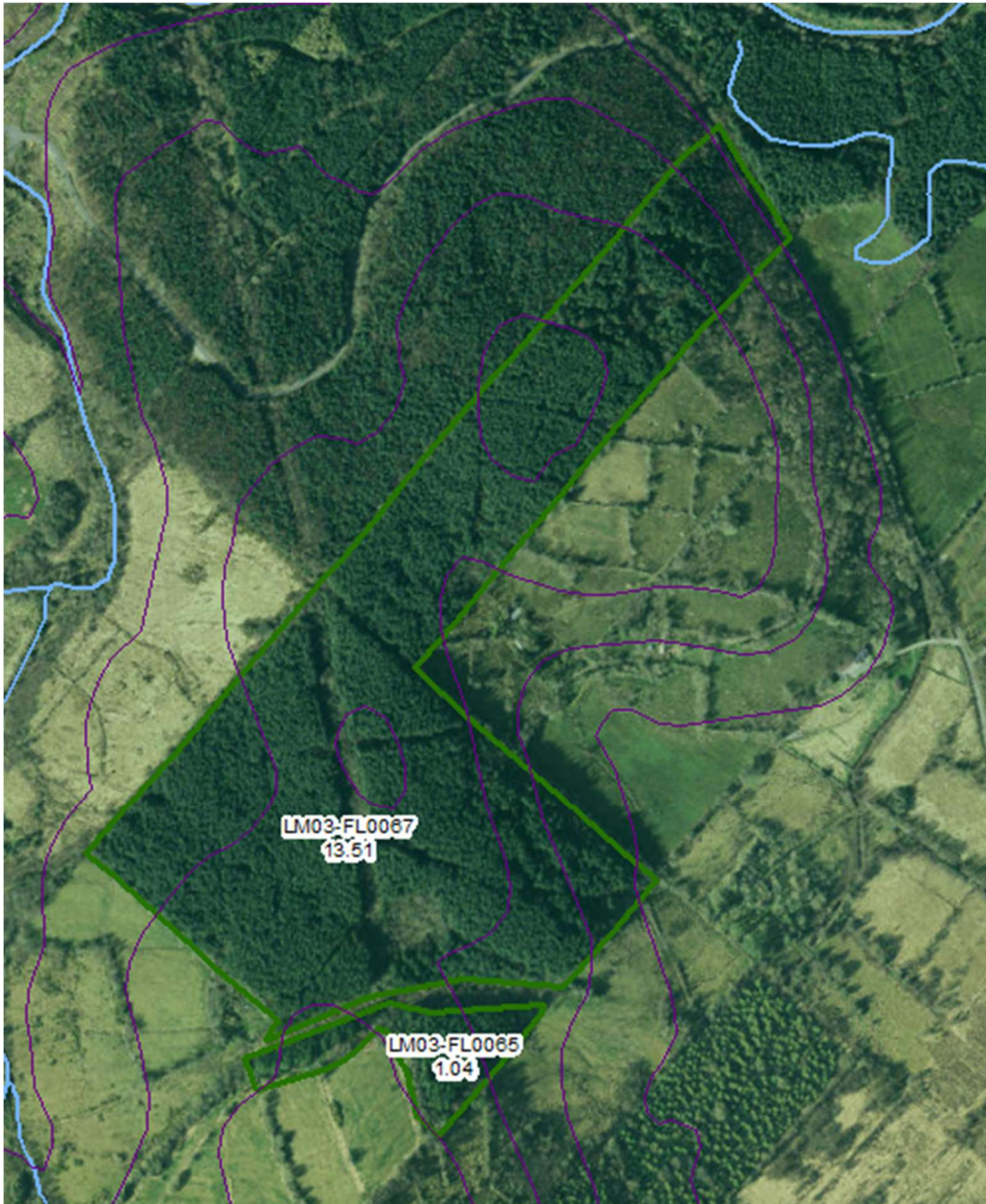


LM03-FL0065/LM03-FL0067

Site Inspection Report, Coillte Felling and Reforestation project,
Lattone, Co. Leitrim.



16/09/2022

Inspection date: 8/09/2022.

Background: Licenced area LM03-FL0065 1.04ha and LM03-FL0067 13.51ha felled under Harvest Unit No. LM03-H0048. Both licences were issued on 17/12/2021. A Forest Service harvest inspection was carried out on 03/06/2022 with no breaches to the licence conditions found or remedial action required. This supervisory inspection was carried out to determine were any licence conditions breached during the final phase of the harvesting operation with particular emphases on:

- Was there excessive rutting on site.
- Application of urea to stumps as per licence condition.
- Was machine traffic excluded from the forest road.
- Was there an extension constructed to the existing road.

Site inspection observations:

Site notice present at entrance to the property adjoining public road.

The site was completely harvested on the day of inspection with a large volume of logs still remaining at roadside. The harvest was carried out over the summer months when soil conditions were good and with no evidence of excessive rutting and good use of brush on site.

