

Fish = hooks, knives, glue, lures, fire-starter

"In a survival situation, any tool at all is a good one. A knife, rope, container or some kind of digging implement are all tools that if you have them or can make them, you will better your chances at surviving in the wilderness. An often overlooked, yet veritable storehouse of supplies is any game animal or fish you may be lucky enough to catch. Bones from a fish, and in particular the jawbones, make great fishhooks. They can be broken or ground down easily into the classic hook shape or primitive double pointed straight shape. From a big enough fish, they can even be ground against a rock and turned into a surprisingly sharp cutting edge.

Although they make a great stew, keep some of the guts as fish bait in a survival situation, as sometimes it can be a good idea to sacrifice a thicker fish stew for the chance at catching even more. The tail and teeth can also be turned into a lure. The skin of most fish is very oily. If you were to boil it down to a thick consistency and add a bit of ash or as well some spruce pitch (the sap that oozes out on the tree trunk and forms crystal like blobs) you will end up with a surprisingly strong glue that you can use for any number of survival aids. Don't overlook the fish scales, which are often still oily enough to aid in giving your small inside-your-shelter fire a little boost of fuel in the dead of night when the flame flickers low. Finally, we are all so accustomed to cutting out the choice fillet in the catch of the day. In a survival emergency all parts of the fish are usable and edible with the exception of the bowl effluent. Yet even this little bit of fish shouldn't be wasted, as it will make great bait for a land trap or deadfall. A little bit of fish offal squished onto the end of a figure four deadfall, equals a mouse kabob"