
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1991 No. 1597

The Bathing Waters (Classification) Regulations 1991

Citation and commencement

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Bathing Waters (Classification) Regulations 1991 and shall come into force on 9th August 1991.

Classification of waters

2. –

(1) A system employing the classification BW1 is prescribed as a system of classification applying to relevant territorial waters, coastal waters and inland waters which are bathing waters.

(2) For the purposes of paragraph (1) above “bathing waters” are waters which are bathing water within the meaning of Article 1.2 of Council Directive [76/160/EEC](#)(1) and other waters which are used for bathing.

(3) Schedules 1, 2 and 3 (which specify criteria for classification BW1, impose sampling requirements and set out quality standards) shall have effect.

Modification of section 105 of the Water Act 1989

3. Section 105 of the Water Act 1989 shall have effect as if –

- (a) it imposed a duty on the Secretary of State to exercise his powers under that section to apply the classification BW1 to relevant territorial waters, coastal waters and inland waters which are bathing water within the meaning of Article 1.2 of Council Directive [76/160/EEC](#); and
- (b) in relation to the establishment of water quality objectives in pursuance of that duty, subsections (4) and (5) of that section were omitted.

9th July 1991

Michael Heseltine
Secretary of State for the Environment

11th July 1991

David Hunt
Secretary of State for Wales

(1) OJNo. L 31/1, 5.2.76, p.1.