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State Intelligence

CROWN OFFICE NORTHERN IRELAND

Pursuant to a Warrant of the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland dated 22nd June, 1992, the Lord Chief Justice this day called the under-named gentleman to the Inner Bar of Northern Ireland.

Sir Derek Harold Spencer

Dated the 25th June, 1992.

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD

THE SEA FISH (SPECIFIED SEA AREAS) (REGULATION OF NETS AND OTHER FISHING GEAR) (VARIATION) ORDER 1992 (SI 1992 No. 1344)

This Order varies the Sea Fish (Specified Sea Areas) (Regulation of Nets and Other Fishing Gear) Order 1991 ("the principal Order") which regulates the carriage of certain nets and other fishing gear in British fishing boats registered in the United Kingdom in specified sea areas and restricts the manner in which such nets and gear may be used.

This Order is made in reliance on Article 14(1) of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 3094/86, laying down certain technical measures for the conservation of fishery resources (OJ No. L288 11.10.86, p.1), which authorises Member States to take certain national measures for the conservation and management of stocks.

The principal Order requires a square mesh panel complying with specified criteria to be incorporated in the nets of certain mesh sizes carried in, or used by, boats in part of ICES IIa (Norwegian Sea) or in ICES IV (North Sea), ICES VI (Rockall and West of Scotland) or ICES VIIa (Irish Sea). This Order alters those criteria in several respects. In particular, it widens the requirement for a square mesh panel in ICES VI south of 56° north latitude and changes the requirement for a square mesh panel in ICES VIIa, and for nephrops it extends the requirement for a square mesh panel from ICES VIIa to all parts of ICES VII (West of Ireland and Porcupine Bank, South Coast of Ireland, Bristol Channel and English Channel) (articles 5 and 8).

This Order extends the circumstances in which the codend and any extension piece of the nets are regulated (article 6), subject to exemptions (article 4). This Order also removes the prohibition on the carriage and use of strengthening bags and top-side chafers in the principal Order (article 7).

This Order also makes some consequential and drafting changes.

Copies of the above mentioned Order may be obtained from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 49 High Holborn, London WC1V 6HB or 71 Lothian Road, Edinburgh EH3 9AZ, price £1.05.

THE UNDERSIZED WHITING ORDER 1992 (SI 1992 No. 1212)

This Order prescribes a minimum size for the landing of whiting (*Merlangius merlangus*) in Great Britain (article 2(1)). There is an exemption from the minimum landing size for the landing of whiting from foreign boats (article 2(2)).

The Order also prescribes a minimum size for the sale of whiting (article 3(1)) and for the carriage of whiting on a British fishing boat (article 4(1)). There is an exemption from the minimum sale size for whiting which are landed from foreign boats (article 3(2)) and from the minimum size for whiting carried on board British fishing boats in the case of unsorted whiting (article 4(2)).

The Order gives British sea-fishery officers further enforcement powers in relation to fishing boats (article 5). They already have powers under section 15(2) of the Sea Fish (Conservation) Act 1967, as amended by the Fisheries Act 1981, ("the 1967 Act") to seize any fish in respect of which an offence has been or is being committed under section 1(3) of the 1967 Act.

Offences and penalties are prescribed respectively by section 1(7) and (8) and section 11 of the 1967 Act.

This Order is made in reliance on Article 14(1) of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 3094/86 (OJ No. L288, 11.10.86, p.1), laying down certain technical measures for the conservation of fishery resources, which authorises Member States to take certain national measures for the conservation and management of stocks.

Copies of the above mentioned Order may be obtained from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 49 High Holborn, London WC1V 6HB or 71 Lothian Road, Edinburgh EH3 9AZ, price £1.05.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

AGRICULTURAL RETURNS ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1939

Under Section 1(1) of the above-mentioned Act persons occupying agricultural land and/or owning livestock may be required to furnish to the Department of Agriculture on demand returns showing certain particulars in respect of the land and/or livestock as on prescribed days.