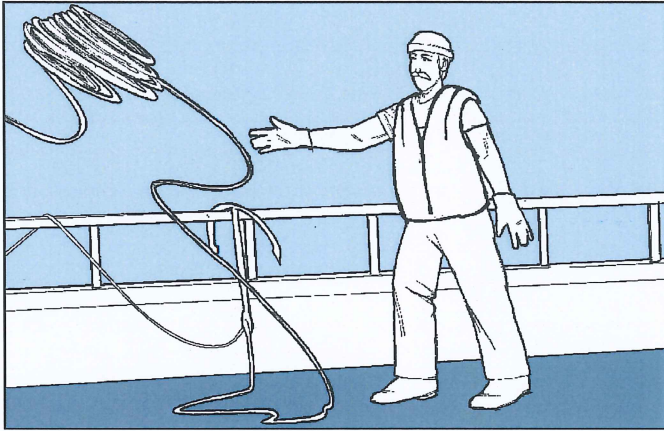
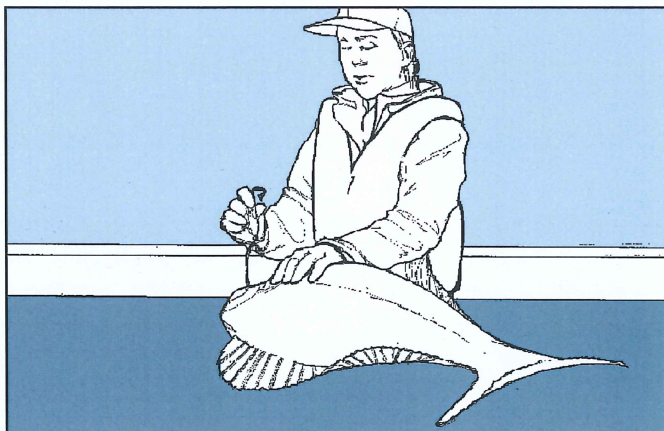


## Longline

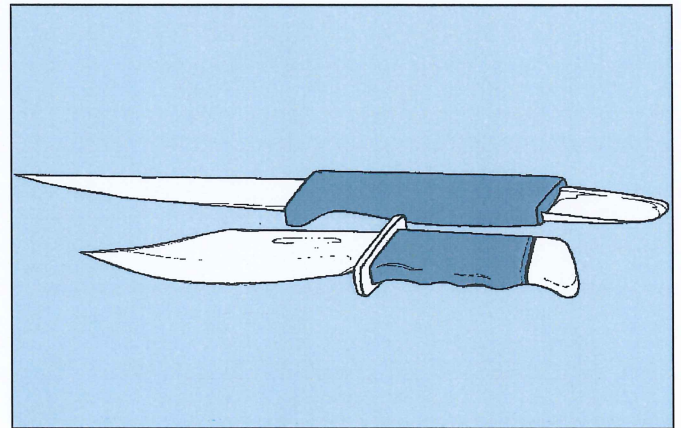
The following safety steps and requirements are specific to working with longline gear:



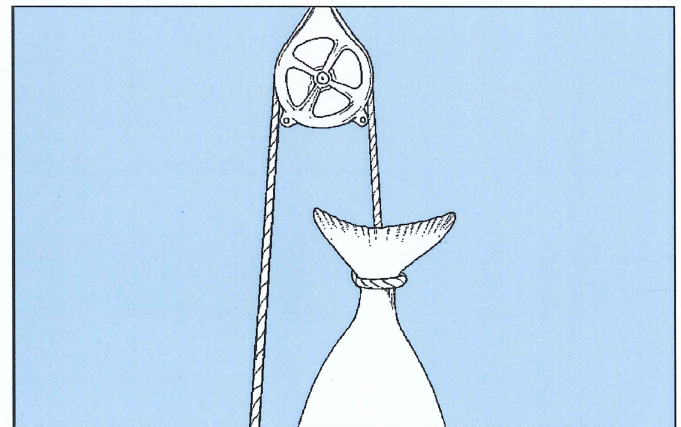
- When setting anchors and buoy lines, stay clear of the anchor itself and the bights of all lines.



- Try to remove all hooks or parts of hooks from fish before dressing them or putting them in the hold. This helps reduce injuries to the crew and fish processors.



- Each setting and hauling station **must** have a knife to cut gear. Being able to cut gear is crucial if a crew member gets caught in the gear or is snagged by a hook.



- When lifting a large fish from the deck or hold, use a hoist. A hoist **must** be used if a crew member could be injured trying to lift a fish.
- When using conventional or snap-on gear, stay clear of the ground line and hooks to avoid getting snagged. (Drums and automated systems using longlines and hooks **must** be guarded to prevent crew members from being snagged by hooks).
- When throwing the anchor over, be aware of slipping and falling. Make sure your clothing won't catch in the anchor.

- When setting your anchor at the end of the line, stay clear of the buoy line. If you get caught in the line, you could get pulled over. Always wear a personal flotation device and carry an easily accessible knife.
- When gaffing large fish, there's a real danger of getting pulled overboard, or suffering a serious back injury. When gaffing, try to bring the fish up with the roll. For very large fish, ask for help in bringing them over. Hold the gaff properly, so the stem can turn freely without twisting your wrist.
- When chopping bait, use a sharp knife. If you wear gloves, make sure they are close-fitting to allow good movement. Tilt the blade away from you when cutting. If you do get cut, take time out for first aid treatment – fish poisoning can be very serious.

#### Tips from fishermen:



- Watch the weather, and pay attention to forecasts.
- Keep all rope coiled and secured with no loose ends, especially unused lengths of rope.
- Use "C" links to connect strings of longline gear, anchors, and flags to prevent gear from getting entangled.
- Mark longline gear with coloured tape or twine to indicate when you are coming to the end of a string or are near the anchor.
- Keep your wrists straight when working, especially when dressing and scraping fish. Take breaks to stretch wrists, back, and other stressed muscles and joints.
- Use a positive type of drum brake to quickly stop the drum in any of the following situations:
  - A backlash occurs
  - The drum speeds up uncontrollably while setting in a heavy swell