

1981 No. 1869

## SEA FISHERIES

## BOATS AND METHODS OF FISHING

## The Fishing Nets Order 1981

Made - - - - 30th December 1981

Laid before Parliament 31st December 1981

Coming into Operation 1st January 1982

The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Secretaries of State respectively concerned with the sea fishing industry in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, acting jointly, in exercise of the powers conferred on them by sections 3 and 15(3) of the Sea Fish (Conservation) Act 1967(a) and of all other powers enabling them in that behalf, hereby make the following order:—

*Citation and commencement*

1. This order may be cited as the Fishing Nets Order 1981, and shall come into operation on 1st January 1982.

*Interpretation*

2.—(1) In this order—

“net” means trawl, Danish seine or similar net;

“specified ICES area” means a statistical sub-area or division of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (b) which is described in Schedule 1; and “ICES” followed by a roman numeral with or without a letter shall be construed as a reference to whichever of the statistical sub-areas and divisions of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea described in Schedule 1 is identified therein by that roman numeral or that roman numeral and letter, as the case may be.

(2) For the purposes of this order the percentage of a quantity of sea fish of any description in relation to the catch on board a fishing boat shall be determined as a proportion by weight of all fish on board that boat on the basis of a representative sample taken by a British sea-fishery officer—

(a) in the case of a fishing boat fishing for sandeels (*Ammodytidae*) with a net having in any of its parts any mesh smaller than 16mm, on board at any time or on landing, and

(b) in any other case, after sorting, in the hold or on landing.

(3) Any reference in this order to a numbered article or Schedule shall be construed as a reference to the article of, or Schedule to, this order which bears the number so indicated.

(a) 1967 c. 84; section 15 is amended by the Sea Fisheries Act 1968 (c. 77), section 22(1) and paragraph 38 of Schedule 1; sections 3 and 15 are amended by the Fishery Limits Act 1976 (c. 86), section 9(1) and paragraph 16(1) of Schedule 2.

(b) Cmnd. 2586.

*Areas to which this order applies*

3. This order applies to the specified ICES areas, excluding such part of any specified ICES area as lies—

- (a) outside British fishery limits, or
- (b) within twelve miles of the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea adjacent to the Isle of Man or any of the Channel Islands is measured.

*General provision as to minimum size of mesh*

4. There shall not be carried in any fishing boat for the purpose of fishing for sea fish in any specified ICES area referred to in column 1 of Schedule 2 any net or part of a net of a type specified in column 2 of that Schedule in relation to that area which has in any of its parts any mesh smaller than the minimum size specified in column 3 thereof in relation to that type of net.

*Exemption of small meshed nets used for certain fish*

5.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this article and to article 10, article 4 shall not apply to a net carried in a fishing boat for the purpose of fishing in a specified ICES area referred to in column 1 of Schedule 3 for a description of sea fish specified in column 2 of that Schedule in relation to that area, if the net has in none of its parts any mesh smaller than the minimum size specified in column 3 thereof in relation to that description of sea fish.

(2) The exemption in paragraph (1) of this article shall not apply to a net carried in a fishing boat for the purpose of fishing in ICES IIa (Norwegian Sea), IV (North Sea), VI (Rockall and West of Scotland) or VII (Irish Sea, South Coast of Ireland, Bristol Channel and English Channel), if the net has in any of its parts any mesh larger than 50mm.

(3) Article 4 shall not apply to a net carried in a fishing boat not exceeding 300 brake horse power for the purpose of fishing in ICES IIa (Norwegian Sea) or IV (North Sea) for sole (*Solea, solea*), if the net—

- (a) is of single twine and has in none of its parts any mesh smaller than 70mm, or
- (b) is of double twine and has in none of its parts any mesh smaller than 75mm.

*Exemption for nephrops*

6. Subject to article 11(1), article 4 shall not apply to a net carried in a fishing boat for the purpose of fishing in a specified ICES area referred to in column 1 of Schedule 4 for nephrops (*Nephrops norvegicus*), if the net has in none of its parts any mesh smaller than the minimum size specified in column 2 thereof in relation to that area.

*Hake*

7.—(1) There shall not be carried in any fishing boat for the purpose of fishing in ICES IIa (Norwegian Sea), IV (North Sea), VI (Rockall and West of Scotland), VII (Irish Sea, South Coast of Ireland, Bristol Channel and English Channel) or VIII (Bay of Biscay) for hake (*Merluccius merluccius*) any net which has in any of its parts any mesh smaller than 80mm.

