



Fishing Safety Success Story: Man, This Could Be It

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Lobstermen have the highest number of fatal falls overboard among commercial fishermen in the Northeast U.S. from 2010-2014. NONE of the victims were wearing a personal flotation device (PFD) when they drowned. In the fall of 2016, Gerry fell overboard while mooring his lobster boat; he wasn't wearing a PFD. Water filled his oilskins and he was unable to re-board his boat. He struggled in the water for 15 minutes before being rescued by his brother. He's now a vocal advocate for the necessity of PFDs when working on or around the water. Find your flotation at <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/fishing/pfds.html>

[View this video](#)  on the NIOSH YouTube channel.

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More Fishing Safety Success Stories:

My Life Vest Saved Me

DHHS (NIOSH) PUBLICATION NUMBER 2018-107D
Stan fell overboard setting pots at the start of Dungeness crab season in Oregon, his story has a different ending because he was wearing his PFD.

I Reached Over and Hit the E-Stop

DHHS (NIOSH) PUBLICATION NUMBER 2018-153
Pat and his crew used an emergency stop (E-Stop) on their deck winch to prevent an injury to one of their deckhands while salmon seining in Alaska.

The More You Wear It, The Better Off You Are

DHHS (NIOSH) PUBLICATION NUMBER 2019-164
In November of 2016, Tyler was working as a sternman on his dad's lobster boat when he was knocked overboard by a trap they were setting.

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