

Environment Agency  
Water Resources Act 1991  
Environment Act 1995  
Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975

## RIVER CAMEL SALMON AND SEA TROUT PROTECTION BYELAWS

**THE ENVIRONMENT AGENCY**, in exercise of its powers under Section 210 of, and paragraphs 6(1)(b), 6(2)(b)(i) and 6(2)(d) of Schedule 25 to, the Water Resources Act 1991, makes the following time limited byelaw to protect salmon and sea trout within the River Camel and its freshwater tributaries.

### Interpretation

In this byelaw-

"the Agency" means the Environment Agency;

"River Camel catchment" means all of the rivers and streams, including the River Allen, which collectively form the main River Camel and which flow into the River Camel estuary at Wadebridge, Cornwall (SW 99116 72466).

"Salmon" means the species Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*)

"Sea Trout" means the migratory form of the species brown trout (*Salmo trutta*)

"Brown Trout" means the resident form of the species brown trout (*Salmo trutta*).

"Hook gape" means the widest opening of a hook used for rod and line fishing, the dimensions of which are measured from the hook point to the vertical shank of the hook.

"Artificial lure" or "spinner bait" means any artificial bait either with or without a revolving blade used in conjunction with a rod and line to attract a fish to a hook.

"Barbless" means a hook with no barb or a hook with a fully crushed barb only.

"24 hour period" is defined as the 24 hour period from the time that fishing commences on any day.

### Byelaw 1 Application and Exemptions

- a) These Byelaws apply to the River Camel catchment.
- b) These Byelaws shall not apply to any employee of the Environment Agency acting in their official capacity or to any person who, with the permission in writing of the Environment Agency and acting in accordance with any conditions attached to that permission, carries out work connected with the maintenance, improvement or development of fisheries or for scientific purposes.
- c) These Byelaws shall expire 5 years after the date when they first come into force.

### Byelaw 2 Catch and release of rod caught salmon.

- a) No person shall retain a live or dead salmon that has been taken by rod and line or other instrument designed to capture fish within the River Camel catchment.

- b) Any salmon caught with rod and line within the River Camel catchment must be returned immediately to the water with the least possible injury at the point of capture or removal.

#### **Byelaw 3 Prohibition of measures for rod caught salmon, sea trout and brown trout.**

- a) No person shall fish for salmon within the River Camel catchment with rod and line by means of any bait with the exception of prawn or shrimp using a single, barbless hook with the gape of any such hook being no greater than 13 millimetres.
- b) No person shall fish for or take any sea trout or brown trout with rod and line from the River Camel catchment by means of any bait other than with a single worm baited on a single, barbless hook with the gape of any such hook being no greater than 13 millimetres.
- c) All artificial lures or spinners used for the capture of salmon, sea trout and brown trout from the River Camel catchment must be fitted either with barbless treble hooks with a hook gape width of no greater than 8 millimetres or single, barbless hooks with a hook gape width of no greater than 13 millimetres.
- d) The use of all treble hooks associated with artificial lures or spinner baits are prohibited after the 30 September within the River Camel catchment.
- e) Treble and double hooks used with an artificial fly for the capture of salmon, sea trout and brown trout within the River Camel catchment shall be barbless and must not exceed a maximum hook gape width of 8 millimetres.
- f) The maximum gape width of any single hook when used in conjunction with an artificial fly to catch salmon, sea trout or brown trout within the River Camel catchment must be barbless and shall not be greater than 13 millimetres.

#### **Byelaw 4 Sea trout protection measures**

- a) The maximum number of sea trout to be retained by a person fishing with rod and line within the River Camel catchment shall not exceed two at any point in time and within a 24 hour period.
- b) No person fishing by rod and line within the River Camel catchment is permitted to retain a sea trout of greater than 50 centimetres measured from the snout to the tip of the tail.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF THE COMMON SEAL OF THE ENVIRONMENT AGENCY  
Was hereunto affixed on the 7th May 2024 in the presence of:-



Laura Milton  
DIRECTOR OF LEGAL AND AUDIT SERVICES

AN AUTHORISED SIGNATORY



Confirmation Statement

A senior official on behalf of The Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, pursuant to Section 210 of and Schedule 26 to, the Water Resources Act 1991 confirms the River Camel Salmon and Sea Trout Protection Byelaws made by the Environment Agency on 7 May 2024 in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 210 of, and paragraphs 6(1)(b), 6(2)(b)(i) and 6(2)(d) of Schedule 25 to, that Act.

This order comes into force on the date of confirmation and shall expire five years after this date.



Anne Freeman, a senior official on behalf of The Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Date: 11 December 2024