

JANUARY 2015

LONGLINE GEAR LOG

This log contains detailed questions about the gear fished. Generally one gear is used to describe gear within a single trip. Changes in item numbers used would not require a separate gear log, however a change in gear configuration (i.e. use of light sticks, hooks between floats or fishing depth) that redirects toward another target species generally requires a separate gear log. Numeric values reflect an average from all hauls with the same string number.

Example: First two hauls use light sticks and direct toward swordfish described by string number 1. The remaining five hauls do **not** use light sticks and target tuna. A second gear log would then be completed and numbered string number 2. Record the appropriate string number in **field #17** on each of the LONGLINE HAUL LOG sheets. Hauls 1-2=1 and Hauls 3-7=2

Only fill in numbers of items if you have marked the checkbox for that item; if you have not marked the box, leave the item number blank. However, on item information that calls for a number but does not have a yes/no checkbox, if there are zero items used you must fill in a zero.

DEFINITIONS

LONGLINE: 600-1000 lb test monofilament nylon mainline supported in the water column by floats "droplines", and having attached branch lines "gangions" which have baited hooks on the free end.

SECTION: A portion of mainline with an arrangement of floats, hooks and polyballs defined on either end by a radar reflector, radio beacon or satellite buoy. Generally, section configuration is repeated throughout a string with some variation occurring in the last section set.

GANGION: A 300-500 lb test nylon monofilament attached to a mainline by a snap. A gangion may vary in length and have up to two swivels, one at the snap and another some distance above the hook. Fishermen may refer to this as a "leader".

LEADER: A section of steel wire or monofilament placed between a swivel and the hook. It reduces bite offs, makes hook replacement easier and helps to maintain the gangion length. Fishermen may refer to this as a "tail".

DROPLINE: A 300-500 lb nylon monofilament or braided nylon line connecting the float and **radio beacons/radar reflectors/satellite buoys** to the mainline. Fishermen may refer to this as a "drop" or float line.

INSTRUCTIONS

HEADER

1. OBS/TRIP ID: Record the six character observer/trip identifier. This should be used on all data forms and field notes for a single trip.
Example: D04006.
2. VESSEL NUMBER: Record the 6-7 digit U.S. Coast Guard Documentation Number. This should be displayed prominently on the vessel. If the vessel does not have a Coast Guard Number, record the state registration number and include the two letter state abbreviation prefix. This is not the same as the NMFS or state fishing permit number. Do not use spaces.
Example: USCG documentation number - 234567
State registration number - FL2345XX
3. VESSEL NAME: Record the name of the vessel. Care should be taken to record the correct spelling of the vessel's name. Do not use punctuation; hyphens, commas, or periods and data is entered in capital letters.
Example: MR ROGERS, SY KAI MAI, MISSYS DREAM
4. DATE LANDED: Record the month, day and year when the vessel arrives back in port. This may not be the same day fish are unloaded and sold.
Example: 01/01/2003

5. STRING NUMBER: Record the consecutive number assigned to each string as it is uniquely configured. Changes that result in a change in target species might necessitate a new number and LONGLINE GEAR LOG. Each string will be assigned a number consecutively, i.e., first string = 1, the next string = 2, etc.

GEAR INFORMATION

6. NUMBER OF HOOKS*: Record the number of hooks set. This is an **average** of all hauls with the same string number.
7. ANCHOR USED?: Indicate if an anchor was used, by marking the box with an **x**. (If the box remains unchecked, data entry personnel will assume no anchor was used). For the purpose of these data, anchors are defined as objects which hold gear to the sea bottom. Thus, sea anchors or weights that might be employed to slow the drift of the gear are NOT anchors. Their use should be noted in the comments, however.
8. WEIGHT: If the ANCHOR USED box is marked, record an estimated total weight, to the nearest pound, of the anchor(s) used to hold the gear in place. This information can be obtained from the captain. If no anchor was used or if the gear is tied directly to the vessel, enter "-"; do not enter zero.

MAINLINE

9. COLOR: Record the color of the main line, by marking an **X** in the box next to the appropriate color. If more than one color is present mark an **X** next to "Multi-color" but do not mark an **X** next to all the other colors.

Please describe "**Other**", and the color and ratios of multi-color lines, in field #42 **COMMENTS**.

*This is a calculated number; refer to distance calculation worksheet and instructions.

10. NUMBER OF STRANDS: Record the number of strands of material that make up the mainline. Generally this should be "1".
11. DIAMETER: Record, to the nearest tenth of a millimeter, the diameter of the mainline. Use a caliper, if provided, or submit a label or sample piece with your data. General ranges found are **3.0-4.2 mm**
12. TEST: Record the pound test or breaking strength of the main line. This information can be obtained from the captain and/or verified from a manufacturer label. General ranges found are **600-1000 lbs.**
13. MATERIAL: Indicate the material that the mainline is constructed of, by marking an "X" in the box with the appropriate material.

Please describe **other** materials in field #42 **COMMENTS**.

FLOATS

14. TYPE USED?: Indicate whether a float type was used, by marking an **X** in the checkbox provided; by not marking a checkbox the observer is indicating that this type of item was not used:
Polyball (do not count those associated with beacons or highflyers)
Bullet/Daub
Other = **hard balls, etc.**
Please describe **other** float type in field #42, **COMMENTS**.
15. TYPE NUMBER*: Record the number for each float type used. This is an **average** of all hauls (recombine split haul values) with the same gear configuration. Only record a number if the checkbox for that item has been marked; do not enter zero.

*This is a calculated number; refer to distance calculation worksheet and instructions.

