
SCOTTISH STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2011 No. 204

**The Marine Licensing (Exempted Activities)
(Scottish Inshore Region) Order 2011**

PART 3

Exempt activities and conditions

Interpretation of this Part

5. In this Part—

- (a) a reference to a “deposit” is a reference to a deposit falling within item 1 (deposits within Scottish marine area), 2 (deposits from vehicle, vessel etc. loaded in Scotland or Scottish marine area) or, except as otherwise provided, 8 (deposits of explosives within Scottish marine area);
- (b) a reference to a “dredging activity” is a reference to an activity falling within item 7 (dredging within Scottish marine area);
- (c) a reference to a “removal activity” is [^{F1}, except as otherwise provided,] a reference to an activity falling within item 6 (use of vehicle, vessel etc. to remove substance or object from seabed within Scottish marine area);
- (d) a reference to a “works activity” is a reference to an activity falling within item 5 (construction, alteration or improvement of works within Scottish marine area).

F1 Words in art. 5(c) inserted (3.2.2012) by [The Marine Licensing \(Exempted Activities\) \(Scottish Inshore and Offshore Regions\) Amendment Order 2012 \(S.S.I. 2012/25\)](#), arts. 1, 4

Safety directions under the Merchant Shipping Act 1995

6. This article applies to an activity carried on—

- (a) by or on behalf of the Secretary of State in exercise of a power under Schedule 3A to the Merchant Shipping Act 1995 ^{M1} (safety directions);
- (b) by any person for the purpose of complying with a direction under that Schedule; or
- (c) by any person for the purpose of avoiding interference with action taken by virtue of that Schedule.

Marginal Citations

M1 [1995 c.21](#); section 108A, which gives effect to Schedule 3A, was inserted by section 1(1) of the [Marine Safety Act 2003 \(c.16\)](#).

Salvage activities

7. This article applies to an activity carried on, in the course of a salvage operation, for the purpose of ensuring the safety of a vessel or preventing pollution.

Fire fighting etc.

8. This article applies to an activity carried on for the purpose of fighting, or preventing the spread of, any fire.

Air accident investigation

9. This article applies to a deposit or removal activity carried on for the purpose of recovering any substance or object as part of an investigation into any accident involving an aircraft.

Fishing – deposits

10.—(1) This article applies—

(a) to the deposit by way of return to the sea—

(i) of any fish during the course of a fishing operation; or

(ii) of any other object during the course of a fishing operation,

provided that the fish or other object has not been landed before being so returned;

(b) to the deposit by way of return to the sea of any fish during the course of fish processing at sea.

(2) This article does not apply—

(a) to a deposit of fishing gear made for the purpose of disposal;

(b) except in the case of a deposit falling within paragraph (1)(a)(ii), to a deposit to the extent that it falls within item 8.

Fishing – removal activity and dredging activity

11. This article applies—

(a) to a removal activity carried on for the purpose of removing fishing gear in the course of a fishing operation;

(b) to a dredging activity carried on in the course of any fishing operation.

Propagation and cultivation of fish – deposits

12.—^{F2}(1) This article applies to the deposit of any—

(a) trestle;

(b) raft;

(c) cage;

(d) pole;

(e) rope;

(f) line; or

(g) within controlled waters, substance which is liable to cause pollution of the water environment,

carried on in the course of the propagation or cultivation of fish.]

(2) [^{F3}Subject to paragraph (3), this] article does not apply to a deposit—

- (a) made for the purpose of disposal;
- (b) made for the purpose of creating, altering or maintaining an artificial reef; or
- (c) that causes or is likely to cause obstruction or danger to navigation.

[^{F4}(3) Paragraph (2)(a) does not apply to a deposit of the type described in paragraph (1)(g).

