1981 No. 8

FISHERIES

Angling (Department of Agriculture Waters) Byelaws (Northern Ireland) 1981

Made	*9th January 1981*
Coming into operation . . .	*1st March 1981*

The Fisheries Conservancy Board for Northern Ireland in exercise of their powers under section 26 of the Fisheries Act (Northern Ireland) 1966(**a**) and of every other power enabling them in that behalf with the approval of the Department(**b**) of Agriculture, hereby make the following Byelaws:

Citation and commencement

1. These Byelaws may be cited as the Angling (Department of Agriculture Waters) Byelaws (Northern Ireland) 1981 and shall come into operation on 1st March 1981.

Application

2. These Byelaws shall apply to angling in the waters described in the first column of the Schedule.

Interpretation

3. In these Byelaws—

"all lawful methods" means any method of angling with rod and line except a method forbidden by any statutory provision for the time being in force and applying to the waters in the first column of the Schedule;

"fish" means salmon, brown trout and rainbow trout;

"fly fishing" means the use of a single rod, reel (including a fixed spool reel), fly line or blow line and a single cast carrying not more than three artificial or winged natural flies but does not include the use of a bubble float in conjunction with artificial or winged natural flies;

"ground bait" means any fish, insect or the immature stage thereof or a worm or any part thereof whether fresh or preserved or any manufactured or prepared material used other than on a hook and designed for the purpose of attracting fish to a natural or artificial bait;

"maggots" means any larvae of the house fly of the Genus Musca and the blue-bottle or blowfly of the Genus Galliphora and any other insect larvae of the Order Diptera;

"length" in relation to fish means the measurement from the tip of the snout to the fork or cleft of the tail;

"spinning" means the use of a single rod, reel (including a fixed spool reel) and line designed to cast or throw an artificial or natural bait except the different species of earthworm (Lumbricus species) and maggots and retrieve the bait by rewinding the line on to the drum of the reel with the bait kept in motion throughout;

(**a**) 1966 c. 17 (N.I.)
(**b**) Formerly Ministry: *see* 1973 c. 36 s. 40 and Sch. 5 para. 8(1)

"trolling" means the drawing of a fishing line with one or more hooks attached through the water from a moving boat;

"worm fishing" means the use of a single hook baited with one or more earthworms (Lumbricus species).

Permitted methods of angling

4. Subject to the provisions of these Byelaws, in the waters described in the first column of the Schedule, the only methods of angling shall be those specified in the second column of the Schedule and the exercise of those methods shall be subject to any restrictions as to number or minimum length of fish which may be retained as specified in respect thereof in the third column of the Schedule.

Return of fish to water

5. All fish smaller than the minimum length which may be retained or fish in excess of the maximum number which may be retained as specified in the third column of the Schedule must be returned to the water as soon as possible without undue harm.

Prohibition on use of ground bait and maggots

6. Subject to the provisions of Byelaw 7 the use of ground bait or maggots is prohibited on the waters to which these Byelaws apply.

Exception from prohibition

7. The prohibition imposed by Byelaw 6 shall not apply to the use of ground bait or the use of maggots as bait on the Ballinamallard River, Blackwater River and Upper and Lower Lough Erne.

Restriction on the use of boats

8. Boats shall not be used for the purpose of angling on the waters to which these Byelaws apply except on Coolyermer Lake, Lough Brickland, Lough Cowey Reservoir, Mill Lough (Bellanaleck), Roughan Lake, Upper and Lower Lough Erne, Lough Melvin, Craigavon (North) Lake, Lough Achork, Lough Glencreawan and Lough Meenameen.

9. Mechanically propelled boats shall not be used for the purpose of angling on the waters to which these Byelaws apply except on Upper and Lower Lough Erne and Lough Melvin.

Restrictions on trolling

10. Trolling is prohibited on all waters to which these Byelaws apply except on Lough Melvin and Upper and Lower Lough Erne.

