1973. No. 123 **[C]**

FISHERIES

Angling Bye-Laws

BYE-LAWS, DATED 30TH MARCH 1973, MADE BY THE FISHERIES CONSERVANCY BOARD FOR NORTHERN IRELAND WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE MINISTRY 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 Ministry of Agriculture (hereinafter called "the Ministry") hereby makes the following Bye-laws:—

1. These Bye-laws may be cited as the Angling (Ministry of Agriculture Waters) Bye-laws (Northern Ireland) 1973.

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

3. These Bye-laws shall come into effect on 16th April 1973.

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 unto the drum of the reel with the bait kept in motion throughout;

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

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

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

5. For the purposes of angling for fish the methods of angling in a 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 and subject to Bye-law 7 the following methods of angling shall be permitted:—

(*a*) On the River Bush between Bushmills New Bridge and Seneirl Bridge 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 for 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;

(v) at the waterworks metal footbridge 240 yards downstream from Seneirl Bridge;

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 31st May 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 1st July until the end of the season at Castlewellan Lake, Co. Down, and from the 1st August 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 and Mill Lough (Bellanaleck).

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) 1973(b) ground baiting is not permitted on waters to which these Bye-laws apply.

11. Subject to the provisions of Bye-laws 12 and 13 boats are not permitted for the purpose of angling on the waters to which these Bye-laws apply except Castlewellan Lake, Coolyermer Lake, Lough Brickland, Mill Lough (Bellanaleck) and Roughan Lake.

12. Boats may be used for the purpose of angling on Upper and Lower Lough Erne and Lough Melvin.

(b) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1973, No. 6.