

The “Fishing Gear Database” for the Gulf of Mexico and SE U.S. States (Texas-North Carolina) is maintained by a gear specialist and point of contact at the NMFS, Pascagoula Laboratory and is updated quarterly. The NMFS gear expert receives and examines fishing gear associated with sea turtle strandings occurring in the Gulf of Mexico and southeast Atlantic (NC-FL). The gear components are described and assigned to a fishery, if possible. It is important to note that assignment to a fishery is based on the known use of that gear in the fishery based on the expertise of the specialist; it is not a guarantee that it was used in that fishery. Only salvaged and examined gear is included in the database, a complete tally of sea turtle strandings associated with gear interactions can be found in the STSSN database.

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