1974. No. 45 **[C]**

FISHERIES

Angling Bye-laws

BYE-LAWS, DATED 20TH FEBRUARY 1974, MADE BY THE FISHERIES CONSERVANCY BOARD FOR NORTHERN IRELAND WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE UNDER SECTION 26 OF THE FISHERIES ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1966.

The Fisheries Conservancy Board for Northern Ireland in exercise of its powers under Section 26 of the Fisheries Act (Northern Ireland) 1966(a) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf with the approval of the Department of Agriculture (hereinafter called "the Department") hereby makes the following Bye-laws:—

1. These Bye-laws may be cited as the Angling (Department of Agriculture Waters) Bye-laws (Northern Ireland) 1974.

2. These Bye-laws shall apply to angling for fish in waters specified in Column 1 of the Schedule hereto.

3. These Bye-laws shall come into effect on 1st April 1974.

4. In these Bye-laws—

"all lawful methods" in relation to angling 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 to these Bye-laws;

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

"fly fishing" means the use of a single rod with a centre pin reel, fly line and a single cast carrying not more than three artificial or natural flies. For the purpose of the Bye-laws the use of a rod with a fixed spool reel or centre pin reel and bubble float used in conjunction with artificial flies or natural flies shall not be deemed to be construed as fly fishing;

"ground baiting" means the use of 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 to or being used to attract fish to a natural or artificial bait;

"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 excluding the different species of earthworm (*Lumbriculus sp.*) and retrieve the bait by rewinding the line onto the drum of the reel with the bait kept in motion throughout;

"trolling" means the drawing of a fishing line with one bait or lure attached to a single double or treble hook through the water from a moving boat;

(a) 1966. c. 17 (N.I.).

"worm fishing" where specifically mentioned means the use of a single hook baited with one or more earthworms (*Lumbriculus sp.*).

5. For the purposes of angling for fish the methods of angling in each particular water shall subject to Bye-laws 6 and 7 only be as described in the Schedule to these Bye-laws.

6.—(1) In addition to the methods described in the Schedule the following methods of angling shall be permitted:—

(*a*) On the River Bush between Bushmills New Bridge and the outlet of the boundary drain between the townlands of Walk Mill and Ballyclough (North), worm fishing when the water level is at the colour red on the marker posts located beside the left bank of the river in the following positions:

(i) 70 yards upstream from Bushmills New Bridge;

(ii) immediately downstream from the west pier of Bushmills Church Street Bridge;

(iii) 100 yards downstream of the outlet of the boundary drain between the townlands of Glebe and Walk Mill;

(iv) immediately below the Salmon Leap falls at Walk Mill and beside the anglers' path footbridge over the outflow from the Generating Station at Walk Mill.

and worm fishing and spinning when the water level is at the colour green on the said marker posts.

(*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, all lawful methods of angling from 30th June to 30th September.

(*c*) On the River Bush 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 sub-paragraph (*b*), worm fishing from 30th June to 30th September.

(2) In addition to the methods described in the Schedule and subject to Bye-law 7 all lawful methods of angling shall be permitted from 30th June until the end of the season at Castlewellan Lake, Co. Down, and from 31st July until the end of the season on the under-named lakes:

Mill Lough (Bellanaleck), Co. Fermanagh

Castledillon Lake, Co. Armagh

7. Fly fishing shall be the only method of angling permitted throughout the season from boats on Castlewellan Lake, Mill Lough (Bellanaleck) and Coolyermer Lake.

8. Only fish of a length equal to or greater than the length shown in the Schedule for that particular water may be retained by the angler.

9. All fish smaller than the minimum size must be returned gently and as soon as possible to the water.

10. Except on waters designated by the Coarse Fishing Rod Licences Bye-laws (Northern Ireland) 1974(**b**) ground baiting is not permitted on waters to which these Bye-laws apply.

(b) S.R. (N.I.) 1974, No. 23.

11. Subject to the provisions of Bye-law 12 boats may not be used for the purpose of angling on the waters to which these Bye-laws apply except Castlewellan Lake, Coolyermer Lake, Lough Brickland, Mill Lough (Bellanaleck), Roughan Lake, Upper and Lower Lough Erne and Lough Melvin.

12. Only boats of a non-mechanised nature may be used on Tullynawood Lake.

13. With the exception of Lough Melvin and Upper and Lower Lough Erne, trolling is prohibited on all waters named in the Schedule.

14. 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.

15. No fishing shall be permitted in the River Bush between a metal post coloured yellow on the left 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 left bank.

16.—(1) On that section of the River Bush between Bushmills New Bridge and Bushmills Church Street Bridge angling shall be permitted only between the hours of 8.00 a.m. and 6.00 p.m.

(2) On that section of the River Bush between the weir at the junction of the boundaries of the townlands of Ballyness, Glebe and Ballaghmore or 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 one hour after sunset or 9.00 p.m., whichever is earlier.

(3) Angling shall be permitted only between the hours of 8.00 a.m. and 10 p.m. on the under-named waters:

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

17. The Angling (Ministry of Agriculture Waters) Bye-laws (Northern Ireland) 1973(c) are hereby revoked.

(c) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1973, No. 123.