



**North
West
Water**

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F1/A8

12th January 1982

To: Members of the Central and Southern Areas
Fisheries Advisory Committees:
(Messrs. J. S. Bailey; (Chairman of the Southern
Area Committee); J. M. Croft; (Chairman of the Central
Area Committee); W. Bailey; R. Barratt; J. Blackburn;
D. Bridgewood; A. G. R. Brown; R. A. Challenor;
J. H. Fell; R. Harper; A. L. Harris; C. Holland;
R. D. Houghton; J. Johnson; G. Jones; J. P. Lord;
P. Neal; R. Newton; J. A. Shanahan; H. B. Whittam;
G. Wilson; Dr. R. B. Broughton; Professor W. E. Kershaw;
Dr. M. Pugh Thomas; and the Chairman of the Authority
(G. Mann); the Vice Chairman of the Authority
(A. Richardson); and the Chairman of the Regional
Fisheries Advisory Committee (T. A. F. Barnes) (ex officio)).

Dear Member,

Will you please attend a SPECIAL JOINT MEETING of the CENTRAL and SOUTHERN AREAS FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEES to be held at 2.30 P.M. on MONDAY, 18TH JANUARY, 1982, at the LANCASHIRE AREA OFFICE of the RIVERS DIVISION, 48 WEST CLIFF, PRESTON, for consideration of the following business.

Yours faithfully,

W. H. CRACKLE,

Secretary and Solicitor.

A G E N D A

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Restructuring of Rod and Line Fishing Licence Duties.

NOTE: Members are requested to bring with them the minutes of the Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee meeting held on 14th December 1981 (previously circulated).

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITYCENTRAL AND SOUTHERN AREAS
FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEESJOINT MEETING, 18TH JANUARY 1982RESTRUCTURING OF ROD AND LINE FISHING LICENCE DUTIES
PROPOSED INTRODUCTION OF FISHERY IMPROVEMENT GRANT
AND FISHERY EQUIPMENT LOAN, SCHEMES IN 1983

1. With a view to providing additional services to anglers, primarily in the southern part of the region, it is proposed to introduce, in 1983, two schemes, one providing for grant-aid for fishery improvement work by clubs and the other setting up a pool of fishery equipment which would be available on loan to clubs. The intention is that both schemes should be financed from a small surcharge on the separate freshwater fish licence duty in 1983. On the basis of providing approximately £10,000 per annum, the surcharge would be 20p on the full, and 10p on the concessionary, season licences. The 7-day licence would not carry any surcharge. The revenue would be divided equally between the schemes.
2. It is proposed that the Fishery Improvement Grant Scheme should operate on the following general lines:-
 - (i) Grant-aid would be restricted to projects with a "life", such as the restoration of fishable pools which have deteriorated, the construction of new fishing pools or facilities, or of hatcheries or fish rearing pools etc., and would be restricted to angling clubs with coarse fishing interests. Funds would not be available for purchase of fish or for restocking work.
 - (ii) Any project put forward for grant would be required to satisfy the Regional Fisheries Officer and, if engineering works were involved, the Divisional Engineer, Rivers Division, that it was feasible, worthwhile and eligible for grant under such general conditions as may be set by the Authority. Where the applicant was not the owner of the fishing rights or land concerned, proof would be required of security of tenure for not less than 7 years ahead.
 - (iii) Any grant-aid provided would in no case exceed 50% of the total cost of the project.
 - (iv) Payment of grant-aid would be made only on production of receipted invoices and evidence that the work had been satisfactorily completed.
 - (v) The scheme would be administered by the Regional Fisheries Officer in collaboration with the Divisional Finance Officer, Rivers Division.
 - (vi) In view of the involvement of public funds, an applicant would be expected, in the case of any fishery improvement project, to make available to the public an agreed number of day permits, where this facility did not already exist.

3. It is proposed that the Fishery Equipment Loan Scheme should operate on the following general lines:-

(i) The equipment expected to be made available would include work-boat and trailer; draft nets suitable for netting pools; hand nets; fish transport tanks and aeration equipment; hand winches (for removing timber); axes, saws and slashers; chainsaws and electric fishing gear.

(This list would be extended or varied in the light of experience and on proof of demand).

(ii) Loan of equipment would be made under detailed written conditions and would be restricted to angling clubs with coarse fishing interests. No charge would be made unless there was a requirement for delivery to or from site and/or it was damaged in use and required repair. (See (iv) below).

(iii) Electric fishing gear and chainsaws would not be lent unless a member of the Fisheries Department with training and experience in their use was present, thus ensuring proper safety precautions were observed.

(iv) Borrowers would be required to complete an application form and a form of indemnity, which would also cover their liability in the event of the equipment being returned damaged or unserviceable, and to sign a receipt for equipment borrowed.

(v) In view of the involvement of public funds, preference would be given to applicants who already issue, or who will issue, day permits to the public on the waters concerned.

4. Detailed conditions governing the operation of the two schemes will be prepared if the Committees endorse these general principles and approve the surcharge proposed. The conditions would apply to both schemes.

5. The Committees are invited to recommend approval of these proposals to the Regional Fisheries Committee.