Participant	Gear Type	Set-up	Time used (Refers to	Observations	Preferred Gear	Success/Failure	Comments & Concerns	Comments for DFO
1 articipant			Seasons not calendar year)					
	Candy Cane (CC)	Singles: 4 lines on single traps. 20-40 ftm lines, with 0.5 ftm of CC spliced onto the join between sink and float rope. This is spliced on in a loop (see Figure 2) so that the regular rope acts as a safety line. Trawls: 3 set up on trawls. 50 fathoms of line: 20 ftm sink rope, 1 ftm of CC spliced in, then 30 ftm of float rope. One trawl has 7 ftm of CC, taking the place of some regular sink rope. Trawls are 10 traps each, in 17-30 ftm of water. This is approx. 75-80 lbs per trap, 15-20 lbs of crab per trap.	Spring 2022 onward, lines discarded as they wear out	In general, P1 found the CC rope frayed quickly with use. It did not splice well as it was loose and would start to come apart. Singles: After 3 seasons, anything that is still in use is very frayed, and somewhat untwisted. The main issue is that it stretches significantly. It did not part/break because it stretched until the weight was on the regular (safety) line. Trawls: no safety in the splice because the other endline acts as a safety. These lines are not hauled as often (1/2 on the other endline). There is also not too much weight on the line because the candy cane rope is through the hauler before all the trap weight is pulling on the rope. The trawl with 7 ftm of CC was used for one full crab season, and is quite frayed, but still usable.	easiest to use Fall 202 No Spring 2 CC Fall 202 No	ouse Fall 2023: No Spring 2023: CC Fall 2024:	break more lines, creating more ghost gear in the area. That will cause problems for the whole ecosystem. Price and availability of required materials are the biggest practical	If we have to do it, everyone with lines in the water should have to follow the same regulations.
Participant 1	Brooks Links	Brooks Links: 6 links on trawl lines. 50 fathoms of line: 20 ftm sink rope, 1 ftm of CC spliced in, then 30 ftm of float rope. One trawl has 7 ftm of CC, taking the place of some regular sink rope. Trawls are 10 traps each, in 17-30 ftm of water. This is apox. 75-80 lbs per trap, 15-20 lbs of crab per trap. Plante: Tested on 2 trawl lines 50 fathoms of line: 20 ftm sink rope, 1 ftm of CC spliced in, then 30 ftm of float rope. One trawl has 7 ftm of CC, taking the place of some regular sink rope. Trawls are 10 traps each, in 17-30 ftm of water. This is apox. 75-80 lbs per trap, 15-20 lbs of crab per trap.	Spring 2022 onward	P1 found the links passed through the hauler well. Still using, no signs of wear.				
	Coastline	Tested on 1 trawl line. 50 fathoms of line: 20 ftm sink rope, 1 ftm of CC spliced in, then 30 ftm of float rope. One trawl has 7 ftm of CC, taking the place of some regular sink rope. Trawls are 10 traps each, in 17-30 ftm of water. This is apox. 75-80 lbs per trap, 15-20 lbs of crab per trap.	Spring 2022 onward	As of the fall 2023 season P1 is still using the line, and functioning well. Has a tendency to jump out of the hauler, which is a safety concern.				
	Novabraid (Finger trap)	Tested on 3 trawl lines. 50 fathoms of line: 20 ftm sink rope, 1 ftm of CC spliced in, then 30 ftm of float rope. One trawl has 7 ftm of CC, taking the place of some regular sink rope. Trawls are 10 traps each, in 17-30 ftm of water. This is apox. 75-80 lbs per trap, 15-20 lbs of crab per trap.	Spring 2022	P1 observed that one line came out on the first haul. The other 2 lines failed within 3-4 hauls. Had a specialist try to help ensure they were set up as intended, and they still couldn't hold.				
