# UNITED STATES
# DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

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FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE — Flanagan - Interior 5634

For Release NOVEMBER 8, 1961

INTERIOR ISSUES PUBLICATION ON COMMERCIAL FISHING GEAR

An illustrated publication showing the various types of fishing gear used in harvesting America's five-billion-pound annual fish catch has just been issued by the Department of the Interior.

Containing dozens of easy-to-follow drawings, the circular was prepared for serious students of the United States fishing industry, especially those interested in the development and utilization of fishing gear.

The introduction explains that while fishing is an age-old occupation, fishing gear was developed slowly by trial and error. In the past 60 years mechanization and use of more efficient equipment have revolutionized the fishing industry.

The change in fishing gear from the simple net to the present huge purse seines which cost as much as $40,000 is emphasized. The booklet also points out that a million-dollar boat for fish harvesting is not unusual now and that some large English and Soviet factory ships, designed as stern trawlers to fish, process, and freeze the product at sea, cost several million dollars each.

The publication, Commercial Fishing Gear of the United States, Fish and Wildlife Circular 109, is available for 40 cents a copy through the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C.

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P.N. 103298-61