

Alaska Seafood Harvest Calendar

West

(Aleutian Chain, Bering Sea, Bristol Bay, Norton Sound)

Central

(Chignik, Kodiak, Cook Inlet, Prince William Sound)

Southeast

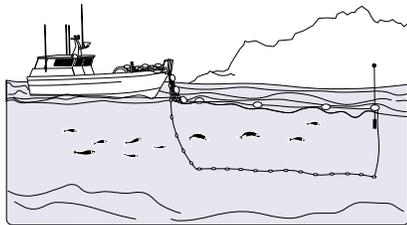
(Yakutat to Ketchikan)

Harvest times are based on historical information from all gear types in state and federal fisheries. Actual seasons may vary depending on resource strength, quotas, and weather.

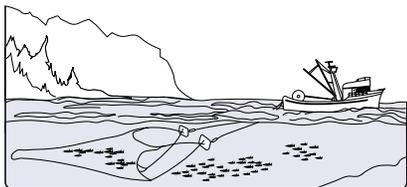
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
King Salmon	WINTER									WINTER		
Sockeye Salmon												
Coho Salmon												
Chum Salmon												
Pink Salmon												
Herring					ROE	ROE						
King Crab												
Snow Crab												
Dungeness Crab												
Shrimp												
Sea Urchins												
Sea Cucumber												
Octopus												
Pacific Cod												
Rockfish												
Sablefish												
Halibut												
Alaska Pollock												
Flatfish												
Lingcod												

Alaska Seafood Harvest Methods

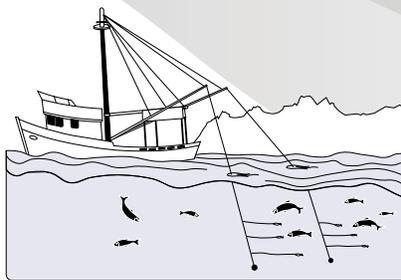
Fishermen use a variety of methods to harvest Alaska fish and shellfish depending on the species. State and federal managers use comprehensive, science-based management systems to ensure that all fisheries are sustainable. All catch methods are monitored and regulated to ensure that only mature fish of the targeted species are caught. Gear types are also limited to specific harvesting areas and species.



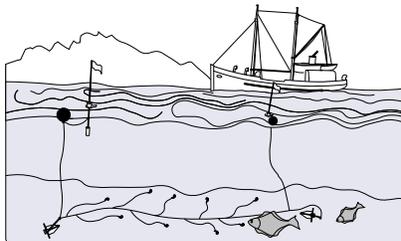
Gillnet Gillnets are set in coastal areas across the path of returning salmon. When salmon swim into gillnets their heads are caught just behind the gill plate. The mesh openings in the net are regulated to ensure that they catch only fish of a desired size.



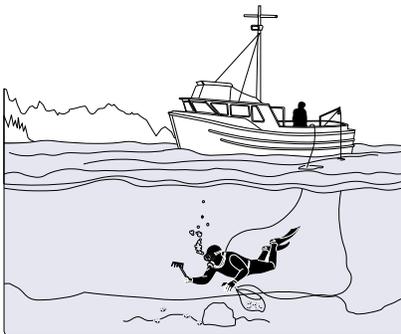
Trawl Most whitefish, except halibut, are caught using a large trawl net, a long cone-shaped net that is towed behind the fishing vessel. When the net is towed through a concentration of fish, the fish enter the mouth of the net and are captured at the end of the cone, or the "cod end."



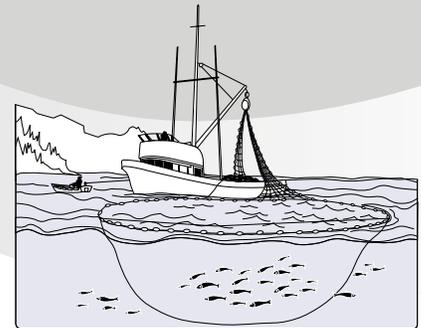
Troll Troll vessels catch salmon by trolling individual baited lures through concentrations of feeding salmon. Once caught, each salmon is handled individually, and dressed and iced on board. Used in Southeast Alaska, salmon trolling produces limited quantities of premium quality fish, mostly king and coho salmon.



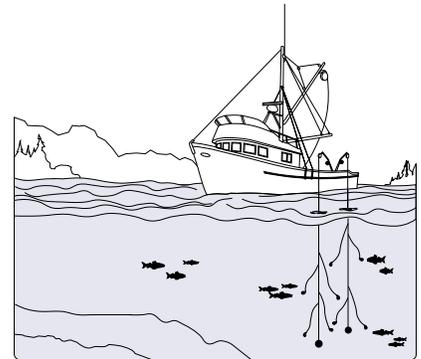
Longline Longliners catch halibut and blackcod using a long weighted line with multiple baited hooks that is laid on the ocean bottom. The lines are anchored in place and left to "soak" for approximately 24 hours before they are hauled aboard. The fish are often dressed, bled, and packed in ice on board the vessel.



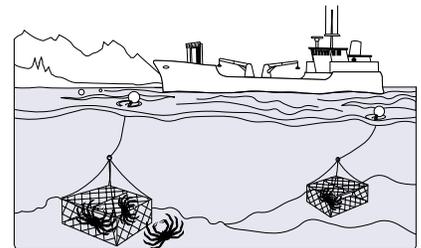
Diving Sea cucumbers, sea urchins and geoducks are specialty items harvested by divers. Harvesting takes place at depths of five to 100 feet. The divers use a hand-held rake or hook to remove the urchins and cucumbers from the ocean bottom, then place them in a net bag or wire basket.



Purse Seine Purse seiners catch salmon by encircling them with a large, tight mesh net. The net is towed from the fishing boat around a group of fish by a skiff, which returns to the boat to complete a circle. Then the bottom of the net is drawn tightly closed, or "pursed," to capture the fish before it is hauled aboard.



Jig Some whitefish, such as cod and rockfish, are also caught using automatic jigging equipment. The lines with baited hooks are automatically moved, or "jigged," up and down to attract the fish. In most cases, jigged fish are dressed and iced on board immediately after harvest.



Pots Alaska crab and shrimp and a limited amount of Pacific cod are caught using wire-mesh steel pots, or traps. In most cases, these pots are attached to one another by a long line and each line of traps is marked with a buoy. Once set, the pots are left to "soak" until they are retrieved by the boat.



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