	Shippagan	Tested on 5 trawls and pairs. 50 fathoms of line: 20 ftm sink rope, 1 ftm of CC spliced in, then 30 ftm of float rope. One trawl has 7 ftm of CC, taking the place of some regular sink rope. Trawls are 10 traps each, in 17-30 ftm of water. This is apox. 75-80 lbs per trap, 15-20 lbs of crab per trap. Pairs: 20-40 ftm lines, with 0.5 ftm of CC spliced onto the join between sink and float rope.		P1 found the Shippagan rope seemed good for splicing, wear, etc. Also used with the spring loaded ropeless gear they are testing for Canadian Whale Institute, worked well.				

Participant	Gear Type	Set-up	Time used (Refers to Seasons not calendar year)	Observations	Preferred Gear	Success/Failure	Comments & Concerns	Comments for DFO
	Candy Cane (CC)	Singles: 5 lines on single traps. 20 and 30 ftm lines, spliced the CC between the float and sink rope in in a loop (see Figure 1) so that the regular line acts as a safety.	Spring 2022	CC frayed badly, came apart, and even became splintery. The CC did not part/break through the 2022 Spring season, because as it stretched out the good rope would take the strain. It didn' t break because of the safety, but failed to perform as needed.	work	Spring 2022: Yes, CC stretched and frayed Fall 2023: No	P2 is concerned about the cost for harvesters, as the rope is very expensive and can be cost- prohibitive. Additionally, having any regulations well in advance of implementation is vital, as harvesters would have to remake up to 900 lines. This is because harvesters prepare	causing problems
Participant 2	Brooks & Plante Links	5 links on singles. The link was spliced between the sinko and float ropes. Mostly 20 fathom and 30 fathom lines, same system as the CC rope.		P2 had no issues saying you get used to the sound of them going through the hauler. P2 still has 4 still on after the Fall 2023 season.	Spring 2023: No Fall 2024: No	lines for different places and depths in advance, and change out lines as needed to move traps day to day during the season.	most affected by these decisions.	
	Shippigan	5 lines on single traps. Used as sink rope on 40 ftm lines (30 ftm float rope and 10 ftm sink rope).	Fall 2023	P2 found 10ftm of this rope was very heavy. Had to adjust the type of buoy used, regular buoy would go under. Could cause loss of a trap.		NO		

Participant	Gear Type	Set-up	Time used (Refers to Seasons not calendar year)	Observations	Preferred Gear	Success/Failure	Comments & Concerns	Comments for DFO
	Candy Cane (CC)	Singles: 5 lines at 10 ftm, with the CC used in place of sink rope. 5 lines at 15 ftm, with the CC used in place of sink rope. 5 lines at 20 ftm, with the CC used in place of sink rope.	Spring 2022 onward	P3 still uses some, most have knotted up and stretched too much. Also does not splice well, due to the very soft lay. CC was generally better when used in very shallow water.	Link, Longer lasting	Spring 2022: Novabraid Candy Cane Fall 2023: N/A Spring 2023:	P3 is concerned about extra time and effort preparing ropes and splicing lines, as there is already a significant amount of time spent on preparation and repair. P3 is concerned that older harvesters will have a hard time adjusting. Additionally, P3 noted the variety of different fishing conditions and typical setups across our LFA, highlighting that any general rule will negatively affect at least some of our harvesters.	N/A
Participant 3	Brooks & Plante Links	P3 started with 5 links on different lengths of line, and added more each season. P3 had 20 links on by Fall, 2023. Singles: 5 lines at 10 ftm, spliced onto the join between sink and float rope 5 lines at 15 ftm, spliced onto the join between sink and float rope 5 lines at 20 ftm, spliced onto the join between sink and float rope 5 lines at 30 ftm, spliced onto the join between sink and float rope	Spring 2022 onward	P3 tested only in shallow water, but the links worked well.		N/A Fall 2024: N/A		
	Coastline	Single: 2 lines at 20 ftm, spliced on to join between sink and float rope	Spring 2022 onward	P3 did not see any structural issues over 3 seasons. The stitching is still strong, though the rubber cover has worn off significantly				
	Novabraid (Finger trap)	Singles: 2 lines at 15 ftm, spliced on to join between sink and float rope	Spring 2022	P3 lost these traps several times, but was able to retrieve them and continue trialling due to the shallow water. The Novabraid gear is only designed to work when the strain direction is predictable, so if the trap or line are tangled in anything else, the finger trap slides off. P3 retains one Novabraid line, that he sometimes uses in very shallow clear water, with the expectation that he will need to grapple the trap to retrieve it after the equipment fails.				
