

Pot fishing is used to catch rock lobsters and blue cod in New Zealand.

Hazards and safety procedures unique to pot fishing operations are shown below:

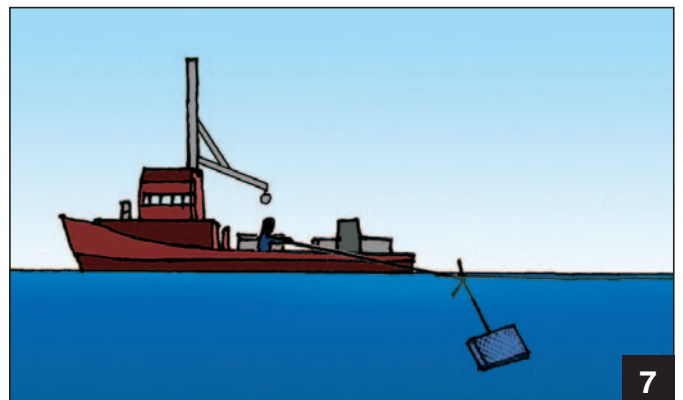
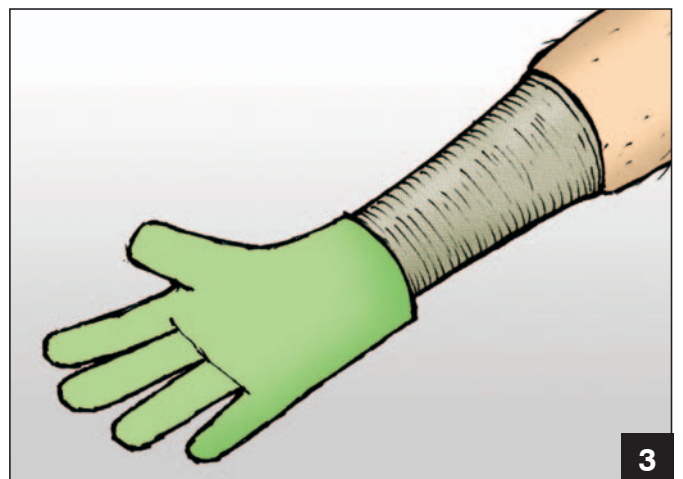
### Preparation:

#### 1. Pot fishing involves a considerable amount of lifting by the crew:

- Always stretch your muscles before starting work.
  - Always be conscious of lifting methods. Use your legs not your back.
  - Wear back and knee supports if you need these.
  - Keep the load close to your body.
2. Crew need protection against cuts and nips from the lobsters. Wear long sleeves and tuck the sleeves into your gloves.
  3. Make sure you wear tight fitting gloves.
  4. Clean cuts and abrasions continually with clean fresh, or salt water. This helps to prevent Erysipelothrix or Cray Poisoning.

### Retrieving:

5. Make sure that there is constant and clear communication between the wheelhouse and the person in the deck launching position.
6. Launch and retrieve pots at a safe pace.
7. When retrieving pots, keep a close eye on the grapnel line in case it "pings off". Keep out of its way as much as practical.



8. When you use a boom and block to lift pots, be careful to “arrest” the strain on the line before transferring the line from the hauler.
9. Keep your fingers away from the hauler drum.
10. Work with pots up off deck level as much as possible.
11. Stow pots at a safe height for your vessel. Be aware of how the weight of the pots might affect the stability of your vessel.
12. As each pot is set, or retrieved, the lines must be safely stowed to minimise the risk of entanglement.

### Setting:

13. Unload post evenly. Start from the unloading side and work evenly across the vessel.
14. When setting pots make sure the line is free to go overboard without getting caught.
15. If two crew are setting, the crew member releasing the pot should be close to the crew member throwing the line.
16. Crew should have a “rope cutter” tied to them, so that if they did get caught in a setting line they would be able to free themselves underwater.
17. A vessel should never be overloaded. **What is more expensive: - an extra trip to the fishing grounds or a new boat?**

