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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**1994 No. 2716**

**The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994**

**PART II**

**CONSERVATION OF NATURAL HABITATS AND HABITATS OF SPECIES**

*Byelaws*

**Power to make byelaws**

**28.**—(1) The appropriate nature conservation body may make byelaws for the protection of a European site under section 20 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949<sup>(1)</sup> (byelaws for protection of nature reserves).

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (1), byelaws under that section as it applies by virtue of this regulation may make provision of any of the following kinds.

(3) They may—

- (a) provide for prohibiting or restricting the entry into, or movement within, the site of persons, vehicles, boats and animals;
- (b) prohibit or restrict the killing, taking, molesting or disturbance of living creatures of any description in the site, the taking, destruction or disturbance of eggs of any such creature, the taking of, or interference with, vegetation of any description in the site, or the doing of anything in the site which will interfere with the soil or damage any object in the site;
- (c) contain provisions prohibiting the depositing of rubbish and the leaving of litter in the site;
- (d) prohibit or restrict, or provide for prohibiting or restricting, the lighting of fires in the site or the doing of anything likely to cause a fire in the site.

(4) They may prohibit or restrict any activity referred to in paragraph (3) within such area surrounding or adjoining the site as appears to the appropriate nature conservation body requisite for the protection of the site.

(5) They may provide for the issue, on such terms and subject to such conditions as may be specified in the byelaws, of permits authorising—

- (a) entry into the site or any such surrounding or adjoining area as is mentioned in paragraph (4), or
- (b) the doing of anything within the site, or any such surrounding or adjoining area,

where such entry, or doing that thing, would otherwise be unlawful under the byelaws.

(6) They may be made so as to relate either to the whole or to any part of the site, or of any such surrounding or adjoining area as is mentioned in paragraph (4), and may make different provision for different parts thereof.

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<sup>(1)</sup> 1949 c. 97; section 20 was amended by paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 to the Nature Conservancy Council Act 1973 (c. 54), paragraph 28(1) of Schedule 4 to the Telecommunications Act 1984 (c. 12) and paragraph 13(1) of Schedule 25 to the Water Act 1989 (c. 15).

(7) This regulation does not apply in relation to a European marine site (but see regulation 36).

**Byelaws: limitation on effect**

**29.** Byelaws under section 20 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 as it applies by virtue of regulation 28 shall not interfere with—

- (a) the exercise by any person of a right vested in him as owner, lessee or occupier of land in the European site, or in any such surrounding or adjoining area as is mentioned in paragraph (4) of that regulation;
- (b) the exercise of any public right of way;
- (c) the exercise of any functions of statutory undertakers;
- (d) the exercise of any functions of an internal drainage board, a district salmon fishery board or the Commissioners appointed under the Tweed Fisheries Act 1969<sup>(2)</sup>; or
- (e) the running of a telecommunications code system or the exercise of any right conferred by or in accordance with the telecommunications code on the operator of any such system.

**Compensation for effect of byelaws**

**30.** Where the exercise of any right vested in a person, whether by reason of his being entitled to any interest in land or by virtue of a licence or agreement, is prevented or hindered by the coming into operation of byelaws under section 20 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 as it applies by virtue of regulation 28, he shall be entitled to receive from the appropriate nature conservation body compensation in respect thereof.

**Continuation in force of existing byelaws**

**31.** Any byelaws in force under section 20 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 in relation to land which on or after the commencement of these Regulations becomes land within a European site, or adjacent to such a site, shall have effect as if made under the said section 20 as it applies by virtue of regulation 28 and shall be construed as if originally so made.

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(2) 1969 c.xxiv.