
STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2014 No. 209

SEA FISHERIES

**The Sea Fishing (Licences and Notices)
Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014**

Made - - - - *3rd July 2014*
Coming into operation *8th August 2014*

The Department of Agriculture and Rural Development makes the following Regulations in exercise of the powers conferred by section 4B of the Sea Fish (Conservation) Act 1967⁽¹⁾ and now vested in it ⁽²⁾.

Citation, commencement and application

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Sea Fishing (Licences and Notices) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014 and come into operation on 8th August 2014.

[^{F1}(2) These Regulations apply in relation to—

- (a) licences granted under section 15 of the Fisheries Act 2020 (licensing of British fishing boats) in respect of Northern Ireland fishing boats;
- (b) licences granted under section 17 of that Act (licensing of foreign fishing boats) by the Department; and
- (c) licences granted under section 4A of the Sea Fish (Conservation) Act 1967 (licensing of vessels receiving trans-shipped fish)—
 - (i) in respect of Northern Ireland fishing boats, or
 - (ii) by the Department in respect of foreign fishing boats.]

F1 Reg. 1(2) substituted (31.12.2020) by Fisheries Act 2020 (c. 22), s. 54(3)(b), Sch. 4 para. 20(2) (with s. 50, Sch. 4 para. 31)

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- (1) 1967 c.84. Section 4B was inserted by section 4 of the Sea Fish (Conservation) Act 1992 (c.60) and, in relation to regulations made under it by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, was modified by article 3(1) of, and paragraph 4(4) of Schedule 1 to, the Sea Fisheries (Northern Ireland) Order 2002 (S.I. 2002/790).
- (2) The function of “the Ministers” under section 4B of the Sea Fish (Conservation) Act 1967 in relation to licences granted under section 4 or 4A of that Act by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development was transferred to the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development under article 3(1) of, and paragraph 3(1)(g) of Schedule 1 to, the Sea Fisheries (Northern Ireland) Order 2002 (S.I. 2002/790).

Commencement Information

11 Reg. 1 in operation at 8.8.2014, see **reg. 1(1)**

Interpretation

2.—(1) The Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954⁽³⁾ applies to these Regulations as it applies to an Act of the Assembly.

(2) In these Regulations—

“the Department” means the Department [^{F2}of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs] ;

“electronic communication” has the same meaning as in section 4(1) of the Electronic Communications Act (Northern Ireland) 2001⁽⁴⁾;

[^{F3}“licence” means a licence to which these regulations apply (see regulation 1(2));]

“newspaper” means a newspaper circulating within, or within any part of, the United Kingdom and includes a journal, magazine or other periodical publication;

“nominee” means either-

(a) the individual resident in the United Kingdom, or

(b) the body incorporated [^{F4}, and having a place of business,] in the United Kingdom,

appointed by the owner or charterer of a ^{F5}... fishing boat to receive, on the owner or charterer’s behalf, licences or notices or both;

“notice” means a notice of variation, suspension or revocation of a licence;

“ [^{F6}“Northern Ireland fishing boat” means a fishing boat—

(a) which is registered in the United Kingdom under Part 2 of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995, and

(b) whose entry in the register specifies a port in Northern Ireland as the port to which the boat is to be treated as belonging;]

[^{F7}“sea fishing licence” means a licence to which these regulations apply by virtue of regulation 1(2)(a) or (b);]

[^{F8}“temporary foreign vessel licence” means a licence that—

(a) is granted in respect of a foreign fishing boat, and

(b) has effect for a period of no more than three weeks.]