Photo 1 Southern section of LM03-FL0067



Photo 2 Felled area in Northern section of LM03-FL0067



Photo 3 Timber stacking area no rutting



Harvesting operations began on the Northern side of the LM03-FL0067 in the sub-compartment stretching from the forest road to a public road. Stumps in this area have some evidence of urea having been applied but hard to be certain on the day of inspection due to the fading of the dye. See photo 4.

Coillte state that urea wasn't applied to the site given the peaty nature of the soil and there is no evidence of urea being applied to any stumps outside of this northern sub-compartment. Site inspection confirms that the soil type is a gley with no peat layer (photo 5). Location of the soil sampling are points 1-7 on image 6. My conclusion is therefore that not all stumps were treated with urea

This is a breach of licence condition no. 2 "The licensee shall treat all conifer stumps with urea immediately upon tree felling where the soil type is mineral soil or where a peat soil is less than 25cm (excluding the litter layer)".

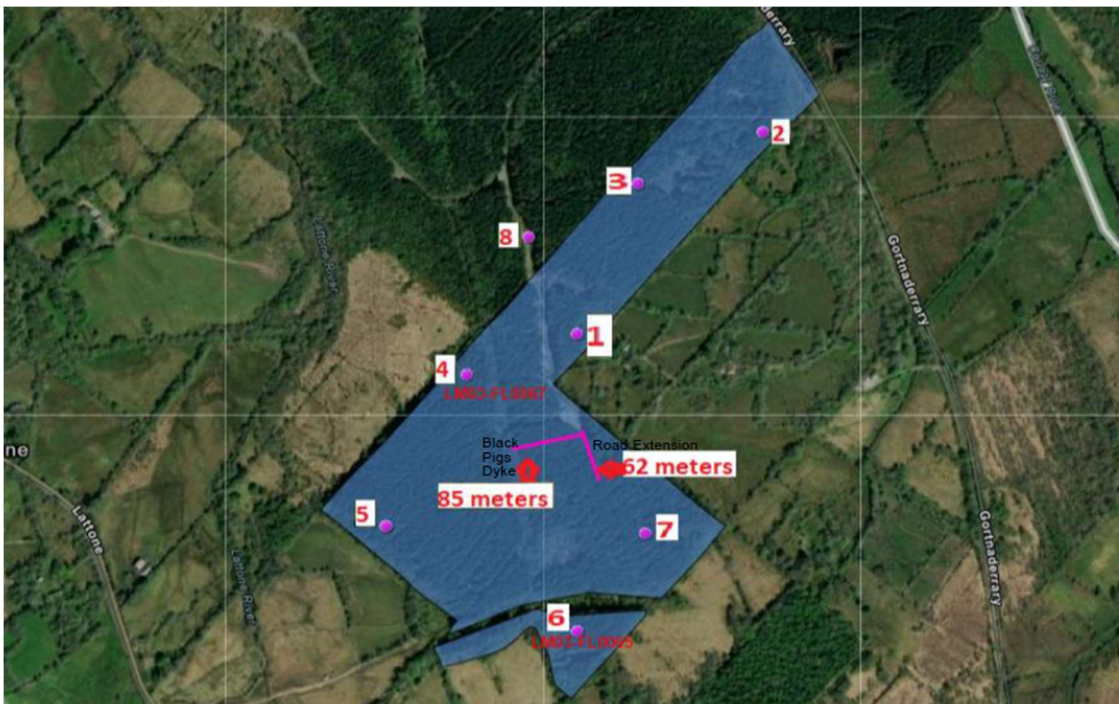
Photo 4 Stump with possible trace of urea dye



Photo 5 Gley soil type



Image 6 Points samples taken from



Machinery associated with the harvesting operation travelled on the internal forest road as evidenced by the stacking of timber at point 8 on image 6 see photo 7.

Photo 7 Timber stacks formed from the forest road



Coillte built an extension to the existing forest road see photo 6 the total length of this road extension is 62m it is constructed to the required standard with a layer of 804 blinding on top.

Photo 8 Road extension



This road extension was built within 85m of a protected structure Black Pigs Dyke although the feature was not interfered with during this construction work and is marked with an exclusion zone for harvesting machinery (Photo 9) and agreed crossing point build in consultation with the Forest Service Archaeologist Photo 10

Photo 9 Black Pigs Dyke exclusion zone



Photo10 Crossing over Black Pigs Dyke



Conclusion

- No excessive rutting was evident on site, brash management on site was very good and harvesting took place during a period of generally dry weather.
- The licensee was in breach of licence condition 2 for both LM03-FL0065 and LM03-FL0067 by not applying urea to all tree stumps on a site with mineral soil.
- Machinery associated with the harvesting operation travelled on the forest road to stack timber at point 8 which isn't within the licenced area. This isn't in line with section 9 of the Standard for Felling and Re-forestation 2019 "No forwarding or ground haulage operations are to take place on either forest or public road surfaces."
- The extension to the existing forest road is a breach of Section 19.9.4 of the Forest Standards Manual as it is within 100m of a Recorded Monument.

Anthony Dunbar,

16/09/2022