

FISHING IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

British Columbia is a province which carries out large scale commercial fishing. Fishing is the second most important economic activity after forestry and British Columbia depends on exploitation of natural resources such as water resources (fisheries).

NB. Fishing refers to an economic activity which involves the extraction of aquatic animals such as fish from water bodies.

The major fishing ground or water bodies in British Columbia are the Pacific ocean where Marine large scale fishing is carried out using modern fishing methods.

MAJOR FISHING PORTS AND TOWNS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

- ✓ port Vancouver. ✓port prince Rupert. ✓port queen Charlotte. ✓port Victoria.
- ✓ port hardey. ✓ port kitmat. ✓ port Campbell.

FISHING SPECIES OR FISH TYPES CAUGHT IN BRITISH COLUMBIA (MARINE TYPES).

- ✓ Tuna fish. ✓ Herrings fish. ✓ salmon fish. ✓ octopus fish. ✓ cod fish.
- ✓ mackerel fish. ✓ prawn fish. ✓ sardines fish.

FISHING METHODS USED IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The fishing methods used in British Columbia are commercial modern and large scale scientific methods of fishing for example.

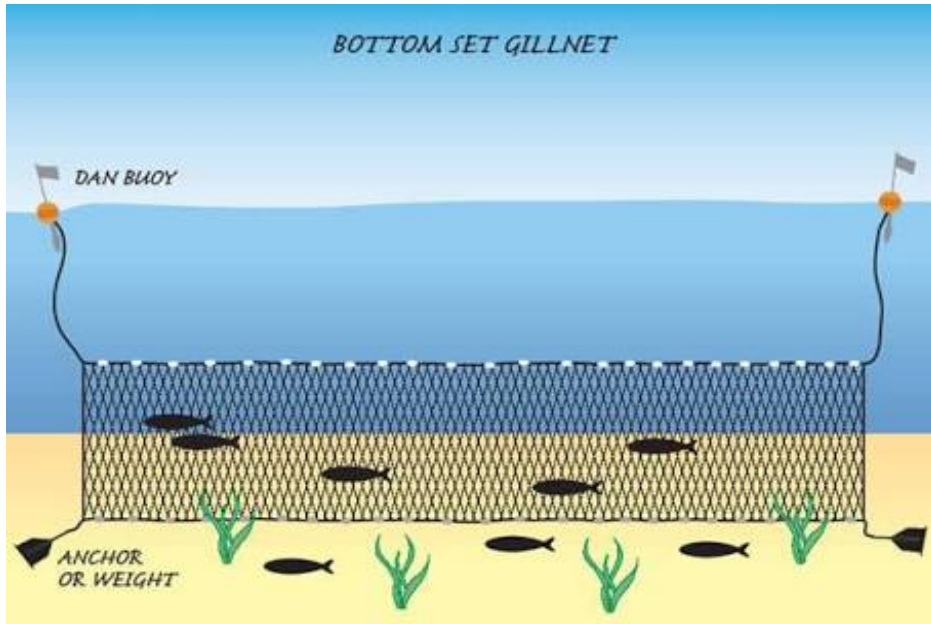
- ✓ Gill netting. ✓ Trawling. ✓ purse seining. ✓ Long lining. ✓ Drifting.

FISH PRESERVATION METHODS USED IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

- ✓ fish tinning. ✓ fish deep freezing. ✓ fish refrigeration.
- ✓ fish icing. ✓ fish canning.

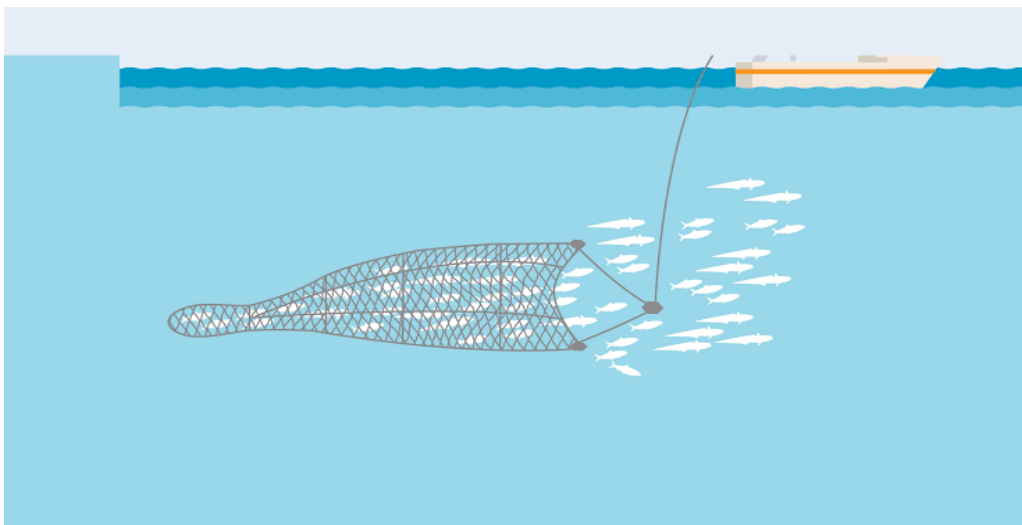
GILL NETTING METHOD.

