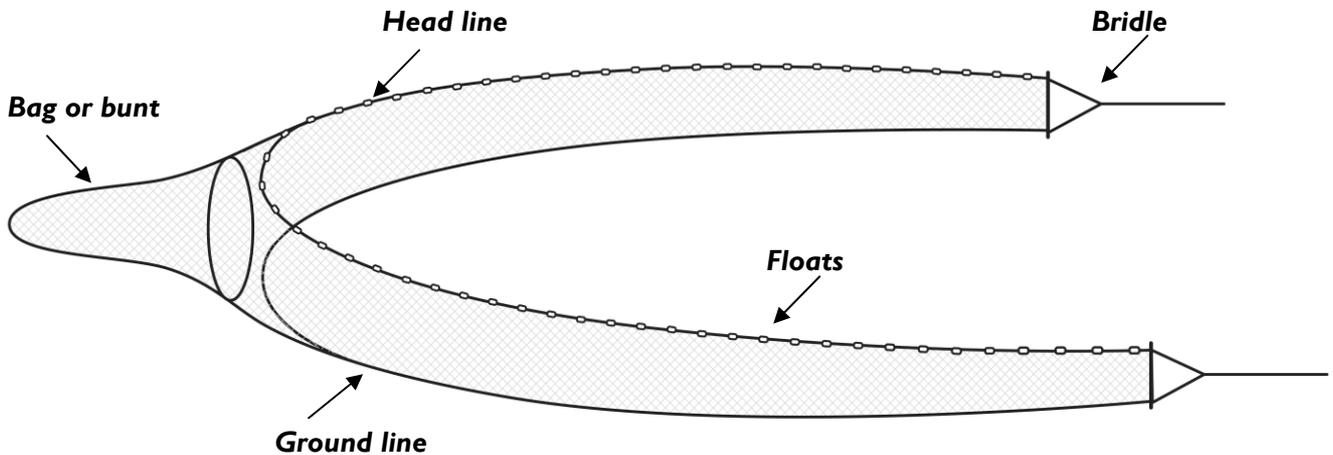


# RECREATIONAL FISHING GEAR

## Beach Seine Net



### Gear Description

A beach seine net is a panel of mesh with a **bag or bunt** (lose netting) section in one end or the middle of the net. This is connected to a **floating line** (head line), constructed of small floats threaded on a rope at the top and a **sinking line** (ground line), constructed of weights attached to a rope. The head and ground line ropes extend past the mesh to form triangular bridles which have long ropes attached for **towing** the seine net to the beach.

The net can be 50 metres or less in length with a mesh size of at least 30mm in width. The **mesh size** is the distance between the inside surface of diagonally opposite knots of the mesh when the mesh is **held taut**.

The netting is a weave of square shaped meshes, generally made of a coloured **multifilament** (many strand) synthetic thread. Nets come in various colours from white, green to brown.

### How it works

The net is used to surround schools of fish or as a barrier that is **drawn closed** to entrap fish and prevent them from escaping.

The net is deployed from a small boat or by wading, and is then manoeuvred or hauled using the connected ropes. Hauling the net is done manually as using powered mechanical aides to haul is not permitted. As the net moves over the sea floor, the area covered by the net is maintained by the distance the fishers are apart while the floats keep the panel of net open to act as a barrier. Slowly retrieving the net ensures the ground line remains on the sea floor preventing the fish from escaping.

# Recreational Fishing Gear

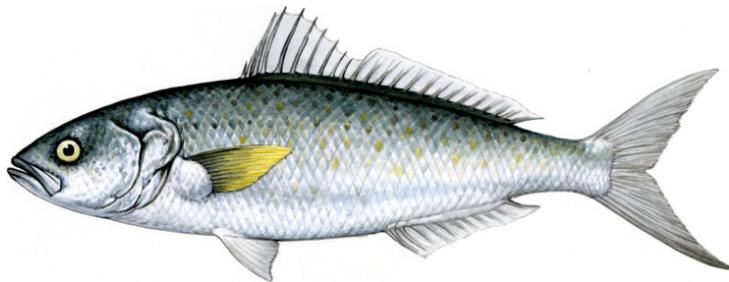
## Beach Seine Net

Any obstructions on the sea floor limit areas where the net can be used. Fishing areas may be either along the shore or off the shore with the beach seine net being manoeuvred around obstructions by the fishers. The fish are captured by bunting up the ends of the net together or by pulling the ends of the net into shallow water.

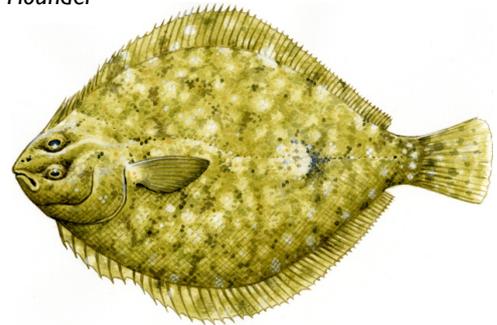
### Target Fish

Beach seine nets are used to target mullet, pike, Australian salmon and some whiting species on sandy, muddy or soft sea floor, along reef edges and sea grass beds.

*Australian Salmon*



*Greenback Flounder*



### Responsible Fishing Tips

- Collect catch as quickly as practicable to increase the chance that released fish will survive.
- Beach seines must be bunted up and emptied in the water to ensure that undersize and unwanted fish are released in a good condition.
- Ensure the landing area is clean and free of any waste before leaving.
- Don't walk on the net as entangled fish are easily crushed.
- Keep clear of seagrass beds as they may be easily damaged.
- Shallow waters close to shore are often fish breeding grounds so release any juvenile fish with care and avoid frequent visits to the same area to prevent damage to the sea floor habitat.
- Be considerate of other people using the fishing area.

**For net specifications, licensing and area rules, get a copy of the *Recreational Sea Fishing Guide*.**

#### CONTACT DETAILS

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