F2 Words in **reg. 2** substituted (31.12.2020) by **Fisheries Act 2020 (c. 22)**, s. 54(3)(b), **Sch. 4 para. 20(3)(a)** (with s. 50, Sch. 4 para. 31)

F3 Words in **reg. 2** substituted (31.12.2020) by **Fisheries Act 2020 (c. 22)**, s. 54(3)(b), **Sch. 4 para. 20(3)(b)** (with s. 50, Sch. 4 para. 31)

F4 Words in **reg. 2** substituted (31.12.2020) by **Fisheries Act 2020 (c. 22)**, s. 54(3)(b), **Sch. 4 para. 20(3)(c)(i)** (with s. 50, Sch. 4 para. 31)

F5 Words in **reg. 2** omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of **Fisheries Act 2020 (c. 22)**, s. 54(3)(b), **Sch. 4 para. 20(3)(c)(ii)** (with s. 50, Sch. 4 para. 31)

F6 Words in **reg. 2** substituted (31.12.2020) by **Fisheries Act 2020 (c. 22)**, s. 54(3)(b), **Sch. 4 para. 20(3)(d)** (with s. 50, Sch. 4 para. 31)

(3) 1954 c.33(NI).

(4) 2001 c.9(N.I.); that definition was amended by the Communications Act 2003 (c.21), section 406(1) and paragraph 170 of Schedule 17.

- F7** Words in [reg. 2](#) substituted (31.12.2020) by [Fisheries Act 2020 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 54(3)(b), [Sch. 4 para. 20\(3\)\(e\)](#) (with s. 50, [Sch. 4 para. 31](#))
- F8** Words in [reg. 2](#) inserted (31.12.2020) by [Fisheries Act 2020 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 54(3)(b), [Sch. 4 para. 20\(3\)\(f\)](#) (with s. 50, [Sch. 4 para. 31](#))

Commencement Information

- I2** [Reg. 2](#) in operation at 8.8.2014, see [reg. 1\(1\)](#)

Manner in which a licence is granted and a variation, suspension or revocation is effected

3.—(1) A licence [^{F9}, other than a temporary foreign vessel licence,] is to be granted by the Department to the owner or charterer of a ^{F10}... fishing boat by delivering it to [^{F11}an appropriate recipient]

- (2) A licence [^{F12}(other than a temporary foreign vessel licence)] must be delivered by-
- (a) personally delivering it to the recipient;
 - (b) sending it by post to the recipient at the recipient's address or place of business;
 - (c) leaving it at the recipient's address or place of business, or in the hands of a person there who is apparently over the age of 16; or
 - (d) subject to paragraph (7), transmitting it to the recipient by means of an electronic communication to an address which the recipient has specified for the purposes of subparagraph (b) of that paragraph.

(3) A variation, suspension or revocation of a licence by the Department is to be effected by communicating written notice of it to [^{F13}an appropriate recipient]

- (4) A notice must be communicated to the recipient by-
- (a) a method specified in paragraph (2);
 - (b) publishing the notice on a website (5), the address of which is indicated on the licence to which the notice relates; or
 - (c) where the notice is a general notice, publishing it in a newspaper.

[^{F14}(4A) In paragraphs (1) to (4), “an appropriate recipient” means—

- (a) in relation to a licence or notice relating to a Northern Ireland fishing boat—
 - (i) the owner or charterer of the fishing boat, or
 - (ii) a nominee of that owner or charterer;
- (b) in relation to a licence or notice relating to a foreign fishing boat, the owner or charterer of the fishing boat.

(4B) A temporary foreign vessel licence is to be granted to the owner or charterer of a foreign fishing boat by delivering it to the relevant person by—

- (a) transmitting it to the relevant person by means of an electronic communication, and
- (b) subsequently publishing it on the website of the Department or of a person granting the licence on its behalf.

(4C) In paragraph (4B), “the relevant person”, in relation to a foreign fishing boat, means—

- (a) if the fishing boat is registered in a member State, the European Commission;

(5) As of the date of making of these Regulations, the address of the website for the purposes of regulation 3(4)(b) is <http://www.dardni.gov.uk/vessel-licence-variations.htm>. Any alteration to that address will be notified to the licence holder or any nominee, as the case may be.

