

Enforcement and Prosecution Policy

Appendix 4 – Examples of offences and options for our enforcement response

December 2012



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4.1 Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975 (SAFFA)

Section 1	Using specified instruments to take or kill fish.							
Standard criminal and offence specific responses								
Warning Formal Caution Prosecution Fixed Penalty Notice								
✓	✓ ✓ X							
Other considerations and notices specific to this offence								
Suggested notice(s): n/a								
Position Statements [link or position]: n/a								
Further information: Seizure of instrument and fish. Seizure of vehicle or vessel and application to court for forfeiture.								
Relevant commencement dates: Civil sanctions are not available for this offence.								

Summary only offence								
Section 2(1) Use for fishing, buying, selling or having in possession any fish roe.								
Standard criminal and offence specific responses								
Warning	Warning Formal Caution Prosecution Fixed Penalty Notice							
✓			✓	✓		X		
	Civil	Sanctio	ns which can	be imposed			Offered	
Compliance Notice	Resto Not		Fixed Monetary Penalty	Variable Monetary Penalty	Stop Notice		Enforcement Undertaking	
X	>	(X	✓	X X		X	
Other considerations and notices specific to this offence								
Suggested no	tice(s):	n/a						
Position Statements [link or position]: n/a								
Further information: Seizure of fish, instrument etc. Seizure of vehicle or vessel and application for forfeiture.								
Relevant commencement dates: Civil sanctions are only available for offences which occurred after 6 April 2010 in England and 15 July 2010 in Wales.								

Summary only offence

Section 2(2)

Knowingly takes, kills, injures or attempts to take, kill or injure any salmon, trout, lamprey, smelt, shad, freshwater fish or specified fish in any waters which is unclean or immature; or

Buys, sells, exposes for sale, or has in possession any such fish or any part, which is unclean or immature.

Standard criminal and offence specific responses

Warning		Formal Caution		Prosecution		Fixed Penalty Notice	
✓		✓		✓		X	
	Civil Sanctions which can be imposed						
Compliance Notice	Restor Not		Fixed Monetary Penalty	Variable Monetary Penalty	Stop Notice		Enforcement Undertaking
X	X	7	X	✓	X		X

Other considerations and notices specific to this offence

Suggested notice(s): n/a

Position Statements [link or position]: n/a

Further information: Seizure of fish, instrument etc.

Seizure of vehicle or vessel and application for forfeiture.

Relevant commencement dates: Civil sanctions are only available for offences which occurred after 6 April 2010 in England and 15 July 2010 in Wales.

Summary only offence

Section 2(4) Wilfully disturbing spawn, spawning fish or spawning areas.

Standard criminal and offence specific responses

Warning		Formal Caution		Prosecution		Fixed Penalty Notice	
✓		✓		✓		X	
	Civil Sanctions which can be imposed						Offered
Compliance Notice	Restoi Noti		Fixed Monetary Penalty	Variable Monetary Penalty	Stop Notice		Enforcement Undertaking
X	✓	,	X	✓	✓		✓

Other considerations and notices specific to this offence

Suggested notice(s): n/a

Position Statements [link or position]: n/a

Further information: Pursue additional Land Drainage Act byelaw offences.

Relevant commencement dates: Civil sanctions are only available for offences which occurred after 6 April 2010 in England and 15 July 2010 in Wales.

4.2 Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981

Summary only offence Carry out operations without the consent; Public body failing to comply with consultation requirements under 28H Section 28 P AND 28I and damage the special interest; (1), (2), (3), Third Party (with knowledge of SSSI) intentionally or recklessly destroys or (5), (6) and damages the special interest or destroys the fauna; (6a) Third Party (without knowledge of SSSI) intentionally or recklessly destroys or damages the special interest or destroys the fauna; Standard criminal and offence specific responses Fixed Penalty Notice Formal Caution Prosecution Warning Civil Sanctions which can be imposed Offered Fixed Variable Compliance Restoration Enforcement Monetary Monetary Stop Notice Notice Notice Undertaking Penalty Penalty Χ Χ Χ Χ Other considerations and notices specific to this offence Suggested notice(s): n/a Position Statements [link or position]: n/a Further information: Power to enter land and take samples etc. (Section 51) Relevant commencement dates Civil sanctions are not available for this offence.

4.3 Forestry Act 1967 as amended

Summary only offence								
Section 7(4)	Obstruction of any person authorised by the Commissioners to enter land to kill and take rabbits, hares or vermin where they are likely to damage trees or tree plants.							
	Sta	ndard o	criminal and of	fence specific	respons	ses		
Warning Formal Caution Prosecution Fixed Penalty Notice								
✓ ✓ X								
Civil Sanctions which can be imposed Offered								
Compliance Notice	Resto Not		Fixed Monetary Penalty	Variable Monetary Penalty	Stop Notice		Enforcement Undertaking	
X	×		X	Χ	X		X	
	Other considerations and notices specific to this offence							
Suggested no	Suggested notice(s): n/a							
Position Statements [link or position]: n/a								
Further information: Non-imprisonable; maximum sentence of level 2 fine.								
Relevant commencement dates: n/a Civil sanctions are not available for this offence.								

Summary only offence Section Felling trees without a licence where required by section 9(1) of the Act. 17(1) Standard criminal and offence specific responses **Formal Caution** Prosecution Fixed Penalty Notice Warning Χ Civil Sanctions which can be imposed Offered Fixed Variable Compliance Restoration Enforcement Monetary Monetary Stop Notice Notice Notice Undertaking Penalty Penalty

Other considerations and notices specific to this offence

Χ

Suggested notice(s): n/a

Position Statements [link or position]: n/a

Further information:

Χ

Proceedings for an offence under this section may be instituted within six months from the first discovery of the offence by the person taking the proceedings, provided that no proceedings shall be instituted more than two years after the date of the offence.

Maximum sentence is a fine not exceeding level 4 on the standard scale or twice the sum which appears to the court to be the value of the trees, whichever is the higher.

Under s.17A a "Restocking Notice" may be imposed where "it appears to the Commissioners that an offence in England and Wales under s.17" has been committed. This is an alternative to prosecution.

Relevant commencement dates: n/a

Civil sanctions are not available for this offence.