

From: [redacted]
To: [redacted] @sepa.org.uk
Cc: [redacted] (FLS); [redacted]
Subject: RE: Greenesk
Date: 20 October 2021 11:35:00
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)
[Lade_1.jpg](#)
[Lade_2.jpg](#)
[Lade_3.jpg](#)
[Lade_4.jpg](#)
[Track above lade with silt trap.jpg](#)
[Track off FLS property.jpg](#)
[Lade_19th Oct 2021.jpg](#)
[Silt trap_19th Oct 2021.jpg](#)
[Greenesk Photos.pdf](#)

Hi [redacted]

Many thanks for your time last week. At this discussion I said that I would share further photographs of the site with you. I attach 6 images which show the condition the lade (water supply). The location of where these are taken is shown on the attached map (pdf). Also marked on the map is the extent of our recent tree harvesting site which is above the track which in turn is well above the lade (water supply). The lade is clear on this image contouring around the slope well below the forest track.

I hope these images give you a flavour of the current conditions on site with no soil movement on the harvesting site, a clear running lade and the good condition of the track (no soil movement). As you can see we have a silt trap in place between the road and lade where they come together. This has been position just in case there were to be any movement of material on the forest track - but the images clearly show it has not been required up to this point.

Finally as an addition I attach two further images taken yesterday, the first which shows that the lade is running clear, despite recent rain, the second is a close up of our silt trap which has clearly not been required (there is no silt in it).

I have a large number of other images taken recently which I can also pass on. If you do require any further detail, images or a site visit please get in touch with myself or Alastair Young.

Regards,

[redacted]

[redacted] MICFor | Harvesting, Forest Management and Stewardship Manager
Forestry and Land Scotland, Durris Office, Kirkton of Durris, Banchory, Aberdeenshire, AB31 6BP
t: +44 (0) 131 370 5100 m: [redacted] e: [redacted] @forestryandland.gov.scot



Forestry and Land Scotland is an executive agency of the Scottish Government
Consider the environment. Please don't print this e-mail unless you really need to.

From: [redacted] (FLS) [redacted] @forestryandland.gov.scot>
Sent: 11 October 2021 12:18
To: [redacted] @forestryandland.gov.scot>; [redacted] @forestryandland.gov.scot>; [redacted] @forestryandland.gov.scot>; [redacted] @forestryandland.gov.scot>; [redacted] @forestryandland.gov.scot>
Subject: FW: Greenesk

Please see email below.

[redacted]

Cheers

[redacted] | Delivery Manager, East Region
Forestry and Land Scotland, Portsoy Road, Huntly, AB54 4SJ
t: +44 (0) 131 370 5339 | [redacted] | e: [redacted] @forestryandland.gov.scot



[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

Forestry and Land Scotland is an executive agency of the Scottish Government

Consider the environment. Please don't print this e-mail unless you really need to.

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sepa.org.uk>
Sent: 08 October 2021 22:16
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@forestryandland.gov.scot>
Subject: RE: Greenesk

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon

Thank you for explaining the process and for sending me the planning process, operation and actions documents.

The alleged pollution report was received by SEPA three weeks after the forest work ceased and without ongoing pollution the best thing I do is to inform you the photos sent by the complainant show what looks to have been siltation pollution events which is an offence under CAR. From the discussion we had over the phone I am confident that you are well aware of the industry and SEPA good practice guides.

Please see below the links to the relevant guidance:

webpage relating to forestry guidance here

[Protecting and Managing Soil in Forests \(forestry.gov.scot\)](#)

Specific water and soil management guidance document here

[9 \(forestry.gov.scot\)](#)

SEPA good practice guide for riparian vegetation management here

[WAT-SG-44 \(sepa.org.uk\)](#)

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

OFFICIAL

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@forestryandland.gov.scot> [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@forestryandland.gov.scot>
Sent: 28 September 2021 17:15
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@sepa.org.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@forestryandland.gov.scot> [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@forestryandland.gov.scot>
Subject: Greenesk

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organisation. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

[REDACTED]

I have received your name in an email forwarded from [REDACTED] at Scottish Forestry about an issue at Greenesk, Cushnie. I understand you have had a report of a pollution incident at a site there which is said to have caused an issue with a private water supply. In your email to him you ask a couple of questions.

Could you please confirm if such forestry works have been carried out at the above location and if yes what mitigation measures are in place to prevent environmental pollution.

The site at Greenesk is a forestry clearfell operation which has been worked over several months and finished c 4 weeks ago. The site is a direct production site which means that FLS are the forestry Works Manager for the operation.

In terms of how we manage the site we are applying the standards and guidance as laid out in the 'Forest and Water Guidelines' and 'UK woodland assurance standard' which is where the industry best practice is outlined and is in compliance with the controlled activity regulations for water management. The site goes through a planning process which identifies those issues and constraints on sites that we have to account for in managing any site, and in this case the water supply would be picked up. The planning document is then used to prepare an operational plan for any site including any issues relating to water on the site. Issues such as brash management, crossing of any watercourses, stacking areas etc. are all included in that.

This process was carried out for the site at Greenesk. In terms of this specific site the water supply was identified on the site maps and was discussed at a pre-commencement meeting with the contractors working the site. The water supply was noted and the Forestry Works manager did contact the user of the water supply to discuss the operation. This contact was started before the operation started and ongoing during the operation which ended with a close out discussion at the end of the operation. There are a number of emails in the site file on this.

A number of actions were taken on this site to protect the water supply, although it only adjoins for a short section at the edge of the wood. In this case the water supply was identified at the planning stage as indicated and that detail was included on operational maps and discussed in the pre-commencement meeting with the contractor and noted on the paperwork.