- (b) if the fishing boat is registered in a country or territory that is not a member State, the authority in that country or territory that is responsible for the regulation of fishing boats.]
- (5) A general notice must specify -
- (a) that it applies to all sea fishing licences; or
 - (b) the class of sea fishing licence to which it applies by reference to species, area, method or licence type, or any combination of those matters.
- (6) A notice other than a general notice must specify the licence to which it relates by reference to the name, port letters and number of the fishing boat in respect of which the licence was granted.
- (7) A licence may be delivered and a notice may be communicated by means of an electronic communication as described in paragraph (2)(d) only if the following conditions are satisfied-
- (a) the use of an electronic communication results in the information contained in the licence or notice being available to the person in all material respects as it would appear in a licence or notice in printed form; and
 - (b) the person has specified an address for the purpose of receiving such communication.
- (8) In this regulation a “general notice” means a notice which relates to –
- (a) all sea fishing licences; or
 - (b) all sea fishing licences authorising fishing-
 - (i) for one of more specified descriptions of sea fish,
 - (ii) in one or more specified areas,
 - (iii) by a specified method or methods,
 - (iv) by licence type; or
 - (v) by reference to a combination of two or more of the matters referred to in heads (i) to (iv).
- (9) Section 24(1) of the Interpretation Act (Northern Ireland) 1954 (service of documents) has effect in relation to the delivery of a licence or the communication of a notice by post with the omission of the word “registering”.

- F9** Words in [reg. 3\(1\)](#) inserted (31.12.2020) by [Fisheries Act 2020 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 54(3)(b), [Sch. 4 para. 20\(4\)\(a\)\(i\)](#) (with s. 50, [Sch. 4 para. 31](#))
- F10** Words in [reg. 3\(1\)](#) omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [Fisheries Act 2020 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 54(3)(b), [Sch. 4 para. 20\(4\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#) (with s. 50, [Sch. 4 para. 31](#))
- F11** Words in [reg. 3\(1\)](#) substituted (31.12.2020) by [Fisheries Act 2020 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 54(3)(b), [Sch. 4 para. 20\(4\)\(a\)\(iii\)](#) (with s. 50, [Sch. 4 para. 31](#))
- F12** Words in [reg. 3\(2\)](#) inserted (31.12.2020) by [Fisheries Act 2020 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 54(3)(b), [Sch. 4 para. 20\(4\)\(b\)](#) (with s. 50, [Sch. 4 para. 31](#))
- F13** Words in [reg. 3\(3\)](#) substituted (31.12.2020) by [Fisheries Act 2020 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 54(3)(b), [Sch. 4 para. 20\(4\)\(c\)](#) (with s. 50, [Sch. 4 para. 31](#))
- F14** [Reg. 3\(4A\)-\(4C\)](#) inserted (31.12.2020) by [Fisheries Act 2020 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 54(3)(b), [Sch. 4 para. 20\(4\)\(d\)](#) (with s. 50, [Sch. 4 para. 31](#))

Commencement Information

- I3** [Reg. 3](#) in operation at 8.8.2014, see [reg. 1\(1\)](#)

Time when licences and notices are treated as delivered or communicated

4.—(1) A licence delivered or a notice communicated by personally delivering it is to be treated as delivered or communicated immediately it is so delivered.

(2) Subject to paragraph (7), a licence delivered or a notice communicated by post is to be treated as delivered or communicated 48 hours after the end of the day on which it was posted.

(3) A licence delivered or a notice communicated by leaving it at the address or place of business of an owner, charterer or their nominee, or in the hands of a person there who is apparently over the age of 16, is to be treated as delivered or communicated 24 hours after the time at which it was left.

(4) A licence delivered or a notice communicated by transmission by means of an electronic communication as described in regulation 3(2)(d) is to be treated as delivered or communicated 24 hours after the time it was transmitted.