Is a commercial and modern fishing method where a rectangular and lawn tennis like fishing net is tied on a fishing boat or ship with floaters at the top of the fishing net and weights at the bottom of the net to keep it vertical in water and as the fishing vessel pulls the net and fishes that come the way are trapped.



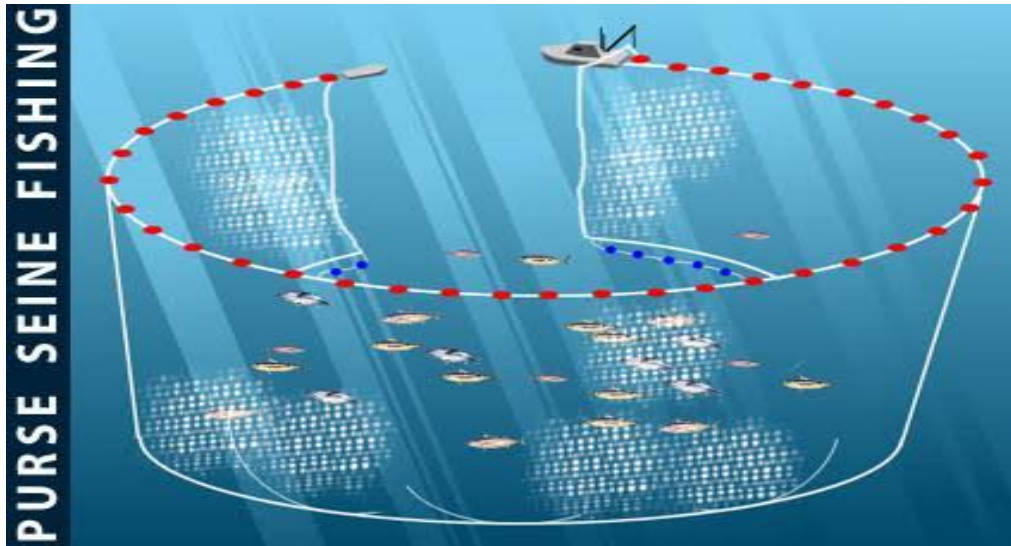
TRAWLING METHOD.

It's is mainly used to caught demersal fish where a corn like shaped trawle net is tied behind the boat or ship with floats at the top and weights at the bottom to keep the trawle net open and pulled by the ship and any fish that comes the way is trapped.



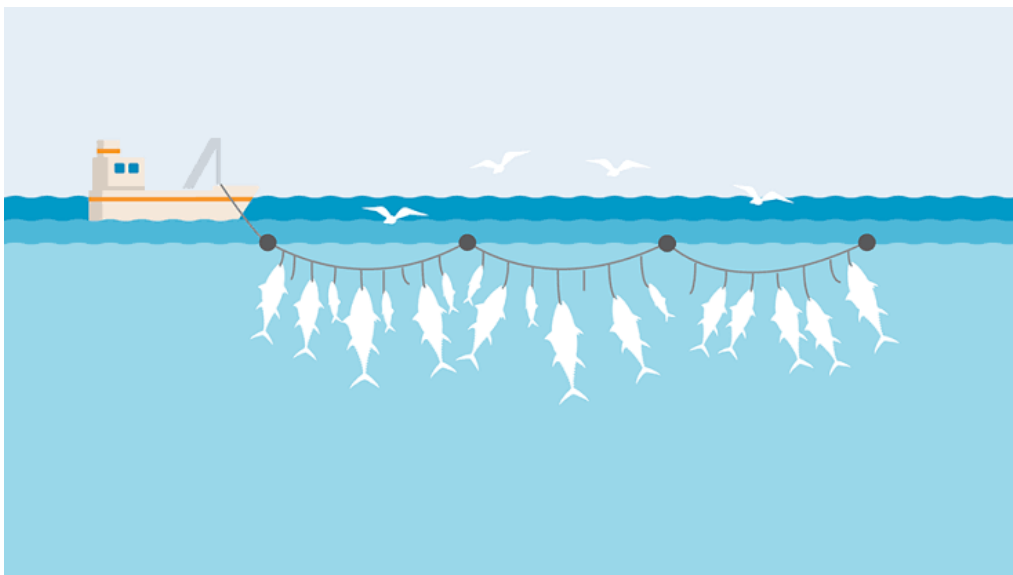
PURSE SEINING METHOD.

