Salmon Conservation (Scotland) Bill

[AS INTRODUCED]

An Act of the Scottish Parliament to make further provision about the conservation of salmon and sea trout.

1 Conservation of salmon and sea trout

After section 10 of the Salmon Act 1986 (c.62) (“the 1986 Act”) insert—

10A Regulations to assist conservation of salmon

(1) An application may be made by any person who may make an application in relation to an annual close time order under section 6(4) of this Act to the Scottish Ministers to make regulations under subsection (3) below.

(2) An application under subsection (1) above shall be in writing and shall contain the applicant’s proposals, including—

(a) a general description of the proposals;

(b) a statement as to why the applicant considers that the proposals are necessary or expedient; and

(c) a statement as to the general effect of the proposals.

(3) The Scottish Ministers shall have power to make regulations—

(a) on an application under subsection (1) above; or

(b) otherwise,

if they consider that it is necessary or expedient to do so for the conservation of salmon.

(4) In considering whether or not it is necessary or expedient to make regulations under subsection (3) above, the Scottish Ministers shall have regard to any representations made to them by any person having an interest in fishing for or taking salmon, or in the environment.

(5) Subject to subsection (6)(b) below, regulations under this section may be made in relation only to matters other than those in relation to which the Scottish Ministers have power to make regulations or orders under any other provision of this Act or under any other enactment.
(6) Without prejudice to the generality of the power conferred by subsection (3) above, regulations under this section may—

(a) require a proprietor to provide a district salmon fishery board with such information as it may request;

(b) specify baits and lures for the purposes of the definition of “rod and line” in section 24 of the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries (Protection) (Scotland) Act 1951.

10B Powers of enforcement, entry, search and arrest

(1) A water bailiff, a person appointed by the Scottish Ministers under section 10(5) of the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries (Protection) (Scotland) Act 1951 (c.26), and any constable shall have the same power to enforce any provision of any regulations made under section 10A of this Act as he has in relation to sections 10 to 12 of that Act.

(2) Regulations under section 10A of this Act may make provision in relation to such water bailiff, person or constable conferring on him such further powers of enforcement, in relation to any of the powers conferred by the regulations, as the Scottish Ministers consider necessary or expedient for the conservation of salmon.

(3) Section 11 of the said Act of 1951 (powers of entry and search) shall apply to an offence against any provision of any regulations made under section 10A of this Act as it applies to an offence against any of the provisions of sections 3 and 4 of that Act; and for this purpose any reference in the said section 11 to an offence against any of the provisions of sections 3 and 4 of that Act shall be construed as a reference to an offence against any of the provisions of any regulations made under section 10A of this Act.

(4) Section 12 of the said Act of 1951 (apprehension of offenders) shall apply to an offence against any provision of any regulations made under section 10A of this Act as it applies to an offence against the provisions of Part I of that Act; and for this purpose any reference in the said section 12 to an offence against the provisions of Part I of that Act shall be construed as a reference to an offence against the provisions of any regulations made under section 10A of this Act.

10C Offences, penalties, forfeiture etc.

(1) Any person who—

(a) acts in contravention of; or

(b) fails to take any action required of him by, or to comply with any requirement imposed on him by,

any provision of any regulations made under section 10A of this Act, shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 4 on the standard scale.

(2) Sections 7(3) (evidence), 19(1) (forfeiture) and 20 (disposal of seized fish) of the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries (Protection) (Scotland) Act 1951 (c.26) shall apply in the case of a conviction under this section of this Act as they
apply in the case of a conviction against Part I, section 7 or section 13, as the case may be, of that Act.

(3) For the purpose of subsection (2) above—

(a) the reference in the said section 7(3) to “this section” shall be construed as a reference to this section of this Act;

(b) any reference in the said section 19(1) to an offence against Part I or section 13 of that Act shall be construed as a reference to an offence against any provision of any regulations made under section 10A of this Act; and

(c) the reference in the said section 20 to “this Act” shall be construed as a reference to regulations made under section 10A of this Act.

10D Regulations

(1) Regulations under section 10A of this Act shall be made by statutory instrument which shall be subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of the Scottish Parliament.

(2) Such regulations may make—

(a) provision generally in relation to any district or river, or in relation to any time or season;

(b) different provision for different districts or different parts of a district, or for different parts of a river, or for different cases or classes of case.

(3) Paragraphs 3 to 8 of Schedule 1 to this Act shall apply to the making of regulations under section 10A(3)(a) of this Act as they apply to the making of a designation order and for this purpose—

(a) references to an applicant, and to an application, under paragraph 1 shall be construed respectively as references to an applicant, and to an application, under the said section 10A; and

(b) references to a designation order shall be construed as references to the regulations.

(4) Paragraphs 3 to 8 of Schedule 1 to this Act shall apply to the making of regulations under section 10A(3)(b) of this Act as they apply to the making of a designation order and for this purpose—

(a) references to an applicant and to an application shall be omitted;

(b) references to a designation order shall be construed as references to the regulations; and

(c) paragraph 4(3) shall be omitted.

10E Application to River Esk

Sections 10A to 10D of this Act shall apply to so much of the River Esk, including its banks and tributary streams, as is situated in Scotland; and, for the purpose of section 10A(1) of this Act, section 6(4) of this Act shall be deemed to apply to the River Esk, its banks and tributary streams.”. 
2 Amendment of section 19 of the 1986 Act

In section 19 of the 1986 Act (which provides that Part I of that Act shall not apply to the River Esk), at the beginning insert “Subject to section 10E of this Act,”.

3 Commencement and short title

(1) The preceding provisions of this Act shall come into force on such day as the Scottish Ministers may by order made by statutory instrument appoint.

(2) This Act may be cited as the Salmon Conservation (Scotland) Act 2000.
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[AS INTRODUCED]

An Act of the Scottish Parliament to make further provision about the conservation of salmon and sea trout.

Introduced by: Ross Finnie
On: 28 September 2000
Supported by: Mr John Home Robertson
Bill type: Executive Bill

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£1.50

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