	Everson	Singles: 5 lines at 30 ftm, with the Everson used as sink rope	Fall, 2023	P3 reported no issues				

Participant	Gear Type	Set-up	Time used (Refers to Seasons not calendar year)	Observations	Preferred Gear	Success/Failure	Comments & Concerns	Comments for DFO
	Candy Cane (CC)	Singles: 3 lines on single traps. 15 ftm line, with 6 ftm CC as sink rope, 2 lines on a single trap. 20 ftm line, with 1 ftm CC spliced between the float and sink ropes, 1 line on a single trap. 20 ftm line, CC as sink rope.	Spring 2022	Spliced into the line: Wears down chafing and fraying only lasting half a season (3-4 weeks - 20 hauls) before having to replace the spliced section. Candy Cane Rope as Sink: Candy cane twisted, even with a swivel, it would need to be replaced after 3 hauls.	Link, lasts longer Novabraid Fall 2023: No Spring 2023: Yes, Coastline Fall 2024:	& of making all the lines Whale Safe when there is no decision allowing its use during whale 2023: closures. P4 is especially concerned about the cost of the products, but also noted that safety ing 2023: should always be considered during any changes.	this gear in (which is a lot of cost and effort), it is supposed to be safe for whales, so shouldn't we be able	
	Brooks & Plante Links	Singles. 6 lines on single traps. 20 ftm line with the link spliced into the join between sink and float ropes.	Spring 2022 Onward	P4 reported no issues, and noted that the link passed through the hauler well.		Fall 2024:		to fish during whale closures if we are using the equipment properly?
Participant	Coastline	Singles: 2 lines on single traps. 20 ftm line, with coastline spliced between the float and sink ropes	Fall 2022 - Spring 2023	P4 expressed concern that there was not any clear way to see ware or issues before it breaks. P4 saw one coastline begin to come apart in May 2023, and took all of the lines off to prevent losing gear. Additionally, P4 noted concerns about the price of the product.				
4	Novabraid (Finger trap)	Singles: 2 lines on single traps. 20 ftm line, with sleeve spliced between the float and sink ropes	Spring 2022	P4 cut the Novabraid to allow for splicing and it frayed badly. As a result, P4 had to replace the Novabraid.				
	Shippagan	Singles: 8 lines on single traps. 20 ftm line, with 1 ftm Shippagan spliced between the float and sink ropes 1 line on a single trap. 20 ftm line, Shippagan as sink rope.	Spring 2022 onward	P4 reported no issues, and is still using the Shippagan lines				
	Everson	Singles: 8 lines on single traps. 20 ftm line, with everson as sink rope	Fall, 2023	P4 was able to trial the everson rope for 2 weeks before conditions changed. During that time, P4 reported that the Everson rope performed well, however by Spring 2024 the tracers had faded significantly. It is unclear if this was due to its use during the season, or being stored outdoors.				