Machines were not used to fell the edge trees adjacent to the lade and these were cut by hand. In addition to this machines were not allowed to use band tracks while on the forest road to reduce any impacts of possible damage to the road and

possible erosion. During the operation there were regular inspections of the work, which included checking for any diffuse pollution that may have occurred or was at a risk of occurring. No issues were found. In addition there is only light vehicle use on this track that adjoins the water supply and no haulage has been allowed.

The road section was recently checked by our road engineer and although it was felt there was no issue, he recommended that some silt traps were put in to ensure there were no potential problems. These silt traps are still in place and are checked.

I hope that provides you with the required information and all of this information can all be made available if requested and we will be happy to have a site visit if you wish to do that. I have copied in the local forest managers, including the Forestry Works Manager and if you wish to discuss this any further then please get back to us.

Yours

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted name] | **Delivery Manager, East Region**

Forestry and Land Scotland, Portsoy Road, Huntly, AB54 4SJ

t: +44 (0) 131 370 5339 | m: [Redacted] | e: [Redacted]@forestryandland.gov.scot



-
[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

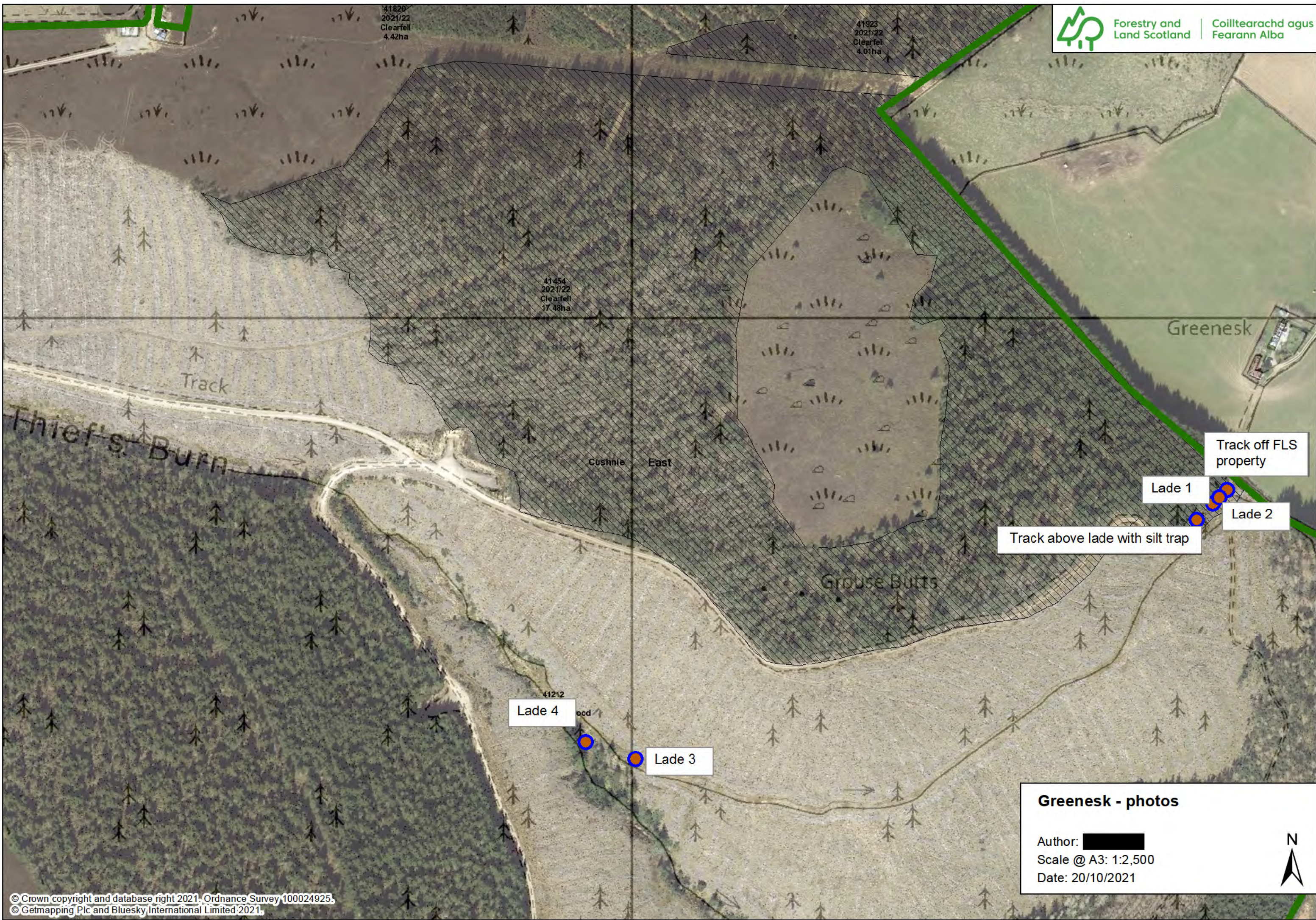
Forestry and Land Scotland is an executive agency of the Scottish Government

Consider the environment. Please don't print this e-mail unless you really need to.

This e-mail (and any files or other attachments transmitted with it) may contain confidential or privileged information and is intended solely for the attention of the addressee(s). Unauthorised use, disclosure, storage, copying or distribution of any part of this e-mail is not permitted. If you are not the intended recipient please destroy the email, remove any copies from your system and inform the sender immediately by return.

Communications with the Scottish Government and Forestry and Land Scotland may be monitored or recorded in order to secure the effective operation of the system and for other lawful purposes. The views or opinions contained within this e-mail may not necessarily reflect those of the Scottish Government or Forestry and Land Scotland.

This email has been received from an external party and has been swept for the presence of computer viruses.



Greenesk - photos

Author: [REDACTED]

Scale @ A3: 1:2,500

Date: 20/10/2021

















