

Tipperary County Council

M E M O

To: Anne-Marie Devaney, A/Senior Planner

From: Marie Ryan, Senior Executive Planner

Re: Survey of Bog at Monaincha, Roscrea

Location: Bog at Monaincha, Roscrea, Co Tipperary

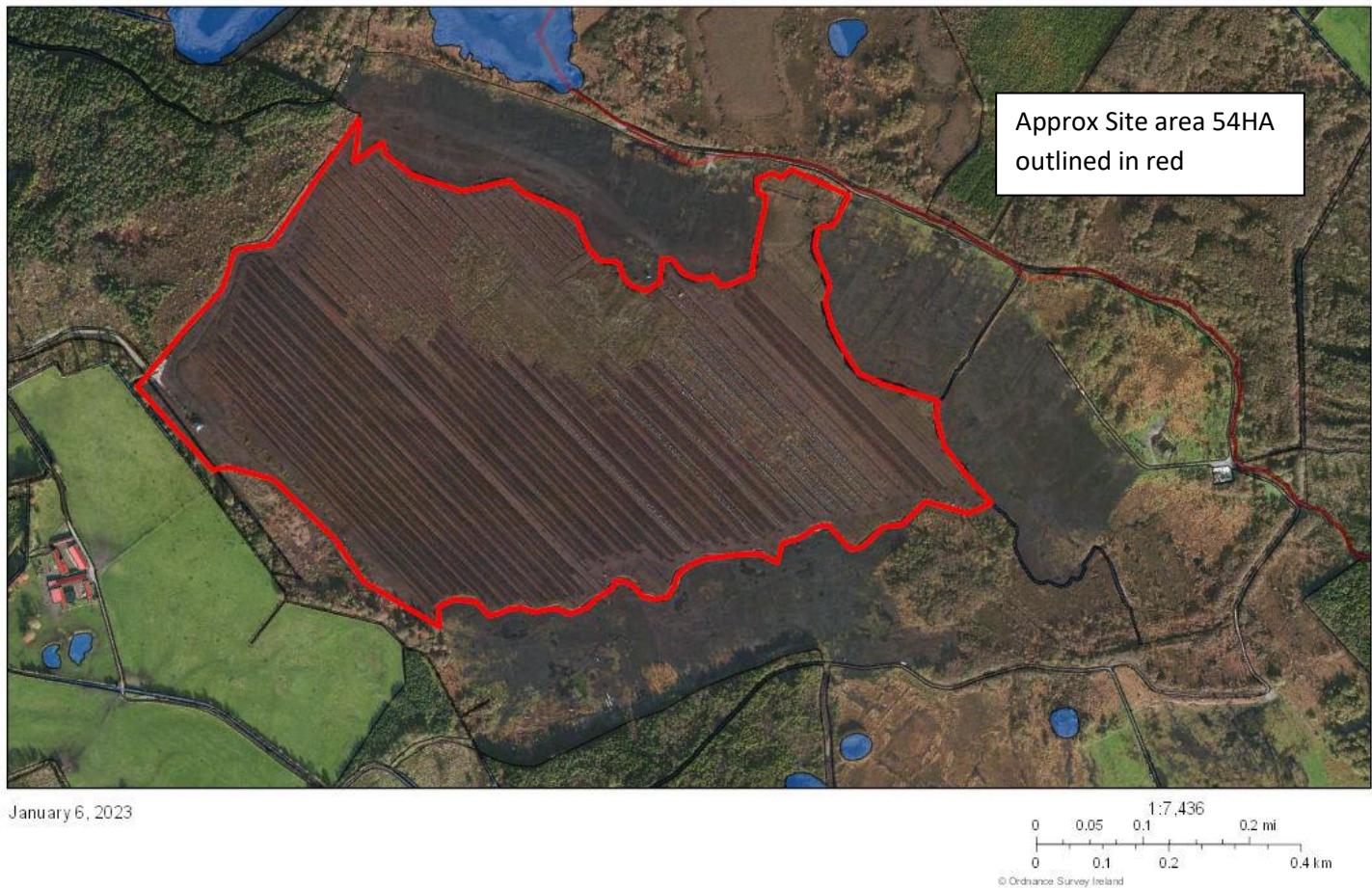
Date of Report: 05/01/2024

Summary

A drone survey of the existing bog at Monincha, Roscrea was undertaken by Stephen Ryan, Executive Technician, on the 01/12/2022 with a desk top study carried out in relation to the bog. The size of the overall bog is approx. 54Ha.