Participant	Gear Type	Set-up	Time used (Refers to Seasons not calendar year)	Observations	Preferred Gear	Success/Failure	Comments & Concerns	Comments for DFO
Participant 5	Brooks & Plante Links	Trawls: 12 lines, on 45 ftm line, spliced on to join between sink and float rope. Links on one end of a trawl only. 12-15 trap trawls.	Spring 2022, Fall 2023	P5 did not have many issues with the links. They occasionally jumped out of the hauler, making it necessary to slow down the hauler for a few moments. These 'jerk' as they jumped out could be a safety concern for crew working close by, especially if there is extra strain on the line. P5 lost a few lines, but believes that to be due to ship traffic rather than the links.		Spring 2022: No Spring 2023: No Fall 2024:	P5 is concerned about the financial burden this additional material could place on harvesters, especially since P5 already observes colleagues reusing and fixing materials rather than buying new due to cost. In addition, P5 noted that harvesters would need lots of warning for any changes, given that many people prepare their gear months in advance of the season. From a safety perspective, P5 wants to highlight the very real danger presented by gear jumping out of the hauler. If the line jumps out, it can go over a crew member, causing injury and potentially pulling them overboard. P5 has seen a line jump out before, which is why everyone uses splicing rather than other ways of connecting lines. P5 is therefore very hesitant to add a link of any kind.	
	Shippagan	Spring 2022: Slack trawls: 2 trawls (4 lines) with shippagan as the sink rope on both end lines, 45 ftm end lines, 12-15 trap trawls 1 trawl (2 lines) with shippagan as the sink rope on both end lines, 125 ftm end line, 12-15 trap trawls. Fall 2023: Trawls: 3 trawls (6 lines) with shippagan as sink rope on both end lines, 125 ftm endlines, 25-30 trap trawls, with 125 pound anchors	Spring 2022 Onward	P5 had success with using Shippagan as sink rope in shipping lanes, as vessels did not get caught in them. However, the buoys would struggle with the weight of the rope. If there was a big tide, P5 would have to wait for slack tide to access the lines.				

Participant	Gear Type	Set-up	Time used (Refers to Seasons not calendar year)	Observations	Preferred Gear	Success/Failure	Comments & Concerns	Comments for DFO
Participant 6	Shippagan	Trawls: 10 lines as one endline on trawls. 100 ftm line, P6 used shippagan for the full 30 ftm at the top of each of the end lines, before changing to the 3/8th line for the remaining 70 ftm. Fall 2023: 8 lines as both endlines for 4 trawls. 100 ftm line, P6 used shippagan for the full 30 ftm at the top of each of the end lines, before changing to the 3/8th line for the remaining 70 ftm. P6 is slowly switching gear as he needs to replace old rope.		P6 does not report any issues. P6 has used this rope before in regular use, and what he put on is still in use. P6 notes that with weaker rope at the top of the line, care has to be used until the stronger 3/8ths rope is in the hauler. This does take additional time.		Spring 2022: No Fall 2023: No Spring 2023: No Fall 2024:		
	Candy Cane (CC)	Trawls: 4 lines as one endline on a trawl. 120 fathoms of line, with 2 ftm of CC spliced between the float and sink ropes. 6 lines as one endline on a trawl. 120 fathoms of line, with CC as the sink rope.		P7 had to replace all of the lines after 1-2 weeks, after 2 different end lines came apart in	or Shippigan, is going to keep using regardless	Spring 2022: Yes, CC only last 1-2 weeks Fall 2023: No Spring 2023: No Fall 2024:	P7 is concerned about access for supplies if the change is mandated. P7 noted that a harvester using single gear would need to equip 300 lines, which would be a significant financial burden and could cause supply issues.	If it gets mandated that everyone has to do one thing, pick the links. Otherwise, give people choice.
,	Brooks & Plante Links	Trawl: 4 lines as one endline on a trawl. 120 fathoms of line, with the link spliced between the float and sink ropes.	Fall 2023 Onward	P7 reported no issues, and notes that the links passed through the hauler well.				
	Shippagan	Trawls: 3 lines as one endline on a trawl. 120 fathoms of line, with 2 ftm of Shippingan spliced between float and sink ropes. 4 lines as one endline on a trawl. 120 fathoms of line, with the Shippigan as the sink rope.	Spring 2023 Onward	P7 reported no issues, and noted that the Shippagan as sink rope worked particularly well due to the speed that the rope sank.				

