

Marine Management Organisation

Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (c.23)

The Canyons Marine Conservation Zone (Specified Area) Prohibited Fishing Gears Byelaw 2022

The Marine Management Organisation¹, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 129B of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, and having:

- placed copies of the draft byelaw in convenient places for the purpose of inspection in accordance with section 130(3) of that Act;
- provided a copy of the draft byelaw to any person upon request in accordance with section 130(4) of that Act;
- published notice of its proposal to make the byelaw in accordance with sections 130(6) and 130(7) of that Act;

makes the following byelaw to conserve the following marine habitats: deep-sea bed, cold-water coral reefs, coral gardens, and sea-pen and burrowing megafauna communities.

Interpretation

1. In this byelaw:
 - a. “bottom towed fishing gear” means any trawls, seines, dredges or similar gear, including trawls towed on or very close to the sea bed, which are actively moved in the water by one or more fishing vessels or by any other mechanised system and in which any part of the gear is designed and rigged to operate on, and be in contact with, the seabed;
 - b. “inboard, lashed and stowed” means stored in such a way that it cannot readily be used for fishing; and,
 - c. “specified area” means the area defined in the Schedule.
2. Co-ordinates used in this byelaw are measured from WGS 84 datum. The WGS 84 means the World Geodetic System revised in 1984 and 2004.

Prohibition

3. A person must not use bottom towed fishing gear or anchored nets or lines in the specified area.
4. A vessel transiting through the specified area must have all bottom towed fishing gear

¹ The Marine Management Organisation was established by the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, section 1.

and anchored nets or lines inboard, lashed and stowed.

Exemption for Scientific, Stocking or Breeding Purposes

5. Paragraphs 3 and 4 do not apply to a person performing an act which would otherwise constitute an offence against this byelaw, if:
 - a. the act was carried out in accordance with written permission issued by the Marine Management Organisation permitting that act for the scientific, stocking or breeding purposes; or,
 - b. the act was carried out in accordance with a marine licence issued by the Secretary of State under part 4 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, in connection with a decommissioning programme required under Part IV of the Petroleum Act 1998 (c.17).

Citation

6. This byelaw may be cited as The Canyons Marine Conservation Zone (Specified Area) Prohibited Fishing Gears Byelaw 2022.

Made under the Common Seal of the Marine Management Organisation on

The Common Seal of the Marine Management Organisation was affixed to this byelaw in the presence of:

Michael Coyle
Director of Operations
Marine Management Organisation

The Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs in exercise of the power conferred by section 130(8) of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 confirms this byelaw.

A Senior Civil Servant for, and on behalf of, the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Date:

This byelaw comes into force on:

Schedule

The "specified area" means the area enclosed by a series of geodesic lines drawn from:

Point 1	48°30.0000'N	09°33.1920'W; to
Point 2	48°17.5266'N	09°33.1920'W; to
Point 3	48°14.2068'N	09°42.5172'W; to
Point 4	48°10.0002'N	09°38.9826'W; to
Point 5	48°10.0002'N	09°48.4080'W; to
Point 6	48°19.9992'N	09°48.4080'W; to
Point 7	48°19.9992'N	09°48.0000'W; to
Point 8	48°28.2630'N	09°48.0000'W; to
Point 9	48°30.0000'N	09°45.4740'W and returning to Point 1.

Explanatory Note

(This note is not part of the byelaw)

The Marine Management Organisation has made this byelaw to conserve the following marine habitats, which are designated features of The Canyons Marine Conservation Zone: coral gardens, cold-water coral reefs, deep-sea bed and sea-pen and burrowing megafauna communities.

The byelaw prohibits the use of bottom towed fishing gear, including demersal seines, and anchored nets and lines in a specified area of The Canyons Marine Conservation Zone.

The specified area includes a buffer zone to ensure that fishing activities taking place adjacent to the marine habitats do not negatively impact them.

The specified area is defined in the Schedule to this byelaw.

The specified area is identified, for illustrative purposes only, on the map overleaf.



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The Canyons

Marine Conservation Zone

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