(2) Article 11(2) shall apply in relation to the question whether a net is being carried in a fishing boat for the purpose of fishing for hake for the purposes of paragraph (1) of this article.

*Attachments to nets*

8. There shall not be carried in any fishing boat within British fishery limits any net which has attached to it a device by means of which the mesh in any part of the net is obstructed or otherwise effectively diminished.

*Exemption for nets carried but not used*

9. Articles 4, 7 and 8 shall not apply to a net carried in a fishing boat in any case where such net is not used or hauled.

*By-catch conditions of exemption for small-meshed nets*

10.—(1) Without prejudice to paragraph (2) of this article, the exemption in article 5(1) shall not apply to a net carried in a fishing boat, if—

- (a) the catch on board that fishing boat taken with that net includes more than 10 per cent of sea fish of any description specified in column 1 of Schedule 5, and
- (b) the letter X appears opposite that description of sea fish in whichever column of columns 2, 3 and 4 of Schedule 5 contains in its heading the name of the specified ICES area in which the boat was fishing.

(2) The exemption in article 5(1), in so far as it relates to fishing for prawns (*Pandalus* spp), shall not apply to a net carried in a fishing boat if—

- (a) the catch on board that fishing boat taken with that net includes more than 50 per cent of sea fish of any description specified in column 1 of Schedule 5, and
- (b) the fishing boat is fishing in ICES IIa (Norwegian Sea), IV (North Sea), VI (Rockall and West of Scotland) or VII (Irish Sea, South Coast of Ireland, Bristol Channel and English Channel).

(3) Where in any proceedings for an offence under article 4 it appears to the court that a fishing boat was carrying a net which did not comply with that article and a net which did comply with it, it shall be presumed, unless records of fishing operations maintained by the master show otherwise, that the catch on board that fishing boat was taken with the net which did not comply with that article.

(4) The exemption in article 5(1) shall not apply to a net carried in a fishing boat if the catch on board the fishing boat taken with the net includes any salmon (*Salmo salar*) or trout (*Salmo trutta*).

(5) The exemption in article 5(1) shall not apply to a net carried in a fishing boat fishing in—

- (a) ICES VII g (South-east of Ireland), VII h (Little Sole Bank) or VII j (Great Sole Bank) except Bantry Bay, or
- (b) that part of ICES VII a (Irish Sea) which lies south of 52° 30'N,

if the catch on board that fishing boat taken with that net includes any herring (*Clupea harengus*).

*Special provisions in respect of by-catches*

11.—(1) The exemption in article 6 shall not apply to a net carried in a fishing boat if—

- (a) the catch on board that fishing boat taken with that net includes more than 60 per cent of any description of sea fish specified in column 1 of Schedule 5, and

(b) the letter X appears opposite that description of sea fish in whichever column of columns 2, 3 and 4 of Schedule 5 contains in its heading the name of the specified ICES area in which the boat was fishing.

(2) For the purposes of article 7(1) a net shall be deemed to have been carried in a boat for the purpose of fishing for hake if the catch on board that boat taken with that net includes 30 per cent, or more, of hake.

*Beam trawling within 12 miles of United Kingdom coast*

12.—(1) There shall not be carried in any fishing boat for the purpose of fishing for sea fish in waters within 12 miles of the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea of the United Kingdom is measured—

(a) a beam trawl whereof the effective length of beam exceeds 8 metres,  
or

(b) two or more beam trawls intended to be used at the same time whereof the aggregate effective length of beam exceeds 8 metres.

(2) Paragraph (1) of this article shall not apply to a beam trawl carried in a fishing boat in any case where such beam trawl is not used or hauled.

(3) In this article—

“effective length of beam” in relation to a beam trawl means the distance between the inner edge of the shoe or skid attached to one end of the beam and the corresponding part of the shoe or skid attached to the other end thereof, the measurement being taken at the most forward part of each shoe or skid which comes into contact with the sea-bed when the trawl is towed.

*Enforcement*

13. For the purpose of the enforcement of this order, there are hereby conferred on every British sea-fishery officer the powers of a British sea-fishery officer under section 8(2) to (4) of the Sea Fisheries Act 1968(a).

