



SITE VISIT REPORT

Purpose of Site Visit: Peat Extraction in Co. Sligo
Site Address: Annaghbeg, Monasteraden Co Sligo
Date of Visit: 05/09/2023
Times of Visit: 1000 to 1045
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 visit 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 05/09/2023: The following was noted during the visit:

- Machinery and equipment for peat harvesting were noted at this location and these included an excavator, attachment for large sod peat excavation, tractor and trailer.
- No excavation of sod peat was noted during the visit.
- A man was noted to be stacking large sod peat on the peatland.
- A significant proportion of the peatland remained covered in stacks of large sod peat.
- A number of rows of large sod peat had been recently excavated and left on the peatland for drying.
- A significant stockpile of large sod peat was covered at the loading area.

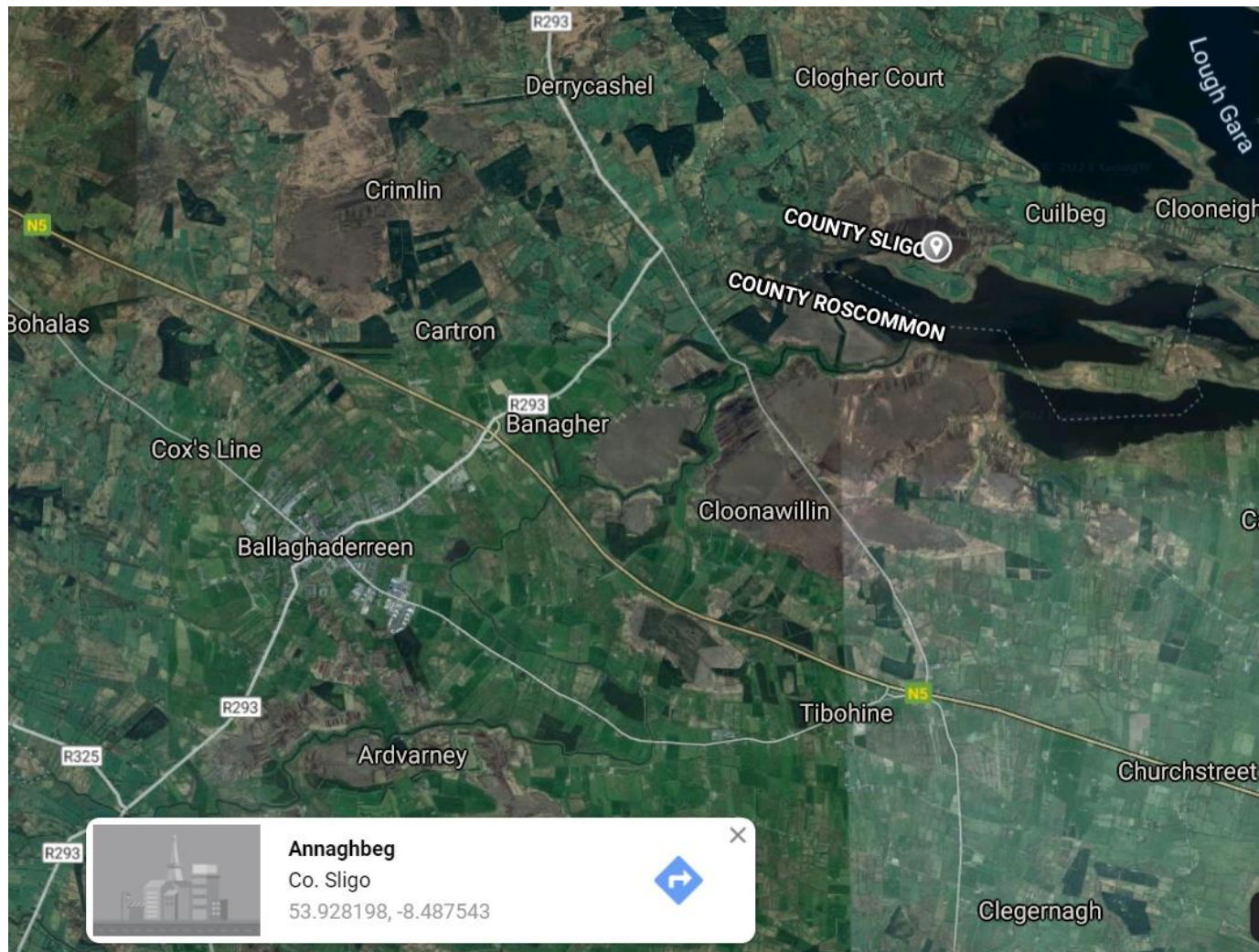
Report prepared by: Mick Henry
Kealan Reynolds

Signed:

Date:

09/10/23

Appendix 1





 **Annaghbeg**
Co. Sligo
53.928720, -8.486551

Appendix 2



Photo 1: Large sod peat stacked for drying on the peatland with covered large sod peat stockpile noted in the distance.



Photo 2: Recently excavated large sod peat noted on the peatland.



Photo 3: Excavator parked on the peatland.



Photo 4: Attachment for large sod peat excavation noted on the peatland.



Photo 5: Aerial overview of the peatland.
