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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2003 No. 2496**

**MERCHANT SHIPPING**  
**CASUALTIES, WRECK AND SALVAGE**

**The Protection of Wrecks (RMS Titanic) Order 2003**

*Made - - - - 29th September 2003*

*Laid before Parliament 1st October 2003*

*Coming into force in accordance with article 1(2)*

**THE PROTECTION OF WRECKS (RMS TITANIC) ORDER 2003**

1. Citation, commencement and application
2. Interpretation
3. Designated area
4. Restrictions as respects designated area
5. Licences for projects in designated area
6. Offences
7. Offences: further provisions
8. (1) In any proceedings for an offence under this Order,...
9. (1) A document required by article 8(3)(a) to be served...
10. Enforcement powers  
Signature

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**SCHEDULE — RULES CONCERNING ACTIVITIES AIMED AT THE RMS  
TITANIC AND/OR ITS ARTIFACTS**

*General principles*

1. The preferred policy for the preservation of RMS Titanic and...
2. Activities shall avoid disturbance of human remains.
3. Activities utilising non-destructive techniques and non-intrusive surveys and sampling shall...
4. Activities shall have the minimum adverse impact on RMS Titanic...
5. Persons undertaking these activities shall ensure proper recording and dissemination...

*Status: This is the original version (as it was originally made).*

*Project design*

6. Activities shall be the object of a project design that...
7. If unexpected discoveries are made or circumstances change, the project...
8. Each project shall be carried out in accordance with its...

*Funding*

9. Projects shall be designed to ensure adequate funding in advance...
10. The project design shall include contingency plans that will ensure...
11. The project design shall demonstrate an ability to fund the...
12. Project funding shall not require the sale of artifacts or...

*Duration—timetable*

13. Adequate time shall be assured in advance to complete all...
14. The project design shall include contingency plans that will ensure...

*Objectives, methodology and techniques*

15. The project design shall include the objectives, proposed methodology and...
16. The methodology shall comply with the project objectives and with...

*Professional qualifications*

17. Projects shall only be undertaken under the guidance of and...
18. All persons on the project team shall be—

*Preliminary work*

19. The project design shall include— (a) an assessment that evaluates...
20. The assessment shall also include background studies and relevant bibliography...

*Documentation*

21. Projects shall be thoroughly documented in accordance with professional archaeological...
22. Documentation shall include, as a minimum, the systematic and complete...

*Artifact conservation*

23. The project design shall include a conservation plan that provides...
24. Conservation shall be carried out in accordance with professional standards...

*Safety*

25. All persons on the team shall work according to a...

*Reporting*

26. Interim reports shall be made available according to a timetable...
27. Reports shall include— (a) an account of the objectives;

*Curation of project collection*

28. The project collection, including any artifacts recovered during the course...
29. Arrangements for curation of the project collection shall be agreed...
30. The project collection shall be curated according to professional standards...

*Dissemination*

31. Projects shall provide for public education and popular presentation of...
32. A final synthesis shall be provided to relevant national authorities...

Explanatory Note