*Duration*

14. This order shall cease to have effect on 31st March 1982.

In Witness whereof the Official Seal of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is hereunto affixed on 30th December 1981.

(L.S.)

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

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(a) 1968 c. 77; section 8(3) and (4) was amended by the Fisheries Act 1981 (c. 29), section 26(2) and (3).

23rd December 1981.

*George Younger,*  
Secretary of State for Scotland.

23rd December 1981.

*Nicholas Edwards,*  
Secretary of State for Wales.

23rd December 1981.

*James Prior,*  
Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

Article 2(1)

SCHEDULE 1

STATISTICAL SUB-AREAS AND DIVISIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
COUNCIL FOR THE EXPLORATION OF THE SEA

*ICES Statistical Division IIa (Norwegian Sea)*

The waters bounded by a line beginning at a point on the coast of Norway in 62°00' north latitude; thence due west to 4°00' west longitude; thence due north to 63°00' north latitude; thence due west to 11°00' west longitude; thence due north to 73°30' north latitude; thence due east to 30°00' east longitude; thence due south to 72°00' north latitude; thence due west to 26°00' east longitude; thence due south to the coast of Norway; thence in a westerly and south-westerly direction along the coast of Norway to the point of beginning.

*ICES Statistical Sub-Area IV (North Sea)*

The waters bounded by a line beginning at a point on the coast of Norway in 62°00' north latitude; thence due west to 4°00' west longitude; thence due south to the coast of Scotland; thence in an easterly and southerly direction along the coasts of Scotland and England to a point in 51°00' north latitude; thence due east to the coast of France; thence in a north-easterly direction along the coasts of France, Belgium, the Netherlands and the Federal Republic of Germany to the western terminus of its boundary with Denmark; thence along the west coast of Jutland to Thyboren; thence in a southerly and easterly direction along the south coast of the Limfjord to Egensekester Point; thence across the eastern entrance of the Limfjord to Haln; thence in a westerly direction along the north coast of the Limfjord to the southernmost point of Agrer Tange; thence in a northerly direction along the west coast of Jutland to a point in 57°00' north latitude; thence due west to 8°00' east longitude; thence due north to 57°30' north latitude; thence due west to 7°00' east longitude; thence due north to the coast of Norway; thence in a north-westerly direction along the coast of Norway to the point of beginning.

*ICES Statistical Division Vb (Faroes Grounds)*

The waters bounded by a line beginning at a point in 63°00' north latitude, 4°00' west longitude; thence due west to 15°00' west longitude, thence due south to 60°00' north latitude; thence due east to 5°00' west longitude; thence due north to 60°30' north latitude; thence due east to 4°00' west longitude; thence due north to the point of beginning.

*ICES Statistical Sub-Area VI (Rockall and West of Scotland)*

The waters bounded by a line beginning at a point on the north coast of Scotland in 4°00' west longitude; thence due north to 60°30' north latitude; thence due west to 5°00' west longitude; thence due south to 60°00' north latitude; thence due west to 18°00' west longitude; thence due south to 54°30' north latitude; thence due east to the coast of the Republic of Ireland; thence in a northerly and easterly direction along the coasts of the Republic of Ireland and of Northern Ireland to a point on the east coast of Northern Ireland in 55°00' north latitude; thence due east to the coast of Scotland; thence in a northerly direction along the west coast of Scotland to the point of beginning.

*ICES Statistical Division VIa (West of Scotland)*

The waters bounded by a line beginning at a point on the north coast of Scotland in 4°00' west longitude; thence due north to 60°30' north latitude; thence due west to 5°00' west longitude; thence due south to 60°00' north latitude; thence due west to 12°00' west longitude; thence due south to 54°30' north latitude; thence due east to the coast of the Republic of Ireland; thence in a northerly and easterly direction along the coasts of the Republic of Ireland and of Northern Ireland to a point on the east coast of Northern Ireland in 55°00' north latitude; thence due east to the coast of Scotland; thence in a northerly direction along the west coast of Scotland to the point of beginning.

*ICES Statistical Sub-Area VII (Irish Sea, South Coast of Ireland, Bristol Channel and English Channel)*

The waters bounded by a line beginning at a point on the west coast of the Republic of Ireland in 54°30' north latitude; thence due west to 18°00' west longitude; thence due south to 48°00' north latitude; thence due east to the coast of France; thence in a northerly and north-easterly direction along the coast of France to a point in 51°00' north latitude; thence due west to the coast of England; thence in a westerly and northerly direction along the coasts of England, Wales and Scotland to a point on the West coast of Scotland in 55°00' north latitude; thence due west to the coast of Northern Ireland; thence in a northerly and westerly direction along the coasts of Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland to the point of beginning.