2011-2013 Ordnance Survey of Ireland Ortho image.

2011 - 2013 Digi Globe

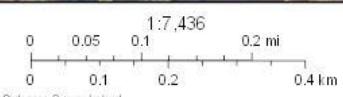


2005 Ordnance Survey of Ireland Ortho image.

2005 ortho



January 6, 2023



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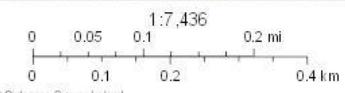
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2000 Ordnance Survey of Ireland Ortho image.

2000 ortho



January 6, 2023

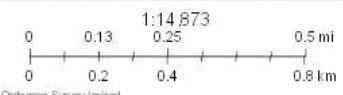


1995 Ordnance Survey of Ireland Ortho image.

1995 ortho



January 6, 2023



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Drone images taken on the 01/12/2022





Photo taken on the 01/12/2022



1.12.2022

A. A list of the names and details of the operators undertaking or have undertaken the peat extraction (and where there are a number of operators on different parcels of land on the same bog, a clear indication demarcated on the map as to which operator is extracting or has extracted peat from which area).

Land Registry Folio
The bog is not registered on land direct.
No details on operators.

B. The details of the planning status of the identified area(s) of peat extraction;

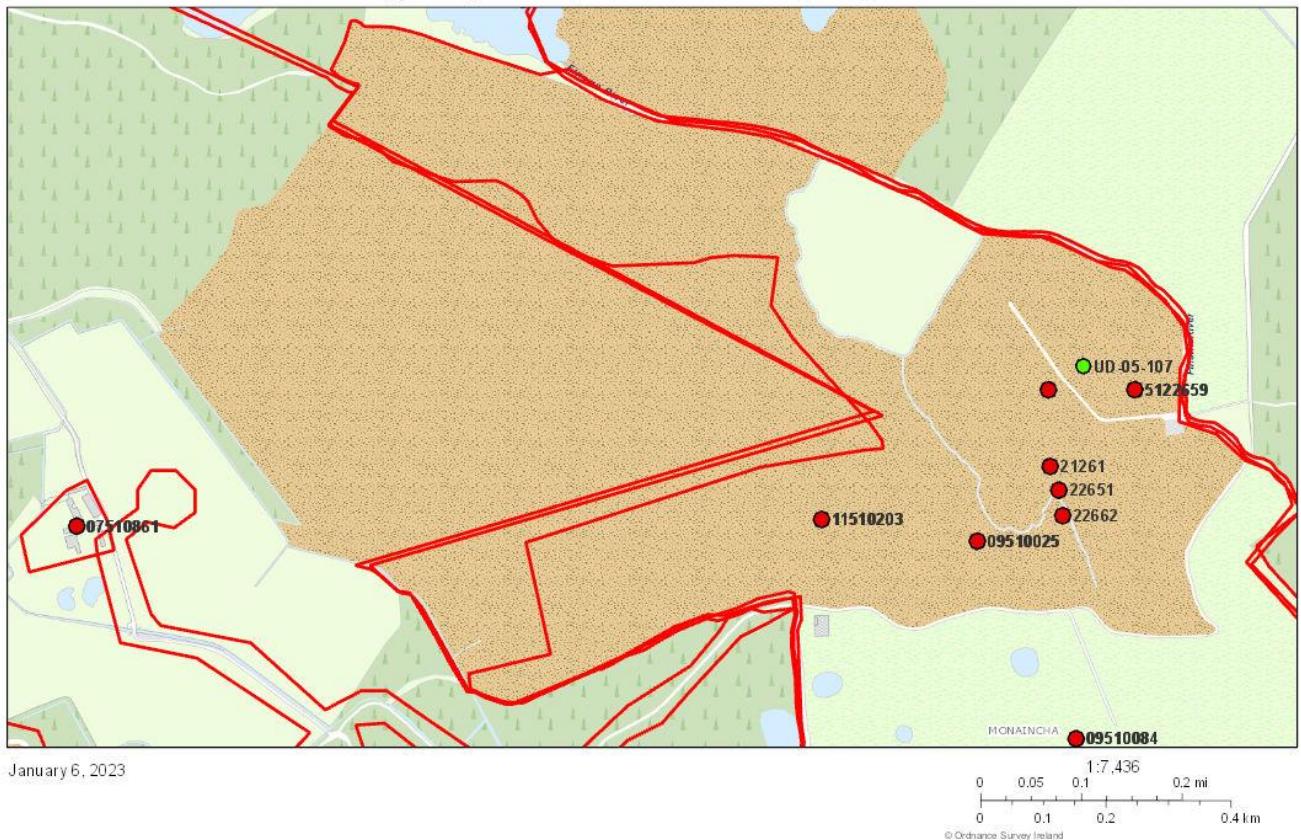
Site History

Tipperary County Council Planning Register Map; No planning permission noted on the register in relation to peat or turf cutting.

The bog lands are not within a designated European Natura site or a Natural Heritage Area or proposed Natural Heritage Area sites but are adjacent to Monaincha Bog/Ballaghmore Natural Heritage Area.

There are a number of planning applications within and abutting the bog site but these applications relate to a wind turbine farm and a proposed solar farm.

Tipperary County Council Planning Register



January 6, 2023

Site Inspection

A site inspection was carried out on the 01/12/2022 in which a drone survey of the land was carried out, nobody was met on site at the time of the inspection.

It was observed no works were ongoing at the time of the inspection.

No machinery was observed on the site but a stock pile of peat was observed. (refer drone image above).

A number of timber pallets were observed within the bog site stacked. (refer photo above)

C. The details of any water pollution licences that have been issued to the operator(s) in question and the status of same

To be addressed in Environment Section Report.