[^{F15}(4A) In relation to a licence or notice transmitted by means of an electronic communication at any time during January 2021, the reference in paragraph (4) to 24 hours is to be read as a reference to one hour.

(4B) A temporary foreign vessel licence delivered as described in regulation 3(4B) is treated as delivered immediately it is published in accordance with that provision.]

(5) A notice communicated by publication on a website is to be treated as communicated immediately it is published.

(6) A notice communicated by publication in a newspaper is to be treated as communicated at the end of the day on which it is published.

(7) Where -

- (a) a licence is delivered or a notice is communicated by post; and
- (b) in accordance with paragraph (2), the day on which the licence or notice is to be treated as delivered or communicated is –
 - (i) a Sunday; or
 - (ii) a public holiday,

the licence or notice is to be treated as delivered or communicated at the end of the next day following which is not a public holiday.

F15 Reg. 4(4A)(4B) inserted (31.12.2020) by Fisheries Act 2020 (c. 22), s. 54(3)(b), Sch. 4 para. 20(5) (with s. 50, Sch. 4 para. 31)

Commencement Information

I4 Reg. 4 in operation at 8.8.2014, see reg. 1(1)

Time when licences, variations, suspensions or revocations have effect

5. Subject to regulation 6-

- (a) a licence delivered in accordance with regulation 3(2) [^{F16}or (4B)] has effect at the time it is treated as delivered in accordance with regulation 4;
- (b) a variation, suspension or revocation of a licence communicated by notice in accordance with regulation 3(4)(a) has effect 24 hours after the time the notice is treated as communicated in accordance with regulation 4;
- (c) a variation, suspension or revocation of a licence communicated by notice in accordance with regulation 3(4)(b) has effect 24 hours after the time the notice is treated as communicated in accordance with regulation 4(5); and
- (d) a variation, suspension or revocation of a sea fishing licence communicated by notice in accordance with regulation 3(4)(c) has effect 48 hours after the time the notice is treated as communicated in accordance with regulation 4(6).

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Sea Fishing (Licences and Notices) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014. (See end of Document for details)

F16 Words in [reg. 5\(a\)](#) inserted (31.12.2020) by [Fisheries Act 2020 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 54(3)(b), [Sch. 4 para. 20\(6\)](#) (with s. 50, [Sch. 4 para. 31](#))

Commencement Information

I5 [Reg. 5](#) in operation at 8.8.2014, see [reg. 1\(1\)](#)

Special provisions for the time when certain licences, variations, suspensions or revocations have effect

6.—(1) A licence delivered or a variation, suspension or revocation communicated by more than one of the methods specified in regulation 3 has effect at the earliest of the times corresponding to each such method specified in regulation 5.

(2) A licence, variation, suspension or revocation which states a time of having effect that is later than that at which it is to be treated as having effect in accordance with regulation 5 has effect at the time stated on it.

Commencement Information

I6 [Reg. 6](#) in operation at 8.8.2014, see [reg. 1\(1\)](#)

Revocation

7. The Sea Fishing (Licences and Notices) Regulations 1994(6) are revoked.

Commencement Information

I7 [Reg. 7](#) in operation at 8.8.2014, see [reg. 1\(1\)](#)

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development on 3rd July 2014



John Speers
A senior officer of the
Department of Agriculture and Rural
Development

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Regulations)

These Regulations make provision as to the manner in which licences under sections 4 and 4A of the Sea Fish (Conservation) Act 1967 (c.84) are to be granted by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development in respect of Northern Ireland fishing boats, and variations, suspensions and revocations of such licences are to be effected. They also make provision as to the time when a licence and a variation, suspension or revocation of a licence is to take effect.

These Regulations revoke and replace the [Sea Fishing \(Licences and Notices\) Regulations 1994 \(S.I. 1994/2813\)](#).

A Regulatory Impact Assessment in relation to these Regulations has been prepared and placed in the library of the Assembly, and on the Departmental website.

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The Sea Fishing (Licences and Notices) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014.