Order made by the Scottish Ministers, laid before the Scottish Parliament under section 1(8) of the Food and Environment Protection Act 1985, for approval by resolution of the Scottish Parliament within twenty-eight days beginning with the day on which the Order was made, subject to extension for periods of dissolution or recess for more than four days.

S C O T T I S H S T A T U T O R Y I N S T R U M E N T S

2001 No. 423

PUBLIC HEALTH

CONTAMINATION OF FOOD

The Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Amnesic Shellfish Poisoning) (West Coast) (No. 12) (Scotland) Order 2001

Made *14th November 2001*

Coming into force in accordance with article 1(1)

Laid before the Scottish Parliament *15th November 2001*

The Scottish Ministers, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 1(1) and (2) and section 24(3) of the Food and Environment Protection Act 1985(**a**) and of all other powers enabling them in that behalf, being of the opinion that there exist or may exist circumstances which are likely to create a hazard to human health through human consumption of food and that in consequence food which is derived or may be in the future derived from bivalve molluscs in the area described in the following Order, is, or may be, or may become, unsuitable for human consumption, hereby make the following Order:

Citation, commencement and interpretation

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (Amnesic Shellfish Poisoning) (West Coast) (No. 12) (Scotland) Order 2001 and shall come into force at 1700 hours on 14th November 2001.

(2) In this Order–

(a) "scallops" means scallops of the class of *pecten maximus;* and

(b) "relevant time" means 0001 hours on 14th November 2001.

Designated circumstances

2. In the opinion of the Scottish Ministers, scallops in the area designated in article 3 below may be affected by the toxin which causes amnesic shellfish poisoning in human beings and are likely to create a hazard to human health if they are consumed.

(a) 1985 c.48; section 1(1) and (2) were amended by section 51(2)(a) and (b) of the Food Safety Act 1990 (c.16); section 1(2) defines "designating authority"; section 1 was further amended by the Scotland Act 1998 (Modification of Functions) Order 1999 (S.I. 1999/1756), Schedule, paragraph 10, the Food Standards Act 1999 (c.28), Schedule 5, paragraph 6 and the Scotland Act 1998 (Consequential Modifications) Order 2000 (S.I. 2000/2040), Schedule, Part I, paragraph 12.

Designated area

3. The area described in the Schedule to this Order is hereby designated for the purposes of Part I of the Food and Environment Protection Act 1985.

Activity prohibited in the designated area

4. No person shall fish for or take any scallops in the designated area.

Prohibited movement of scallops

5. No person shall move any scallops out of the designated area.

Restrictions

6. No person shall–

(a) use any scallops taken out of the designated area after the relevant time in the preparation or processing for supply of food and anything from which food could be derived;

(b) land any scallops which were in waters in the designated area after the relevant time;

(c) supply, or have in possession for supply, any scallops which were in the designated area after the relevant time;

(d) supply, or have in possession for supply, any food or anything from which food could be derived in the preparation or processing of which anything was used in contravention of paragraph (a) of this article; or

(e) feed to any creature a feeding stuff in the preparation or processing of which anything was used in contravention of paragraph (a) of this article.

MALCOLM CHISHOLM
Authorised to sign by the Scottish Ministers

St Andrew's House,
Edinburgh
14th November 2001

Article 3

SCHEDULE

THE DESIGNATED AREA

The area of sea below mean high water springs enclosed by a line starting from a point on the west cost of Tiree at 56º30'North latitude 7ºWest longitude; then south, east and north along the shoreline of Tiree to Scarinish on the east coast of Tiree at 56º30'North latitude 6º48.2West longitude; then east to 56º30'North latitude 6º30'West longitude; then south to 56ºNorth latitude 6º30'West longitude; then west to 56ºNorth latitude 7ºWest longitude; then north to the point of beginning.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order, which forms part of Scots law only, contains emergency prohibitions restricting various activities in order to prevent human consumption of food rendered unsuitable for that purpose by virtue of shellfish having been affected by the toxin which causes amnesic shellfish poisoning in human beings.

The Order designates an area of sea off the west coast of Scotland within which taking scallops is prohibited (articles 3 and 4 and the Schedule). It prohibits the movement of scallops out of that area (article 5). Other restrictions are imposed in relation to the use of any scallops taken from that area (article 6).

It is an offence by virtue of section 1(6) of the Food and Environment Protection Act 1985 ("the Act") as read with Schedule 1, paragraph 4 to the Act as inserted by paragraph 10(13) of the Schedule to the Scotland Act 1998 (Modification of Functions) Order 1999 (S.I. 1999/1756), to contravene any of the prohibitions contained in this Order anywhere in the United Kingdom or in United Kingdom waters.

Under section 21 of the Act the penalty for contravening an emergency prohibition is–

(a) on summary conviction, a fine of an amount not exceeding the statutory maximum (at present £5,000);

(b) on conviction on indictment, an unlimited fine, or imprisonment for a term of not more than two years, or both.

Powers of enforcement in relation to emergency prohibitions are conferred by section 4 of, and Schedule 2 to, the Act. Obstruction of enforcement officers is an offence under paragraph 10 of that Schedule.

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