(4) In this article—

“controlled waters” means that part of the Scottish marine area which is within the area extending landward from the three mile limit;

“pollution” means the direct or indirect introduction, as a result of human activity, of a substance or heat into the water environment, or any part of it, which may give rise to any harm; and “harm” means—

- (a) harm to the health of human beings or other living organisms;
- (b) harm to the quality of the water environment, including—
 - (i) harm to the quality of the water environment taken as a whole;
 - (ii) other impairment of, or interference with, the quality of aquatic ecosystems or terrestrial ecosystems directly depending on aquatic ecosystems;
- (c) offence to the senses of human beings;
- (d) damage to property; or
- (e) impairment of, or interference with, amenities or other legitimate uses of the water environment;

“substance” means—

- (a) any chemical used for medicinal purposes or otherwise, with the exception of any reagent or chemical or particle tracer used in connection with any scientific experiment or survey,
- (b) any organic or biological matter;

“three mile limit” means the limit consisting of a line every point of which is at a distance of 3 miles on the seaward side from the nearest point of the baseline from which the breadth of the territorial sea of the United Kingdom adjacent to Scotland is measured; and “miles” means international nautical miles of 1,852 metres; and

“the water environment” has the same meaning as in section 3(2) of the Water Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act 2003.]

- F2** Art. 12(1) substituted (9.11.2020) by [The Marine Licensing \(Exempted Activities\) \(Scottish Inshore Region\) Amendment Order 2020 \(S.S.I. 2020/316\)](#), arts. 1, **3(a)** (with Pt. 3)
- F3** Words in art. 12(2) substituted (9.11.2020) by [The Marine Licensing \(Exempted Activities\) \(Scottish Inshore Region\) Amendment Order 2020 \(S.S.I. 2020/316\)](#), arts. 1, **3(b)** (with Pt. 3)
- F4** Art. 12(3)(4) inserted (9.11.2020) by [The Marine Licensing \(Exempted Activities\) \(Scottish Inshore Region\) Amendment Order 2020 \(S.S.I. 2020/316\)](#), arts. 1, **3(c)** (with Pt. 3)

Propagation and cultivation of fish – removal activity and dredging activity

13. This article applies to—

- (a) a removal activity carried on in the course of the propagation or cultivation of fish;
- (b) a dredging activity carried on in the course of the propagation or cultivation of shellfish.

Oil and gas activities and carbon dioxide storage

14.—(1) This article applies to anything done—

- (a) in the course of carrying on an activity for which a licence under section 3 of the Petroleum Act 1998 ^{M2} or section 2 of the Petroleum (Production) Act 1934 ^{M3} is required;
- (b) for the purpose of constructing or maintaining a pipeline as respects any part of which an authorisation (within the meaning of Part 3 of the Petroleum Act 1998) is in force; or
- (c) in the course of carrying on an activity for which a licence under section 4 or 18 of the Energy Act 2008 ^{M4} is required.

(2) For the purposes of paragraph (1)(a) or (c), activities are to be regarded as activities for which a licence of the description in question is required if, by virtue of such a licence, they are activities which may be carried on only with the consent of the Secretary of State or another person.

Marginal Citations

- M2** 1998 c.17.
M3 1934 c.36.
M4 2008 c.32.

Deposits of marine chemical and marine oil treatment substances etc.

15.—(1) This article applies to the deposit of any—

- (a) marine chemical treatment substance;
- (b) marine oil treatment substance;
- (c) marine surface fouling cleaner.

(2) This article is subject to conditions 1 to ^{F5}4].

(3) Condition 1 is that the substance must be one the use of which is for the time being approved for the purposes of this Order by the Scottish Ministers.

(4) Condition 2 is that the substance must be used in accordance with any conditions to which the approval is subject.

(5) Condition 3 is that no deposit must be made in an area of the sea of a depth of less than 20 metres or within one nautical mile of any such area except with the approval of the Scottish Ministers.

^{F6}(5A) Condition 4 is that no deposit of any ^{F6}substance may be made below the surface of the sea except with the approval of the Scottish Ministers.]

(6) In paragraph (1)—

- (a) “marine chemical treatment substance” and “marine oil treatment substance” have the same meaning as in section 107(2) of the 2009 Act;
- (b) “marine surface fouling cleaner” means any substance used or intended to be used for removing surface fouling matter from the surface of the sea or of the sea bed.

F5 Word in art. 15(2) substituted (3.2.2012) by [The Marine Licensing \(Exempted Activities\) \(Scottish Inshore and Offshore Regions\) Amendment Order 2012 \(S.S.I. 2012/25\)](#), arts. 1, **5(a)**

F6 Art. 15(5A) inserted (3.2.2012) by [The Marine Licensing \(Exempted Activities\) \(Scottish Inshore and Offshore Regions\) Amendment Order 2012 \(S.S.I. 2012/25\)](#), arts. 1, **5(b)**

Deposit of equipment to control, contain or recover oil etc.

