

Please note:

This is a transcription of documentation retrieved from The National Archives of the United Kingdom, Kew, London [TNA] for the Lessons from Lake Malawi project.

This transcription is of a model fishing permit as per the extended Fishing Rules of 1937, which extended the Fishing Rules of 1931 to cover Lake Malombe and the whole of the southern arm of Lake Malawi, making it obligatory for non-African fishermen to obtain permits for any fishing efforts therein.¹

Please reference as: TNA, CO 852/651/10. Appendix C: Fishing Permit 1937. Accessed via Lessons from Lake Malawi, <https://www.lessonsfromlakemalawi.com>.

Appendix C

The Game Ordinance 1926. (Fishing Rules 1931.)

In view of the power vested in me by Rule no. 2 of the Fishing Rules 1931 as extended by Government Notice no. 54 of 1937. I hereby grant permission to of to fish with seine nets for the purpose of trade from the beach known as on the following conditions:

- (a) This permit shall hold good until 31st March 1945 unless rescinded.
- (b) Such fishing shall be restricted to the locality and shall not interfere with native fishing.
- (c) Seine nets employed shall be of mesh not less than three and a half inches in the wings narrowing to not less than two inches in the centre the mesh being measured from know to know diagonally with the mesh stretched diagonally.
- (d) The license shall submit monthly returns to Government showing:
 - (1) average size of net employed.
 - (2) Number of times of casting on the beach.
 - (3) Approximate total catch of fish on the beach by weight or number of fish.
 - (4) Approximate average proportions of the following species in the catches from each type of gear: TILAPIA SQUAMIPINNIS T. SHIIRANA T.LIDOLE (Native names Chambo or Kasawala, Makumba or Pfwilili and Lidole respectively) BARBUS EURYSTOMUS B. JOHNSTON B. RHODESI (Native names Kadyakolo, Ngumbo, and Tamba respectively) LABEO MESOPS (Native names Nchila or Kasomela) BARILIUS MICROLEPIS BARILIUS MICROCEPH-ALUS (Native names Mpsa and Sanjika respectively) BAGRUS MERIDIONALIS (Native names Kampango or Kansosole) CLARIAS SPECIES (Native names Sapuwa, Sawasawa, Mlamba, Bombe, Lumbalichilo, Mkwazulu, Chikuta).
- (e) The license shall keep such daily records as shall in the opinion of District Commissioner, Fort Johnston enable the license to submit accurate returns and such records shall be produced for the inspection of the District Commissioner, Fort Johnston or his accredited representative if he so desires.

¹ John McCracken, "Fishing and the Colonial Economy: The Case of Malawi," *Journal of African History*, 28 (1987), 423-4.

(f) The license must expose his catches for detailed counting not more than four times a year if called upon to do so by District Commissioner, Fort Johnston or his accredited representative.

(g) Fish curing racks and bulk storing of fish conforms to the requirements of hygiene be decided by the Medical Officer of Health, Fort Johnston.

(h) A concrete platform to be provided where the sorting and gutting of fish is carries out. The platform should be provided with an open concrete or trapped pipe drain for the disposal of floor washings; before the platform is washed fish debris and offal should be removed. Disposal of washing into the Lake may be permitted.

(i) Removable metal receptacles fitted with lids on concrete plinths should be provided for offal.

(j) Drying frames to be expanded iron 5 inch or 3 ½ inch mesh on concrete pillars with a concrete platform underneath. Drains to be provided for the discharge of washings into a sub-soil drainage system.

(k) The floor of the fish store to be of concrete and raised above the level of the surrounding ground; shelves to be concrete and walls to be cemented to above the level of the top row of shelves; floor to be slopped and drained for the discharge of washings to a sub-soil disposal system. The store to be rat and insect proof.

(l) Forced-draught incinerators should be provided for the disposal of offal; disposal by dumping in the Lake to be prohibited. Trenching of offal may be permitted provided no nuisance results and the area leased is large enough to allow – trenching within the curtilage of the depot.

(m) The area of the fish depot should be large enough to provide for:

- (a) African staff quarters, kitchens, and latrines for permanent employees.
- (b) Latrine for daily employees.
- (c) Sub-soil drainage systems.
- (d) European residence and ancillary buildings connected with the trade.
- (n) No temporary buildings should be allowed on the site.

Blantyre, Provincial Commissioner.

Date.....

I certify that I understand the conditions of this Permit.

Date.....