

EXAMINING BOATING AND FISHING SAFETY

LESSON NRES D2-3

Anticipated Problems

1. What is the difference between commercial fishing and sport fishing?
2. What are some legal regulations regarding fishing and boating?
3. How do I safely bait a hook?
4. What are some ways equipment can be used safely? How can animals be handled safely when fishing?
5. What are some common causes of accidents when boating?

Terms

- Anchor
- Barb
- Chest waders
- Commercial fishing
- Drowning
- Emergencies
- Fishing hook
- Fishing license
- Fishing season
- Hypothermia
- Personal flotation device (Pfd)
- Sport fishing

Fishing

- Fishing involves capturing fish by using seines, nets, or hooks. Fishing can be an occupation or a leisure-time activity.



Commercial Fishing

- ***Commercial fishing*** is capturing wild fish from oceans and inland waters for use as human food and in making other products.
 - Caught in large quantities
 - Marketed fresh, canned, or frozen
 - Used for fish oil, fertilizer, and pet food

Commercial Fishing

- Practically all commercial fishers operate from boats that range in size from a 14 foot flat bottom boat to diesel-powered boats more than 100 feet long.
- Strenuous and demanding career
- The work includes many dangers
- Bad weather is a serious threat in large bodies of water.



Sport Fishing

- ***Sport fishing*** is capturing fish for relaxation and enjoyment.
 - On a quiet creek
 - In holes such as ice fishing
 - In bass tournaments



Sport Fishing

- The fish caught by sport fishers are often eaten at home or released back into the water. Some equipment used when sport fishing may include:
 - A simple pole with line and hook
 - A more sophisticated rod and reel or fly rod

Legal Regulations

- All kinds of fishing are regulated by state and federal laws. These laws are often designed to prevent the depletion of the fish population.
 - Some species of fish are restricted to being caught.
 - Size and the number of fish caught are often regulated.
 - A fishing season is set for some species of fish.
 - Fishing equipment and licenses are needed for fishing.

Species of Fish are Restricted

- Some fish species cannot be caught during certain times of the year.
- There are many types that cannot be caught at all.
- It is important to be extremely careful when catching unfamiliar fish. If you do not know the species, it is best to release it back into the water.

Size & Number of Fish Regulated

- Some fish caught are too small to meet regulations for that species.
- Sometimes the number of fish caught may be limited. (to protect fish populations)
- Some regulations may combine size and number together.

Fishing Season

- A ***fishing season*** is the time of the year when it is legal to catch a particular species of fish.
 - Example: trout fishing - the season may run between set dates in April and August
 - Always know where you are fishing

Fishing Equipment & Licenses

- There are some types of equipment designed to catch large numbers of fish with leaving an adequate population in the water.
 - Nets and seines are often used.
 - Nets have often been sued to deplete the fish population in rivers, and in some places, are illegal.

Fishing Equipment & Licenses

- Fishers must have a fishing license. A ***fishing license*** is a small piece of paper that an individual must purchase in order to catch certain species of fish from natural water areas.

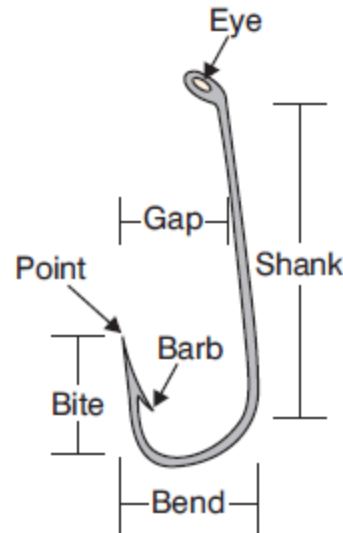


Fishing Licenses

- The monies paid for fishing licenses go toward research programs to improve the quality of fish.
- A limited entry program may be used for commercial fishers.
- This requires a more costly fishing license that can be carefully controlled.

Fishing Hook

- The simplest tackle is a line with a sharp hook on one end and a pole attached to the other end.
 - The hook can be a dangerous piece of equipment.



Fishing Hook

- A ***fishing hook*** is a curved piece of metal for holding bait and sticking into and holding fish.
 - Vary in size and design
 - Can have two, three, and even four points
 - Kind of hook needed depends on the species and size of fish desired to be caught.

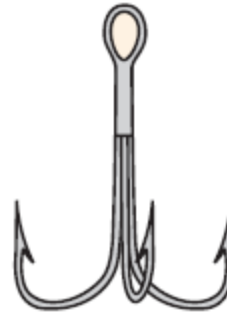
COMMON KINDS OF HOOKS



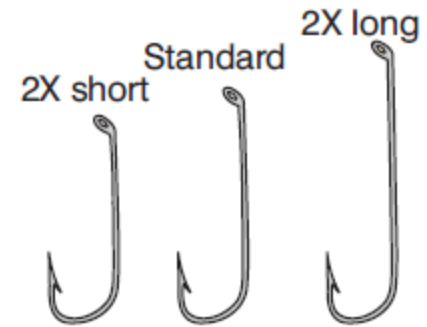
Single hook with
weed guard



Double
hook

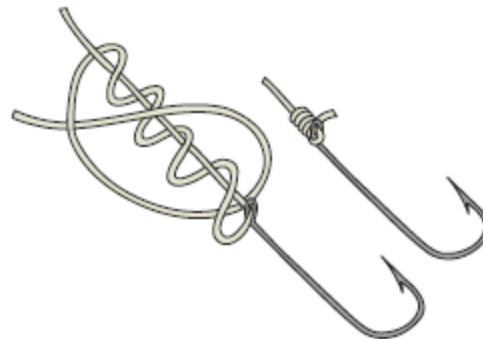


Treble
hook



Single
(in three shank lengths)

