

## For Immediate Release



### All volunteers welcome

#### EOG Association for Conservation launches 'Volunteering' page

**Zug, Switzerland, October 2007** - The EOG Association for Conservation has been set up to provide grants to help conservation projects, but it also hopes to be able to provide a community for the industry and those receiving funding. To further support the projects being funded the Association is pleased to introduce a *Volunteering* area to the website.

To launch this new initiative, Mark Held, Manager of the Association volunteered himself to help on one of the projects. "Spending time working with the project was a hugely rewarding experience and by the end of the week I felt as if I understood a lot, lot more about the value of the site and its biodiversity. I'd recommend it to anyone who can find the time" commented Mark. Mark went to help out during Heritage Week at the Irish Peatland Conservation Council's (IPCC) bog in Co. Kildare, Ireland. IPCC were one of five conservation projects to receive a grant from the EOG Association for Conservation for 2007.



During Heritage Week 2007, the IPCC, with the help of volunteers of all ages and abilities, removed invasive species and carried out coppicing of birch trees to help manage the Lullymore West Bog Wildlife Reserve in Co. Kildare, Ireland as part of the Marsh Fritillary Butterfly Conservation Project. The aim was to remove trees and tree seedlings from the bog so as to preserve the habitat of the endangered marsh fritillary butterfly.

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The vast majority of conservation projects depend heavily on volunteers. For most it's the only way they get any work on projects completed and the volunteers are a vital way for projects to keep their overheads down. Each project has its own requirements for volunteers, some are for specific projects, others general and some prefer only to take people for internships.

The 'Volunteering' page on the EOG Association for Conservation website links you to the individual project's website page for volunteers, so that anyone interested can contact them directly - [www.eogconservation.org/volunteering.html](http://www.eogconservation.org/volunteering.html)

The EOG Association for Conservation - Working to protect the outdoor environment for future generations.

**Notes to Editors:**

The **EOG Association for Conservation** is an initiative from the European outdoor industry with the objective of protecting the wild areas we care so passionately about. The Association is designed to harness the incredible power of the outdoor industry and to raise money to donate to grass roots conservation groups.

The EOG Association for Conservation is funded by membership and other fundraising activities within the outdoor industry. 100% of membership fees go to the support of projects.

Membership is open to anyone that can demonstrate an involvement in the outdoor industry.

To find out more about the EOG Association for Conservation please go to [www.eogconservation.org](http://www.eogconservation.org)

**Heritage Week** is part of European Heritage Days, a joint initiative of the Council of Europe and the European Union. In Ireland Heritage Week is coordinated by the Heritage Council in conjunction with the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government.

Each year many national and hundreds of local community organisations participate by organising events throughout the country. There is something to appeal to almost everyone and the main aim is to build awareness of the built, natural and cultural heritage. In 2007 over 500 events took place throughout the week.

Press Releases are also available on the News and Info page of the website.

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