



16714
Revised December 2014

EXEMPTION REQUEST FORMAT

In order to request an exemption from a specific commercial fishing vessel safety requirement, you will need to provide the following information. This will allow the Coast Guard to make an informative decision on your request.

- a. Name, mailing address and phone number of owner/applicant.
- b. Vessel name and official number.
- c. Size of vessel.
- d. Type of fishery.
- e. Detailed location of operation: include distance offshore, transiting area, ADF&G area, geographical reference etc. This must be specific; "Southeast Alaska" is not sufficient.
- f. Dates of the fishery (example: June to October).
- g. Predominant weather conditions during fishery and weather conditions you are willing to fish and transit in.
- h. Total number of people on board your vessel. This includes yourself and any crew.
- i. Safety equipment on board the vessel such as personal flotation devices (immersion suits), radios, EPIRB(s), firefighting equipment, etc. You must explain in detail what equipment is carried.
- j. If you are requesting an exemption for survival craft, describe what alternative device will be used (example: Avon double chambered device, aluminum skiff, etc.). **Exemptions are not granted if the device is an inflatable more than 15 years old.**
- k. Provide the following for the device: a photo, hull identification number, length, number of people and how many pounds it is rated for, manufacturer, and manufacturer date.
 - The device must be marked with the name of your vessel and retroreflective tape (8" x 4" strips) must be affixed on the bow, the stern, and both sides so that the tape can be seen from the air.
- l. Explain how you launch the alternate device.
- m. Photos of your vessel and fishery operation.
- n. Other information which describes your operation.
- o. Details of the exemption requested and why request is being made.

Although a number of factors are considered **there must also be a good reason for granting the exemption** and the safety of the vessel and those on board will not be adversely affected. Therefore, the request for exemption must explain **why** the exemption is requested and **how** vessel and crew safety will be enhanced if the exemption is granted.

Once you have gathered the above information, please send it to this office at the address indicated above. Upon receipt, your request will be reviewed and if additional information is needed, we will contact you. Please provide as detailed information as possible in order for us to make the determination to either grant or deny your request. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Sincerely,

SCOTT WILWERT
Fishing Vessel Safety Coordinator
U.S. Coast Guard
By Direction