligibility criteria and will assess proposals on the basis of the LIFE+ selection and award criteria.

The National Contact Point for Ireland is:  
Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government  
Sustainable Development Unit  
Custom House  
Dublin 1  
Email: [sustainabledevelopment@environ.ie](mailto:sustainabledevelopment@environ.ie)

MulkearLIFE's sister project, the CAISIE LIFE+ project, through its project manager, Ms. Shireen Sayed, also made an extremely interesting and well received presentation to the large gathering. It focused on the work of CAISIE to address the ongoing problem of aquatic invasive.

#### 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](http://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.

**Issued by:**

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