bubo can be 160 centimeters in length and 113 centimeters in diameter and is provided with nine small, rounded entries leading to funnel-shaped entrapments. A hefty catch can be as much as 10-12 kilos.

The barekbek is an all-bamboo fish trap in river streams set as a group (such as in threes or fives) with their openings towards the downflow of the river currents. A barekbek approximates the shape of the bubo but it is much smaller. It measures 43 centimeters in length from base to tip and 35 centimeters in diameter. The barekbek is made of sturdier bamboo strips that are a centimeter in width and woven around a framework of slightly thicker strips. Inside is a pair of funnels: one near the entrance opening at the base and the other at the opposite end near the tip. Dried fermented rice balls are placed inside the funnels as bait. According to fisherfolk, the sour smell of the spoiled fermented rice attracts all types of riverine edible creatures. The barekbek is sure to catch river shrimps, crabs, all kinds of freshwater fishes and eels.

A most formidable fish trap also of kawayan is the pamurakan which is shaped like a giant hammock or almost like a halved giant cocoon measuring 2.5 meters in length and 2.3 meters in diameter. Its body is of sturdy make as its outer horizontal bottom is fortified with a pair of crossed bamboo slats and the surrounding rim-opening firmed up by whole rattan lining. It is of impressive make because of the even spacing of bamboo slatted weaving and perfect symmetry of form. This is important as it is half submerged under brackish water usually with its bottom side up, for at least a month. Underneath are piles of twigs and leafy branches where fishes, crustaceans and other riverine life take shelter during the hot summer months. After a month or two, a couple of fisherfolk, oftentimes a husband and wife team, go into the waters and with their bare hands, deftly flip the pamurakan in one concerted swipe so that the open side is now turned upwards, above the water, and scooping along with it not just the twigs and bundled sticks but more importantly, the fishes and crustaceans that sheltered in them.

The bamboo fish traps are sturdy and durable. The bubo, pamurakan and the barekbek can last for a decade, as long as they are hung to dry under the shade immediately after use or kept under the kitchen roof for constant smoking during the months that they are not in use.

KALINGA, KALINGA PROVINCE, NORTHERN LUZON ISLAND, NORTHERN PHILIPPINES. Broom weaving is known as saked among the Kalinga in the town of Lubuagan, formerly the epicenter of Kalinga culture. This activity is purely a male occupation.

THE TALAGADAW (broom) is woven from bamboo, uway (rattan) and wild reeds gathered from the nearby mountain and fields during April to July by men, often accompanied by male children. This is woven at any time and any day except Sunday, which is a day of rest.

When the stalks of wild reeds (sagad) begin to mature, these are gathered from the open fields and brought to the house in bundles. The reeds are properly selected; those that are not mature yet are discarded. These are dried in open air and then set aside for a time. About seventy pieces of reed stalks are bundled together to be used as the “sweeping” part of the broom. The bundle is arranged to spread out flat, then attached to a piece of thin T-shaped piece of bamboo. The flattened bundle is then interlaced and woven, evenly distributing the individual reeds to spread out, fan-like. A flat cord and uway are used in weaving from 90 centimeters below the connection from the main stem. The main stem, consisting of layers of reeds of about 15 inches (two changga) long, which will serve as the handle, is tied together cylindrically. Five layers of laga (weave) in a one-under-one-over technique are done covering the entire handle. The pakaw (woven cord) is attached to the upper tip of the handle to serve as hook for hanging.