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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**1996 No. 1966 (S.162)**

**AGRICULTURE**

**The Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Argyll Islands) Designation (Amendment) Order 1996**

<i>Made</i>	- - - -	<i>22nd July 1996</i>
<i>Laid before Parliament</i>		<i>25th July 1996</i>
<i>Coming into force</i>	- -	<i>15th August 1996</i>

The Secretary of State, in exercise of the powers conferred on him by section 18(1), (4) and (11) of the Agriculture Act 1986<sup>(1)</sup> and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, with the consent of the Treasury, hereby makes the following Order:

**Citation, commencement and interpretation**

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Argyll Islands) Designation (Amendment) Order 1996 and shall come into force on 15th August 1996.

(2) In this Order—

“the principal Order” means the Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Argyll Islands) Designation Order 1993<sup>(2)</sup>.

**Amendment of the principal Order**

2. In article 2(1) of the principal Order (interpretation) for the definition of “wetlands” there shall be substituted the following definition:—

““wetlands” means ground which does not constitute rough grazings and is saturated with water for a significant proportion of the year.”.

3. In article 7 of the principal Order (payments for additional agricultural operations) for the words “Such payments” to the end there shall be substituted—

“Such payments shall be at a rate to be determined by the Secretary of State—

(a) in the case of an agreement entered into on or after 15th August 1996, up to a maximum rate of £30,000 for each 5 year conservation plan; and

(b) in the case of an agreement entered into before that date—

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(1) 1986 c. 49; section 18(4) was amended by S.I.1994/249.

(2) S.I. 1993/3136, amended by S.I. 1994/3067.

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*Status: This is the original version (as it was originally made). This item of legislation is currently only available in its original format.*

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- (i) for the year of the 5 year conservation plan included in such agreement which commenced but which had not ended before that date, up to a maximum rate of £3,500 per annum per crofter, farmer or common grazings committee for that year; and
- (ii) for the whole years or remaining whole years of such 5 year conservation plan, up to a maximum rate calculated by multiplying £6,000 by the number of those whole years or remaining whole years.”.

4. In paragraph 12 of the Schedule to the principal Order (requirements to be included in an agreement)–

- (a) for the word “Scheme” there shall be substituted the word “agreement”; and
- (b) in sub-paragraph (b)(ix)(bb) for the words “, harrowing or spreading” there shall be substituted the words “or harrowing”.

Scottish Office  
18th July 1996

*Lindsay*  
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State,

We consent,

22nd July 1996

*Liam Fox*  
*Simon Burns*  
Two of the Lords Commissioners of Her  
Majesty’s Treasury

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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

This Order amends the Environmentally Sensitive Areas (Argyll Islands) Designation Order 1993 (“the principal Order”).

The Order amends the definition of “wetlands” (article 2) and amends the maximum rate of payments for expenditure identified in an agreement under section 18(3) of the Agriculture Act 1986 as required to undertake additional farming operations specified in the principal Order. For agreements entered into on or after 15th August 1996 there is substituted for the present maximum rate of £3,500 per annum per crofter, farmer or common grazing committee a maximum rate of £30,000 for each 5 year conservation plan included in such agreement. Transitional provision is made for agreements in force on that date (article 3).

The Order also makes a drafting amendment to the Schedule to the principal Order and deletes “spreading” (of fertiliser) from the farming operations which are controlled by the relevant dates in the prescription to protect ground-nesting birds, because this operation is unlikely to cause damage unlike cultivating, harrowing, rolling or mowing (article 4).