16.—(1) This article applies to the deposit of any equipment for the purpose of controlling, containing or recovering any—

- (a) oil;
- (b) mixture containing oil;
- (c) chemical;
- (d) flotsam; or
- (e) algal bloom.

(2) This article does not apply to a deposit to the extent that it falls within item 8.

Scientific instruments etc. – deposits

17.—(1) This article applies—

- (a) to the deposit of any scientific instrument or associated equipment in connection with any scientific experiment or survey;
- (b) to the deposit of any reagent or any chemical or particle tracer.

(2) In the case of the deposit of any reagent or chemical or particle tracer, this article is subject to the condition that the use of the reagent or the chemical or particle tracer must be for the time being approved for the purposes of this Order by the Scottish Ministers.

(3) This article does not apply to—

- (a) a deposit made for the purpose of disposal;
- (b) a deposit that causes or is likely to cause obstruction or danger to navigation;
- (c) a deposit—
 - (i) that falls within sub-paragraph (a), (b) or (c) of paragraph (4); and
 - (ii) that is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site or area referred to in that sub-paragraph.

(4) A deposit falls within this paragraph if—

- (a) it is a plan or project likely (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects) to have a significant effect on a European site;
- (b) it is likely to have a significant effect on a Ramsar site; or
- (c) it is capable of affecting (other than insignificantly)—
 - (i) the protected features of an MPA;
 - (ii) any ecological or geomorphological process on which the conservation of any protected feature of an MPA is (wholly or in part) dependent.

Scientific instruments etc. – removal activity

18.—(1) This article applies to a removal activity carried on for the purpose of removing any scientific instrument or associated equipment referred to in article 17(1)(a).

(2) This article does not apply to such an activity—

- (a) that falls within sub-paragraph (a), (b) or (c) of paragraph (3); and
- (b) that is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site or area referred to in that sub-paragraph.

(3) Such an activity falls within this paragraph if—

- (a) it is a plan or project likely (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects) to have a significant effect on a European site;
- (b) it is likely to have a significant effect on a Ramsar site; or
- (c) it is capable of affecting (other than insignificantly)—
 - (i) the protected features of an MPA;
 - (ii) any ecological or geomorphological process on which the conservation of any protected feature of an MPA is (wholly or in part) dependent.

[^{F7}Accidental deposits – removal activity

18A.—(1) This article applies to a removal activity carried on for the purpose of removing any object from the seabed which has been accidentally deposited there.

(2) This article is subject to conditions 1 and 2.

(3) Condition 1 is that notice of the activity must be given, in writing, to the Scottish Ministers no later than 3 months from the date of commencement of the removal activity.

(4) Condition 2 is that the object to be removed from the seabed has been deposited there for less than one year before the removal activity is commenced.

(5) This article does not apply to an activity where—

- (a) it causes, or is likely to cause, obstruction or danger to navigation;
- (b) it is a plan or a project likely (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects) to have a significant effect on a European site;
- (c) it is likely to have a significant effect on a Ramsar site; or
- (d) it is capable of affecting (other than insignificantly)—
 - (i) the protected features of an MPA; or
 - (ii) any ecological or geomorphological process on which the conservation of any protected feature of an MPA is (wholly or in part) dependent.

(6) A reference to a “removal activity” in this article does not include the use of an aircraft, marine structure or floating container to remove the object from the seabed.

<p>F7 Arts. 18A, 18B inserted (3.2.2012) by The Marine Licensing (Exempted Activities) (Scottish Inshore and Offshore Regions) Amendment Order 2012 (S.S.I. 2012/25), arts. 1, 6</p>

Sediment sampling

18B.—(1) This article applies to a removal activity which is carried on for the purpose of sediment sampling.

(2) This article is subject to the condition that notice of the intention to carry on the activity must be given, in writing, to the Scottish Ministers before the activity is commenced.

(3) The condition in paragraph (2) is deemed to be satisfied where the removal activity is carried on as a condition of an authorisation of a controlled activity granted by the Scottish Environment Protection Agency under Part II of the Water Environment (Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Regulations 2011.

