



Reservoirs Act 1975

CHAPTER 23

RESERVOIRS ACT 1975

Operation of Act, and administration

- A1 Large raised reservoir²: England and Wales
 - 1 Ambit of Act and interpretation.
 - 2 Registration of large raised reservoirs, and enforcement of Act, by local authorities.
- 2A Consideration of risk and provisional designation: England and Wales
- 2B Designation
- 2C Meaning of “high-risk reservoir”
- 2D Review
- 2E Appeals
 - 3 Reports by local authorities to, and supervisory powers of, Secretary of State.
 - 4 Qualification of engineers.
 - 5 Power to prescribe by regulations.

New, enlarged and restored reservoirs

- 6 Construction or enlargement of reservoirs.
- 7 Certificates of construction engineers.
- 8 Powers of enforcement authority in event of non-compliance with requirements as to construction or enlargement of reservoirs.
- 9 Re-use of abandoned reservoirs.

Inspections

- 10 Periodical inspection of large raised reservoirs.

Changes to legislation: Reservoirs Act 1975 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 14 May 2023. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

Monitoring and supervision

- 11 Recording of water levels etc.
- 12 Supervision of large raised reservoirs.

Flooding

- 12A Flood plans: large raised reservoirs
- 12AA Flood plans: preparation
- 12B Flood plans and national security

Discontinuance or abandonment

- 13 Discontinuance of large raised reservoirs.
- 14 Abandonment of large raised reservoirs.

Additional powers of enforcement authority

- 15 Reserve powers.
- 16 Emergency powers.
- 17 Powers of entry.
- 18 Compensation to third parties for damage or disturbance.

Supplementary

- 19 Reference of disputed recommendations to referee.
- 19A Appeals
 - 20 General provisions as to reports, certificates etc. of engineers.
- 20A Assessment of reports and statements
 - 21 Duty of undertakers to furnish information.
- 21A Power to require information
- 21B Reports
 - 22 Criminal liability of undertakers and their employees.
- 22A Service of notices by the Environment Agency and the NRBW
- 22C Expenses
- 22D Arrangements for civil protection: charges

Transitional and temporary provisions

- 23 Continuity with previous Act.
- 24 Notification to local authorities of existing reservoirs.
- 25 Reservoirs in course of construction or alteration, or newly constructed or altered.
- 26 Reservoirs constructed before commencement of previous Act.
- 27 Large raised reservoirs not within previous Act.

Crown application

- 27A Crown application
- 27C Ministerial responsibility

Repeal, commencement etc.

- 28 Repeal.
- 29 Commencement.
- 30 Short title and extent.

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SCHEDULES

SCHEDULE 1 — Index of General Definitions

SCHEDULE 2 — Liability for Damage and Injury
Where damage or injury is caused by the escape of...

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- s. 2(1) word substituted by [2009 asp 6 s. 84\(3\)](#)
- s. 8 amendments by 2003 c. 37 s. 75 extended to Scotland by [2009 asp 6 s. 87](#)
- s. 15 amendments by 2003 c. 37 s. 75 extended to Scotland by [2009 asp 6 s. 87](#)
- s. 15(4) words inserted by [2009 asp 6 s. 86\(1\)\(a\)](#)
- s. 15(4) words repealed by [2009 asp 6 s. 86\(1\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 17 amendments by 2003 c. 37 s. 75 extended to Scotland by [2009 asp 6 s. 87](#)
- Sch. 1 words inserted by [2009 asp 6 s. 84\(4\)](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 1(4B) inserted by [2009 asp 6 s. 84\(2\)](#)
- s. 12C inserted by [2009 asp 6 s. 89](#)
- s. 12ZA inserted by [2009 asp 6 s. 88](#)
- s. 22B inserted by [2009 asp 6 s. 86\(2\)](#)
- s. 27B inserted by [2009 asp 6 s. 90](#)