



[Homepage](#) > [News release index](#) > **Anglers get new laws to boost fish stocks**

## NEWS RELEASE

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### Anglers get new laws to boost fish stocks

Millions of anglers will benefit from government plans for new powers designed to improve freshwater fishing across England and Wales .

The measures are aimed at boosting stocks of salmon and other fish, will put in place better controls to prevent the introduction of alien fish species, remove obstacles stopping fish reaching breeding and feeding grounds and help to address the growing problem of fish theft.

Fisheries Minister Ben Bradshaw today announced that new laws would be brought in as soon as possible now that a government review had been completed.

Mr Bradshaw said:

“Angling is our most popular leisure pursuit with huge social, health and environmental benefits. Our existing laws are out of date and not effective enough. The new laws should mean better conservation and regulation ensuring a better future for anglers.”

The government intends to use secondary legislation under the Regulatory Reform Act, the Water Framework Directive and other recent European measures to achieve the improvements.

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