



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

Press Release

4th November 2013

MulkearLIFE to Present at National Agrienvironment Conference

MulkearLIFE is delighted to be afforded an opportunity to present at Teagasc’s National Agrienvironment Conference which takes place on Thursday of this week. The event, the showcase of Teagasc’s Agrienvironmental programme, will take place in the Tullamore Court Hotel, Co. Offaly. The conference will focus on the future of Agrienvironmental Schemes in Ireland and will examine new approaches to delivering agrienvironment measures on farms. Given the interest in this work, plus the project’s programme of work with local farmers in the Mulkear Catchment over the past three years, MulkearLIFE is delighted to be invited to attend and present at the event.

Agrienvironment Conference – Will look to the future (Image: Ruairí Ó Conchúir)

The conference is **free of charge and open to all**. The full programme is available here: [Programme](#)

Speakers will include a strong panel of experts in agrienvironment, environmental economics, agricultural catchments and environmental sustainability. In the afternoon delegates will receive updates from various agrienvironmental projects working with farmers around the country. These projects will share some of the lessons learned from implementing agrienvironmental measures.

MulkearLIFE’s presentation will give an overview of key work areas of the project which are not directly related to its work with farmers but which is highly dependent upon the goodwill of local farmers and landowners. It will then highlight the work which is taking place on various sites with participating farmers on the Mulkear, Reasc, Dead and Bilboa rivers. This element will focus on the support offered by MulkearLIFE over the past three years and the actual capital works undertaken on the farms with river frontage and benefits deriving there from. Other issues to be presented include the nature of invasive species in the Mulkear Catchment and in particular the problem of Giant Hogweed, Japanese Knotweed and Himalayan Balsam. MulkearLIFE’s work on other High Nature Value (HNV) farmland site in the upper catchment will also be highlighted – namely sites which are highly productive from a fisheries and wildlife perspective. The role of river corridors, riparian zones and flood plains, in terms of the provision of habitat, will also be outlined in the short presentation.

The conference will provide an important update for all those concerned, directly or indirectly, with implementing or devising agrienvironmental measures.

For more information and to make a booking via the Teagasc website please click here: [Booking Via Teagasc Website](#)

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.

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@mulkearlifeproject.com
Web: www.mulkearlifeproject.com / www.inlandfisheries.ie