Participant	Gear Type	Set-up	Time used (Refers to Seasons not calendar year)	Observations	Preferred Gear	Success/Failure	Comments & Concerns	Comments for DFO
	Candy Cane (CC)	Singles: 6 lines on single traps. 15-30 ftm lines, with 2 feet of CC rope spliced onto the join between sink and float rope. Spliced on as a loop so that the regular rope acts as a safety line.		P8 reported that the CC line would part/break if there were extra traps on the line or the trap was snagged on the bottom. Additionally, P8 noted that the CC line was too soft to properly hold a splice. Lastly, P8 reported that after only a few hauls, the CC line had also stretched enough that the strain was on the safety line.		work at all, Shippigan worked but did not trust it. Fall 2023:	Gear due to the weak lines and links breaking more often, especially when interacting with extreme tides, currents, or snarls. P8 is worried about the effects on the environment and fishing areas if more ghost gear becomes the norm, not just on whales, but on the whole ecosystem. Additionally, P8 notes that implementing whale safe gear will add a large financial burden to harvesters, from buying the new equipment and also replacing more lost traps as lines and links give way. P8 is also concerned about the extra time required to replace or repair the lines more often, since in his case, this would change from approx. 400 lines being replaced every 3-4 years, to every calendar year if the lines were whale safe. P8 would also like to note that the weak rope or link is used part way through the line, which means if the line is long enough, the weak portion is through the hauler before the majority of the weight is on the rope. P8 is concerned that longer lines than typically necessary will be used in order to avoid	fishing just across the line in American waters, and don't
	Brooks & Plante Links	Pair: 4 links on double line. 40 ftm lines in 25 ftm water, spliced on to join between the float and sink rope, with a safety loop.	Fall 2023 onward	P8 did not report any issues		No Spring 2023: No Fall 2024:		have to follow any closures for whales. Everyone likes to be rewarded for doing
Participant 8	Shippagan	Singles: 8 lines on single traps. 40 ftm lines, with 2 feet of shippigan spliced on to the join between the float and sink rope, with a safety loop. Pairs: 4 lines on double traps. 80 ftm lines, with 2 feet of shippigan spliced on the the join between the float and sink rope, with a saftey loop.	Spring 2022 Onward	P8 noted that extra effort was needed to splice the Shippagan rope, since this rope needed 5 tucks per strand instead of 4 tucks per strand in order to hold. P8 did not have any failures, but did not trust the Shippagan line to do heavier work, and so did not trial it in the most extreme conditions (i.e. close to known snarls that would add a lot of additional weight to the line). Spring 2023 Season: P8 used less of the Shippagan rope, because the lines set up for testing were not all needed for the season. Fall 2023 Season: P8 reported that none of the lines had parted, or showed excessive signs of wear.				and we aren't getting anything good for doing our part. Try to put us on a level playing field! Because we are neighbors with the US side, we see the difference more clearly, and even this past fall it affected crab harvesters in our area.

Participant	Gear Type	Set-up	Time used (Refers to Seasons not calendar year)	Observations	Preferred Gear	Success/Failure	Comments & Concerns	Comments for DFO
	Candy Cane (CC)	Single line: 1 line on a single trap. 40 ftm of line, all CC Single line: 1 line on a single trap. 40 ftm of line, 1.5 ftm of CC line spliced between the sink and float rope, with a safety loop	Spring 2022	CC as the full line: P9 reported that the CC chafed significantly, and could only be hauled 6-7 times before the line had to be replaced. CC spliced in: P9 reported that the CC splice stretched quickly, resulting in the safety line taking the strain. P9 noted that the loop would chafe significantly, even when the strain of the load was on the regular line, so that the CC splice had to be removed after only a few hauls. Additionally, P9 had concerns about how the CC line did not hold a splice as well as a regular line.	Shippigan or Everson	work at all, Fall 2023: No Spring 2023: Yes, Coastline, lost a trap Fall 2024:"	P9 is concerned about the financial burden this would place on harvesters, especially with catches becoming less consistent season to season. P9 believes any mandatory use of Whale Safe Rope should be subsidised, especially because the cost would make individual Owner Operators struggle, and create another advantage for large companies. Additionally, P9 believes that the Whale Safe Rope is not the best solution for protecting whales in our area, especially with so few whale entanglements reported with rope from	This won't protect the whales, and is contributing to ruining the fishery.
