



Survival Fishing

SHTF Sustenance Collection

Fishing Techniques - Trapping Methods - Primitive Fishing - Unlawful & Last Ditch Effort Guide

After food sources have been depleted, knowing how to catch fish with or without the proper fishing supplies is essential to survival and sustainment. Survival Fishing is useful if you are bugging out and run low on food prior to arriving at your Bug Out Location (BOL) or if you get lost while hiking, or if you find yourself in any scenario where food sources are low and there are no other alternatives. Having a fishing kit is one thing, but knowing how to fish is another. Learning to fish can be fun, a great family activity and is a skill that can provide an unlimited food supply. So let's have a look at some fishing tips for you that can help. This guide will provide 10 basic suggestions to help you think outside the box when fishing under less than ideal conditions. The guide will discuss 16 different fishing methods. You can further research each by researching online for videos and walkthroughs. This guide gives you the ability to familiarize yourself with unique techniques but practicing and researching is on you. Don't wait until you need to use one of these methods and be left trying it for the first time without prior training or education.

Bottom Line Up Up Front (BLUF):

1. Your food sources are depleted or nearing depletion.
2. Wild game, restaurants, stores, foraging and other resources are non-existent or not feasible.
3. A body of water is nearby.
4. You do not have a rod and reel nor complete tackle kit.
5. Use a basic Superesse survival kit such as a Bracelet, EDC Tin, or Patch Kit to aid in fashioning tools to utilize the below techniques.
6. Follow the 10 basic guidelines in this guide to gather a basic understanding of how to fish under less than ideal conditions during a survival scenario.
7. Familiarize yourself with the included 16 fish catching techniques to collect food from water.

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SURVIVAL FISHING: Tips and Suggestions

- 1) Fish mostly will feed early morning and late evening. Generally, an hour before and after, sunup and sunset, are the best times to fish.
- 2) Fish like cool and clean water. Obviously, you won't have control over the water temperature but in the heat of the day, look for shaded areas or deeper water. The water will be cooler the deeper you go. Also, look for clean water when possible. Water that is extremely dirty and holding a lot of sediment will not attract many fish.
- 3) Try to find bait that is native to the area. Find an old, rotting log, and turn it over. You will probably be presented with grubs, worms and many other insects that fish love. Also keep an eye out on the shoreline and you will most likely find minnows and other creatures swimming around. These make excellent bait! Take a stick and whack the water where you see minnows. This will most likely stun or kill a few that you can use for bait. This will make a lot of noise so collect as many as you can and either find another area to fish or wait a while.
- 4) Shhh! Keep quiet when fishing. Fish are easily spooked so make as little noise as possible.
- 5) Fish like shelter. Just like us, fish prefer a cozy place to hang out. Look for docks, rocks, fallen trees, lily pads, etc. These are excellent places to fish and should be tried first.
- 6) Fish at night. Many fish, especially bottom feeders, feed at night. Find a good chunk of bait, maybe a piece of a smaller fish you caught earlier, and keep the line out overnight. You will be surprised what you might catch! When leaving your fishing gear unattended make sure to tie your line tightly to something. Even small 1-2 lb fish can pull your gear into the water.



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- 7) Fish with and without the bobber. I always try fishing with a bobber first as this generally produces more fish and reduces snags. If nothing is biting, remove the bobber and try fishing on the bottom.
- 8) If the fish are not biting for a while, try something different. Change bait, location, time of day. Don't be afraid to try and change your strategy if nothing is working.
- 9) Learn about the fish and natural bait for your area. A great way to learn this is to visit your local bait shop. The local fisherman will be a great resource.
- 10) Flowing water is better than stagnant water. If you are fishing in a lake or pond this will not apply. But for rivers and tidal areas, you generally want to find a little water flow; not a raging current but some flow is good and attracts fish. Feeding fish will hang out behind a rock or log, so they don't have to fight the current, and when a bait fish swims by, they then can ambush them. So rocks, logs, docks etc are great places to fish.



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SURVIVAL FISHING: Techniques and Methods

1. Batoning Striking

Basic method of procurement. Slow-moving fish can be temporarily stunned by striking it with a rod. You'll want to use a slender wood or metal stick than slices thru the water to maintain the speed strong enough to stun fish.

