

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO

The Foyle Area and Carlingford Area (Licensing of Fishing Engines) (Amendment) Regulations 2009

S.R. 2009 No. 226

1. Introduction

- 1.1. This Explanatory Memorandum has been prepared by the Foyle, Carlingford and Irish Lights Commission to accompany the Statutory Rule (details above) which is laid before the Northern Ireland Assembly.
- 1.2. The Statutory Rule is made under section 13(1) and (2) of the Foyle Fisheries Act 1952 (as amended by section 34(3) of the British-Irish Agreement Act 1999) and sections 13(1) and (2) of the Foyle Fisheries Act (Northern Ireland) 1952 and is subject to the negative resolution procedure.

2. Purpose

- 2.1. The Loughs Agency is responsible for the conservation and protection of inland fisheries in the Foyle and Carlingford Areas. The purpose of these regulations is to amend the Foyle Area and Carlingford Area (Licensing of Fishing Engines) Regulations 2001, to provide for the omission of references to stake nets, bag nets, fixed draft nets and other nets used seaward of the seaward limit of Lough Foyle and to introduce a concessionary coarse fishing rod and line licence for a person holding a season coarse fishing rod and line licence issued by the Fisheries Conservancy Board for Northern Ireland.

3. Background

- 3.1. In 2007 Loughs Agency banned interceptory fishing for salmon seaward of Lough Foyle. This ban required the removal of nets seaward of the Lough. These regulations provide for the removal of licence categories for those licences no longer issued.
- 3.2. Before the coming into operation of these regulations a Loughs Agency endorsement could only be issued to a person holding a valid Season Game Fishing Rod and Line licence (annual or district) issued by any other Fishery Board in Ireland or Northern Ireland. These Regulations amend this position to allow endorsement of a Fisheries Conservancy Board for Northern Ireland coarse angling licence.

4. Consultation

- 4.1. The regulations were the subject to a full public consultation which included local stakeholders.

5. Equality Impact

- 5.1. These regulations have been subject to equality screening, carried out by the Loughs Agency, which found that a full EQIA is not necessary as the proposals apply equally to, and will have no disproportionate effect on, the section 75 groups.

6. Regulatory Impact

- 6.1. A Regulatory Impact Assessment on these proposed regulations was the subject of full public and stakeholder consultation. The cost of implementation of the regulations was deemed to be negligible.

7. Financial Implications

- 7.1. None.

8. Section 24 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998

- 8.1. These regulations comply with section 24 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998.

9. EU Implications

- 9.1. Not applicable.

10. Parity or Replicatory Measure

- 10.1. Not applicable.

11. Additional Information

- 11.1. None.