



# SITE VISIT REPORT

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

**Site Address:** Blyry Lower Bog, Tullycross and Blyry, Athlone, County Westmeath

**Date of Visit:** 14/02/2024

**Times of Visit:** 12:30 to 12:55

**Visit Criteria:** Peat extraction investigation

**EPA Attendees:** Mick Henry and Kealan Reynolds

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

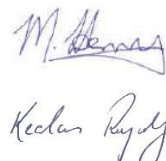
- i) Ascertain whether peat extraction activities were being carried out on lands at the above address in County Westmeath.
- ii) To determine what activity and the location of the activities been undertaken was carried out at during recent months. The site visit commenced on lands that were the subject of correspondence received by the Agency in April 2022 where extraction of peat on a commercial scale was alleged.

**Findings of site visit of 14/02/2024:** The following was noted:

- Aerial footage and photos were taken by EPA inspectors.
- No Peat extraction/harvesting was taking place during the visit.
- Machinery for peat extraction was noted to be parked on the peatland.
- It was evident that a significant quantity of milled peat had been removed from the stockpiles of milled peat stored at the loading area (when compared with the EPAs previous visit in July 2023).

**Report prepared by:** Mick Henry & Kealan Reynolds

**Signed:**



**Date:**

22/03/24

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## **Appendix 1**

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## **Appendix 2**

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**Photo 1: Peat extraction machinery noted to be parked on the peatland.**

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**Photo 2: Stockpiles of milled peat at the peatland (Note significant quantities of milled peat had been removed since the EPAs visit in July 2023).**

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**Photo 3: General overview of the peatland.**

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