Fisheries Act 2020

2020 CHAPTER 22

Fisheries objectives, fisheries statements and fisheries management plans

8 Fisheries management plans: procedure

(1) The relevant authority or authorities may at any time prepare and publish a replacement fisheries management plan, or amendments of a fisheries management plan, in relation to the same stock or stocks of sea fish, type or types of fishing and geographical area or areas.

(2) Part 3 of Schedule 1 contains provision applying in relation to the preparation and publication by the relevant authority or authorities of a fisheries management plan, amendments of a fisheries management plan or a document under section 7(2)(c) revoking a fisheries management plan.

(3) A fisheries management plan, or an amendment or revocation of a fisheries management plan, comes into effect when it (or, in the case of a revocation, the document containing it) is published in accordance with that Part of that Schedule.

(4) The relevant authority or authorities must review a fisheries management plan whenever they consider it appropriate to do so and in any event—

(a) before the end of the period of 6 years beginning with the day on which it was published, and

(b) in the case of a fisheries management plan that has already been reviewed, before the end of the period of 6 years beginning with the end of the most recent review.

(5) If, in the light of a review, the relevant authority or authorities conclude that changes are required to the fisheries management plan, they must—

(a) prepare and publish amendments of the fisheries management plan,

(b) prepare and publish a replacement fisheries management plan, or

(c) (if section 7(2) applies) prepare and publish a document under section 7(2)(c) revoking the fisheries management plan.

(6) For the purposes of this section, a review of a fisheries management plan ends—

(a) if the relevant authority or authorities conclude in the light of the review that no changes are required to the fisheries management plan, at the time they reach that conclusion;

(b) if the relevant authority or authorities conclude in the light of the review that changes are required to the fisheries management plan, at the time the document mentioned in subsection (5) is published.

(7) In this section "the relevant authority or authorities", in relation to a fisheries management plan, means the fisheries policy authority or authorities that prepare and publish it.