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Long Lining

This section deals with hazards during long-line fishing.

There are safety issues to think about when:

- baiting the hooks
- laying the long line
- hauling in the line.

Laying Long-line

1. If you are baiting the hooks and setting the line, make sure you are in a secure and “tight” position. This will mean that you are less likely to be thrown about with sudden changes of the boat’s motion. A small slip when baiting hooks can have painful consequences
2. Make sure the line that the hook is on is not taut or under strain when putting bait onto it.
3. Make sure the backbone and/or snood is not taut or under strain. If the line has gone taut and you haven’t got the bait on in time – **LET IT GO!**
4. Ensure the boat driver has good communications and can see what is happening so he can maintain a sensible speed.
5. Never attempt to untangle a snare or tangle when part of the line is under strain (i.e. tight). Secure the taut section before attempting to untangle the mess.
6. If you are laying the line out, you must always be ahead of the speed of the line playing out. This way you will not have to deal with potentially dangerous tight lines. If you cannot keep up, tell the wheel house to slow down.



Hauling

7. Keep clear of the roller and hauler so clothing doesn't get caught in the rotating parts.
8. Keep good communication between crew to ensure every one knows what is happening and are working safely.
9. If you are gaffing the fish, you will be vulnerable to back strain, fatigue and falling overboard. Try to lift the fish the shortest possible distance. Work carefully and try to avoid awkward bending, lifting and twisting movements.

