

11. The mesh of every net or seine used for the purpose of taking fish in tidal waters shall measure, diagonally, when prepared for use, wetted and stretched, not less than 2in., unless such net be a *bonâ fide* garfish-net or herring-net, and used for taking garfish or herrings only.

12. The mesh of every garfish-net shall measure, diagonally, when prepared for use, wetted and stretched, not less than 1in.

13. The mesh of every herring-net shall measure, diagonally, when prepared for use, wetted and stretched, not less than 1½in.

14. The foregoing regulations in regard to the size of the mesh of nets shall not apply to Lake Ellesmere, in the Provincial District of Canterbury, but the mesh of every net used for taking fish in such lake shall measure, diagonally, when prepared for use, wetted and stretched, not less than 4in.: Provided that it shall be lawful to use in the said lake herring-nets the mesh of which shall measure, diagonally, when prepared for use, wetted and stretched, not less than 1½in.

15. The size of mesh, in every case, shall be ascertained by measuring the length on the diagonal, or between knot and knot of opposite corners, the net being first wetted, and being tanned, barked, or otherwise prepared for use. In case of dispute or doubt, a ½lb. weight shall be slung or attached to one knot of a mesh, in order to produce a fair strain or extension, and the space between the knots shall be measured forthwith while the mesh remains extended. If the net to be measured is dry, the part to be measured shall be soaked either in fresh or salt water for not less than ten minutes, and the mesh so soaked shall then be measured.

16. No person shall set any net by the process known as "stalling," whereby a net is staked or set across or within any bay, inlet, river, or creek in tidal waters in such a manner that fish enclosed by such net are or may be left stranded at low tide.

17. When a person is lawfully engaged in setting or placing his nets for the purpose of taking indigenous fish, no person shall impede him by the process known as "blocking," whereby another person sets or places his nets outside, or round, or partly round the nets of the person first setting or placing his nets, so as to prevent fish getting through to such last-mentioned nets.

18. In order to effectuate a forfeiture under the provisions of the said Act, it shall be lawful for any officer appointed thereunder to seize and take possession of all fish unlawfully taken, and also all baskets, nets, receptacles, gear, tackle, or other apparatus which are being used, or which in the opinion of such officer are intended to be used, in contravention of the provisions of the said Act or any regulations made thereunder; and the production by such officer of his appointment shall be a sufficient warrant for his so acting in any of the cases aforesaid.

19. No scrim- or whitebait-net shall be used as set-net, or be set or placed in openings made in the banks of rivers or streams, or in dams constructed therein; and no scrim hand-net having an opening of more than 5 square feet shall be used for the purpose of catching whitebait: Provided that scrim hand-nets having an opening of 9 square feet may be used for the purpose of catching whitebait within the Provincial District of Canterbury, or in any waters of the Waitaki River: Provided further that nothing in this regulation shall render it unlawful to take whitebait by means of set-nets having an opening of not more than 7 square feet, in the County of Westland, during the period from the 15th day of September to the 24th day of October in each year.

20. No person shall use, for the purpose of enabling him to catch whitebait, the device or appliance known as a "jigger," which is an appliance formed of pieces of metal or other substance attached to a line and placed in a river or stream for the purpose of turning the fish into nets; nor shall any other device or contrivance be used which tends to wholly prevent the movement of such fish up or down stream.

21. Any person committing a breach of the above regulations not relating to seals shall be liable to a penalty of not less than £1 and not exceeding £20; and any person committing a breach of such of these regulations as relate to seals shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding £500, and a further penalty not exceeding £20 in respect of each seal illegally taken.

Special (Section II.).

1. No oyster shall be taken in the South Island, Stewart Island, and the waters thereof respectively, and the islands, waters, tidal lands, and tidal waters adjacent thereto, which can be passed through a metal ring having a clear inside diameter of 1½in.

2. The North Island and islands adjacent are hereby excluded from the operation of the 8th, 9th, and 10th sections of the said Act.

3. The South Island and Stewart Island and the islands adjacent thereto are hereby excluded from the operation of the 8th, 9th, 10th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 33rd, and 34th sections of the said Act.

4. The period from the 1st day of February, 1897, to the 30th day of November, 1897, is hereby prescribed a close season for oysters in Queen Charlotte Sound and Tory Channel, and in all bays and inlets therein. During such close season it shall be unlawful for any person to take any oysters in such sound, channel, bays, and inlets.

5. The period from the 1st day of April to the 30th day of November, 1897, is hereby prescribed a close season for oysters in all bays, estuaries, and tidal waters of Manukau Harbour situated inside a straight line drawn from the summit of Paratutu, on the North Head, to the lighthouse on the South Head of that harbour: Provided that such close season shall not apply to the areas in such harbour which are held under licenses issued under regulations which were made by the Governor in pursuance of the said Act on the 14th day of May, 1896, and published in the *New Zealand Gazette* No. 36, of the 21st day of the same month.

6. The months of December, January, and February in each year are hereby prescribed a close season for the fish of the species of the Mugil known as mullet or kanae. During such close season it shall be unlawful for any person to take, catch, or have in possession any mullet. And this regulation shall have effect in all salt, fresh, or brackish waters in that part of Kaipara Harbour inside a straight line drawn from the trigonometrical station on Oewa Mound to the trigonometrical station on Komiti Bluff.

First Schedule.

Nature of Regulations.	Date of Gazette in which published.
General regulations	12th Jan., 1888.
Regulations respecting oysters in North Island	8th Sept., 1892.
Regulations respecting oysters in South Island and Stewart Island	8th " "
Regulations excluding certain parts of North Island from certain sections of "The Oyster Fisheries Act, 1892"	29th " "
Regulations prescribing minimum size at which kahawai may be taken	21st Dec., 1893.
Regulations as to seizure of forfeited fish, nets, &c.	21st June, 1894.
Regulations as to "blocking"	26th July, "
Regulations as to whitebait-nets	30th Aug., "
Regulations as to weight at which cod may be taken	25th Oct., "
Regulations prescribing a close season for oysters in Tory Channel	21st Dec., "
Regulations prescribing minimum weight and size at which fish may be taken	2nd May, 1895.
Regulations prescribing close season for mullet in part of Kaipara Harbour	12th Sept., "
Regulations as to whitebait-nets in Canterbury	26th " "
Regulations making close season for seals	11th June, 1896.
Regulations as to whitebait-fishing in Westland County	13th Aug., "
Regulations as to herring-nets in Lake Ellesmere	15th Oct., "

Second Schedule.

Whereas has applied to me to grant him a license to take oysters, and has paid into my hands the sum of 10s. for the same: Now, therefore, I do hereby license the said to take oysters in any oyster-fishery situate within the North Island of the colony, and wherein it is lawful to take oysters during the months of and of this present year, subject to the provisions of "The Sea-fisheries Act, 1894," and the regulations in force thereunder respectively.

Dated in the Port of , this day of , 189 .

Collector of Customs.

ALEX. WILLIS,

Clerk of the Executive Council.

Fallow Deer liberated in the Grey Acclimatisation District to be vested in the Grey District Acclimatisation Society.

Colonial Secretary's Office,

Wellington, 22nd December, 1896.

HIS Excellency the Governor directs it to be notified that fallow deer have been turned at large in the County of Grey, and that the property in such deer and their offspring is deemed to be absolutely vested in the Chairman of the Grey District Acclimatisation Society for a period of three years from the date hereof, as provided by section 38 of "The Animals Protection Act, 1880."

W. C. WALKER,
Acting Colonial Secretary.