11. For the purpose of trolling in Lough Melvin and Upper and Lower Lough Erne fishing rods and lines or hand lines shall not be used in excess of—

(*a*) four in a boat occupied by three or more persons;

(*b*) three in a boat occupied by two persons; and

(*c*) two in a boat occupied by one person.

Prohibition on angling in certain areas

12.—(1) Angling shall be prohibited in the River Bush between a metal post coloured yellow on the west bank immediately downstream of the Salmon Leap at Walk Mill and the upstream limit of the said Salmon Leap as designated by a further metal post coloured yellow on the west bank.

(2) Angling shall be prohibited in the Quoile Basin in the following areas:

(*a*) the western shore from Shooter's Island to the new Barrier, and

(*b*) the eastern shore from Steamboat Quay to the most southerly point of Castle Island.

Times for angling

13.—(1) On that section of the River Bush between Lower Road Bridge, Bushmills and the outlet of the boundary drain between the townlands of Walk Mill and Ballyclogh (North) angling shall be permitted only between 8.00 a.m. and either one hour after sunset or 10.00 p.m. whichever is earlier.

(2) Angling shall be permitted only between the hours of 8.00 a.m. and 10.00 p.m. on the undernamed waters:

Copeland Reservoir
Dorisland Reservoir
Leathemstown Reservoir
Lower South Woodburn Reservoir
Middle South Woodburn Reservoir
Lough Mourne
North Woodburn Reservoir
Stoneyford Reservoir
Upper South Woodburn Reservoir

Requirements to hold licences and permits

14. These Byelaws do not authorise a person who is required under any other statutory provision to hold a licence or a permit to fish on any of the waters to which these Byelaws apply without holding such a licence or such a permit.

Revocation

15. The Angling (Department of Agriculture Waters) (No. 2) Byelaws (Northern Ireland) 1979(a) are hereby revoked.

Sealed with the Common Seal of the Fisheries Conservancy Board for Northern Ireland on 9th January 1981.

(L.S.) *C. Fox*
Chairman

R. G. Weaver
Secretary

The Department of Agriculture hereby approves the foregoing Byelaws.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland on 9th January 1981.

(L.S.) *K. F. Parkin*
Senior Assistant Secretary

(a) S.R. 1979 No. 450

SCHEDULE

Department of Agriculture Waters	*Methods of Angling*	*Restriction on number and minimum length of fish which may be retained on any one day*
CO. ANTRIM		
River Bush and tributaries (a) On the River Bush between Bushmills Lower Road Bridge and the outlet of the boundary drain between the townlands of Walk Mill and Ballyclogh (North).	When the water level on the marker posts located beside the west bank of the river in the following positions: (i) 64 m (70 yards) upstream from Bushmills Lower Road Bridge; (ii) immediately downstream from the west pier of Bushmills Church Street Bridge; (iii) 92 m (100 yards) downstream of the outlet of the boundary drain between the townlands of Glebe and Walk Mill; and (iv) immediately below the Salmon Leap Falls at Walk Mill and beside the angler's path footbridge over the outflow from the Generating Station at Walk Mill; is at the colour red, fly fishing and worm fishing and when it is at the colour green, fly fishing, worm fishing and spinning. When fly fishing, only flies tied on single hooks which shall not exceed No. 4 (10 mm between point and shank) may be used. Such flies shall be dressed and shall not be leaded or otherwise artificially weighted.	Minimum length 20.3 cm (8″) for trout.
(b) On the River Bush between Conagher Bridge and Bellisle Bridge and on the Stracam River between its confluence with the River Bush and Dervock.	Fly fishing 1 March—30 June. Fly fishing, worm fishing and spinning 1 July—30 September.	Minimum length 20.3 cm (8″) for trout.
(c) On the River Bush and its tributaries upstream of the outlet of the boundary drain between the townlands of Walk Mill and Ballyclogh (North) but excluding that portion of the River defined in (b) above.	Fly fishing 1 March—30 June. Fly fishing and worm fishing 1 July—30 September.	Minimum length 20.3 cm (8″) for trout.