



Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries (Consolidation) (Scotland) Act 2003

2003 asp 15

PART 7

GENERAL

69 Interpretation

- (1) In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—
- “the 1862 Act” means the Salmon Fisheries (Scotland) Act [1862 \(c. 97\)](#);
 - “the 1864 Act” means the Salmon Fisheries (Scotland) Act [1864 \(c. 118\)](#);
 - “the 1868 Act” means the Salmon Fisheries (Scotland) Act [1868 \(c. 123\)](#);
 - “the 1862 to 1868 Acts” means the 1862 Act, the 1864 Act and the 1868 Act;
 - “the 1986 Act” means the Salmon Act [1986 \(c. 62\)](#);
 - “annual close time for salmon” has the meaning given in section 37(1) of this Act;
 - “annual close time for trout” has the meaning given in section 17 of this Act;
 - “assessor” means an assessor appointed under section 27 of the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act [1994 \(c. 39\)](#);
 - “bag net, fly or other stake net” shall be construed in accordance with any regulations made under section 31(4) of this Act;
 - “boat” includes any craft or vessel used in fishing;
 - “certificated fixed engine” has the meaning given in section 1(5)(a) of this Act;
 - “coastal limits” means the limits of sea coast fixed for a salmon fishery district either prior to the coming into force of this Act or by an order under section 34(2) of this Act;
 - “cruise” shall be construed in accordance with any regulations made under section 31(1)(b) of this Act;
 - “dam” means any weir, dam, dyke, cauld, mill dam or other structure constructed in the bed of any stream, river or loch for the purpose of controlling, impounding or diverting water therefrom;
 - “designation order” has the meaning given in section 34(2) of this Act;
 - “district” means a salmon fishery district;

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).

“district salmon fishery board” has the meaning given in section 43 of this Act;
“enactment” includes any Act of Parliament or Act of the Scottish Parliament, and any subordinate legislation made under either of such Acts;

“estuary limits” has the meaning given in section 36 of this Act;

“fish farm” has the same meaning as in section 10(1) of the Diseases of Fish Act 1937 (c. 33);

“fishery” and “salmon fishery” mean a salmon fishery in any river or estuary or in the sea;

“fixed engine” means any engine, net or trap used for the taking of salmon, other than a sweep net which when in use is hauled through the water continuously and is not allowed to be stationary in the water or to drift with the current;

“freshwater fish” means any fish living in fresh water, including trout and eels and the fry of eels but exclusive of salmon and of any kind of fish which migrate between the open sea and tidal waters;

“haaf net” shall be construed in accordance with any regulations made under section 31(4) of this Act;

“inland waters” includes all rivers above estuary limits and their tributary streams, and all waters, watercourses and lochs whether natural or artificial which drain or drain to some extent into the sea;

“lade” includes any artificial channel through which water is diverted from any inland water in which salmon or trout are present;

“land” includes land covered by water;

“net and coble” shall be construed in accordance with any regulations made under section 31(4) of this Act;

“package” includes any box, basket, barrel, case, receptacle, sack, bag, container, wrapper or other thing in which salmon or trout is placed for the purpose of carriage, consignment or exportation;

“pointing” means the action of using the point of the rod as a means of hooking a fish;

“prescribed area”, in relation to protection orders, has the meaning given in section 48 of this Act;

“proprietor” means, subject to subsection (3) below, any person, partnership, company or corporation which is the proprietor of a salmon fishery or which receives or is entitled to receive the rents of such fishery on its own account or as trustee, guardian or factor for any person, company or corporation; and

“qualified proprietor” has the meaning given in section 40 of this Act;

“river” includes tributaries and any loch from or through which any river flows;

“rod and line” has the meaning given in section 4 of this Act;

“salmon” means all fish of the species *Salmo salar* and migratory fish of the species *Salmo trutta* and commonly known as salmon and sea trout respectively or any part of any such fish;

“salmon fishery district” has the meaning given in section 34(1) of this Act, and “district” shall be construed accordingly;

“subordinate legislation” means Orders in Council, orders, rules, regulations, schemes, warrants, byelaws and other instruments made or to be made under any Act of Parliament or Act of the Scottish Parliament;

“tenant netsman” means a person in possession of a right, under a lease or sub-lease, of fishing for salmon with nets;

“the Solway” means the waters to the east of a line from the Mull of Galloway to Hodbarrow Point, so far as any of them lie within Scotland;

“trout” means non-migratory trout of the species *Salmo trutta* living in fresh water or in estuaries;

“valuation roll” means a roll made up under section 28(1) of the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994 (c. 39) or, in relation to the Borders, Dumfries and Galloway, Fife, Highland, Orkney Islands, Shetland Islands or Western Isles, under section 1 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1975 (c. 30);

“vehicle” means any conveyance other than a vehicle used for the purposes of a public passenger transport service within the meaning of the Transport Act 1985 (c. 67); and

“water bailiff” means any person appointed as such by—

- (a) a district salmon fishery board under section 45(3)(b); or
- (b) by the Scottish Ministers under section 55(5),

of this Act.

(2) References to an occupier of a right of fishing for freshwater fish are references to a person who is in possession of that right as tenant under a lease of land to which such a right pertains or under a contract which by virtue of section 66 of this Act is deemed to be a lease and, for the purposes of this subsection “tenant” and “lease” include “subtenant” and “sublease” respectively.

(3) In this Act, “proprietor” includes not more than one person authorised by—

- (a) in the case of a fishery in which more than one person has a pro indiviso share, such persons; or
- (b) in the case of a fishery in which the rights to that fishery are shared by more than one person in any other way, such persons;

but in neither case does it include, except by virtue of this subsection, a person whose right to that fishery is so shared.