



SITE VISIT REPORT

Purpose of Site Visit: Peat Extraction in Co. Offaly

Site Address: Oldcroghan Bog, Green Lane, County Offaly

Date of Visit: 18/10/2022

Times of Visit: 1215 to 1300

Visit Criteria: Peat extraction investigation

EPA Attendees: Mick Henry and John Gibbons

Organisation: [REDACTED]

Summary:

- i) The purpose of the visit was to ascertain whether peat extraction activities were been carried out by the above or their agents on lands owned and controlled by the above or their agents in Co Offaly.
- ii) The site visit commenced on lands that were the subject of correspondence received by the Agency in April 2022 where extraction of peat on a commercial scale was alleged.
- iii) The peatlands under investigation are part of a bog complex at the above address where it is considered that there are a number of different entities involved in peat extraction.
- iv) It is considered that peat extraction is being carried out on an area greater than the 50 hectares threshold and therefore requires an IPC Licence from the Agency.

Findings of site visit of 18/10/2022: The following was noted during the visit:

- A number of milled peat harvesting machines and equipment for milling and loading peat were noted to be parked on the peatland.
 - At the northern end of the bog a large stockpile of milled peat was noted at a loading area.
 - On the southern end significant stockpiles of milled peat remain on the peatland however no recent activity was evident.
 - On an area adjacent to the public road (south west) part of a stockpile of peat had been removed and peat loading equipment was noted.
 - It is evident that a number of parties are involved in peat extraction on peatlands within the bog complex at this location.
 - The scale of the activity and the area involved is on a commercial scale. It is considered that peat extraction is being carried out on an area greater than the 50 hectares threshold and therefore requires an IPC Licence from the Agency.
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**Report prepared
by:**

John Gibbons &
Mick Henry

Signed:

John Gibbons
M. Henry

Date:

15/11/22

Appendix 1



Appendix 2



Photo 1: Stockpile of peat and harvesting and loading equipment noted on the peatland.



Photo 2: Peat loading equipment noted on the peatland.
