SITE VISIT REPORT

Purpose of Site Visit:	**Westmeath Peat Extraction**
Site Address:	Baltrsana Bog, Greatdown, Larkfield, Mullingar, County Westmeath
Date of Visit:	13/04/2022
Times of Visit:	1015 to 1100
Visit Criteria:	Peat extraction investigation
EPA Attendees:	Mick Henry and John Gibbons

Summary: The purpose of the visit was to

i) Ascertain whether peat extraction activities were been carried out on lands at Greatdown, Larkfield, County Westmeath.

ii) To determine what activity and the location of the activities been undertaken was carried out at during recent months. The site visit commenced on lands that were the subject of correspondance received by the Agency in January 2022 where extraction of peat on a commercial scale was alleged.

Findings of site visit of 13/04/2022: The following was noted during the visit:

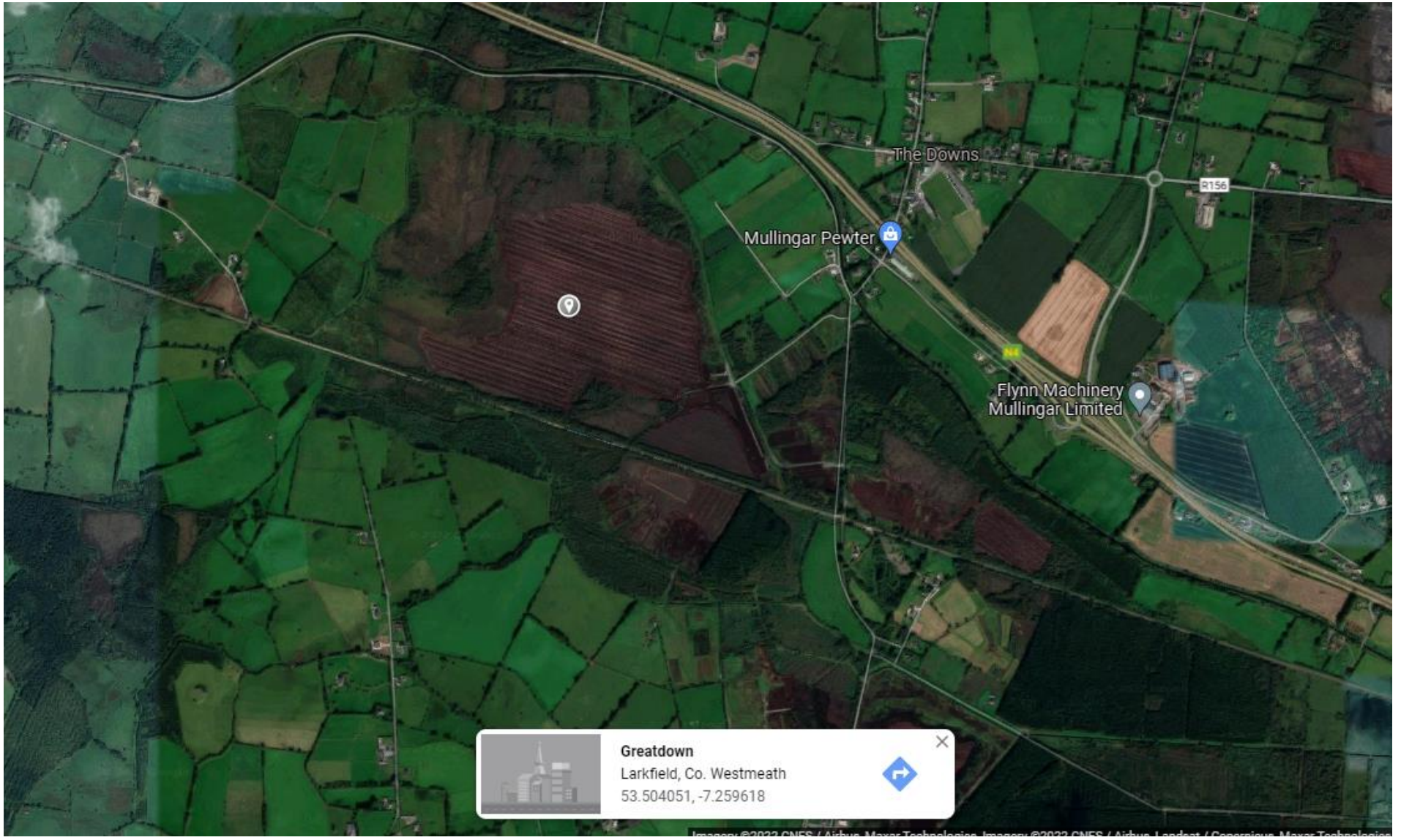
- One tracked dumper and two excavator attachments for sod peat extraction were noted. (see Appendix 2 photographs).
- All of the sods stored on the peatland and noted by Agency staff during the previous visit in February had been removed.
- No peat harvesting activity was taking place in the area during the visit.

After the visit we visted the [redacted] household but nobody was present to assist us in our enqueries.

We also visited a house at Tyrellespass looking for [redacted], however [redacted] was not available and no contact details were available for him.

Report prepared by:	John Gibbons & Mick Henry	**Signed:**	John Gibbons M. Henry
		Date:	19/4/2022

Appendix 1


The Downs
R156
Mullingar Pewter
N4
Flynn Machinery
Mullingar Limited
Greatdown
Larkfield, Co. Westmeath
53.504051, -7.259618

Appendix 2

Photo 1: Sod peat cutting attachements noted on the peatland.

Photo 2: Cleared area where sods had been noted previously.

Photo 3: Silt pond for collection of silt from surface water.

Photo 4: Tracked dumper containing sod peat and escalator for loading peat.