

Practice safe and responsible release techniques to help ensure salmon survival.

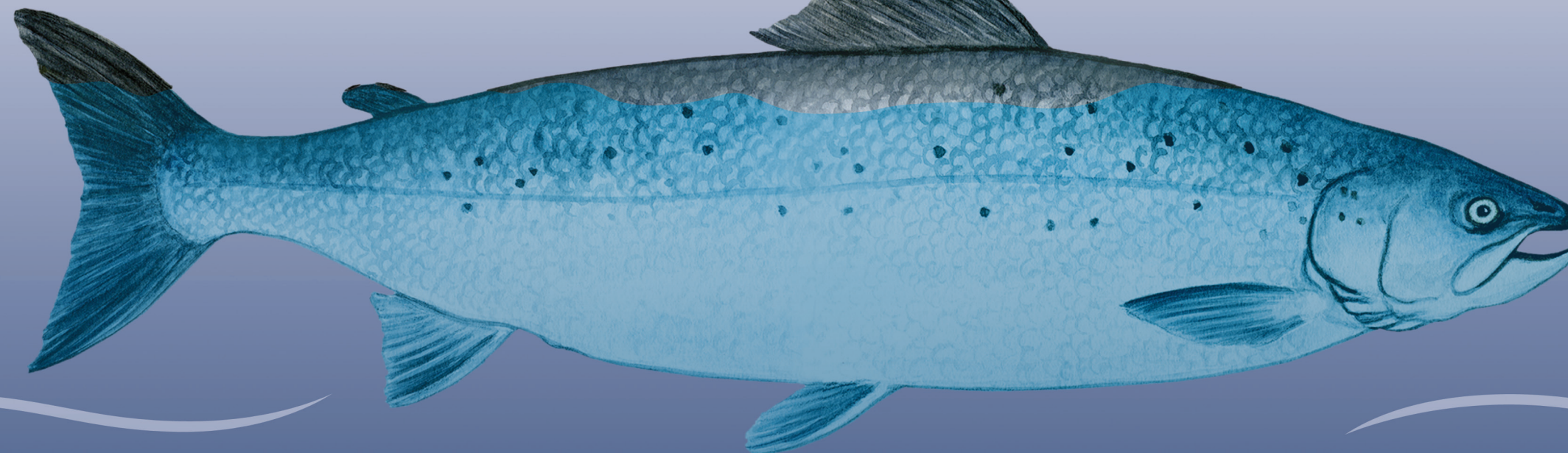
Follow these procedures to minimize injury to the fish.

The use of barbless hooks is mandatory when angling for salmon in Newfoundland and Labrador. The use of barbless hooks helps minimize injury to the fish.



Once the fish is hooked, gradually move to a quiet water location. Leave the fish in the water; remove the hook gently, with pliers or with your thumb and forefinger.

Handle the fish as little as possible.



A leader should be heavy enough to bring in a large salmon quickly or light enough to allow a large salmon to break off.

Bring the fish quickly into reach, or break the leader off after a couple of runs.

Keep the entire salmon underwater as much as possible.

When using a landing net, use a knotless cotton mesh as it is less harmful to fish scales, gills and eyes.

Handle the salmon gently.

If required, support the fish under the belly, keeping the fish horizontal, underwater and facing into the current.

Remove the hook gently with pliers or with your thumb and forefinger. If the hook must be left in, cut the leader as close to the fish as possible.

Be patient. Give the fish as much time as it needs to recover and swim away on its own.



Do not use a tailer as it can cause damage to the salmon.

Do not beach the salmon as it can remove the mucous coating and damage scales. Keep the entire salmon underwater.

Do not hold the salmon vertically as this can injure the salmon.

Anglers should cease catch and release angling in extreme environmental conditions: low water levels and high water temperatures.

For more information, please visit www.nfl.dfo-mpo.gc.ca

DFO/2012-1819
Cat. No.:Fs114-25/2012E-PDF
ISBN: 978-1-100-20453-6

Best Practices for Catch and Release of Atlantic Salmon

