

Problems and Benefits of Fishing Methods

Read about six different fishing methods and problems, benefits, and examples of each. Highlight or underline unfamiliar words or phrases. Write any questions in the margin.

| Methods | Problems | Benefits | Examples |
|-------------------------|--|--|--|
| Fishing Poles and Lines | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fishing line that breaks and is lost in the ocean can entangle birds, fish, and mammals. Some fishing poles catch extra animals, or bycatch, like turtles instead of fish. Boats that drag many fishing lines through the water catch more fish and extra animals than their fair share and don't leave enough to reproduce. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fishing poles can target only the animals that are wanted. Some fishing poles are left in the water for only a few minutes, so any unwanted catches can be quickly released. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Big fish: tuna, mahi mahi, swordfish Cod, bass Salmon |
| Nets | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nets that get separated from boats will continue "fishing" on their own, killing fish for months or years. Nets used for non-schooling species can catch animals that aren't wanted and are killed. Nets can collect large numbers of animals at one time. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nets can be used to target only the desired species. Great for schooling fish that don't interact with unwanted animals. Catches can be brought in quickly so fish aren't left out for long. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schooling fish: sardines, anchovies Squid, shrimp Bottom fish: cod, flounder |
| Traps | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traps can catch and kill unwanted animals. Traps that are lost or broken pollute oceans. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Animals are often captured alive so unwanted animals can be returned to the water. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lobster Crabs |
| By Hand | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hand fishing is difficult for authorities to monitor and make sure people are only taking what laws allow them to take. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Only catch a few animals at a time, leaving many to reproduce Little or no gear to get lost as trash in the ocean | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abalone Spiny lobster |
| Fish Farming | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Often harms the environment Can use a lot of wild stock and resources Contaminates water and surrounding land | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leaves adult wild stock in the sea | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shrimp, salmon |
| Shellfish Farming | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lots of waste in one area if the farm is closed off without water flowing in and out to carry the waste away | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> When farmed at sea, growing shellfish filter and clean the environment. Does not impact the bottom environment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oysters, mussels, clams, abalone |