

Assented to in Her Majesty's name this 25th day of  
May, 1960.

*A. G. Denton Thompson*  
Officer Administering the Government.



No. 3



1960

Colony of the Falkland Islands.

IN THE NINTH YEAR OF THE REIGN OF  
HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II.

AUBREY GORDON DENTON-THOMPSON, O.B.E., M.C.  
*Officer Administering the Government.*

An Ordinance

To prevent the pollution of the sea by Oil. Title.

ENACTED by the Legislature of the Colony of the Falkland Islands, as follows :— Enacting clause.

1. (1) This Ordinance may be cited as the Oil in Territorial Waters Ordinance, 1960. Short title and application.

(2) This Ordinance applies to the following Waters :—

- (a) the whole of the sea within the seaward limits of the territorial waters of the Colony, and
- (b) all other waters which are within those limits and are navigable by sea-going ships.

2. (1) In this Ordinance unless the context otherwise requires — Definitions.

“Harbour” means any bay, haven or arm of the sea which has been or may hereafter be defined and declared to be a harbour by the Governor in Council;

“Harbour Master” means and includes any person appointed by the Governor for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this Ordinance;

“Mile” means a nautical mile, that is to say a distance of six thousand and eighty feet;

“Oil” means oil of any description and shall include crude oil, fuel oil, diesel oil and lubricating oil and shall also include coal tar but for the purposes of this Ordinance shall not include seal oil or whale oil;

“Oil residues” means any waste material consisting, or arising from, oil, or produced by operations for extracting or refining oil, and includes a mixture containing oil;

“Vessel” includes every description of ship.

(2) Any reference in any provision of this Ordinance to a mixture containing oil shall be construed as a reference to any mixture of oil with water or with any other substance.

Discharge of oil into the territorial waters of the Colony.

(Oil in Nav. Waters Act, 1958, s. 3.)

3. (1) If any oil or oil residues or any mixture containing oil or oil residues is discharged or allowed to escape into any harbour or waters to which this Ordinance applies from any vessel, or from any factory or place on land, or from any apparatus used for transferring oil from or to any vessel (whether to or from a factory or place on land or to or from another vessel) then subject to the provisions of this Ordinance—

- (a) if the discharge or escape is from a vessel, the owner or master of the vessel, or
- (b) if the discharge or escape is from a factory the manager, and if it is from a place on land, the occupier of that place, or
- (c) if the discharge or escape is from apparatus used for transferring oil from or to a vessel, the person in charge of the apparatus,

shall be liable to a fine not exceeding £500.

Special defences.  
(Oil in Nav. Waters Act, 1958, s. 4.)

4. (1) Where a person is charged with an offence under the last preceding section as the owner or master of a vessel, it shall be a defence to prove that the oil or oil residues or mixture in question was discharged for the purpose of securing the safety of the vessel, or of preventing damage to the vessel or her cargo, or of saving life :

Provided that a defence under this subsection shall not have effect if the court is satisfied that the discharge of the oil or oil residues or mixture was not necessary for the purpose alleged in the defence or was not a reasonable step to take in the circumstances.

(2) Where a person is charged as mentioned in the preceding subsection, it shall also be a defence to prove—

- (a) that the oil or oil residues or mixture escaped in consequence of damage to the vessel, and that as soon as practicable after the damage occurred all reasonable steps were taken for preventing, or (if it could not be prevented) for stopping or reducing, the escape of the oil or oil residues or mixture, or
- (b) that the oil or oil residues or mixture escaped by reason of leakage, that the leakage was not due to any want of reasonable care, and that as soon as practicable after the escape was discovered all reasonable steps were taken for stopping or reducing it.

(3) Where a person is charged with an offence under the last preceding section as the occupier of a place on land, or as the person in charge of any apparatus, from which oil or oil residues or a mixture containing oil is alleged to have escaped, it shall be a defence to prove that the escape of the oil or oil residues or mixture was not due to any want of reasonable care, and that as soon as practicable after the escape was discovered all reasonable steps were taken for stopping or reducing it.

(4) Without prejudice to the last preceding subsection, it shall be a defence for the occupier of a place on land, who is charged with an offence under the last preceding section, to prove that the discharge was caused by the act of a person who was in that place without the permission (express or implied) of the occupier.

