

1972 No. 1785

ANIMALS

DESTRUCTIVE ANIMALS

The Coypus (Keeping) Order 1972

Made - - - 30th October 1972

Laid before Parliament 7th November 1972

Coming into Operation 1st January 1973

The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, the Secretary of State for Scotland and the Secretary of State for Wales, being satisfied with respect to the non-indigenous animals which are the subject of this order that by reason of their destructive habits it is desirable to control the keeping of them and to destroy any which may be at large, in exercise of powers conferred by section 10(1) of the Destructive Imported Animals Act 1932^(a) and now vested in them jointly ^(b) and of all other powers enabling them in that behalf, acting jointly, hereby make the following order:—

Citation, commencement and duration

1. This order, which may be cited as the Coypus (Keeping) Order 1972, shall come into operation on 1st January 1973 and shall cease to have effect after 31st December 1977.

Interpretation

2.—(1) In this order, unless the context otherwise requires—

“the Act” means the Destructive Imported Animals Act 1932;

“coypu” means the animal of the species designated *Myocastor coypus*.

(2) The Interpretation Act 1889^(c) shall apply to the interpretation of this order as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

(3) When this order ceases to have effect as aforesaid section 38(2) of the Interpretation Act 1889 shall apply as if this order were an enactment repealed by another Act of Parliament.

(a) 1932 c. 12.

(b) S.I. 1969/388 (1969 I, p. 1070).

(c) 1889 c. 63.

Keeping of coypus

3. The keeping within Great Britain of any coypus, except under a licence granted under the Act, is prohibited.

In Witness whereof the official seal of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is hereunto affixed on 24th October 1972.

(L.S.)

J. M. L. Prior,
Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

26th October 1972. *Gordon Campbell,*
Secretary of State for Scotland.

Given under my hand on 30th October 1972.
Peter Thomas,
Secretary of State for Wales.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the order.)

This order continues the control over the keeping of coypus within Great Britain. Coming into operation on 1st January 1973, it re-enacts a provision contained in the Coypus (Importation and Keeping) Order 1967 (S.I. 1967/1825), which expires on 31st December 1972, prohibiting the keeping of coypus within Great Britain except under licence. In consequence of the making of this order the provisions of the Destructive Imported Animals Act 1932 will continue to apply to coypus. Those provisions include a requirement that occupiers of land who know that coypus, not being coypus kept under licence, are to be found there shall give notice of the fact to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in the case of land in England or Wales or to the Secretary of State for Scotland in the case of land in Scotland.

As required by the proviso to section 10(1) of the Destructive Imported Animals Act 1932 this order was approved by a resolution of the House of Lords on 22nd November 1972 and by a resolution of the House of Commons on 20th November 1972.

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