

Bord na Móna

Enhanced Decommissioning Rehabilitation and Restoration Scheme (EDRRS)

Quarterly Report – Bord Na Mona Q2FY22 (July 2021 to Sept 2021)

Bord na Móna

DOCUMENT CONTROL SHEET

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Decommissioning of rail line and bog clean-up is progressing in line with expectations.

Monitoring and Verification is progressing, in particular piezometer installation and monitoring and surface water monitoring.

The risks to the scheme are set out in the Risk Register and reviewed with NPWS and DECC on a monthly basis. Key changes to the risk register and new risks are listed in the Risk section of this report.

2. Rehabilitation by Bog

The rehabilitation completed in this quarter is set out by bog in Table 2.1 below. The rehab completed is recorded by *Total Area Rehabilitated to Date* and also by *Work Content Completed to Date*.

The *Total Area Rehabilitated* consists of areas where specific rehabilitation measures have been carried out such as drain blocking, berms and blocking of outfalls. It also includes areas where rehabilitation is either not possible or not required, i.e. areas designated as MLT1 (Marginal Lands Type 1) or AW1 (Additional Works 1) rehabilitation types. While these areas will benefit from the adjoining rehabilitation, there is no specific rehabilitation carried out within them. For clarity a distinction has been made in Table 2.1 below between the *Total Area Rehabilitated*, which includes the MLT1 and AW1 areas and *Total Area Rehabilitated with Specific Measures* which excludes the MLT1 and AW1 areas.

A review of the MLT1 and AW1 areas has been carried out since the previous quarterly report. Further information on this review and the ancillary benefits to these areas from adjoining rehabilitation is given in section 2.1 below.

The *Work Content Completed to Date* takes into account the difference in the intensity of the labour and equipment required for the various rehab measures and gives a more accurate view of the rehab progress. This *Work Content* is set out in more detail in section 2.2 below.

By the end of the quarter rehabilitation measures had commenced on sixteen of the nineteen FY22 (2021) bogs. The three bogs where rehabilitation measures had not yet commenced were Boora Bog, Clonad Bog and Clooniff Bog however preparations were underway for the commencement of measures on Boora and Clonad Bogs at the start of the following quarter.

Table below redacted 'Article 9 (1) (c) commercial or industrial confidentiality, where such confidentiality is provided for in national or Community law to protect a legitimate economic interest.'

Table 2.1 Rehabilitation to End September 2021 (FY22 refers to period July to Sept 2021)

2.1 Areas for Rehabilitation

As set out above, the *Total Area Rehabilitated* consists of areas where specific rehabilitation measures have been carried out and also includes areas where rehabilitation measures are either not possible or not required (designated MLT1 or AW1). There are a number of reasons as to why no rehabilitation measures are proposed for these MLT1 and AW1 areas and these include the following:

- Areas where there are no drains to block;
- Inactive turf-cutting areas where third party turbary rights may exist;
- Narrow strips of lands around the boundaries of the bog that are densely vegetated;
- Area adjacent to drains/streams that need to be retained to provide drainage to third party lands;
- Areas that are vegetated where rehabilitation measures are not considered necessary or beneficial.

An additional column has been added to Table 2.2 (*Total Area Rehabilitated with Specific Measures*) identifying the areas where specific rehabilitation measures have been carried out which excludes the MLT1 and AW1 areas.

Following discussions with NPWS in relation to the MLT1 and AW1 areas, Bord na Móna carried out a review of these areas and reclassified areas where the benefits from rehabilitation of adjacent lands may not be very evident. These areas have now been re-classified as *Constraint* or as *Other Areas*. The designation *Other Areas* is used to designate areas that are not immediately adjacent to rehabilitated areas while the designation *Constraint* include some active turfcutting areas and forestry areas.

It is considered that the remaining MLT1 and AW1 areas will benefit from the rehabilitation carried out in adjacent lands for some or all of the following reasons:

- The blocking of drains in adjacent lands will facilitate the re-wetting of these areas by raising the water table (where no hydraulic break is provided between the rehab measures and the area in question).
- The rehabilitation and subsequent re-vegetation of adjacent lands will assist with the re-vegetation of these areas thereby reducing bare peat areas and carbon emissions in time.
- There will an increase in the biodiversity in these areas due to the increase in biodiversity in the adjacent rehabilitated lands resulting from the rehabilitation measures on these adjacent lands.
- The adjacent environmental stabilisation of the adjacent lands through rehabilitation will provide additional benefits to these areas such as improved water quality.



2.2 Work Content

As set out in the previous report, while the number of hectares rehabilitated can be considered when assessing the progress of the rehabilitation measures, the intensity of the work carried out varies depending on the rehabilitation method completed in these hectares. In order to take account of this,

the *Work Content Completed to Date* column is included in the above table. This takes a count of the following:

- intensity of the various measures;
- work that cannot be carried out until large sections or all the bog is completed such as Sphagnum inoculation;
- additional measures such as berms or drains included in the individual Bog Cost Estimates;

The percentage of work content completed is therefore a more accurate measure of the progress of the scheme than the hectares rehabilitated. It should be noted that the more intensive rehabilitation measures such as the Deep Peat ponds (rehabilitation measures DPT4 and DPT5) was prioritised for this quarter as the weather and ground conditions are more suitable for these measures than in the winter months.

