



# SITE VISIT REPORT

**Purpose of Site Visit:** Westmeath Peat Extraction

**Site Address:** Derrycrave Townland, County Westmeath

**Date of Visit:** 03/02/2022

**Times of Visit:** 11.15 am to 12.15 pm

**Visit Criteria:** Peat extraction investigation

**EPA Attendees:** Mick Henry and John Gibbons

**Organisation:** [REDACTED] and/or its agents

**Summary:** The purpose of the visits was to

- i) Ascertain whether peat extraction activities were been carried out by [REDACTED] or its agents on lands owned and controlled by [REDACTED] or its agents in North Westmeath.
- ii) To determine what location the activities undertaken by the company or its agents was carried out at during recent months. The site visits commenced on lands that were the subject of previous site visits in 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021 where stockpiling of peat following extraction activity was noted.

**Findings of site visit of 03/02/2022:** The following was noted during the visit:

- Peat extraction machinery was noted in Area G (Appendix 1) at the Derrycrave townland where the peat was being dug up, handled and transported as noted previously.
  - Four excavators and two tractors with trailers were noted. (see Appendix 2 photographs). Both tractors with trailers were noted to be drawing peat from the extraction site to the loading area, unloading and then returning to the excavator to be refilled with peat.
  - A water abstraction pump was noted in this area and it appears that the water level had lowered since the previous visit in January 2022.
  - It is considered that the rate of peat extraction at Area G has intensified since that observed during previous visit with an additional tractor and trailer drawing peat from the excavation area noted during this visit.
  - Work ceased in the Area G when we entered the site.
  - It was noted that the access gate into the main loading area at Area F was open and traffic activity was noted on the access road into the main loading area.
  - No peat harvesting activity was noted in Area A or Area B.
-

---

**Report prepared  
by:**

John Gibbons &  
Mick Henry

**Signed:**

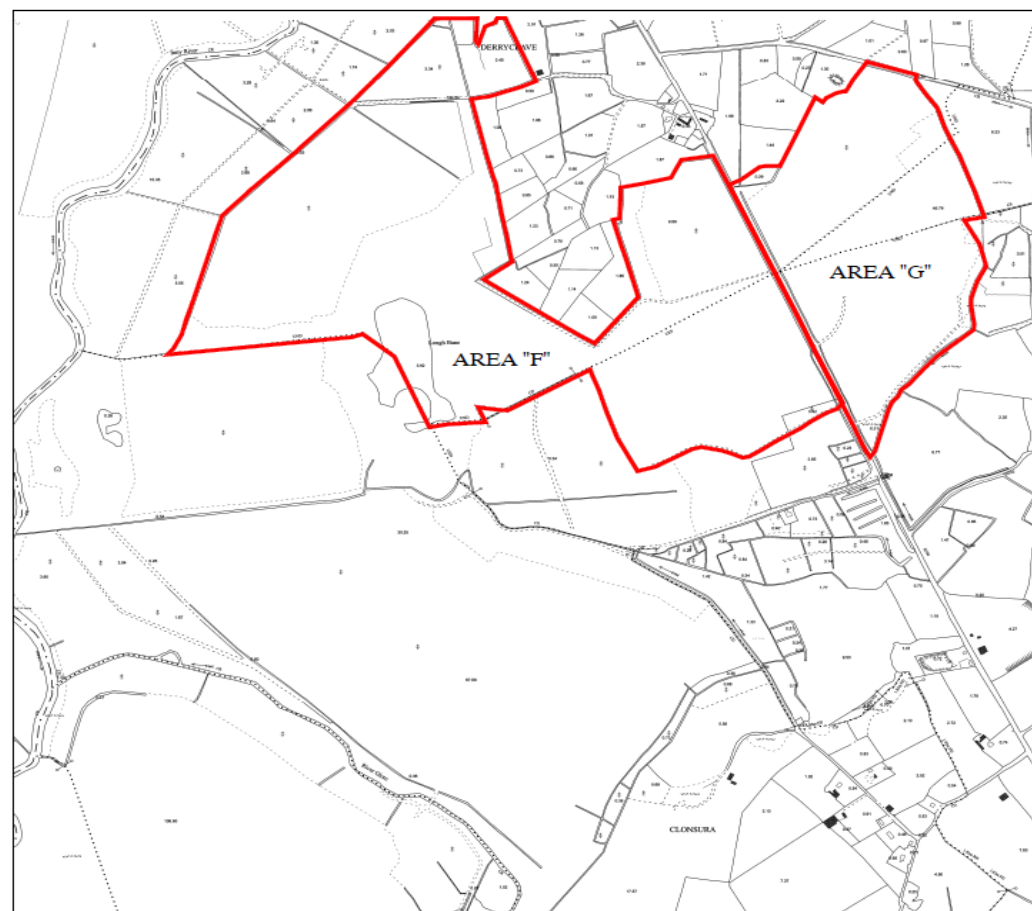

---

**Date:**

15/02/2022

---

## Appendix 1



---

## **Appendix 2**

---



**Photo 1: 4 excavators noted at Area G.**

---





**Photo 2: Tractor and trailer noted at Area G.**

---



**Photo 3: Pump for removing water from Area G.**

---



**Photo 4: Excavator loading peat into trailer at Area G.**

---





**Photo 5: Lower water level noted at Area G.**

---



**Photo 6: Access gate to main loading area at Area F.**

---