

Setting a Fyke Net

Fyke Nets are a popular fish collection technique for their ability to collect fish passively and relatively unharmed. The traps can be set and left for a period of time and checked periodically.

Fyke nets can be set in a variety of ways. To get started the following supplies will be needed:

- Fyke net or hoop net
- Anchors(2-3)
- Extra Rope
- Optional: posts or t-posts
- Optional: buoys

Here is a simple process of how to set a fyke net:

- 1) If setting from a boat, it tends to work best to have the net on the front of the boat and deploy the net with boat going in reverse. The fyke net should be set with the leads and frames down and the hoops up. The top of the net should be facing toward you.
- 2) Secure the cod end rope securely around the cod end of the net as to not allow the cod end to open. Tie the tail of this rope to an anchor. Slowly put the boat in reverse. Lower the first hoop with the anchor attached into the water. As the anchor sets it will start pulling the remaining net.
- 3) As the boat backs up, slowly release each hoop working towards the front frames. Release each hoop as the netting becomes tight.
- 4) Continue with the frames, assuring the net is tight between hoops and frames.
- 5) Assuming the net has a lead, use the lead net to keep the frames and hoops of the fyke net tight. Continue backing the boat up and letting out the lead. On the end of the lead attach an anchor to the bottom rope and a buoy to the top rope.
- 6) As the end approaches, assure the net is tight, lower the anchor overboard and hold onto the top rope. Slowly let the lead down and the buoy following to mark the end of the lead.
- 7) Buoys can be used to mark both the cod end and front of the lead.
- 8) When checking the nets, you can either go directly to the cod end and pull the cod end up and open it, or you can pull the entire trap up starting at the lead.

This same process can be followed when deploying without a boat.

A schematic is below to help portray the general layout of a fyke net.

Fyke Net Schematic