2.3 Progress to Date

As set out above significant progress has been made during this quarter with **41%** of the Work Content for this year (FY22) completed by the end of the quarter.

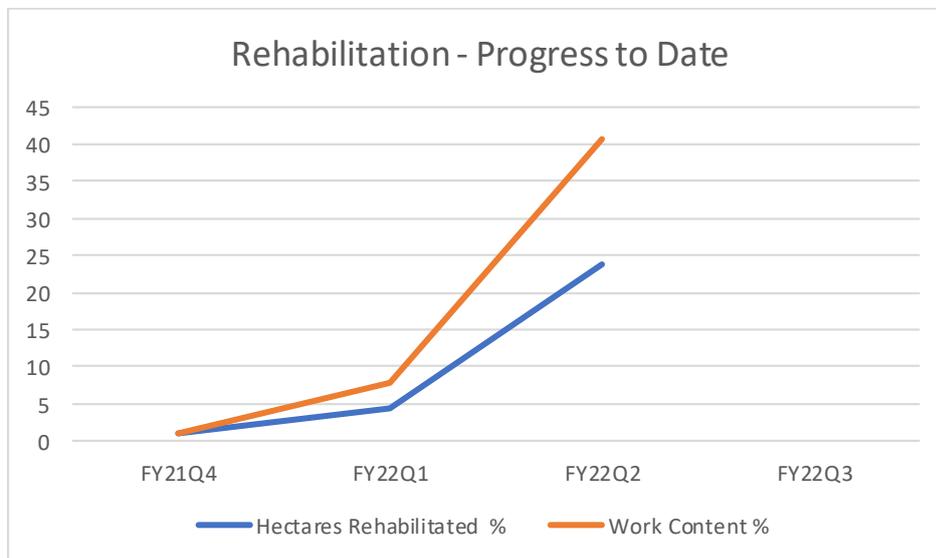
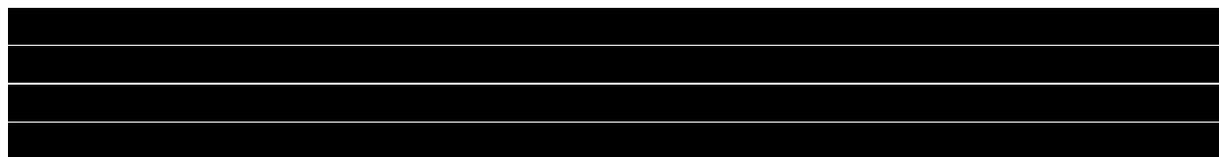


Figure 2.1 Rehabilitation and Work Content to Date

The area rehabilitated at the end of the quarter was **2,083 hectares** which is **24%** of the total area to be rehabilitated in the nineteen FY22 (Year 1) bogs.



[Redacted]

While progress during this quarter has been significant it is likely that progress will be impacted by the wetter weather and more difficult ground conditions expected during the autumn and winter months.

As stated in the previous quarterly report, it is considered likely that it will not be possible to complete all of this year's planned rehabilitation in the winter months. This is due to expected limitations on rehabilitation during the winter months resulting from adverse weather conditions, bog ground conditions, higher ground water levels and winter ecological restrictions.

[Redacted]

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As stated in the previous report, any reduction in the rehabilitation completed in this first year will be recovered over the lifetime of the scheme.

[Redacted]

■

3. Rehabilitation Costs by Bog

[Redacted]

■

[Redacted]



4. Decommissioning by Area

The decommissioning completed in this quarter is set out by percentage in Table 4.1 below.

The percentage completed is calculated as a percentage of the quantity included in the original EDRRS Financial Model across all 82 bogs.

Activity Description	% of Overall Scheme Completed in Q2FY22	% of Overall Scheme Completed to date
Pump Decomm	0	0
Septic Tank Decomm	0	0
Tea Centre Decomm	0	0
Bog Clean up	1.6%	20%
Fuel Decomm	0	0
Yard Decomm	0	0
Building Decomm	0	0
Rail Decomm	2.0%	5.8%
Bridge Decomm	0	0
Underpass Decomm	0	0
Level Crossing Decomm	0	0
Powerline Decomm	0	0
Fencing	0	0

Table 4.1 Decommissioning Completed to Date

Bog Clean Up and Rail Decommissioning commenced in 2020 and has continued through the winter and summer months.



Note: An amendment has been made to the Rail Decommissioning completed in the quarter FY22Q1 (Apr to June 2021) and reported in the previous quarterly report. This should have read 3.8% rather than 5% and this has now been amended in the column *% of Overall Scheme Completed to Date*.

Progress to date is progressing in line with expectations.

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Table below redacted 'Article 9 (1) (c) commercial or industrial confidentiality, where such confidentiality is provided for in national or Community law to protect a legitimate economic interest.'

Figure 6.1: EDDRS Budget and Grant Claim to Date

7. Employment

The following is a summary of the employment for FY22Q2:

[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Table 7.1 Grant Claim Update

The above table sets out the maximum number of people employed in this quarter on the design and implementation of the EDDRS scheme.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

8. Programme

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
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