01/01/21

Vessel name

Trip ID

Hull number

Date landed (MM/DD/YYYY)

◻ / ◻ / ◻

Northeast Fisheries Science Center, Fisheries Sampling Branch
PRE TRIP VESSEL SAFETY CHECKLIST (PTVSC)
For each safety item shade ■ in the appropriate box.
Y = yes, N = no, NR = not required

It is **MANDATORY** that all safety items on board a fishing vessel that are highlighted in **BOLD** print be current (not expired) in order for an observer to deploy on a trip.

Please comment on any safety or stability related issues in the provided spaces on the back of the PTVSC

Y   N   NR

◻   ◻   **Vessel Orientation**

◻   ◻   **Current USCG Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety Examination Decal**
*Required for all vessels carrying an observer on board
Safety Decal Number _____   Expiration ____ (MM/YY)

◻   ◻   ◻   **Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB)**
*Required for all vessels operating beyond 3 miles
Hydrostatic release service expiration ____ (MM/YY)
Battery expiration ____ (MM/YY)

◻   ◻   Does the alphanumeric code (UIN) on the NOAA SARSAT decal match the UIN code on EPIRB?

◻   ◻   Is the EPIRB registered to the vessel or vessel owner? Expiration ____ (MM/YY)

◻   ◻   ◻   **Life raft(s)**
*Not required for vessels within 12 mi. of coast, ≤ 3 people and length <36'.

Hydrostatic release service expiration ____ (MM/YY)

Raft service (repack) expiration ____ (MM/YY)

Capacity ◻

◻   ◻   ◻   Is the life raft configured correctly? See back of sheet for figure of the hydrostatic release

◻   ◻   **Immersion suits and personal flotation devices**
*PFDs are required to be worn by the observer while out on deck
Are there enough for everyone on board? Keep yours easily accessible.

◻   ◻   ◻   **Life rings**
Vessels <26' = cushion, >26' = 1 life ring buoy, >65' = 3 life ring buoys

◻   ◻   ◻   **Fire extinguishers**
*Not required for vessels <26' with outboard motor(s) and portable fuel tanks

◻   ◻   **Emergency signaling flares** *Check expiration dates
<3mi. = night light and smoke or 3 day/night flares; >3mi. = 3 parachute, 6 hand held, 3 smoke

◻   ◻   First aid material

◻   ◻   Radio(s)

◻   ◻   Were there any stability concerns/issues, either because of behavior or vessel design, during this trip? ***See back of sheet for examples. If yes, please comment.**

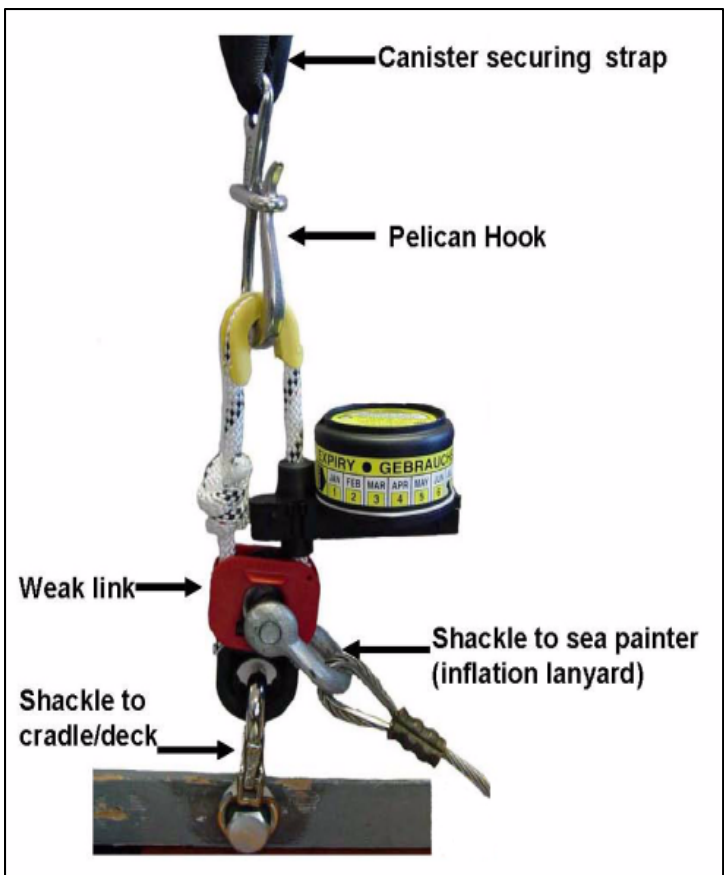◻   ◻   Did you provide any additional comments?

The following is a suggested list of examples that you should check or consider while doing a vessel walk through. They are listed here to assist you in determining the relative safety of a particular vessel. A more comprehensive list is detailed in the program manual.

- Note potentially hazardous areas/conditions (e.g. winches, overhead wires, rusted or worn shackles and blocks, combustible items, exposed exhaust pipes/manifolds, drive chains, pulleys or belts)
- Visualize egress routes for all possible emergency scenarios (fire, flooding, dark, capsizing) and mentally note landmarks
- Is the life raft and EPRIB located in a float free area? Would you be able to access these items if conditions were icy or the wheelhouse was on fire?
- Is there a station bill posted and is your role clear during all shipboard emergencies?
- Discuss with the captain if safety drills are conducted on this vessel? (May include fire, flooding, abandon ship, etc.) Will one be conducted when you are on board?

The following are examples of things to consider related to the vessel design or fishing practices which may compromise vessel stability.

- Note the roll period of the vessel (quick, snappy roll is more stable than a slow or sluggish roll)
- Does the vessel list excessively?
- Do the fishing practices involve a pattern of towing heavy bags or dumping the catch to one side of the vessel?

Safety Comments

Stability comments

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU CHECKED *YOUR* PERSONAL SAFETY EQUIPMENT?

Check the appropriate box for the method that was used to verify EPIRB expiration dates:

☐ I visually inspected the EPIRB; Record EVIC information below if one was issued

EVIC number ☐☐☐☐☐   Date issued ☐☐☐☐ (MM/YY)

☐ I used a previously issued EVIC; Record EVIC information below

EVIC number ☐☐☐☐☐   Date issued ☐☐☐☐ (MM/YY)

☐ I used approved USCG documentation that was issued within the last 90 days (comments & expiration dates required)

Signature _____   Date _____