



News Email 24 November 2020

Dear Friends of Lough Carra,

Having successfully passed the EU LIFE Concept Note stage we are now making plans for the next stage which is the Full LIFE Application. Please find below news on that and other Lough Carra related items :

LIFE Project Update

A Zoom meeting was held on 20 November with members of Technical Group of LCCA, Mayo CoCo as co-ordinating beneficiary and the other beneficiaries and partners. The meeting agreed that technical input would be needed from beneficiaries and partners to assist the consultants and for each of the concept note actions it identified who would be providing input. The application has to be submitted to the EU by 15 February so time is of the essence.

Mayo CoCo have confirmed that they will appoint consultants to put together the Full application. The tender document is being sent out early this week inviting submissions from consultants. The plan is to have consultants in place by mid-December.

New booklets

We are extremely fortunate to have Dr Cilian Roden as member of the LCCA Technical Working Group. Cilian is an, if not THE expert on marl lakes. Here are links to two recent publications that Cilian has written along with Paul Murphy, James Ryan and Philip Doddy, in the NPWS Irish Wildlife Manuals series. Below are links to these publications :

Two Irish Wildlife Manuals (in 3 pdf files) are now on NPWS.ie at

<https://www.npws.ie/publications/irish-wildlife-manuals>

1. IWM 124, **Benthic vegetation in Irish marl lakes: monitoring habitat 3140 condition 2011 to 2018**, by Cilian Roden, Paul Murphy & James Ryan (This volume comes as two separate pdf

files <https://www.npws.ie/sites/default/files/publications/pdf/IWM124.pdf> and <https://www.npws.ie/sites/default/files/publications/pdf/IWM124%20Appendix%20III.pdf>).

2. IWM 125, **Marl Lake (Habitat 3140) Survey and Assessment Methods**

Manual, by Cilian Roden, Paul Murphy, James Ryan & Philip Doddy

(<https://www.npws.ie/sites/default/files/publications/pdf/IWM125.pdf>)

New Traditional Music tune 'Boating on Lough Carra' by Philip Doddy

You will all be familiar with Philip's name from the work he has done on the LIFE project Concept Note for WoodrowSS and also his research on Lough Carra and the 'Marl Crust' booklet he prepared for the LCCA.

You may not know that Philip is a very accomplished traditional musician and he also composes tunes. On his latest CD '**Grace Notes**' he has composed a beautiful tune called '**Boating on Lough Carra**', probably reminiscent of all the hours he has spent in a boat on Lough Carra when conducting his PhD research on the marl crusts. If you'd like to buy a copy of Philip's new CD or find out more you can visit his website <https://www.philipdoddy.net>

Waters Seminar on Saturday 28 November

This Saturday, 28 November, the Annual Seminar of the Irish Rivers Trusts' and Catchment Community Groups will be held on-line. The event is free and everyone is welcome to attend. The event will feature information on funding and citizen science.

You can register for this event by following this link <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/communities-caring-for-water-in-ireland-registration-128271839525>

Starling Murmuration at Moore Hall

There has been a wonderful murmuration of starlings at Moore Hall for the past month. At the moment the best time to see this is between 4.30 and 4.45pm. The maximum numbers were close to 60,000 birds but the group appears to be splitting up in recent evenings. You can see a video at the following link. https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=lynda+huxley+starlings

Best regards
Lynda Huxley, LCCA Secretary