This method is used to catch pelagic fish where a purse sein net is laid down in water in a circular form (semi circle) with floats at the top and weights at the bottom to keep the purse sein net vertical in water and pulled by two ships or one moving towards the same direction and the fish that comes the way is trapped.



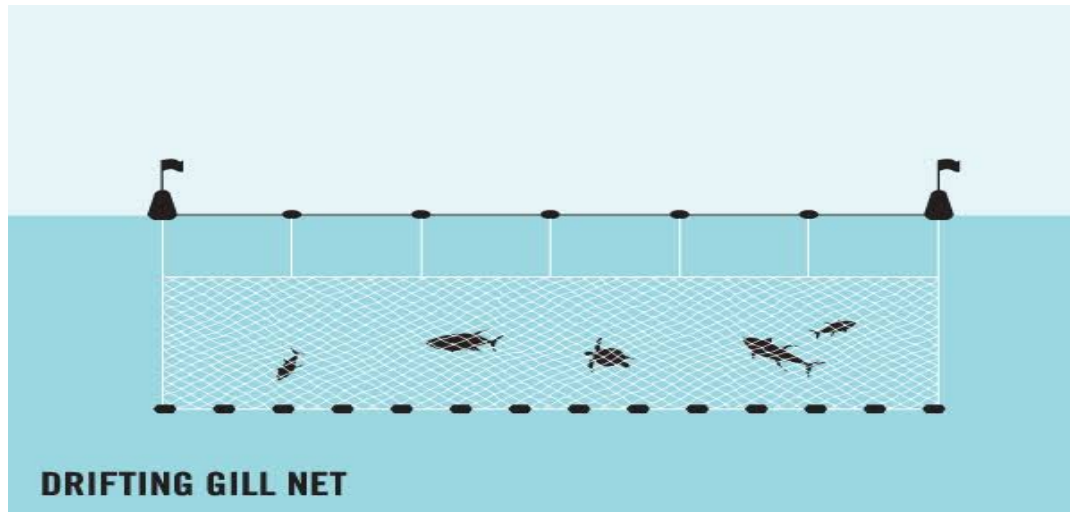
LONG LINING METHOD.

In this method a long rope is tied behind the ship or boat with several hooks with baits(worms) and any fish that tries to eat or swallow the bait it's hooked.



DRIFTING METHOD.

This method involves the use of a drift net that is hanged and placed vertically in the ocean like a lawn tennis net with floats at the top and weights at the bottom to keep the net vertical in water any fish that comes the way is trapped. Drift method is almost like Gill netting but drifting the use a big net than that used in Gill netting.



ADVANTAGES OF MODERN FISHING METHODS.

- ✓ They catch large amount of fish.
- ✓ They can catch both fish are close surface of water (pelagic fishes) and those the are deep in water(demersal fishes).
- ✓ They allow sustainable supply of fish to the market demand.

DISADVANTAGES OF MODERN FISHING METHODS.

- ✓ They are expensive to buy,use and to maintain.
- ✓ They can lead to fish extinction due to over production if not regulated.

FACTORS OR CONDITIONS WHICH HAVE FAVOURED THE DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH OF FISHING INDUSTRY IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Physical factors.

- * presence of large water bodies around British Columbia e.g Pacific ocean which acts as fishing ground and setting up of fishing centres e.g port Victoria.

- * Presence of favourable climatic conditions in British Columbia e.g ice free seasons that favours smooth running of fishing activities throughout the year

- * Presence of numerous rivers in British Columbia e.g skeena, Fraser which are used to generate HEP to run machines in Fishing industries.

- * Variety of valuable and commercial fish species in British Columbia e.g tuna fish, cod fish which has helped Fishing industry to compete on world market.

- * Presence of Forests in British Columbia which provides timber used to make boats used in fishing activities.

- * Large extensive land in British Columbia e.g in Vancouver island which is used to set up fishing centres and to expand fishing industries.

- * Presence of Planktons in British Columbia's fishing grounds which the fish feed on hence attracting high fish population.

Human factors.

- * Skilled labour in British Columbia e.g fisher men, Fisher mongers, managers who have helped to do work in fishing industries.

- * Sufficient capital in British Columbia e.g from government and investors which has been used to pay workers, taxes and buying machines used in Fishing industries.

- * Efficient and reliable transport networks in British Columbia e.g ships, roads which are used to connect fishing centres to market areas.

- * Favourable and supportive government policy in British Columbia which have helped to attract investors and market to fishing industry.

