
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2017 No. 1012

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017

PART 2

Conservation of Natural Habitats and Habitats of Species

Byelaws

Power to make byelaws

32.—(1) The appropriate nature conservation body may make byelaws for the protection of a European site under section 20 of the 1949 Act (byelaws for protection of nature reserves)^{MI}.

(2) Such byelaws may, in particular, make the kinds of provision mentioned in this regulation, subject to regulation 33(1).

(3) Byelaws may—

- (a) provide for prohibiting or restricting the entry into, or movement within, the site of persons, vehicles, boats or animals;
- (b) prohibit or restrict the killing, taking, molesting or disturbance of living creatures of any description in the site, the taking, destruction or disturbance of eggs of any such creature, the taking of, or interference with, vegetation of any description in the site, or the doing of anything in the site which will interfere with the soil or damage any object in the site;
- (c) contain provisions prohibiting the depositing of rubbish and the leaving of litter in the site; and
- (d) prohibit or restrict, or provide for prohibiting or restricting, the lighting of fires in the site or the doing of anything likely to cause a fire in the site.

(4) Byelaws may prohibit or restrict any activity referred to in paragraph (3) within such area surrounding or adjoining the site as appears to the appropriate nature conservation body necessary for the protection of the site.

(5) Where entry into, or any activity within, the site or any such surrounding or adjoining area as is mentioned in paragraph (4) would otherwise be unlawful under byelaws made under this regulation, the byelaws may provide for the issue of per mits authorising such entry or activity, on such terms and subject to such conditions as may be specified in the byelaws.

(6) Byelaws may be made so as to relate either to the whole or to any part of the European site, or of any such surrounding or adjoining area as is mentioned in paragraph (4), and may make different provision for different parts of the site.

(7) This regulation does not apply in relation to a European marine site (but see regulation 40 (European marine sites: byelaws and orders)).

Changes to legislation: The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, Cross Heading: Byelaws is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 20 April 2024. 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

Marginal Citations

M1 Section 20 was amended by the [Telecommunications Act 1984 \(c. 12\)](#), [Schedule 4](#), paragraph 28; the [Water Act 1989 \(c. 15\)](#), [Schedule 25](#), paragraph 13; the [Communications Act 2003 \(c. 21\)](#), [Schedule 17](#), paragraph 20(2); and the [Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 \(c. 16\)](#), [Schedule 11](#), paragraph 15(d).

Byelaws: supplementary provisions

33.—(1) Relevant byelaws must not interfere with—

- (a) the exercise by any person of a right vested in that person as owner, lessee or occupier of land in the European site, or in any such surrounding or adjoining area as is mentioned in regulation 32(4);
- (b) the exercise of any public right of way;
- (c) the exercise of any functions of statutory undertakers;
- (d) the exercise of any functions of an internal drainage board ^{M2} or the Commissioners appointed under the [Tweed Fisheries Act 1969](#) ^{M3}; or
- (e) the provision of an electronic communications code network or the exercise of any right conferred by or in accordance with the electronic communications code on the provider of any such network.

(2) Sections 236 to 237 and 237A to 238 of the [Local Government Act 1972](#) (procedure, etc., for, offences against and evidence of byelaws) ^{M4} apply to all relevant byelaws as if the appropriate nature conservation body were a local authority within the meaning of that Act.

(3) In relation to relevant byelaws, the confirming authority for the purposes of section 236 of the [Local Government Act 1972](#) ^{M5} is the appropriate authority.

(4) The appropriate nature conservation body may take such steps as may be necessary for the purpose of enforcing byelaws made by it.

(5) In this regulation and in regulations 34 and 35, “relevant byelaws” means byelaws under section 20 of the 1949 Act as it applies by virtue of regulation 32.

Marginal Citations

M2 See section 1 of the [Land Drainage Act 1991 \(c. 59\)](#).

M3 [1969 c.xxiv](#).

M4 [1972 c. 70](#). Sections 236 and 238 were amended by the [Local Government Byelaws \(Wales\) Act 2012](#) (anaw 2), [Schedule 2](#), paragraph 9(3) and (5); by the [Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 \(c. 20\)](#), [Schedule 6](#), paragraphs 34 and 36; and by [S.I. 2001/3719](#). Section 236 was amended by the [Civil Aviation Act 1982 \(c. 16\)](#), [Schedule 15](#), paragraph 11; the [Local Government Act 1985 \(c. 51\)](#), [Schedule 14](#), paragraph 31(1); the [Water Act 1989 \(c. 15\)](#), [Schedule 27](#), Part 1; the [Local Government \(Wales\) Act 1994 \(c. 19\)](#), [Schedule 15](#), paragraph 50; the [Greater London Authority Act 1999 \(c. 29\)](#), [sections 76](#) and 166; and the [Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 \(c. 28\)](#), [section 129\(2\)](#).

M5 See definition of “the confirming authority” in subsection (11).

Compensation for effect of byelaws

34.—(1) Where the exercise of any right vested in a person (“P”), whether by reason of P’s being entitled to any interest in land or by virtue of a licence or agreement, is prevented or hindered by the

coming into operation of relevant byelaws, P is entitled to receive compensation from the appropriate nature conservation body.

(2) Any dispute arising on a claim for any such compensation is to be determined by the Upper Tribunal.

(3) For the purposes of any such reference to the Upper Tribunal, section 4 of the Land Compensation Act 1961 (costs) has effect with the substitution for references to the acquiring authority of references to the authority from whom the compensation in question is claimed.

(4) Rules (2) to (4) of the Rules set out in section 5 of that Act (rules for assessing compensation on a compulsory acquisition) apply to the calculation of any such compensation, in so far as it is calculated by reference to the depreciation of the value of an interest in land.

(5) In the case of an interest in land subject to a mortgage—

- (a) any such compensation in respect of the depreciation of that interest is to be calculated as if the interest were not subject to the mortgage;
- (b) a claim or application for the payment of any such compensation may be made by any person who when the byelaws giving rise to the compensation were made was the mortgagee of the interest, or by any person claiming under such a person, but without prejudice to the making of a claim or application by any other person;
- (c) subject to sub-paragraph (d), a mortgagee is not entitled to any such compensation in respect of that mortgagee's interest as such; and
- (d) any compensation payable in respect of the interest subject to the mortgage must be paid to the mortgagee or, where there is more than one mortgagee, to the first mortgagee, and must in either case be applied by the mortgagee as if it were proceeds of sale.

Continuation in force of existing byelaws

35. Any byelaws in force under section 20 of the 1949 Act in relation to land which on or after 30th November 2017 becomes land within a European site, or adjacent to such a site—

- (a) have effect as if they are relevant byelaws; and
- (b) are to be construed as if originally made as such byelaws (see also regulation 141(5)).

Changes to legislation:

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, Cross Heading: Byelaws is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 20 April 2024. 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.

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

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

- reg. 41(2)(aa) inserted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 38\(5\)](#)
- reg. 108(6) inserted by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 39\(6\)](#)
- reg. 111(2)(aa)(ab) substituted for reg. 111(2)(a)(b) by [2023 c. 55 Sch. 8 para. 40\(3\)\(a\)](#)