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## STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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# 2017 No. 1012

## The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017

### PART 7

#### Enforcement

##### *Powers of entry*

##### **Powers of entry: wildlife inspectors**

**116.**—(1) A wildlife inspector may, at all reasonable hours, enter and inspect any premises other than a dwelling—

- (a) for the purpose of ascertaining whether a species offence is being or has been committed; or
- (b) for the purpose of verifying any statement or representation made, or document or information supplied, by an occupier of the premises in connection with an application for, or the holding of, a licence granted under regulation 55 (licences for certain activities relating to animals or plants).

(2) The power in paragraph (1) to enter and inspect premises includes power to board and inspect a ship within the marine area, subject to paragraphs (3) to (6).

(3) Paragraph (4) applies in relation to—

- (a) a third country ship;
- (b) a warship which is being used by the government of a State other than the United Kingdom (whether or not it is a third country ship); and
- (c) any other ship which is being used by the government of a State other than the United Kingdom for any non-commercial purpose.

(4) A wildlife inspector must not, in the exercise of the power in paragraph (1), board or inspect a ship to which this paragraph applies unless—

- (a) in the case of a third country ship (other than a ship which is being used as mentioned in paragraph (3)(b) or (c)), the United Kingdom is entitled under international law to exercise that power without the consent of the flag state; or
- (b) the Commissioners have given authority to exercise that power.

(5) The Commissioners must not give their authority under paragraph (4)(b) unless the flag state has consented to the United Kingdom exercising that power (whether generally or in relation to the ship in question).

(6) In giving their authority under paragraph (4)(b), the Commissioners must impose such conditions or limitations on the exercise of the power as may be necessary to give effect to any conditions or limitations imposed by the flag state.

(7) A wildlife inspector must, if requested to do so, produce a duly authenticated authorisation document before entering any premises.

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**Changes to legislation:** *The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, Section 116 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 28 June 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes*

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(8) A wildlife inspector may be accompanied by a veterinary surgeon if the wildlife inspector has reasonable grounds for believing that such a person will be needed for the exercise of powers under regulation 120.

(9) In this regulation—

“the Commissioners” means the Commissioners for Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs;

“flag state”, in relation to a ship, means the State whose flag that ship is flying or is entitled to fly;

“third country ship” means a ship which—

- (a) is flying the flag of, or is registered in, any State or territory [<sup>F1</sup>other than the United Kingdom]; and
- (b) is not registered in [<sup>F2</sup>the United Kingdom].

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**Textual Amendments**

- F1** Words in reg. 116(9) substituted (31.12.2020) by [The Conservation of Habitats and Species \(Amendment\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/579\)](#), regs. 1, **27(a)**; 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)
- F2** Words in reg. 116(9) substituted (31.12.2020) by [The Conservation of Habitats and Species \(Amendment\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/579\)](#), regs. 1, **27(b)**; 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

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**Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Instrument associated Parts and Chapters:**

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Instrument (including any effects on those provisions):

- reg. 41(2)(aa) inserted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 38\(5\)](#)
- reg. 108(6) inserted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 39\(6\)](#)
- reg. 111(2)(aa)(ab) substituted for reg. 111(2)(a)(b) by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 40\(3\)\(a\)](#)