CLAIMS

1 . A grappling assembly for use with an entangling projectile, the grappling assembly comprising:

at least one hook including an apex portion and a sharpened prong extending distally from the apex portion; and

a protective cover, carried adjacent the apex portion of the at least one hook, the protective cover including at least one substantially planar surface;

the protective cover positioned relative to the at least one hook such that the sharpened prong of the at least one hook extends distally from the protective cover and thereby remains exposed while the protective cover is carried adjacent the apex portion of the at least one hook.

2. The assembly of claim 1 , wherein the protective cover is attachable to, coupleable to or formed integrally with the at least one hook.

3. The assembly of claim 1~~2~~, wherein the protective cover is ~~removably attachable to~~ formed integrally with the at least one hook.

4. The assembly of claim 1 , further comprising a plurality of hooks, each of the plurality of hooks having an apex portion, the plurality of apex portions collectively carrying the protective cover.

5. The assembly of claim 4, wherein each of the plurality of hooks includes a shank portion, extending distally from the apex portion, the shank portions collectively defining at least one receiving chamber, and wherein the protective cover includes a shank portion, the shank portion of the protective cover being receivable within the at least one receiving chamber formed by the shank portions.

6. The assembly of claim 4, wherein the protective cover includes a plurality of receiving slots formed therein, each receiving slot being operable to receive therein an apex portion of one of the plurality of hooks.

7. The assembly of claim 6 wherein the receiving slots include one or more retaining clips associated therewith, the retaining clips operable to removably secure the apex portion within the receiving slot.

8. The assembly of claim 1 , wherein the at least one hook has a cross-sectional area at the apex portion, and wherein the substantially planar section of the protective cover includes a cross-sectional area greater than the cross-sectional area of the apex portion of the at least one hook.

9. The assembly of claim 1 , wherein the at least one hook has a hook curvature, and wherein the substantially planar section of the protective cover includes a cover curvature differing from the hook curvature.

10. The assembly of claim 1 , wherein the substantially planar section of the protective cover is a flat plane.

11 . The assembly of claim 1 , further comprising ~~a pellet~~ an anchor coupled to a tether, the at least one hook coupled to the ~~pellet~~ anchor.

12. A method of providing a protective covering to a grappling assembly that includes a plurality of hooks, each of the plurality of hooks having an apex portion and a sharpened prong extending distally from the apex portion, the method comprising:

obtaining a protective cover, the protective cover including at least one substantially continuous surface;

positioning the protective cover relative to the apex portions of the plurality of hooks such that the sharpened prongs of the plurality of hooks extend distally from the protective cover and thereby remain exposed while the protective cover is carried by the plurality of hooks; and

fixing the protective cover in position relative to the plurality of hooks.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein fixing the protective cover in position comprises removably attaching the protective cover in position relative to the apex portions of the plurality of hooks.

14. The method of claim 12, wherein the plurality of hooks collectively present a cross-sectional area at the apex portion, and wherein the substantially continuous surface of the protective cover includes a cross-sectional area greater than the collective cross-sectional area of the apex portions of the hooks.

15. The method of claim 12, wherein the substantially continuous surface of the protective cover includes a substantially planar, flat surface.