

# Commercial fishing emergency checklist for family and friends of fishermen

Angela Sanfilippo, president of the Gloucester Fishermen's Wives Association, and Ann Backus, director of Outreach for the Department of Environmental Health of the Harvard School of Public Health, prepared this checklist of emergency information. It was adapted from the original checklist developed by Richard Hiscock for the Chatham, MA Harbormaster Department in the 1970s, and then published by the First Coast Guard District in the Fisherman's Digest in 1983.

By completing this checklist, all of the information about a fishing operation that is needed by rescuers in an emergency is readily available.


Fishermen:


Fill out the checklist completely and leave it with a responsible person ashore. Arrange with family members/friends a location where this checklist will be kept for easy accessibility.


Family and friends:

In the event that this vessel is "overdue," please contact the nearest Coast Guard Station and give all of this information.


The local Coast Guard Station is located in \_\_\_\_\_ and its phone number is \_\_\_\_\_.


 Name of Fisherman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Owner Captain Crew \_\_\_\_\_  
 Any known medical conditions? (please list) \_\_\_\_\_


 Vessel Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Hull marking number (USCG Doc.# or State Reg.# or other) \_\_\_\_\_


 Family member/person to call in emergency \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_

 Owner (if different) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_

 Skipper/Operator (if different) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Usual number of crew on board (including skipper) \_\_\_\_\_

 Description of Vessel (*attach picture of vessel*)  
 Type of Vessel (see below) \_\_\_\_\_ Year built \_\_\_\_\_  
 Length Overall (LOA) \_\_\_\_\_ feet Main Color \_\_\_\_\_  
 Construction (see below) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Power \_\_\_\_\_ HP Fuel \_\_\_\_\_ Engine \_\_\_\_\_  
 Draft \_\_\_\_\_ feet Special features \_\_\_\_\_

 Type of Fishing (see below) \_\_\_\_\_

 Communication and Navigation  
 VHF Radio Yes No Is it in working order? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Frequencies monitored \_\_\_\_\_  
 Handheld VHF Yes No Is it in working order? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Single Side Band Yes No Is it in working order? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Frequencies monitored \_\_\_\_\_  
 CB Radio Yes No Is it in working order? \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cell Phone Yes No Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Note: A cell phone is not a reliable means of communication on the ocean.)  
 Satellite Phone Yes No Number \_\_\_\_\_

Check which of the following equipment **is** on board:

Compass RADAR LORAN Depth Finder GPS VMS



Safety and Survival Gear

EPIRB: Manual Automatic Is it registered? \_\_\_\_ Reg.# \_\_\_\_\_  
 GPIRB: Manual Automatic Is it registered? \_\_\_\_ Reg.# \_\_\_\_\_  
 Life Raft: Type \_\_\_\_\_ Manufacturer/Make \_\_\_\_\_  
 Color \_\_\_\_\_ Canopy? Yes No Color of Canopy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Capacity/Number of persons \_\_\_\_\_ Date last inspected \_\_\_\_\_



First Aid Kit on board vessel Yes No  
 Does a crew member have First Aid training? Yes No



Emergency Food and Water Onboard vessel Yes No  
 Onboard life raft Yes No



Readily Accessible Gear	Type	Quantity
Survival suits	_____	_____
Life jackets	_____	_____
Flares (gun) (not expired)	_____	_____
Hand-held flares (not expired)	_____	_____
Smoke signals	_____	_____
Dye	_____	_____
Fire extinguisher (charged)	_____	_____
Mirror (can be metal)	_____	_____
Spotlight/MOB Light	_____	_____
Ring buoy (marked) and rope	_____	_____
Personal EPIRBs or GPIRBs (circle whether EPIRB or GPIRB)	_____	_____



Other Safety Equipment (check all that are present onboard)  
 Anchor: Size/Type \_\_\_\_\_ Length of Rope/Chain \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bilge pumps (electric): Number \_\_\_\_\_ Total gallons/hour \_\_\_\_\_

Alarms in working order: Engine Bilge Fire  
 Fire suppression system in engine room



U.S. Coast Guard Dockside Exam? Yes No Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 U.S. Coast Guard Sticker? Yes No Date \_\_\_\_\_

✓ I have had a recent orientation to the vessel. Yes No  
 ✓ I have tried on my survival suit recently AND KNOW IT FITS. Yes No  
 ✓ My survival suit is stored on deck or in the pilot house,  
 NOT below deck. Yes No  
 ✓ In an emergency I could pilot the vessel. Yes No

**NEED HELP?**  
 If you have trouble with this form or its format  
 please contact CFN at 1-800-989-5253 for a  
**FREE full size printed copy.**

*Suggestions/choices for above categories under Description of Vessel*

**Type of Vessel:** Skiff/Open, Center-console, Cuddy-cabin, Eastern rig, Trawler, Western rig (house forward), Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Construction:** Wood, Fiberglass, Steel, Aluminum, Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Power:** \_\_\_\_\_ Horse power (HP); **Fuel:** Gasoline, Diesel; **Engine:** Inboard, Outboard, Inboard/Outboard

**Type of Fishing:** put down all that apply. Jig, Longline, Gillnet, Pot (trap), Drag, Trawl, Scottish Seine, Trolling, Other \_\_\_\_\_