



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

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## Press Release

5<sup>th</sup> September 2011

### Sea Lamprey Fish Pass Design Making News

MulkearLIFE’s newly installed fish pass design to assist sea lamprey on their upstream passage has been making local and national news.

Articles and images have featured in the local papers (Limerick Leader and Clare People) and in the national press (Irish Examiner) which noted that a breakthrough has been achieved in the battle to save one of Ireland’s protected fish species, the sea lamprey. The Irish Examiner also quoted the CEO of Inland Fisheries Ireland, Dr. Ciaran Byrne who noted the development of the fish pass is a major development for IFI, stating that it is “significant in terms of sea lamprey conservation in an Irish context”.

The full Irish Examiner article is available here: [Irish Examiner 31 08 2011](#)

The work of the project with sea lamprey also featured on national television, on the main evening news of TG4 (Nuacht TG4). The feature piece highlighted the importance of the protection of sea lamprey and how MulkearLIFE’s work and that of its project partners is helping to restore habitat not only for sea lamprey but for Atlantic Salmon and Otter.

The news feature also outlined the role of sea lamprey as ecosystem service providers. The full news feature is available on the TG4 website for a number of weeks. Please click here:

[Nuacht TG4 29 08 2011](#)

## 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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