1971. No. 369 **[C]**

FISHERIES

Eel Fishing

REGULATIONS, DATED 24TH NOVEMBER 1971, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE UNDER SECTION 15 OF THE FISHERIES ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1966.

The Ministry of Agriculture in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 15 of the Fisheries Act (Northern Ireland) 1966(**a**) and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf hereby makes the following Regulations:—

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Eel Fishing (River Erne and Quoile Basin) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1971 and shall come into effect on the 1st day of March 1972.

2. These Regulations shall apply to the River Erne in the County of Fermanagh, within one half mile downstream from Rosscor Viaduct and to the River Quoile, in the County of Down, between the flood gates at the Old Quoile Bridge and the tidal barrier at Hare Island.

3. There shall be added to the Schedule to the Eel Fishing (Licence Duties Amendent) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1969(**b**), the fishing engines and duties referred to in the Schedule to these Regulations.

4. The annual close season for taking eels by means of fyke nets shall be a period from 9th January in any year to 30th April in that year.

5. Each fyke net or series of fyke nets used for the taking of eels shall be marked at each end by a float which protrudes at least four inches from the surface of the water when the gear is fishing.

6. In these Regulations the expression "fyke net" means an eel net

(1) with a leader not exceeding twenty four feet in length;

(2) with a trap at each end on which no hoop shall exceed twenty inches in diameter;

(3) which has no mesh of less size than one half inch from knot to knot measured along the side of the square or one inch measured on the stretched diagonal mesh such measurements being taken when the net is wet; and

(4) with no other net or netting attached other than to join fyke nets end to end.

7. In these Regulations the expression "fixed wing net" means an eel net used in the River Erne, in the County of Fermanagh, within one half mile downstream from Rosscor Viaduct, or in the River Quoile in the County of Down between the flood gates at the Old Quoile Bridge and the tidal barrier at Hare Island, with a leader and wing or wings each not exceeding 75 ft. in length.

(**a**) 1966. c. 17 (N.I.). (**b**) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1969, No. 80.