2. Gill Net

Used to capture fish trying to swim through the openings of the net causing them to become entangled. Gill nets are best during a migratory fish run.

3. Dip Net

Similar to a batoning strike method, lead the fish with the net and use it to scoop up unaware fish as a standalone fishing option.

4. Spear Fishing

It's not always easy to pierce the slippery scales or defeat the slender profile of most fish, but spear fishing is still a worthwhile activity in most survival situations. Just make sure you compensate for refraction and aim below the fish.

5. Fish Poison



Only used in dire emergencies, fish poison has traditionally been derived from crushed plant materials that release compounds into the water and stun or kill the fish. Poison is typically used in still water and small pools, though this ancestral technique has been used in rivers and larger waterways.

6. Hand Line

A simple hook and line, along with some bait, is really all you need to catch fish. Hand lines are usually handheld coils of line that are cast and retrieved by hand.



7. Gorge Hooks

Using a gorge hook is very different from using curved steel hooks. The technique here is to allow the fish to swallow the bait, which has a sharp thorn or bone shard sticking out of it. Do not jerk the line to set the hook. After you think a fish has swallowed the gorge hook, slowly coax it into a waiting dip net.

8. Hand Fishing

Primitive as fishing can be. In hand fishing, you grab the fish from the water with your hands. Also known as noodling, graveling, hogging, gurgling, grabbling, fish tickling, and stumping are all terms used for this method. Gloves recommend.

9. Basket Trap

A container with a funnel-shaped entrance are all you need to build an effective fish trap . Take into account the size and habits of the fish you hope to catch and build your trap to fit. Wooden slat traps for catfish are typically more than a yard long, with a large funnel opening wide enough to imprison even a fat blue cat. Minnow traps can be made from a soda bottle with the neck cut off and inverted inside the bottle.

10. Fish Weir

A weir can be a wall, circular fence, or large funnel designed to direct fish into your trap. Some of the traditional weir construction styles of ancient times are still being used today. Why? Because they work. Weirs can be built of stone for permanent construction, or by driving stakes or posts into the mud or sand for semi-permanent installations. A weir can also aid your spear fishing and dip netting efforts.

11. Bobber Gig Line Rig.



Create 3-10 bobbers using any floating device such as an old plastic bottle, log, or pool noodle. All bobbers should be lined together and can be anchored in center of moving water or pooled along behind a slow moving water craft. Each bobber will have a sink weight and baited hook 6" to 12" below the surface. If the line is to be dragged opt with a 12" sink.

12. Blast Fishing



Throw an explosive in the water to stun or kill the fish which you can then collect easily. A small stick of dynamite or tannerite is suggested.



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13. Use of Herbs



An indigenous method using Polk weed and Black walnut plants used to stun the fish. Crush and spread plant material into a slow moving stream of water. Fish will be stunned and float to surface for collection.

14. Chumming



Attracts fish by scattering insects, worms, animal flesh in the water. Makes using catching by hand, net, spear, or gig easier.

15. Gorge Hooks

In this technique, bait is made using a sharply pointed thorn or a sharpened bone from

16. Trigger Snare.

Find a live flexible sapling near the water. Create a snare trigger composed of a hanging stick carved to fit up against a stake in the ground that has a similar carved out shape both similar to an L shape. A Line should be attached from a sapling that is bent downwards, the line is then attached to the hanging stick which is lodged underneath the receiving stake catchment. The hanging stick has a separate fish hooked line going directly to the water. It should be designed so that when a fish bites and yanks the hook the sapling will come loose from the two wood stakes causing the fish to be flung from the water.



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LEGEND



SHTF tip only, check state and local laws.

RESOURCES

ICERS- In-Case-of-Emergency Response System. An emergency survival system used to plan with family and friends to regain contact after SHTF, determine when to bugout or shelter in place.

ELG - Emergency Loadout Guide. A guide for packing prepping Bug Out Bags, INCH gear, Vehicle Emergency Kits, EDC, K9, and Get Home Bags. Includes detailed tips and checklists.

SUMMARY

This is a working document. Illustrations, tips, and further methods may be added periodically. Make sure you have whitelisted emails from Superesse so you don't miss updates. You'll receive email notifications along with a download link when a newer version is released.