STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

1972 No. 23

SEA FISHERIES

BOATS AND METHODS OF FISHING

The Beam Trawl Regulation Order 1972

Made - - - -	13*th January* 1972
Laid before Parliament	19*th January* 1972
Coming into Operation	9*th February* 1972

The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and the Secretaries of State for Scotland and the Home Department (being the Secretaries of State respectively concerned with the sea-fishing industry in Scotland and Northern Ireland) in exercise of the powers conferred upon them by sections 3 and 15 of the Sea Fish (Conservation) Act 1967**(a)** as the latter section is amended by section 22(1) of, and sub-paragraph (3) of paragraph 38 of Part II of Schedule 1 to, the Sea Fisheries Act 1968**(b)** 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 Beam Trawl Regulation Order 1972 and shall come into operation on 9th February 1972.

Interpretation

2.—(1) In this Order—

"beam trawl" means a net which is constructed to take fish whilst being towed along the sea-bed by a fishing boat, and which has its mouth extended by a beam, bar or other rigid device, and "beam" shall be construed accordingly;

"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;

"British sea-fishery officer" means any person who is for the time being a British sea-fishery officer by virtue of section 7 of the Sea Fisheries Act 1968.

(2) The Interpretation Act 1889**(c)** shall apply for the interpretation of this Order as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

3.—(1) There shall not be carried in any British fishing boat registered in the United Kingdom for the purpose of fishing for sea fish in any waters adjacent to England, Wales or Northern Ireland and within the fishery limits of the British Islands any beam trawl whereof the effective length of beam exceeds 8 metres.

(2) There shall not be carried by any fishing boat registered in a country outside the United Kingdom or not registered in any country, in any waters adjacent to England, Wales or Northern Ireland and within the fishery limits of the British Islands, for the purpose of fishing for sea fish in those waters, any beam trawl whereof the effective length of beam exceeds 8 metres.

(a) 1967 c. 84. **(b)** 1968 c. 77.
(c) 1889 c. 63.

(3) Not more than one beam trawl shall be used from any fishing boat at any one time unless the aggregate effective length of beam of the trawls so used simultaneously does not exceed 8 metres.

Powers of British Sea-Fishery Officers

4. For the purpose of the enforcement of the provisions 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.

In witness whereof the Official Seal of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is hereunto affixed on 6th January 1972.

(L.S.)

J. M. L. Prior,
Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Gordon Campbell,
11th January 1972. Secretary of State for Scotland.

R. Maudling,
13th January 1972. Secretary of State for the Home Department.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Order.)

This Order regulates the dimensions of beam trawls which may lawfully be carried on United Kingdom and foreign fishing boats for fishing within that part of the fishery limits of the British Islands which is adjacent to England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

No beam trawl shall exceed 8 metres in width, and if more than one trawl is used at any one time the aggregate width of the trawls so used shall not exceed 8 metres.

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