



Statutory Document No. 671/06

THE SEA-FISHERIES ACT 1971

**THE SEA-FISHERIES (EXPERIMENTAL AREA)
BYE-LAWS 2006**

Approved by Tynwald on: 17th October 2006

Coming into operation on 1st November 2006

In exercise of the powers conferred on the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry by section 2 of the Sea-Fisheries Act 1971(**a**), and of all other enabling powers, the following Bye-laws are hereby made:-

Citation, commencement and application

1. These Bye-laws may be cited as the Sea-Fisheries (Experimental Area) Bye-laws 2006 and shall, subject to section 3(1) of the Act, come into operation on the 1st November 2006.

Interpretation

2. In these Bye-laws, for the period from the 1st November 2006 to 31st October 2009 –

“experimental area” means the part of the Irish Sea bounded by the following co-ordinates -

- a point on Port Erin breakwater on the west coast of the Island at latitude 54° 05.15 North, longitude 04° 46.30' West,
- the west coast of the Island at latitude 54° 05.50' North, longitude 04° 46.70' West,
- latitude 54° 05.50' North, longitude 04° 48.00' West,
- latitude 54° 04.40' North, longitude 04° 48.00' West,
- the west coast of the Island at latitude 54° 04.40' North, longitude 04° 47.20' West;

Fishing restrictions

3. (1) Subject to paragraph (2), no person shall fish for, take or kill sea-fish in the experimental area.

(a) 1971 c.18; section 2 was amended by the Fisheries Act 1983, the Statute Law Revision Act 1986, GC 121/86 and the Territorial Sea (Consequential Provisions) Act 1991, which added section 2(2A)

(2) Paragraph (1) shall not apply in relation to fishing for, taking or killing –

- (a) crabs, crawfish, lobsters or whelks by means of pots; or
- (b) any sea-fish by means of rod and line.

Fishing gear to be lashed and stowed

4. No person shall carry or allow or permit or cause to be carried in any vessel any net or dredge in the experimental area unless it is properly lashed and stowed in such a way that it may not be readily used.

Amendment of G.C. 270/84

5. In the Sea-Fisheries (Consolidation) Bye-laws 1984 in bye-law 1A –

- (a) for "2003" substitute "2006";
- (b) omit the definition of "experimental area".

Offences and penalties

6. Any person who contravenes these Bye-laws shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable -

- (a) on conviction on information to a fine;
- (b) on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £50,000.

Revocations

7. The public documents referred to in the Schedule are revoked.

SD No	Title of Public Document	Extent of Revocation
SD 422/03	Sea-Fisheries (Experimental Area) Bye-laws 2003	The whole of the Bye-laws
SD 844/04	Sea-Fisheries (Experimental Area) (Amendment) Bye-laws 2004	The whole of the Bye-laws

Made 18th September 2006

Phil Gawne

Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the bye-laws)

These Bye-laws consolidate and replace previous bye-laws and amendments to those bye-laws dealing with the Experimental Area off Port Erin. The Bye-laws –

- (a) define the Experimental Area, extending it for a period of three years from the 1st November 2006 to 31st October 2009 (bye-law 2);
- (b) provide that no person shall fish in the Experimental Area other than by means of pots for crab, crawfish, lobster or whelks (bye-law 3);
- (c) provide that fishing vessels in the experimental area must ensure that all dredges and nets are lashed and stowed. Only fishing –
 - (i) by means of pots for crabs, crawfish, lobsters and whelks; or
 - (ii) by means of rod and line,
 is permitted in the experimental area. All other fishing gear, whether trawl, static net or dredge or any sort, must be lashed and stowed so that it is not readily available for use whilst a vessel is within the experimental area.
- (d) amend the Sea-Fisheries (Consolidation) Bye-laws 1984 so as to take cognizance of these Bye-laws (bye-law 5);
- (e) provide that it is an offence to contravene these Bye-laws and provide penalties (bye-law 6); and
- (f) revoke the Sea-Fisheries (Experimental Area) Bye-laws 2003 and the Sea-Fisheries (Experimental Area) (Amendment) Bye-laws 2004 (bye-law 7 and Schedule).