16. MAX HOOK BETWEEN*: Record the **maximum** number of hooks between bullet/daub floats. This is an **average** of all hauls with the same gear configuration.
17. RADIO BEACONS: Record the number of radio beacons **plus satellite buoys**. These may also be called "radio buoys" or "beepers". **A comment should be made about how many satellite buoys were used versus radio beacons**. This is an **average** of all hauls with the same gear configuration. Enter a zero if no radio beacons **or satellite buoys** were used.
18. RADAR REFLECTORS: Record the number of radar reflectors. These may also be called "highflyers". This is an **average** of all hauls with the same gear configuration. Enter a zero if no radar reflectors were used.
19. SECTIONS*: Record the number of sections. This is an **average** of all hauls with the same gear configuration. **If extra radio beacons or radar reflectors were used (radio beacons + radar reflectors - 1 ≠ number of sections), then note average configuration in comment section.**
20. DISTANCE BETWEEN SECTIONS*: Record the distance to the nearest tenth of a nautical mile. This is an **average** of all hauls with the same gear configuration.

LIGHT STICKS

21. USED?: Indicate whether light sticks are used on this string by marking an **X** in the checkbox. If the box is not checked, it will be assumed light sticks were not used.
22. LIGHT STICK COLOR: Indicate the color or colors of light sticks used on this string by marking an **X** next to the appropriate color. If there is more than one color the Multi-color box should be checked and the different colors and their ratios should be described in the **COMMENTS** section, but do not mark an **X** next to all the other colors. **Comment on the use and**
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percentage of electronic light sticks as such if they are used.

GANGIONS

23. COLOR: Indicate the color of the gangion line by marking an **X** in the checkbox next to the appropriate color. If there is more than one color the Multi-color box should be checked and the different colors and their ratios should be described in the **COMMENTS** section, but do not mark an **X** next to all the other colors.

Please record any **other** color in field #42 **COMMENTS**.

24. DISTANCE BETWEEN* : Record the distance, in whole feet, between gangions. This is an **average** of all hauls with the same gear configuration.

25. DIAMETER: Record, to the nearest tenth of a millimeter, the diameter of the gangions. General ranges found are **1.8-2.2 mm**

26. TEST: Record the pound test or dry breaking strength of the gangions. General ranges found are **300-500 lbs**.

27. MATERIAL: Indicate the material that the mainline is constructed of, by marking an "X" in the box next to the appropriate material.

Please describe **other** materials in field #42 **COMMENTS**.

28. GANGION LENGTH: Record, to the nearest foot, the gangion lengths. You can account for up to two different lengths. Gangion length should not include the leader length. This is an **average** of all hauls with the same gear configuration.

*This is a calculated number; refer to distance calculation worksheet and instructions.

29. GANGION COUNT: Record the number of gangions for each length used. This is an **average** of all hauls with the same gear configuration. **Total number of gangions must equal number of hooks, field #6.**
30. LEADERS USED?: Indicate whether leaders are used between the gangion and the hook by marking an **X** in the box. If the box is not marked it will be assumed leaders were not used.
31. LEADER LENGTH: Record the length of the leader to nearest **inch**. This is an **average** of all hauls with the same gear configuration.
32. LEADER TEST: Record the pound test or dry breaking strength of the leader. Generally this is the same as the gangion. **Comment on leader color and diameter if different than gangion.**
33. LEADER MATERIAL: Indicate the material that the mainline is constructed of, by marking an "**X**" in the box next to the appropriate material.
- Please describe **other** materials in field **#42 COMMENTS**.
34. SWIVELS USED?: Indicate whether swivels are used on gangions by marking an **X** in the box. Normally there is always a swivel on the snap, so this box will always be checked.
35. NUMBER SWIVELS/ GANGION : Record the number of swivels used per gangion. One is generally located at the snap and a second swivel will be located some distance above the hook between the gangion and the leader. **Comment if weighted swivels are used for leaders, their approximate weight, and frequency (all leaders, 50% of leaders, etc.). These weights are usually listed in grams and will be marked on the swivel.**

DROPLINES

36. LENGTH: Record, to the nearest foot, the length of the droplines. This is an **average** of all hauls with the same gear configuration.

37. DISTANCE BETWEEN*: Record, to the nearest foot, the distance between droplines. This is an **average** of all hauls with the same gear configuration.

HOOKS

38. HOOK BRAND: Record the hook brand name. You can account for up to four different hooks. This information can be obtained from the captain and/or verified from a manufacturer label or Hook Guide. Example: **Mustad, Eagle Claw, Hi Liner** or **LGPN** (Lindgren/Pitman)
39. MODEL/PATTERN: Record the hook model or pattern number. You can account for up to four different hooks. This information can be obtained from the captain and/or verified from a manufacturer label or Hook Guide. **DO NOT** include LETTERS in this field unless indicated on the hook guide (e.g., weak hooks) Example: **39960D=39960**
40. SIZE: Record the hook size. You can account for up to four different hooks. This information can be obtained from the captain and/or verified from a manufacturer label or Hook Guide. If the hook is unknown, provide a sample hook with data. Example: **16/0, 18/0**
41. OFFSET: Record the hook offset. You can account for up to four different hooks. This information can be obtained from the captain and/or verified from a manufacturer label or Hook Guide. If the hook offset is unknown or in question provide a sample hook with data. Example: **0, 10**
42. COMMENTS: If more space is required, use the back of the sheet and include "see back" on the front.

*This is a calculated number; refer to distance calculation worksheet and instructions.