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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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1980 No. 810

SEA FISHERIES

**The Kent and Essex Sea Fisheries District  
(Variation) Order 1980**

*Laid before Parliament in draft*  
*Made - - - 12th June 1980*  
*Coming into Operation 1st July 1980*

The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, on the application of the local fisheries committee for the Kent and Essex Sea Fisheries District and after consultation with every county council concerned, in exercise of the powers conferred on him by sections 1 and 18(1) of the Sea Fisheries Regulation Act 1966(a) and of all other powers enabling him in that behalf, hereby makes the following order, a draft of which has lain before Parliament for forty days prior to its being made:—

*Citation, Commencement and Interpretation*

1.—(1) This order may be cited as the Kent and Essex Sea Fisheries District (Variation) Order 1980 and shall come into operation on 1st July 1980.

(2) In this order “the principal order” means the order made by the Board of Trade on 5th May 1890(b) (which created the Kent and Essex Sea Fisheries District and constituted a local fisheries committee for the regulation of the sea fisheries within that district).

*Variation of Principal Order*

2.—(1) For article 1 of the principal order (Creation of District) there shall be substituted the following:—

“1. *Creation of District.*

A sea fisheries district is hereby created comprising so much of the sea within the national waters of the United Kingdom adjacent to England and so much of the sea within three nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea of the United Kingdom adjacent to England is measured, with the adjoining coast, as lies within the following limits, namely, on the north, commencing at the point at which a line drawn seaward along the northern edge of the causeway situated opposite Lower Marine

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(a) 1966 c. 38.

(b) Parliamentary Papers 1890 No. 159, as varied by S.I. 1973/2198.

Parade at Dovercourt in the county of Essex intersects the line of mean low water, a line drawn seaward on a bearing of 100° true to the limit of the district above described, and a line drawn northwards from the said intersection along the boundary of the administrative county of Essex to its intersection with a line drawn across the River Stour, along the seaward side of the railway bridge at Cattawade (being the southern boundary of the Eastern Sea Fisheries District); and, on the south, a line drawn true south-east from the old lighthouse at Dungeness, in the county of Kent (being the eastern boundary of the Sussex Sea Fisheries District).

The sea fisheries district shall not extend above a line drawn at or near the mouth of every river or stream flowing into the sea, or into any estuary, within the limits of the said district, as follows:—

A line drawn across the River Stour, in the county of Kent, in continuation of a line drawn on a bearing of 090° true from the chimney of the Richborough Power Station to the river;

A line drawn across the River Medway, on a bearing of 300° true from Garrison Point at Sheerness through the Grain Tower to the point of mean high water springs on the shore of the Isle of Grain;

A line drawn across the River Thames, on a bearing of 359° true from the London Stone near the entrance to Yantlet Creek, in the county of Kent, to the Crow Stone, otherwise the City Stone, opposite Canvey Island, in the county of Essex, and continued on either side of the river to the point of mean high water springs;

A line drawn across the River Colne, on a bearing of 248° true from Colne Point to the Fishery Buoy, thence on a bearing of 341° true to the Mersea Stone on Mersea Island;

A line drawn across every river or stream not hereinbefore specified, such line being drawn at the limit of mean high water springs;

The district moreover shall not extend into:

- (i) the River Medway through the channel of the Swale beyond a line drawn on a bearing of 097° true from the northernmost point of Deadmans Island (Swale Ness) to Queenborough Point in the Isle of Sheppey; or
- (ii) the Pyefleet Channel from the Strood Channel beyond a line drawn along the western side of the causeway known as "The Strood" and carrying the B1025 road to Mersea Island.

In respect of the rivers and streams above the lines beyond which the sea fisheries district does not extend, the Southern Water Authority shall within its area have the powers of a local fisheries committee.

The Sea Fisheries District hereby created shall be called the Kent and Essex Sea Fisheries District."

(2) Article 13 of the principal order (Definitions) shall be deleted.

In Witness whereof the Official Seal of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is hereunto affixed on 12th June 1980.

(L.S.)

*Peter Walker,*  
Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This Note is not part of the Order.)*

This Order varies the description of the limits of the Kent and Essex Sea Fisheries District (created in 1890 by order of the Board of Trade under the Sea Fisheries Regulation Act 1888 (c. 54)). The district extends three nautical miles seaward from the baselines from which United Kingdom territorial waters are measured, and includes the waters on the landward side of those baselines. The baselines in question were established by the Territorial Waters Order in Council 1964 (published in Statutory Instruments 1965 at p. 6452A).

The Order draws lines across the rivers which flow into the sea within the district to define the boundary between the district and the area in which the Southern Water Authority has the powers of a local fisheries committee.