

## **EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO**

### **The Foyle Area (Control of Oyster Fishing) (Amendment) Regulations 2010**

**S.R. 2010 No. 153**

#### **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) of the Foyle Fisheries Act 1952 and section 13(1) of the Foyle Fisheries Act (Northern Ireland) 1952 (as amended by S.I. 1999/859 and S.I. 2007/915 (N.I. 9)) 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. These regulations amend the Foyle Area (Control of Oyster Fishing) Regulations 2008 as a conservation and protection measure for oysters.

#### **3. Background**

- 3.1. The Foyle Area (Control of Oyster Fishing) Regulations 2008 provided for, amongst other things, the introduction of size limit of 75mm of oysters that may be retained when caught within the Foyle Area.
- 3.2. The Foyle Area (Control of Oyster Fishing) (Amendment) regulations increase the level of protection for oysters in Lough Foyle by amending the size limit from 75mm to 80mm.

#### **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.