(5) Where a person is charged with an offence under the last preceding section in respect of the discharge of a mixture containing

oil from a place on land, it shall (without prejudice to any other defence under this section) be a defence to prove –

- (a) that the oil was contained in an effluent produced by operations for the refining of oil;
- (b) that it was not reasonably practicable to dispose of the effluent otherwise than by discharging it into waters to which the last preceding section applies; and
- (c) that all reasonably practicable steps had been taken for eliminating oil from the effluent :

Provided that a defence under this subsection shall not have effect if it is proved that, at a time to which the charge relates, the surface of the waters into which the mixture was discharged from the place in question, or land adjacent to those waters, was fouled by oil, unless the court is satisfied that the fouling was not caused, or contributed to, by oil contained in any effluent discharged at or before that time from that place.

(6) Where any oil or oil residues or mixture containing oil or oil residues is discharged in consequence of –

- (a) the exercise of any power conferred by sections five hundred and thirty to five hundred and thirty-two of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894 (which relate to the removal of wrecks by harbour, conservancy and light-house authorities), or
- (b) the exercise for the purpose of preventing an obstruction or danger to navigation, of any power to dispose of sunk, stranded or abandoned vessels which is exercisable by a harbour authority,

and apart from this subsection the authority exercising the power, or a person employed by or acting on behalf of the authority, would be guilty of an offence under the last preceding section, in respect of that discharge, the authority or person shall not be convicted of that offence unless it is shown that they or he failed to take such steps (if any) as were reasonable in the circumstances for preventing, stopping or reducing the discharge.

5. (1) If any oil or oil residues or mixture containing oil –

- (a) is discharged from a vessel into the waters of a harbour in the Colony for the purposes of securing the safety of the vessel, or of preventing damage to the vessel or her cargo, or of saving life, or
- (b) is found to be escaping, or to have escaped, into any such waters from a vessel in consequence of damage to the vessel, or by reason of leakage, or
- (c) is found to be escaping or to have escaped into any such waters from a place on land,

the owner or master of the vessel, or the occupier of the place on land, as the case may be, shall forthwith report the occurrence to the harbour master, stating, in the case of a report by the owner or master of a vessel, whether it falls within paragraph (a) or paragraph (b) of this subsection, and, if he fails to do so, shall be guilty of an offence under this section :

(2) A person guilty of an offence under this section shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding two hundred pounds.

6. (1) Proceedings in respect of offences under this Ordinance, or any regulations made thereunder, may be taken before the magistrate or any two justices of the peace in a summary manner, or in the Supreme Court :

Provided that any fine imposed by the Magistrate or two justices of the peace shall not exceed one hundred pounds exclusive of costs.

Duty to report discharges of oil into waters of harbours.

(Oil in Nav. Waters Act, 1958. s. 10.)

Legal proceedings.  
(Ch. 76. sec. 12.)

(Oil in Nav. Waters Act,  
1958, s. 12. (4). )

(2) Where, immediately before the date which (apart from this subsection) would be the date of expiry of the time for bringing proceedings in a court of summary jurisdiction in respect of an offence alleged to have been committed under this Ordinance, the person to be charged is outside the Colony, the time for bringing proceedings shall be extended until the end of the period of two months beginning with the date on which he next enters the Colony.

(Oil in Nav. Waters Act,  
1958, s. 12 (5). )

(3) Proceedings for any offence under this Ordinance may be taken against a person at any place at which he is for the time being.

Enforcement and appli-  
cation of fines.

(Oil in Nav. Waters Act,  
1958, s. 13.)

7. (1) Where a fine imposed by a court in proceedings against the owner or master of a vessel for an offence under this Ordinance is not paid at the time ordered by the court, the court shall, in addition to any other powers for enforcing payment, have power to direct the amount remaining unpaid to be levied by distress or pounding and sale of the vessel, her tackle, furniture and apparel.

(2) Where a person is convicted of an offence under section 3 of this Ordinance, and the court imposes a fine in respect of the offence, then if it appears to the court that any person has incurred, or will incur, expenses in removing any pollution, or making good any damage, which is attributable to the offence, the court may order the whole or part of the fine to be paid to that person for or towards defraying those expenses.

Application of Act to  
Crown.

(Oil in Nav. Waters Act,  
1938, s. 16 (1). )

8. (1) The provisions of this Ordinance do not apply to vessels of Her Majesty's navy nor to Government ships in the service of the Admiralty while employed for the purposes of Her Majesty's navy.

Power to make regula-  
tions.

9. The Governor in Council may from time to time make regulations for the more effective carrying out of the purposes of this Ordinance, and may impose penalties for the breach of any such regulations.

Repeal of the Harbour  
(Amendment) Ordinance,  
1958.

10. The Harbour (Amendment) Ordinance, 1958, is hereby repealed.

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This printed impression has been carefully compared by me with the Bill which has passed the Legislative Council, and is found by me to be a true and correctly printed copy of the said Bill.

  
for Clerk of the Legislative Council.

Ref. 1848.