Participant 9	Brooks & Plante Links	Single: 1 line on a single trap, 40-50 ftm, with the link spliced between the float and sink rope Double: 1 line on a double trap, 40-50 ftm, with the link spliced between the float and sink rope	Fall 2023 onward	P9 reported no issues			our area.	
	Coastline	Single: 1 line on a large (60 Ib) single trap. 60 ftm line, with the coastline spliced between the float and sink rope.	Fall 2023	P9 reported no issues in the initial season (fall, 2023). However, P9 reported that one month into the spring 2023 season, the coastline failed with no warning. P9 was able to haul the line almost to the splice between float and sink rope before the line broke and the trap was lost.				
	Everson	Singles: 2 lines on single traps. 20 ftm lines, with the Everson as sink rope	Spring 2023 onward	P9 reported no issues, but highlighted that it was a short trial since P9 began using the Everson near the end of the season.				
	Shippagan	Singles & Doubles: 10 lines used on single and double traps.15-60 fathom lines. Shippigan was used as sink rope.	Fall 2023 onward	P9 reported no issues				

Participant	Gear Type	Set-up	Time used (Refers to Seasons not calendar year)	Observations	Preferred Gear	Success/Failure	Comments & Concerns	Comments for DFO
Participant 10	Shippagan	Doubles: 3 lines on doubles, 50 ftm lines, shippagan used as sink rope 2 lines on doubles, 80 ftm line, shippagan used as sink rope Trawls: 2 lines as one endline on trawls, 55 ftm line, shippigan used as sink rope Spring 2023 Singles: 2 single lines, 25 ftm lines, shippagan used as sink rope 2 single lines, 15 ftm lines, shippagan used as sink rope Trawl: 1 trawl line, 100 ftm line, shippigan used as sink rope	Fall 2022 ongoing	P10 found that the Shippagan spliced well but would come untwisted easily. P10 typically uses medium lay, this is soft lay. P10 therefore avoided areas where snarls are common, as the untwisted rope is weaker. Additionally, P10 noted that the size of the rope held the tide significantly and would pull a typical buoy under. Usually P10 uses 11/32'' rope so that it doesn't take long to come up if the tide pulls the buoy under. The Shippagan line would stay down an extra 5-10 minutes, so P10 could miss the gear and have moved on to the next spot before the buoy came up. This is especially problematic because harvesters need to keep moving to get to the next trap/trawl before the tide starts coming back up in areas with lots of tide. P10 has to plan to haul his gear at specific points of tide in order to retrieve his lines. Using the Shippagan often added time while P10 searched for gear. Lastly, P10 noted some extra chaffing on some of the Shippagan lines compared to what would be expected on a normal sink rope.	Shippagan	Spring 2022: No Fall 2023: No Spring 2023: No Fall 2024:		
Participant 11	Candy Cane (CC)	Singles: 5 lines on single traps. 20 and 30 ftm lines, 1 ftm of CC spliced between the float and sink rope, with safety loop	Spring 2022	P11 found that the CC frayed after only a few hauls. P11 did a big enough loop, one stretched until it parted (broke), the rest they cut out after 8-10 hauls because of how frayed and messed up it was. It was also a bit hard to get the loop through the hauler. Splicing it didn't matter as much because it didn't burn well. P11 burns the strands as they splice so it stays together.	well and	Spring 2022: Yes, CC Fall 2023: No Spring 2023: No Fall 2024:	P11 is concerned about the harvester's perception of Whale Safe Gear, recommending education in advance of any changes. P11 believes that changes are difficult for harvesters, for example needing to add colours to the lines was a large shift, but now it is normal. P11 believes that if the links were to be used, the cost may not be as much of an issue as some believe, since they seem to last and are not as expensive individually.	If it keeps the market open, it's worth doing, even if it means jumping through more hoops.