D. An Ordnance Survey or aerial map of the peatland in question showing superimposed a calculated area (in hectares) of the peat extraction, and whether in the Local Authority's view that comprises a "new or extended area". The area should include everything incidental or ancillary to the peat harvesting, including drained areas, settlement/silt ponds, haul roads, loading areas, stockpiles, etc.;

2011-2013 Ordnance Survey of Ireland Ortho image.

2011 - 2013 Digi Globe



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Area highlighted in red – c.54Ha

E. An assessment of the distance and hydraulic connection between the peat extraction areas identified and any Natura 2000 sites or Natural Heritage Areas (proposed or otherwise);

To be addressed in Environment Section Report.

F. The details of any enforcement activity pursuant to Part VIII of the PDA 2000 or otherwise that the Local Authority has taken in respect of the identified area(s) of peat extraction and/or against the identified peat extraction operator(s).

Assessment

Part 3 of Schedule 2 of the Planning & Development Regulations, 2001 as amended.

Peat extraction.

CLASS 17

- (a) Peat extraction in a new or extended area of less than 10 hectares.
- (b) Peat extraction in a new or extended area of 10 hectares or more, where the drainage of the bogland commenced prior to the coming into force of these Regulations.

The bog lands are not within a designated European Natura site or a Natural Heritage Area or proposed Natural Heritage Area sites but are adjacent to Monaincha Bog/Ballaghmore Natural Heritage Area.

In relation to the alleged peat extraction at this bog, it is evident from the **ordnance survey of Ireland** ortho images above (1995 to present day) and drone imagery captured on the 13th January 2023, that activities at the bog have been taking place for a considerable time and works relating to same maybe deemed to represent pre-1963 development and any minor extension to same may be deemed to be exempted development by virtue of Class 17 of Part 3 of Schedule 2 of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).

It is recommended that no further action is currently required.

Signed: Stephen Ryan
Executive Technician

Date: 06/01/2023

Report updated following review with Environment Section and meeting with Environmental Protection Agency on 21/11/2023.

Senior Executive Planner: Marie Ryan

Date: 05/01/2024