(4) This article does not apply to an activity where—

- (a) the volume of sediment removed is more than 1 cubic metre;
- (b) it causes, or is likely to cause, obstruction or danger to navigation;

- (c) it is a plan or a project likely (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects) to have a significant effect on a European site;
 - (d) it is likely to have a significant effect on a Ramsar site; or
 - (e) it is capable of affecting (other than insignificantly)—
 - (i) the protected features of an MPA; or
 - (ii) any ecological or geomorphological process on which the conservation of any protected feature of an MPA is (wholly or in part) dependent.
- (5) “Controlled activity” in this article has the meaning given to it in regulation 2(1) of the Water Environment (Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Regulations 2011.]

F7 Arts. 18A, 18B inserted (3.2.2012) by [The Marine Licensing \(Exempted Activities\) \(Scottish Inshore and Offshore Regions\) Amendment Order 2012 \(S.S.I. 2012/25\)](#), arts. 1, 6

Aggregates or mineral dredging – deposits

19. This article applies—

- (a) to the deposit, on the site of dredging for aggregates or other minerals, of any substance or object taken from the sea in the course of such dredging (other than any of the aggregates or minerals being dredged);
- (b) to the deposit of waters (whether by overflow or pumped discharge) from the hold of a vessel—
 - (i) in the normal course of dredging for aggregates or other minerals; or
 - (ii) at the site of such dredging following its completion or during the return journey of the vessel.

Maintenance of coast protection, drainage and flood defence works

20.—(1) This article applies to an activity carried on by or on behalf of a local authority for the purpose of maintaining any—

- (a) coast protection works;
- (b) drainage works;
- (c) flood defence works.

(2) This article is subject to the condition that the activity is carried on within the existing boundaries of the works being maintained.

(3) This article does not apply in relation to any beach replenishment.

Emergency works

21.—(1) This article applies to an activity carried on for the purpose of executing emergency works—

- (a) in response to any flood or the imminent risk of any flood;
- (b) for the purpose of preventing pollution of the environment; or
- (c) to repair an existing structure.

(2) This article is subject to the condition that the activity is approved by the Scottish Ministers before it is carried on.

Use of vehicles to remove litter or seaweed from beaches

22.—(1) This article applies to a removal activity using a vehicle carried on by or on behalf of a local authority for the purpose of removing any litter or seaweed from a beach.

- (2) This article does not apply to any such removal activity—
- (a) that falls within sub-paragraph (a), (b) or (c) of paragraph (3); and
 - (b) that is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site or area referred to in that sub-paragraph.
- (3) Such an activity falls within this paragraph if—
- (a) it is a plan or project likely (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects) to have a significant effect on a European site;
 - (b) it is likely to have a significant effect on a Ramsar site; or
 - (c) it is capable of affecting (other than insignificantly)—
 - (i) the protected features of an MPA;
 - (ii) any ecological or geomorphological process on which the conservation of any protected feature of an MPA is (wholly or in part) dependent.

Deposits in the course of normal navigation or maintenance

23.—(1) This article applies to a deposit from a vehicle, vessel, aircraft or marine structure in the course of its normal navigation or maintenance.

- (2) This article does not apply to a deposit—
- (a) made for the purpose of disposal;
 - (b) to the extent that it falls within item 8.

Maintenance of harbour works

24.—(1) This article applies to a deposit, removal activity or works activity carried on by or on behalf of a harbour authority for the purpose of maintaining any harbour works.

(2) This article is subject to the condition that the activity is carried on within the existing boundaries of the works being maintained.

Removal of obstruction or danger to navigation

- 25.**—(1) This article applies to a removal activity carried on by or on behalf of—
- (a) a conservancy authority;
 - (b) a harbour authority;
 - (c) a lighthouse authority; or
 - (d) a navigation authority,

for the purpose of removing anything causing or likely to cause obstruction or danger to navigation.

- (2) In paragraph (1)—
- “conservancy authority” has the meaning given by section 313(1) of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995^{M5};
 - “navigation authority” means any person having powers under any enactment or statutory order to work or maintain a canal or other inland navigation, including a navigation in tidal water.

Marginal Citations

M5 1995 c.21.

Harbour dredging

- 26.**—(1) This article applies to any dredging activity carried on in connection with a harbour.
- (2) This article is subject to conditions 1 to 3.
- (3) Condition 1 is that the activity—
- (a) involves the dredged material being contained within a secure structure and transported for deposit other than at the place of dredging; or
 - (b) involves the use of plough dredging as part of a dredging operation in respect of which any other dredging falls within sub-paragraph (a).
- (4) Condition 2 is that the activity is authorised by or under, and carried out in accordance with—
- (a) any local Act; or
 - (b) any order under section 14 or 16 of the Harbours Act 1964.
- (5) Condition 3 is that the activity is approved by the Scottish Ministers before it is carried on.

