

0022045

From: [John McCutcheon](#)
To: [Mike Murray](#)
Cc: [Norah Martinez](#); [Jon Anglin](#)
Subject: Re: Commercial Fishing Methods
Date: 09/26/2008 02:19 PM

Mike,

Spoke with Michael Peele this afternoon. He spoke with me from Baltimore, MD. His 34 y/o son is very ill with pneumonia.

Mike said that the vast majority of the commercial fishing from Oregon Inlet and south is done by gill net fishing. The net does not hit the beach and a boat/dory is primarily used. This is somewhat in contrast to what Lt. Don Twyne says in his email.

Hope this helps, but it may not have gotten your answer.

John McCutcheon, Hatteras District Ranger
Cape Hatteras National Seashore

PO Box 190 (US Mail)
46500 Lighthouse Road (Shipping)
Buxton, NC 27920

252-995-5044 or 5041 Ext. 223 Office
252-995-6268 Fax
252-216-6386 Gov. Cell (Try this first)

▼ [Jon Anglin/CAHA/NPS](#)

Jon Anglin/CAHA/NPS

09/26/2008 11:15 AM To Mike Murray/CAHA/NPS@NPS, Cyndy Holda/CAHA/NPS@NPS
cc Norah Martinez/CAHA/NPS@NPS, John McCutcheon/CAHA/NPS@NPS
Subject Commercial Fishing Methods

I spoke with Lt. Don Twyne, of the NC Marine Patrol this morning regarding the commercial fishing methods utilized in the Cape Point to Frisco area. Don is very familiar with all the folks who commercial fish off our beaches there and with the techniques they utilize. Don said the vast majority of the fishing there is the haul seine method where the nets are set by boat from the beach and anchored to the beach. The seines are then fulled to the beach by truck. This is what we typically see throughout the seashore from March into May and June.

Twyne said that a very small number (3 to 5) of commercial fishermen

will launch from the beach in this area to set gill (drop) nets off shore for striped bass (January season) or for mackerel (April, May and June). The gill nets are set well off shore (often as much as a mile) and not attached to shore. These nets are pulled full of fish back into the boat and then the boat is landed back on the beach. Twyne feels that because of the distance the nets are set off shore that it shouldn't really matter where the boats are launched and landed. He indicated that either Ramps 45 or 49 would be fine. He also indicated that the vast majority of gill netters actually launched from the sound side and go out through Hatteras Inlet to fish. Beach dory's also were not designed to be landing on the beach full of nets and fish. They were designed to be launched and landed empty. When loaded they become very unstable. Twyne feels that the folks that are gill netting using beach dory's are under equipped and really pushing the envelope safety wise.

Jon Anglin
Bodie Island District Ranger
Cape Hatteras National Seashore
252-441-7425