

Seiners

Fishing Technique

Purse Seiners target fish by encircling them with a long net to capture the fish within. A small auxiliary boat is often used to pull the net around the fish and back to the mother vessel. The bottom of the net is then drawn closed (pursed). The boom and power block are then used to hoist the net onto the deck.



Vessel Description

Seiners are configured with a forward house and large aft deck. Located on the aft deck are a large boom and power block and room for the net. On some vessels the net is stored on a drum. The auxiliary boat is often seen riding "piggyback" aboard the vessel's stern while traveling.



Target Species

Sardines

In the D13 AOR, purse seiners are most often found targeting sardines off the Columbia River during the spring and summer months. Although the sardine fishery off Washington and Oregon was relatively non-existent during the 1990's and early 2000's, in the past several years, 15-20 purse seiners have routinely participated in the state managed sardine fishery.

Salmon

A small number of purse seiners can also be found targeting salmon in the Puget Sound and Strait of Juan de Fuca, primarily by tribal fishers.