IMPROVED CINCH KNOT FOR HOOKS



Barb

- Most hooks have a ***barb*** that ensures that the hook is “set” and does not release from the fish.



Baiting a Hook: Avoiding Injury

- A hook must be securely tied before baiting.
- When holding the hook, grasp it with your fingers on the shank section.
- A rubber worm can be carefully inserted by starting the mouth on the point and gently sliding the worm on.
- Always keep unused hooks in an appropriate tackle box or other approved container.

Fishing Injuries

- There are many ways injuries can occur when fishing from related equipment and animals.
 - Equipment pose hazards to a sport fisher.
 - Fish and other aquatic animals can inflict wounds.

Fishing Injuries: Fish

- Many fish have sharp spines and fins that can puncture your skin. (wear gloves)
- Many saltwater species can bite and create severe wounds. (A trained angler can help)
- Fish that have been caught should be placed in a proper container.
- Be aware that other animals inhabit the waters such as snakes and turtles. (some are poisonous or bite)

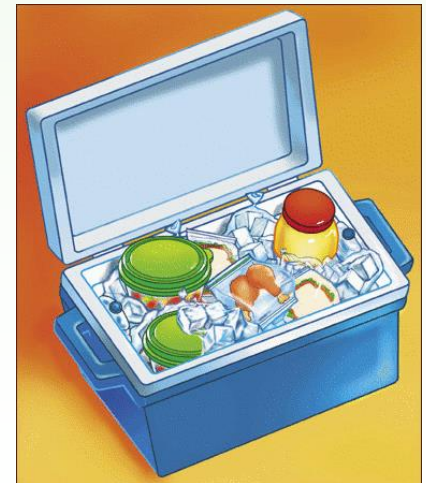
Responsible Boaters

- Responsible boaters should know how to avoid dangers when on the water, however, sometimes accidents occur.



Boating Accidents

- Examples of the causes of accidents:
 - Do not overload the carrying capacity of the boat. The weight should be distributed evenly.
 - Do not use alcohol or drugs.
 - Never stand up in a boat.
 - Always check weather patterns first.



Boating Accidents

- Always know the equipment you are working with. Use the correct equipment the right way.
 - Remember to never anchor the boat from the stern.
 - An ***anchor*** is a heavy object lowered by line into the bottom of a body of water to prevent a boat from drifting.

Boating Accidents

- Use personal flotation devices (PFD) correctly and at all times. A ***personal flotation device*** is a piece of life-saving equipment worn in water related sports such as boating.



Boating Emergencies

- In case of boating ***emergencies***, or sudden unexpected occurrences demanding immediate attention, boaters should know the proper precautions.
- The two major dangers around water are drowning and hypothermia.

Drowning

- To prevent the suffocation and inhalation of water, known as ***drowning***, every person should have and wear a PFD with proper safety ratings.
- If someone in the water needs help, you can throw them a PFD.



Equipment to Carry

- Every boat operator should have
 - Paddles
 - Bailing bucket
 - Small tool kit
 - Repair parts
 - Fire extinguisher
 - Anchor and rope
 - Flares
 - First aid kit
 - Rope
 - Net or bungi cord

Hypothermia

- Hypothermia can start in wet conditions such as rain, snow, or sleet. Sweating or even humidity in the air can chill you and reduce your body heat.
- ***Hypothermia*** is the silent killer that takes the heat from your inner body, and otherwise lowers your body temperature.

HYPOTHERMIA SYMPTOMS AND FIRST AID

	Symptoms	First Aid
MILD	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• shivering• complaints of cold• loss of coordination• mental withdrawal and apathy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• end exposure-get victim out of cold and wet• replace wet clothing with dry and add insulation and warm environment• offer warm liquids and food only if victim is conscious
MODERATE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• mental confusion, refusal to recognize problem• uncontrollable shivering• slurred speech• stumbling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• get out of wet, windy weather into dry and warm• change into dry clothes and wrap into blankets or sleeping bag
SEVERE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• unresponsiveness• decreased pulse and respiration• shivering stops• physical collapse	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• treatment should be attempted only if victim cannot be promptly evacuated to a hospital• deliver warmth to head and trunk of the body

Review

1. Compare and contrast commercial fishing with sport fishing.
2. Are the regulations for fishing at the state or federal level? Name two regulations.
3. What is the purpose of a fishing license?
4. Name an injury that may result from fish itself.
5. What are other hazards that result from lack of responsibility on the boat operator?