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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**1989 No. 2443**

**SEA FISHERIES  
CONSERVATION OF SEA FISH**

**The Undersized Crabs (Variation) Order 1989**

*Made* - - - - *21st December 1989*  
*Laid before Parliament* *8th January 1990*  
*Coming into force* - - *1st February 1990*

The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Secretaries of State respectively concerned with the sea fishing industry in Scotland and Wales, acting jointly, in exercise of the powers conferred on them by sections 1(1) and (2), 20(1) and 22(2)(b) of the Sea Fish (Conservation) Act 1967<sup>(1)</sup> and of all other powers enabling them in that behalf and the said Minister, the said Secretaries of State and the Secretary of State concerned with the sea fishing industry in Northern Ireland, acting jointly, in exercise of the powers conferred on them by sections 1(3) and (4), 20(1) and 22(2)(a) of the said Act and of all other powers enabling them in that behalf, hereby make the following Order:

**Title and commencement**

1. This Order may be cited as the Undersized Crabs (Variation) Order 1989 and shall come into force on 1st February 1990.

**Variation of the Undersized Crabs Order 1986**

2. The Undersized Crabs Order 1986<sup>(2)</sup> shall be varied—  
(a) by substituting for article 5 thereof the following article:—

**“Prescribed minimum size for carriage of crabs on a British fishing boat.**

5.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this article, for the purposes of section 1(3) of the Act (which prohibits the carriage on a British fishing boat of sea fish of any description which are of less than the minimum size prescribed in relation to sea fish of that description) there is hereby prescribed as the minimum size for edible crab a size of 125 mm.

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(1) 1967 c. 84; section 1 was substituted by the Fisheries Act 1981 (c. 29), section 19(1); section 22(2) was amended by the Fisheries Act 1981, sections 19(2)(d) and 45.  
(2) S.I.1986/497.

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(2) In the Cumbrian sea fisheries district<sup>(3)</sup> and in that area of sea lying within British fishery limits and between lines of latitude drawn through the easternmost points on the boundaries between Humberside and Lincolnshire in the North and Suffolk and Essex in the South the prescribed minimum size for edible crab for the purposes of section 1(3) of the Act shall be 115mm.”.

(b) by substituting for the Schedule thereto the following Schedule:—

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(3) As defined in S.I. [1980/806](#).

SCHEDULE

Article 3

MINIMUM LANDING SIZES

Column 1 Area for purposes of section 1(1) of the Act	Column 2 Prescribed minimum size
South coast of England between the eastern boundary of East Sussex and the western boundary of Dorset	Male crabs : 140 mm Female crabs : 140 mm
The coasts of Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly	Male crabs : 160 mm Female crabs : 140 mm
The coasts of Somerset, Avon, Gloucestershire and Wales from the southernmost point on its border with England to Cemaes Head in Dyfed at 52°07' north latitude.	Male crabs : 130 mm Female crabs : 130 mm
The coasts of Scotland, Wales from Cemaes Head to the northernmost point on its border with England, Kent, Essex, North East England between the southern boundary of Humberside and the northern boundary of Northumberland, and North West England between the western boundary of Cheshire and Haverigg Point in Cumbria at 54°11.3' north latitude.	Male crabs : 125 mm Female crabs : 125 mm
The coasts of Lincolnshire, Norfolk and Suffolk and the Cumbrian sea fisheries district.	Male crabs : 115 mm Female crabs: : 115 mm

In witness whereof the Official Seal of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is hereunto affixed on

L.S.

18th December 1989.

*John Selwyn Gummer*  
Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

20th December 1989

*Sanderson of Bowden*  
Minister of State, Scottish Office

17th December 1989

*Peter Walker*  
Secretary of State for Wales

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21st December 1989

*Peter Brooke*  
Secretary of State for Northern Ireland

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### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

*(This note is not part of the Order)*

This Order varies the Undersized Crabs Order 1986 which prescribes minimum sizes for the landing, sale and carriage of edible crabs (*Cancer pagurus*).

By virtue of this Order various increases have been made to the minimum sizes for landing and carriage.