	Brooks & Plante Links	Singles: 5 lines on single traps. 20-50 ftm lines, spliced on the join between float and sink rope. Fall 2023 Season: 10 additional lines, for a new total of 15 lines on single traps. 20-50 ftm lines, spliced on the join between float and sink rope.	Spring 2022 onward	P11 reported that the links performed well, and went through the hauler without issue.				
	Shippagan	Singles: 5 lines on single traps. 20-30 ftm lines, used as sink rope	Spring 2022 onward	P11 reported no issues, noting that the Shippagan line acted as regular rope.				

Participant	Gear Type	Set-up	Time used (Refers to Seasons not calendar year)	Observations	Preferred Gear	Success/Failure	Comments & Concerns	Comments for DFO
Participant	Candy Cane (CC)	Singles: 6 lines on single traps. 70 ftm lines with 4 ftm of CC spliced in 53 ftm down (3/4 of the way down), with a safety loop.	Spring 2022	P12 reported that the CC line unravelled, and each strand unravelled until it resembled a mouse nest. To maintain integrity, the ends of the rope are typically melted slightly to prevent unravelling when cut. P12 reported that the CC line would not melt easily for splicing. Additionally, P12 reported that the CC line did not pass through the hauler smoothly. After 5-6 hauls, the CC line had to be discarded.	Links, best and easiest to replace		P12 noted that harvesters would need significant amounts of time to convert gear. P12 uses all singles in the spring, and prepares approximately 600 lines in advance of the season. Adding two extra splices to each line to put in a piece of whale safe rope or link adds 1200 splices that have to be done by hand, monitored, and repaired if needed. P12 estimates that harvesters would need at least a full year of warning to accommodate any changes. Additionally, P12 is concerned about using sink rope on the bottom of a line, which has been suggested to make the waters more whale safe. P12 noted that there would be significantly more wear and chaffing if the line rubs against the bottom. P12 is concerned that if the line is consistently caught on the bottom, there will be more strain on ropes, and more lines breaking.	Never seen any whales above Saint John. I'm in shallow water, and I don't know why it's needed here.
1		Spring 2022 Season: 6 lines on single traps 70 ftm lines with link spliced in 53 ftm down (3/4 of the way down), with a safety loop. Fall 2022 Season: 6 line 100 ftm line with 15 trap trawl, 40-80lb anchors, with link spliced in 75 ftm down Fall 2023 Season: 1 line 100 ftm line with 15 trap trawl, 40-80 lb anchors, with link spliced in 75 ftm down	Spring 2022 - Fall 2023	Spring 2022 Season: P12 reported no issues, and removed gear from his lines after the season was over. Fall 2022 Season: P12 tested the strength of one link by tethering it to the wharf and pulling it with a hauler. The 7/16 inch line P12 used broke before the link. P12 had to use a 1/2 inch line to break the link. Fall 2023 Season: One link was left on the line, and P12 used it through the season. The link stretched out, but didn't break.				
	Shippagan	Spring 2022, Singles: 6 lines on single traps. 70 ftm lines with 4 ftm of shippagan spliced in 53 ftm down (3/4 of the way down), with a safety loop. Fall 2022, Trawls: 6 lines as one endline on a trawl. 100 ftm lines, 15 trap trawls, 40 or 80 lb anchors. 4 ftm of shippagan spliced in 75 ftm down (3/4 of the way down), with a safety loop.	Spring 2022 - Fall 2022	P12 reported no issues, and removed gear from his lines after each season was over.				