*ICES Statistical Division VIIa (Irish Sea)*

The waters bounded by a line beginning at a point on the west coast of Scotland in 55°00' north latitude; thence due west to the coast of Northern Ireland; thence in a southerly direction along the coasts of Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland to a point on the south-east coast of the Republic of Ireland in 52°00' north latitude; thence due east to the coast of Wales; thence in a north-easterly and northerly direction along the coasts of Wales, England and Scotland to the point of beginning.

*ICES Statistical Division VIId (Eastern English Channel)*

The waters bounded by a line beginning at a point on the west coast of France in 51°00' north latitude; thence due west to the coast of England; thence in a westerly direction along the south coast of England to 2°00' west longitude; thence south to 49°44' north latitude; thence due east to the coast of France at Cape de la Hague; thence in a north-easterly direction along the coast of France to the point of beginning.

*ICES Statistical Division VIIe (Western English Channel)*

The waters bounded by a line beginning on the south coast of England in 2°00' west longitude; thence in a southerly and westerly direction along the coast of England to a point on the south-west coast in 50°00' north latitude; thence due west to 7°00' west longitude; thence due south to 49°30' north latitude; thence due east to 5°00' west

longitude; thence due south to 48°00' north latitude; thence due east to the coast of France; thence in a northerly and north-easterly direction along the coast of France to Cape de la Hague in 49°44' north latitude; thence due west to 2°00' west longitude; thence due north to the point of beginning.

*ICES Statistical Division VIIf (Bristol Channel)*

The waters bounded by a line beginning at a point on the south coast of Wales in 5°00' west longitude; thence due south to 51°00' north latitude; thence due west to 6°00' west longitude; thence due south to 50°30' north latitude; thence due west to 7°00' west longitude; thence due south to 50°00' north latitude; thence due east to the coast of England; thence along the south-west coast of England and the south coast of Wales to the point of beginning.

*ICES Statistical Division VIIg (South-east of Ireland)*

The waters bounded by a line beginning at a point in 9°00' west longitude on the south coast of Ireland; thence due south to 50°00' north latitude; thence due east to 7°00' west longitude; thence due north to 50°30' north latitude; thence due east to 6°00' west longitude; thence due north to 51°00' north latitude; thence due east to 5°00' west longitude; thence due north to the south coast of Wales; thence in a north-westerly direction along the coast of Wales to a point in 52°00' north latitude; thence due west to the south-east coast of the Republic of Ireland; thence in south-westerly direction along the coast of the Republic of Ireland to the point of beginning.

*ICES Statistical Division VIIh (Little Sole Bank)*

The waters bounded by a line beginning at a point in 50°00' north latitude 7°00' west longitude; thence due west to 9°00' west longitude; thence due south to 48°00' north latitude; thence due east to 5°00' west longitude; thence due north to 49°30' north latitude; thence due west to 7°00' west longitude; thence due north to the point of beginning.

*ICES Statistical Division VIIj (Great Sole Bank)*

The waters bounded by a line beginning at a point in 52°30' north latitude on the west coast of the Republic of Ireland; thence due west to 12°00' west longitude; thence due south to 48°00' north latitude; thence due east to 9°00' west longitude; thence due north to the south coast of the Republic of Ireland; thence in westerly and northerly direction along the coast of the Republic of Ireland to the point of beginning.

*ICES Statistical Sub-Area VIII (Bay of Biscay)*

The waters bounded by a line beginning at a point on the coast of France in 48°00' north latitude; thence due west to 18°00' west longitude; thence due south to 43°00' north latitude; thence due east to the coast of Spain; thence in a northerly direction along the coasts of Spain and France to the point of beginning.

*ICES Statistical Sub-Area XII (North of Azores)*

The waters bounded by a line beginning at a point in 62°00' north latitude 15°00' west longitude; thence due west to 27°00' west longitude; thence due south to 59°00' north latitude; thence due west to 42°00' west longitude; thence due south to 48°00' north latitude; thence due east to 18°00' west longitude; thence due north to 60°00' north latitude; thence due east to 15°00' west longitude; thence due north to the point of beginning.

