

Recycling Fishing Nets and Line

FACT: Alaskans use about 800,000 to one million pounds of fishing web and nets per year. Most old web gets dumped in community landfills, shortening a landfill's useful life, and adding expense to municipal operations. Salmon gillnets and seines are made from nylon- which can be re-processed to manufacture new products like wheels for chairs, tool handles, auto parts, telephones, computer parts, toothbrushes, upholstery, and carpeting



Recyclable Nets + Line

- Midwater Trawl Net
- Bottom Trawl Nets
- Footrope
- Cable
- Seine web (Any color)
- Chafing gear
- Purse line
- Float line
- Soft Buoys
- Gillnet
- Weed-line
- Sink line
- Sorting Marine Debris
- Lead and cork from gillnets



Figure 1 Leadline/Sink Line



Figure 2 HDPE Trawl Nets



Figure 2 Seine Web/Net

Photos Courtesy of Net Your Problem + CRSMA



Steps to Recycling your Net + Line

1. Identify and collect nets.
2. Prepare and clean nets.
3. Find a vendor.
4. Contact the vendor to confirm material and quantities.
5. Ship!

Preparing Web/Net for Recycling

Net recycling programs have worked best when labor is minimized – ideally you don't want to handle the nets more than once in the collection recycling process. Have fisherman bring nets directly to where garbage or recycling is hauled. Some communities get youth core or volunteers to help clean the netting of debris.

All non-nylon materials such as the lead lines cork or float lines and weed-line must be removed. Nets must be clean and can't have organic materials such as fish or animal bones in it. The net can be pushed into a container as-is or baled. Baled net gets the highest price and typically the cleaner the net, the higher the price you'll get.



Vendors that Accept Net + Line

Net Your Problem

Seattle, Wa.

Contact: Nicole Baker

Tel: (907) 359-3450

<https://www.netyourproblem.com/>



Skagit River Steel and Recycling

Burlington, Wa.

Contact: Aaron Coulter

Tel: (360) 757-6096 xt 246

<http://www.skagitriversteel.com>

- NYLON (Seine) NETS ONLY
- *SMALL QUANTITIES ONLY*

Accepts small quantities of Nylon (Seine) nets only. Skagit will pick up all netting at the Seattle dock. They suggest shipping the netting with other material such as scrap metal, cardboard, etc.

International Paper

Location: Kent, WA

Contact: Luci Felton

Tel: (206) 376-7977

<http://www.internationalpaper.com>

This company accepts a variety of netting for recycling; however, they require that you call first and send pictures of material. They will get back to you if they can/will accept you nets.

Curious about how to get started? Reach out to one of the entities below doing work in the state already!

