

## 1980 No. 454

## FISHERIES

Sea Fish (Prohibition of Fishing Methods) Regulations  
(Northern Ireland) 1980

*Made* . . . . . 19th December 1980

*Coming into operation* . . . . . 2nd January 1981

The Department(a) of Agriculture, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by section 125 of the Fisheries Act (Northern Ireland) 1966(b) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following regulations:

*Citation and commencement*

1. These regulations may be cited as the Sea Fish (Prohibition of Fishing Methods) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1980 and shall come into operation on 2nd January 1981.

*Interpretation*

2. In these regulations—

“beam trawl” means a net which is constructed to take fish whilst being towed along the sea bed by a fishing boat, and which has its mouth extended by a beam, bar or other rigid device, and “beam” shall be construed accordingly;

“the Council Regulation” means Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2527/80 laying down technical measures for the conservation of fishery resources(c), as extended(d);

“effective length of beam” in relation to a beam trawl means the distance between the inner edge of the shoe or skid attached to one end of the beam and the corresponding part of the shoe or skid attached to the other end thereof, the measurement being taken at the most forward part of each shoe or skid which comes into contact with the sea bed when the trawl is towed;

“mile” means an international nautical mile of 1,852 metres;

“sea fish” does not include salmon.

*Prohibition of fishing methods*

3. Fishing in or from any boat for any description of sea fish specified in Annex V of the Council Regulation by the method referred to in Article 14(1) of the said Regulation shall be prohibited in the area of sea described in Schedule 1.

4. Fishing in or from any boat for any description of sea fish—

(a) with a beam trawl whereof the effective length of beam exceeds 8 metres; or

(b) with two or more beam trawls used from any boat at any one time whereof the aggregate effective length of beam of the trawls so used simultaneously exceeds 8 metres

shall be prohibited in the area of sea described in Schedule 2.

(a) Formerly Ministry: see 1973 c. 36 s. 40 and Sch. 5 para. 8(1)

(b) 1966 c. 17 (N.I.)

(c) O.J. No. L258, 1.10.80, p. 1

(d) By a Decision of the Council made at its meeting on 17.12.80

*Duration*

5. These regulations shall cease to have effect on 31st January 1981.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland on 19th December 1980.

(L.S.)

*N. E. Morrison*

Assistant Secretary

## SCHEDULE 1

That part of the waters within British fishery limits which is adjacent to Northern Ireland and is not nearer to any point on the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea adjacent to Great Britain or the Isle of Man is measured than to any point on the corresponding Northern Irish baselines.

## SCHEDULE 2

That part of the waters within British fishery limits which is adjacent to Northern Ireland and is—

- (a) not nearer to any point on the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea adjacent to Great Britain or the Isle of Man is measured than to any point on the corresponding Northern Irish baselines; and
- (b) not more than 12 miles from the Northern Irish baselines.

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Regulations, but is intended to indicate their general purport.)*

These regulations are made to implement the United Kingdom's obligations to provide for the enforcement in Northern Ireland of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2527/80 laying down technical measures for the conservation of fishery resources (O.J. No. L258, 1.10.80, p. 1) as extended to 31.1.81 by a Decision of the Council made on 17.12.80. The regulations prohibit—

- (a) fishing by the use of purse seine nets for any description of sea fish other than salmon or sea trout listed in Annex V to that Regulation (which list includes the principal human consumption species) within waters adjacent to the Northern Ireland coast extending from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured out to the median line with Great Britain or the Isle of Man;
- (b) fishing by the use of beam trawls having a length or aggregate length of beam in excess of 8 metres in waters adjacent to the Northern Ireland coast extending to 12 miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured or out to the median line with Scotland where this line is less than 12 miles from the baselines.

A person who contravenes these regulations or who lands or sells fish caught in contravention of them is guilty of an offence for which penalties are prescribed by sections 125 and 201 of the Fisheries Act (Northern Ireland) 1966. The penalties are a fine on summary conviction not exceeding £100 for trawling or seining and not exceeding £50 for landing or selling.