## SCHEDULE 2

Article 4

## MINIMUM MESH SIZES ACCORDING TO AREA AND TYPE OF NET

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Specified ICES area	Type of net	Minimum size of mesh (mm)
ICES Vb (Faroes Grounds)	Every type	130
ICES XII (North of Azores)	Every type	120
ICES IIa (Norwegian Sea), IV (North Sea), VI (Rockall and West of Scotland), VIIf (Bristol Channel), VIIg (South-east of Ireland), VIIh (Little Sole Bank) and VIIj (Great Sole Bank)	Every type	80
ICES VIIa (Irish Sea)	Single twine Double twine	70 75
ICES VIId and e (English Channel)	Every type	75
ICES VIII (Bay of Biscay)	Every type	65



## Article 5

## SCHEDULE 3

MINIMUM SIZES OF SMALL MESHED  
NEIS USED FOR CERTAIN FISH

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	
Specified ICES area	Description of sea fish	Minimum size of mesh (mm)	
ICES Vb (Faroes Grounds) and XII (North of Azores)	Polar cod ( <i>Boreogadus saida</i> )	16	
	Capelin ( <i>Mallotus villosus</i> )	16	
	Blue whiting ( <i>Micromesistius poutassou</i> )	16	
	Argentine ( <i>Argentina</i> spp)	16	
	Herring ( <i>Clupea harengus</i> )	16	
	Molluscs	16	
	Silver pout ( <i>Gadiculus thorii</i> )	16	
	Nephrops ( <i>Nephrops norvegicus</i> )	16	
	Norway pout ( <i>Trisopterus esmarkii</i> )	16	
	Prawns ( <i>Pandalus</i> spp)	16	
	except as follows:		
	in ICES Vb (Faroes Grounds)	40	
	Clupeoid fish other than herring	16	
	Eels ( <i>Anguilla anguilla</i> )	16	
	Great weevlers ( <i>Trachinus draco</i> )	16	
	Horse mackerel ( <i>Trachurus trachurus</i> )	16	
	Mackerel ( <i>Scomber scombrus</i> )	16	
	Sandeels ( <i>Ammodytidae</i> )	16	
	Saury ( <i>Scorpaenopsis scorpaenopsis</i> )	16	
	Shrimps ( <i>Crangon</i> spp)	16	
	Smelts ( <i>Osmerus</i> spp)	16	
	ICES IIa (Norwegian Sea), IV (North Sea), VI (Rockall and West of Scotland), VII (Irish Sea, South Coast of Ireland, Bristol Channel and English Channel)	Herring ( <i>Clupea harengus</i> )	16
		Mackerel ( <i>Scomber scombrus</i> )	16
except as follows:			
in ICES IIa (Norwegian Sea) and IV (North Sea)		32	
Horse mackerel ( <i>Trachurus trachurus</i> )		16	
Sprat ( <i>Clupea sprattus</i> )		16	
Norway pout ( <i>Trisopterus esmarkii</i> )		16	
Blue whiting ( <i>Micromesistius poutassou</i> )		16	
Argentine ( <i>Argentina</i> spp)		16	
Prawns ( <i>Pandalus</i> spp)		30	
Shrimps ( <i>Crangon</i> spp)		20	
Eels (except elvers) ( <i>Anguilla anguilla</i> )		16	
Great weavers ( <i>Trachinus draco</i> )		16	
Molluscs (except cuttle fish— <i>sepia officinalis</i> )		16	
Sandeels ( <i>Ammodytidae</i> )		none	
except as follows:			
in ICES IIa (Norwegian Sea) or IV (North Sea) between 1st November and last day of February in any year		16	
Capelin ( <i>Mallotus villosus</i> )		16	
Saury ( <i>Scorpaenopsis scorpaenopsis</i> )		16	
Smelts ( <i>Osmerus</i> spp)		16	
Sardines ( <i>Sardina pilchardus</i> )	16		

