

SCHEDULE referred to in the above Order.

BYELAWS for the Protection, Preservation, and Regulation of the Fisheries in the River Thames, from Cricklade, in the county of Wilts, to Yantlet, in the county of Kent.

The Conservators of the River Thames, in exercise of the power and authority vested in them by the Thames Conservancy Acts, 1857 and 1864, the Thames Navigation Act, 1866, the Thames Conservancy Act, 1867, the Thames Navigation Act, 1870, and the Thames Conservancy Act, 1878, and of every other authority them hereunto in any wise enabling do order and direct as follows, that is to say:—

1. All or so many and such part or parts of the Rules, Ordinances, and Byelaws, as are, or is hereinafter mentioned, viz:—

The Rules and Ordinances made in pursuance of the Act of the 30th George II, by the Mayor and Aldermen of the city of London, on the 4th day of October, 1785, and duly approved and confirmed on the 22nd and 24th days of the same month, and by the Conservators of the River Thames, in pursuance of the same Act, on the 23rd day of January, 1860, and duly approved and confirmed on the 28th day of the same month.

The Rules and Byelaws made by the Conservators of the River Thames on the 14th day of June, 1869, and duly allowed by Her Majesty in Council, on the 11th day of November following.

The Rules and Byelaws made by the said Conservators on the 7th day of July, 1873, and duly allowed by Her Majesty in Council, on the 30th day of September following.

The Rules and Byelaws made by the said Conservators, and duly allowed by Her Majesty in Council, on the 28th day of October, 1879, and all other (if any) the Rules, Ordinances, and Byelaws heretofore made by the Conservators of the River Thames, which are now in force for protecting, preserving, or regulating the fisheries of the River Thames, shall, after these present Byelaws shall have been allowed by Her Majesty in Council, be and the same are hereby repealed.

2. These Byelaws may be cited as the Thames Fishery Byelaws, 1883.

3. These Byelaws shall come into operation the day after the same are allowed by Her Majesty in Council.

4. These Byelaws extend and apply to the Rivers Thames and Isis, hereinafter called the River Thames, from Cricklade in the county of Wilts, to Yantlet Creek in the county of Kent, save and except where the application thereof is hereby expressly limited to any particular part of the said river, or to any particular and specified class of fish and to that extent only.

5. In these Byelaws unless there is something inconsistent in the context, the words and expressions hereinafter mentioned shall have respectively the meanings hereby assigned to them that is to say:—

“Person” shall include any body of persons, corporate or incorporate.

“Court” shall mean two or more justices assembled in petty sessions, or a stipendiary magistrate.

“Fishery” shall include oyster and shell-fisheries.

“Fish” shall include oysters and shell-fish, and also the spawn, brood, or fry of fish, oysters and shell-fish.

“Vessel” shall mean any ship, lighter, keel, barge, boat, punt, wherry, raft, or craft, or any other kind of vessel whatever, whether navigated by steam or otherwise.

6. Subject to the reservation of rights in these Byelaws contained, every net or engine, or apparatus for taking or attempting to take fish, which is not expressly authorized by these Byelaws shall be deemed to be a prohibited net or engine, or apparatus within the same, and the following nets or engines shall be deemed to be nets or engines authorized to be used within the limits undermentioned:—

(1) For pike, jack, perch, roach, dace, chub, and barbel—A flew or stream net of a mesh not less than three inches throughout when wet, and not more than sixteen fathoms long. To be used only in the river below Richmond Bridge.

(2) For flounders and soles.—A net of a mesh not less than two and a half inches throughout when wet, and not more than sixteen fathoms long. To be used only in the river below Richmond Bridge.

(3) For roach and dace.—A single blay net, of a mesh not less than two inches and a quarter when wet, and not more than thirteen fathoms long; to fleet with the stream with a boat and buoy attached to it. To be used only in the river below Richmond Bridge.

(4) For eels.—Grig weels to be used for eels only in the river below the City Stone at Staines.

(5) For smelts.—A net of not less than one inch and a quarter in the mesh when wet, and not more than sixteen fathoms long, except in the middle of the net where a space of six fathoms long shall be one inch in the mesh when wet: to be worked by fleet with the stream, with a boat and buoy attached to it. To be used only in the river below Richmond Bridge.

(6) For shrimps.—A trawl net of a mesh not less than one inch, when wet, except near the cod end, wherever that may be, but not smaller than half an inch mesh when wet, to be used only in the river between Greenhithe and Yantlet Creek; or a trim-tram net, with a mesh of not less than half an inch when wet, and a weighted beam of 21 feet in length. To be used only in the river below Richmond Bridge.

(7) For sprats.—A stow-boat net not less than one inch in the mesh when wet. To be used only in the river below Richmond Bridge.

(8) For whitebait.—A stow-boat net not less than half an inch in the mesh when wet. To be used only in the river below Richmond Bridge.

(9) For minnows.—For general use.—A round drop minnow net not exceeding three feet in diameter which may be used in all parts of the river.

(10) A small landing net for securing fish taken in angling, which may be used in all parts of the river.

(11) A hand or well net, to be used for removing fish from the well of a boat, or for carrying or preserving fish after capture, which may be used in all parts of the river.

(12) A casting or bait net, not exceeding thirty feet in circumference, to be used only by Assistant River Keepers or Registered Fishermen in obtaining bait to be employed in angling, the sack or purse thereof not being more than six inches in depth when extended to the utmost, which may be used in all parts of the river.

7. No fish of the species hereinafter mentioned shall be taken in or out of the River Thames, or