

THE NATURAL RESOURCES BODY FOR WALES

WATER RESOURCES ACT 1991

THE WALES SALMON PROTECTION EMERGENCY BYELAWS 2018

The Natural Resources Body for Wales in exercise of its powers under section 210 of, and paragraphs 6(1)(b), 6(2)(aa) and 6(2)(d) of Schedule 25 and Schedule 27 to, the Water Resources Act 1991 and all other powers enabling it in that behalf, makes the following emergency byelaws for the protection and preservation of fisheries in Wales.

Byelaw 1 – Title

These Byelaws may be cited as the Wales Salmon Protection Emergency Byelaws 2018.

Byelaw 2 – Application

- (a) These byelaws shall be read in conjunction with the Rod and Line Byelaws 1995 as amended.
- (b) These Byelaws will apply to those rivers in Wales where Natural Resources Wales carries out its functions relating to fisheries.
- (c) These Byelaws will come into force on the 1st January 2019.

Byelaw 3 – Interpretation

In these Byelaws unless the context otherwise requires

- (a) “Natural Resources Wales” means the Natural Resources Body for Wales.
- (b) “the Rod and Line Byelaws 1995” means the Byelaws regulating fishing by means of rod & line and making certain general provisions relating to fishery matters made by the National Rivers Authority Welsh Region
- (c) “Wales” means the whole of Wales, together with such part of the territorial sea adjacent to Wales as extends for six miles from the baselines from which the breadth of that sea is measured.

- (d) Except as provided above or where the context otherwise requires all words and expressions used in these Byelaws shall have the meanings assigned to them by the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975, the Water Resources Act 1991 and Environment Act 1995 or any statutory modifications or re-enactment thereof.

Byelaw 4 - Annual Close Season for Fishing for Salmon and Migratory Trout other than with Rod and Line

Notwithstanding the start date of the close season contained within existing fisheries byelaws, the annual close season for fishing for salmon and migratory trout, other than with rod and line, in any calendar year shall end on, and include, the 31st day of May with the following exceptions:

- i) The seine net fisheries on the river Nevern and its estuary where the annual close season shall end on and include the 31st day of March.
- ii) The seine net fisheries on the river Dyfi and its estuary where the annual close season shall end on and include the 31st day of March.
- iii) The seine net fisheries on the river Towy and its estuary where the annual close season shall end on and include the last day of February.
- iv) The coracle net fisheries on the river Towy and its estuary where the annual close season shall end on and include the last day of February.
- v) The coracle net fisheries on the river Taf and its estuary where the annual close season shall end on and include the last day of February.
- vi) The seine net fisheries on the river Teifi and its estuary where the annual close season shall end on and include the 31st day of March.
- vii) The coracle net fisheries on the river Teifi and its estuary where the annual close season shall end on and include the 31st day of March.

Byelaw 5 – Early Season Catch and Release for Salmon in Specified Net Fisheries

- (a) Any person who removes any live or dead salmon:
 - (i) from waters specified in any of sub-paragraphs i) to vii) of Byelaw 4; and
 - (ii) which has been taken by a means of net fishing specified in that sub-paragraph

without the written authority of Natural Resources Wales before the 1st June in any calendar year shall be guilty of an offence.

- (b) This Byelaw shall not apply to any person who lawfully takes a salmon and returns it immediately to the water with the least possible injury.

Byelaw 6 – Early Season Catch and Release for Salmon with Rod and Line

- (a) Any person who removes any live or dead salmon taken by rod and line from any waters or banks before the 16th day of June in any calendar year shall be guilty of an offence.
- (b) This Byelaw shall not apply to any person who lawfully takes a salmon and returns it immediately to the water with the least possible injury.

Byelaw 7 – Early Season Method Restriction for Salmon with Rod and Line

Any person who fishes for, takes or attempts to fish for or attempts to take any salmon with rod and line by any means other than an artificial fly or artificial lure before the 16th day of June in any calendar year shall be guilty of an offence.

Byelaw 8 – Exemptions

These Byelaws shall not apply to any employee of Natural Resources Wales acting in their official capacity or to any person who, with the permission in writing of Natural Resources Wales and acting in accordance with any conditions attached to that permission, carries out work connected with the maintenance, improvement or development of fisheries or for scientific purposes.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF THE COMMON SEAL
OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES BODY FOR WALES**

Was hereunto affixed on the 10 day of December 2018

S. Abbey

AN AUTHORISED SIGNATORY