- * Presence of wide and ready market in British Columbia e.g domestic and international levels eg Europe, Asia which has helped to buy fishing products.

* Advanced and modern technology in British Columbia e.g engine boats,deep freezers to preserve the fish which have simplified work and production in Fishing industry.

* Sufficient power supply in British Columbia e.g HEP generated from rivers like r.fraser which is used to run machines in Fishing industries.

* Intensive fisheries research in British Columbia e.g on market control,fish breeding which has helped to improve on quality of fish production.

* Political stability in British Columbia e.g police that keep law and order which has attracted investors and market to fishing industries.

* Presence of many fishing industries in British Columbia eg in Port kitmat,port Victoria which help to process fish into quality products.

CONTRIBUTIONS/IMPORTANCE/BENEFITS OF THE FISHING SECTOR TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

* It has provided employment opportunities to the people of British Columbia e.g fisher men, Managers, drivers which has earned them income.

* Fishing has provided raw materials to industries e.g pharmaceutical industries which has been used to manufacture other products e.g surgical threads.

* It has generated revenue to the government of British Columbia which has been used to development infrastructures like roads, schools and hospitals.

* Fishing industry has promoted infrastructural developments in British Columbia e.g school roads which have improved standards of living in British Columbia.

* It promoted diversification of the economy in British Columbia e.g setting up of fishing centres national wide which has reduced on over depending on few sectors in British Columbia.

*Fishing has promoted urbanisation in British Columbia e.g through infrastructural developments like roads this has led to development in the country.

* It has promoted foreign exchange and currency in British Columbia e.g with Europe, Asia which has helped to settle international debts and infrastructural developments.

* Fishing industry has promoted international relations between British Columbia with others like Europe Asia which has helped to promote peace and unity in the region.

* It has provided market to others sectors in British Columbia e.g engineering industry which has helped others sectors earn income for development.

* Fishing industry has promoted the development of others sectors within the economy in British Columbia e.g tourism which has encouraged development in British Columbia.

* It has promoted education and research e.g Universities and colleges in British Columbia which has helped students to acquire knowledge and skills about fishing Field.

* Fishing industry has provided medicine and herbs to the pharmaceutical industry which is used to treat people in British Columbia.

* Fishing industry has provided food to the people of British Columbia e.g fish which helped them to improve on their balanced diet in form of proteins.

PROBLEMS AND CHALLENGES FACED BY THE FISHING SECTOR IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

* Exhaustion of some valuable fish species e.g tuna fish which leads to their extinction

* Unfavorable climatic conditions e.g winter which interrupts fishing activities hence limiting production.

* Competition from other countries dealing in fisheries products e.g Europe Asia which leads fishing sector to losses and limits production.

* High costs of transport in British Columbia due to perishable nature of fisheries products e.g in aeroplane to European market this has discouraged transportation of products.

* Limited skilled labour in Fishing sector this has made work and production difficult in British Columbia's fishing sector.

* Unsupportive government policy e.g high taxation in British Columbia which has discouraged investors and market to fishing sector.

* Occurrence of accidents while carrying out Fishing activities in British Columbia which has caused injuries and death hence discouraging production.

* Political instability especially sea pirates on ocean who hijack and discourage investors and market.

* Labour migration to other sectors e.g mining which has slowed and discouraged the Fishing activities.

* Low levels of technology e.g duplicated nets and boats which make work and production difficult in Fishing sector.

* Competition within the economy with other sectors e.g mining which leads to underfunding of fishing sector by the government and labor migration hence limiting production.

*Water Pollution from surrounding industries in British Columbia e.g waste disposal in waters which lead to loss of lives of aquatic animals hence low fish production.

* Undefined international boundaries on large waters eg Pacific ocean which has led to international boundary conflicts between British Columbia and other countries like France.

WAYS OF IMPROVING OR SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEMS FACED BY FORESTRY SECTOR IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

*Signing of international treaties to solve the problem of international conflicts.

*Mechanisation such as use of machines should be used to solve the problem of shortage of skilled labour.

*Application of treatment on wastes before disposed in water.

*Use of protective equipments like life jacketscoloured clothes to minimize the occurrence of accidents on waters.

*Practicing of fish farming to over come fish exhaustion.

*Construction of modern transport networks to easy the transportation of fisheries products to market centres.

*Modern advertisements to compete on the world market with other countries.

*Use of advanced technology to solve the problem of low levels of technology.

*Intensive research on fishing issues to improve on the quality of production and getting of market.

* Improvement on workers conditions in fisheries to solve the problem of labor migration.

SKETCH MAP OF BRITISH COLUMBIA SHOWING FISHING CENTRES.