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Specified ICES area	Description of sea fish	Minimum size of mesh (mm)
ICES VIII (Bay of Biscay)	Bastard sole ( <i>Dicologlossa cuneata</i> )	40
	Sardine ( <i>Sardina pilchardus</i> )	20
	Shrimps ( <i>Crangon</i> spp)	20
	Eels (except elvers) ( <i>Anguilla anguilla</i> )	20
	Sprat ( <i>Clupea sprattus</i> )	16
	Anchovy ( <i>Engraulis encrassicholus</i> )	16
	Sandeel ( <i>Ammodytidae</i> )	16
	Herring ( <i>Clupea harengus</i> )	40
	Horse mackerel ( <i>Trachurus trachurus</i> )	40
	Mackerel ( <i>Scomber scombrus</i> )	40

## SCHEDULE 4

Article 6

## MINIMUM SIZE OF NEIS USED FOR NEPHROPS

Column 1	Column 2
Specified ICES area	Minimum size of mesh (mm)
ICES II a (Norwegian Sea), IV (North Sea), VI a (West of Scotland), VII d and e (English Channel), VII f (Bristol Channel) and VII j (Great Sole Bank)	70
ICES VII a (Irish Sea), VII g (South-east of Ireland) and VIII h (Little Sole Bank)	60
ICES VIII (Bay of Biscay)	50

## Articles 10 and 11

## SCHEDULE 5

DESCRIPTIONS OF SEA FISH, AND AREAS OF SEA, IN RESPECT  
OF WHICH BY—CATCH CONDITIONS APPLY

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Description of Sea Fish	ICES V b (Faroes Grounds) and XII (North Azores)	ICES II a (Norwegian Sea), IV (North Sea), VI (Rockall and West of Scotland) and VII (Irish Sea, South Coast of Ireland, Bristol Channel and English Channel)	ICES VIII (Bay of Biscay)
Cod ( <i>Gadus morrhua</i> )	X	X	X
Haddock ( <i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i> )	X	X	X
Hake ( <i>Merluccius merluccius</i> )	X	X	X
Plaice ( <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> )	X	X	X
Witch ( <i>Glyptocephalus cynoglossus</i> )	X	X	X
Lemon sole ( <i>Microstomus kitt</i> )	X	X	X
Sole ( <i>Solea solea</i> )	X	X	X
Turbot ( <i>Psetta maxima</i> )	X	X	X
Brill ( <i>Scophthalmus rhombus</i> )	X	X	X
Megrim ( <i>Lepidorhombus</i> spp)	X	X	X
Whiting ( <i>Merlangius merlangius</i> )	X	X	X
Dab ( <i>Limanda limanda</i> )	X	X	X
Saithe ( <i>Pollachius virens</i> )	X	X	X
Cuttlefish ( <i>Sepia officinalis</i> )	X	X	X
Common sea bream ( <i>Pagellus cantabricus</i> )			X
Red mullet ( <i>Mullus surmuletus</i> )			X
Bass ( <i>Dicentrarchus labrax</i> )		X	
Conger eel ( <i>Conger conger</i> )			X
Pollack ( <i>Pollachius pollachius</i> )			X
Ling ( <i>Molva molva</i> )		X	X
Shad ( <i>Alosa</i> spp)			X
Sturgeon ( <i>Acipenser sturio</i> )			X
Grey mullet ( <i>Mugil</i> spp)			X
Salmon ( <i>Salmo salar</i> )			X
Trout ( <i>Salmo trutta</i> )			X
Flounder ( <i>Platichthys flesus</i> )		X	

## EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

This order, which extends throughout the United Kingdom—

- (a) applies to specified areas of sea, excluding waters which lie outside British fishery limits or within 12 miles of the baselines of the Isle of Man or any of the Channel Islands (article 3);
- (b) prescribes minimum mesh sizes for nets carried in any fishing boat for the purpose of fishing for specified descriptions of sea fish in specified areas of sea (article 4);
- (c) exempts small meshed nets carried for the purpose of fishing for certain descriptions of sea fish, subject to further minimum mesh size conditions (articles 5 and 6);
- (d) prescribes a minimum mesh size for nets carried for the purpose of fishing for hake (article 7);
- (e) prohibits the carrying of a net which has attached to it a device which obstructs the mesh (article 8);
- (f) provides an exemption in cases where a net is not used or hauled (article 9);
- (g) imposes by-catch conditions in relation to certain provisions of the order (articles 10 and 11);
- (h) prohibits the carriage for the purpose of fishing within 12 miles of United Kingdom baselines of beam trawls whose effective length of beam exceeds 8 metres (article 12);
- (i) confers enforcement powers on British sea-fishery officers (article 13).

The order ceases to have effect on 31st March 1982.

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