Moorings and aids to navigation – deposits and works activity

- 27.**—(1) This article applies to a deposit or works activity carried on by—
- (a) a harbour authority;
 - (b) a lighthouse authority; or
 - (c) any other person in accordance with the approval or consent of any such authority,
- for the purpose of providing a pile mooring, swinging mooring or aid to navigation.
- (2) This article does not apply—
- (a) to the deposit of a pontoon;
 - (b) to the construction of a pontoon.

Moorings and aids to navigation – removal activity

28. This article applies to a removal activity carried on for the purpose of removing a mooring or aid to navigation referred to in article 27(1).

Launching of vessels etc.

29. This article applies to a deposit in connection with the launching of any vehicle, vessel, aircraft, marine structure or floating container.

Dismantling of ships

- 30.**—(1) This article applies to a deposit or removal activity carried on as part of dismantling a ship that is waste.
- (2) This article does not apply to a deposit to the extent that it falls within item 8.

Deposit and use of flares etc. – safety purposes and training

31. This article applies to the deposit or use of any distress flare, smoke float or similar pyrotechnic substance or object for the purpose of—

- (a) securing the safety of a vessel, aircraft or marine structure;
- (b) saving life; or
- (c) training for any purpose referred to in paragraph (a) or (b).

Cables and pipelines – authorised emergency inspection and repair

32.—(1) This article applies to a deposit, removal activity or dredging activity carried on for the purpose of executing emergency inspection or repair works to any cable or pipeline.

(2) This article is subject to the condition that the activity may only be carried on in accordance with an approval granted by the Scottish Ministers for that purpose.

(3) This article does not apply to any such deposit falling within item 8.

Bored tunnels

33.—(1) This article applies to a deposit or works activity carried on wholly under the sea bed in connection with the construction or operation of a bored tunnel.

(2) This article is subject to conditions 1 and 2.

(3) Condition 1 is that notice of the intention to carry on the activity must be given to the Scottish Ministers before the activity is carried on.

(4) Condition 2 is that the activity must not adversely affect any part of the environment of the UK marine area or the living resources that it supports.

(5) This article does not apply to a deposit carried on for the purpose of disposal.

Rights of foreign vessels etc. under international law

34.—(1) This article applies to an activity to the extent that it is carried on in exercise of a right under rules of international law, by or in relation to—

- (a) a third country vessel;
- (b) a warship, naval auxiliary, other vessel or aircraft owned or operated by a State and used, for the time being, only on government non-commercial service (whether or not the warship, naval auxiliary or other vessel is a third country vessel).

(2) In this article, “third country vessel” means a vessel which—

- (a) is flying the flag of, or is registered in, any State or territory [^{F8}other than the United Kingdom]; and
- (b) is not registered in [^{F9}the United Kingdom].

F8 Words in art. 34(2)(a) substituted (31.12.2020) by [The Marine Environment \(EU Exit\) \(Scotland\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2019 \(S.S.I. 2019/55\)](#), regs. 1, **4(5)(a)**; 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

F9 Words in art. 34(2)(b) substituted (31.12.2020) by [The Marine Environment \(EU Exit\) \(Scotland\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2019 \(S.S.I. 2019/55\)](#), regs. 1, **4(5)(b)**; 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

Activities carried on outside the Scottish marine area

35.—(1) This article applies to an activity carried on outside the Scottish marine area.

- (2) But paragraph (1) does not apply where—
 - (a) a deposit activity takes place outside the UK marine area and the activity does not fall within item 2 of the 2009 Act;
 - (b) a vessel or floating container is scuttled outside that area and the activity does not fall within item 5 of the 2009 Act.
- (3) This article also applies to the loading of a vehicle, vessel, marine structure or floating container with any substance or object for incineration outside the Scottish marine area.
- (4) But paragraph (3) does not apply where the incineration—
 - (a) takes place outside the UK marine area; and
 - (b) does not fall within item 12 of the 2009 Act.

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Marine Licensing (Exempted Activities) (Scottish Inshore Region) Order 2011, PART 3.