



See descriptions below for different techniques commonly used by recreational saltwater anglers.

Bait Fishing



baits, like eels, are fished whole and without weights in a style similar to casting lures.

Bait fishing includes bottom fishing and live lining. Weights or floats are often used to carry a baited hook (or hooks) to the preferred depth or distance from shore or vessel. Bait fishing can be done either vertically - typically with a boat or bait casting rod - or horizontally - cast from the shore or structure, like a jetty or pier, with a bait caster or spinning rod and reel combination. Some

Bottom Jigging



clear from catching the seafloor or another obstruction. Pull the rod up every 10 seconds or so, to move the bait through the water column. This attracts the target species as well as clears the lure from any ground obstructions.

Bottom (or vertical) jigging is used for groundfish species and is done from either an anchored or drifting boat. A weighted lure is attached to the line and dropped to the seafloor. The jig is typically a few ounces and the weight selected is dependent on the currents and (if drifting) the drift speed. After the jig hits the seafloor, crank either one or one and a half times so that the weight and line are

Casting Lures



Usually irritator lures are used because they attract the target species. They often irritate the target species into action by being shiny or flashy, or by creating noise with embedded rattles or by splashing or creating bubbles.

Typically, lures are cast out using a spinning rod and reel, and can be done from shore or a boat. Attach a topwater lure, or a swimming lure or jig, and cast out the line into a likely spot. Then, reel in the lure at the speed necessary to have it at the preferred depth in the water column, or to act in the preferred way. The lure weight and size varies with distance to target, size of target species, and wind.

Fly Fishing



Fly fishing uses the weight of the line to carry a light weight "fly" to a likely fish holding location. The fly typically imitates a baitfish or crustacean that the target species preys upon. Fly fishing lines are designed at different densities to control the depth of the presentation - the lure bait. More dense lines - sinking or intermediate - are used to work the bottom or mid water areas while less dense - floating - lines are used to work the fly at shallow depths.

Trolling



Trolling is done on a boat and incorporates motoring at low speeds with more or more baited lines pulled through the water. The speed depends on the target species: if a fish typically swims quickly, the speed will be fast. Most anglers troll between two and nine knots. Some who target faster species, including wahoo, troll up to 15 knots. When trolling multiple lines, most anglers use outriggers. outriggers are poles that spread out the lines so that they do not tangle in the water. If enough lines are in the water, the trolling bait will mimic a small school of fish. Trolling is used mainly to catch pelagic fishes. In addition, downriggers can also be used to fish at depth.

Baits, artificial lures, or a combination of both can be trolled. Baits include filets of larger bait fish, rigged squid, or whole bait fish. Lures range in size and style. Many mimic injured or sick fish while other mimic fast moving schooling fish. Top water, or surface, lures float and look like fish that are on the surface of the water. These are usually irritators, lures that are eye-catching or make sounds - like popping, buzzing, jingling, or bubbling - to attract target species. Crankbaits are imitator lures; they look like fish. When they are pulled through the water, they make erratic swimming movements to imitate an injured fish. Swimbaits are soft bodied lures that look like an animal swimming. Small fish and squid are popular swimbaits. Depending on the target species, lures can be a couple of inches to over a foot long!

Wire Trolling



Also called snapping wire, wire line trolling is a combination of trolling and jigging. Wire line is let out a specific distance. Depending on the trolling speed, the lure will be at a specific depth in the water column. Anglers hold the rod and move it in a snapping motion to imitate a fish swimming and bursting every once in awhile. Typically, this uses a heavier trolling jig with a pork rind attached to the hook. wire line or lead core line can also be used to troll self-activated lures like swimming plugs or the 'deadly' tube and worm combination.