



SITE VISIT REPORT

Purpose of Site Visit: Peat Extraction in Co. Sligo

Site Address: Annaghbeg, Monasteraden Co Sligo

Date of Visit: 01/07/2022

Times of Visit: 1245 to 1420

Visit Criteria: Peat extraction investigation

EPA Attendees: Mick Henry and Kealan Reynolds

Organisation: Abbeylara Peat Ltd and/or its agents

Summary: The purpose of the visits was to

- i) Ascertain whether peat extraction activities were been carried out by Abbeylara Peat or its agents on lands owned and controlled by Abbeylara Peat or its agents in Co Sligo.
- ii) To determine what location the activities undertaken by the company or its agents was carried out at during recent months. The visit was carried out as a follow-up to a complaint received by the Agency. The site visit commenced on lands where excavation, turning and stockpiling of sodpeat following extraction activity was noted previously.

Findings of site visit of 01/07/2022: The following was noted during the visit:

- Machinery and equipment for peat harvesting (e.g. loader, tractors with dumper trailers) were noted at this location (Appendix 2). An excavator was parked at the loading area.
- No excavation of sod peat was noted during the visit.
- Two men were carrying out maintenance works on machinery at the loading area and we spoke to one of the men [REDACTED]. He stated that excavation hadn't taken place since the EPA's previous visit to the site.
- A significant proportion of the peatland remained covered in sod peat and some of the sod peat (dried) had been removed off-site.

Report prepared by: Mick Henry
Kealan Reynolds

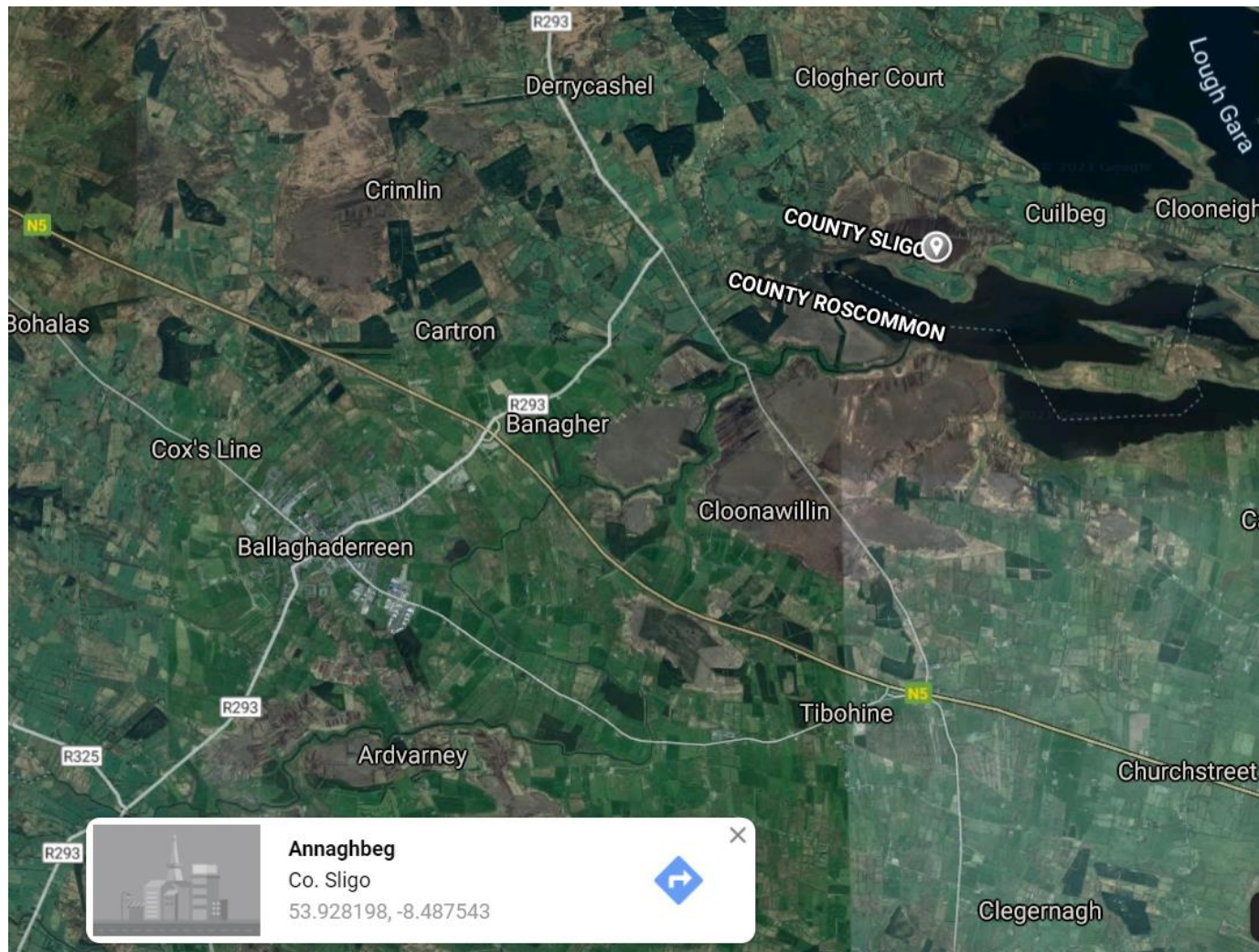
Signed:

Two handwritten signatures in blue ink. The top signature is 'M. Henry' and the bottom signature is 'Kealan Reynolds'.

Date:

05/07/2022

Appendix 1



 **Annaghbeg**
Co. Sligo
53.928198, -8.487543



Annaghbeg

Co. Sligo

53.928720, -8.486551



X

Appendix 2



Photo 1: Area of peatland which was recently cleared of sod peat.



Photo 2: Peat harvesting machinery/equipment noted at the loading area.



Photo 3: Sod peat which had been walled prior to removal off-site.
