

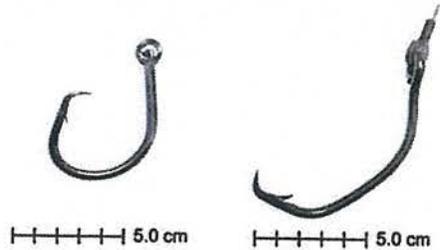


TRAINING FOR HAWAII LONGLINE VESSEL CAPTAINS: HOW TO RELEASE A *HOOKED FALSE KILLER WHALE* ~VIDEO SUPPLEMENT~

What is the purpose of this training?

The Hawaii Longline Association is requiring that all vessel captains participate in this industry-led training. The purpose of this training is to provide vessel captains with important information on how to release a *hooked false killer whale*.

Deep-set longline vessels are required to use “weak hooks” (maximum 4.5 mm wire diameter, 10 degree offset or less, contain round wire). These weak hooks are designed to straighten from the weight of a false killer whale when constant tension is applied to the line. It is important that captain and crew do their part to get the hook to straighten and release the false killer whale alive without any gear attached.



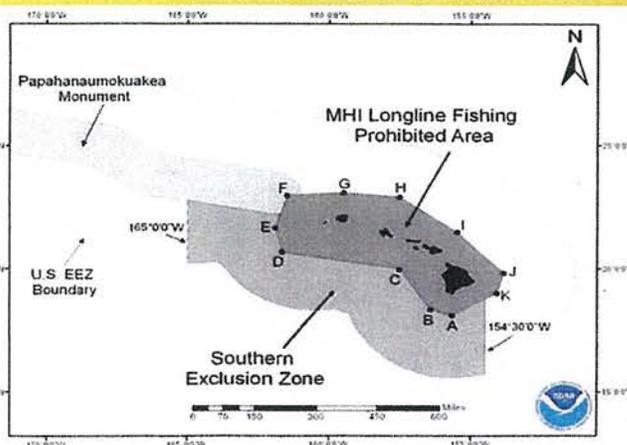
What do I need to do when I have a hooked false killer whale on the line?

Remember these basics when you have a hooked false killer whale on the line while deep-set fishing:

- 1. Safety comes first:** Captain is responsible for the safety of all aboard, including the observer. Always consider safety first before attempting to straighten the hook.
- 2. Straighten the hook & release false killer whale without any gear:** When you have a hooked false killer whale on the line, your priority is to straighten the hook and release the animal without any gear. There is no requirement to bring the animal close to the vessel to collect skin samples.
- 3. Apply constant tension:** Constant tension will need to be applied to the line in order for the hook to straighten. Simply holding onto the line or tugging by hand will not create enough tension.
- 4. Use the vessel and back down:** To get the hook to straighten, you can apply constant tension on the line by cleating down the main line and slowly backing down the vessel. You may also have other methods that would apply constant tension on the line.
- 5. Do not cut the line:** Cutting the line will result in the false killer whale being released with gear, which will count against the fishery. In the past, false killer whales released without gear have not counted against the fishery.
- 6. Captain directs crew:** It is the captain’s responsibility to direct crew in the event of a false killer whale hooking, not the observer.

Also keep in mind:

- ◆ This training is intended to supplement the information you receive in the protected species workshop and placards on how to handle interactions with protected species.
- ◆ This training focuses specifically on what to do when a false killer whale is hooked. For interactions with other species including large whales, turtles and seabirds, please refer to instructions you receive during the protected species workshop.



Why does this matter?

Regulations for protecting false killer whales could trigger more restrictions for the Hawaii longline fleet. If in any given year, two false killer whale interactions are observed in the 200 nm EEZ around Hawaii and counted against the fishery (e.g., categorized as “serious injury” due to being released with gear attached), the Southern Exclusion Zone (SEZ) closure will be triggered. The SEZ amounts to 17 percent of fishable area within the EEZ that is currently open to longline fishing.

If you have any questions about this training supplement or the video, please contact