



DF-030

A video made

with the lobster fishers of the Magdalen Islands and the Gaspé

REFERENCE DOCUMENT

For the purposes of training, guidance and discussion, this document summarizes the preventive knowledge and strategies dealt with in the video.

The Main Strategies for Preventing Falls Overboard...



when the traps are loaded

- Assign the loading of the traps to the person who will drop them
- Determine and respect the order in which the traps will be set
- Arrange the ropes to avoid the risk of being dragged when the traps are dropped
- Place the buoys for each trawl in the right place
- Adapt the height of the load of traps to the weather conditions
- Respect the limitations specified in the stability booklet for the number of traps and the height of the load
- Provide enough space for the person who drops the first trawls



when the traps are initially set

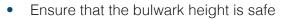
- Add an extra deckhand if space permits
- Ensure that the person who drops the traps is the one who loaded them
- Agree on the method of setting the traps and adapt it to the weather conditions
- Slow down the speed of the lobster boat
- Stay clear of the ropes



when the buoy is snared

- Stop and position the boat properly
- Have the right sized gaff adapted to the boat
- Let go of the gaff if there is too much resistance
- Ensure that the bulwark height is safe
- Store the gaff safely and accessibly
- Communicate with and be seen by the captain





- Avoid leaning too far out of the boat
- Use the fixed structure of the hauler as support if needed
- Position the hauler controls to minimize the risk of getting caught in the sheaves
- Promote the installation of a hauler that will reduce effort
- Manage the lines at the foot of the hauler in order to work with the feet firmly planted on the deck
- Set up the trap table to ensure the traps are stable
- Set up the trap table to provide easy access to the catch and the bait
- Install non-slip material on the table



when the traps are reset

- Slow down the speed of the lobster boat
- Place the ropes on the trap table
- Avoid working with feet on the ropes.
- Communicate with and be seen by the captain
- Keep the deck clean and uncluttered



when the trawls are shifted in the fishing area

- Avoid shifting trawls when the weather is bad
- Only take on the number of trawls that space permits
- Keep the ropes away from the fishers' feet
- Ideally, place the traps on the washboard or the table before dropping them



on the deck

- Regularly clean the work surfaces
- Use non-skid material or mats
- Attach or anchor equipment (live tanks, totes, sorting tables)
- Always remain vigilant



THE RESEARCH

Commercial fishing is a high-risk activity. On lobster boats buffeted by the waves, fishers handle heavy traps and lengths of rope on a slippery, unstable surface, which can lead to falls overboard. The study entitled *Risk Analysis and Identification of Ways of Preventing Overboard Falls of Crew Members on Québec Lobster Boats* is the first in Québec and Canada to look into the risks of falling overboard, in addition to recording means of prevention and determining promising avenues for reducing risk.

By observing and analyzing the work performed by fishers, the researchers were able to highlight the prevention strategies and know-how developed by fishing crews that help reduce the risks of falls overboard. Some forty of these prevention strategies have been identified.

THE VIDEO

The researchers and the members of the follow-up committee chose the most effective strategies. They are featured in the video, with the goal of raising the awareness of fishers and apprentices of the prevention mechanisms implemented by those in their industry. Filmed on board fishing vessels from the Gaspé and the Magdalen Islands, the video shows fishers and deckhands performing their tasks, explaining their occupation and sharing their preventive strategies and "tricks of the trade" for avoiding falls overboard.

Watch the video

http://www.irsst.gc.ca/en/publications-tools/video/i/100281

The project was made possible through the support and expertise of the members of the research follow-up committee:

Association des pêcheurs propriétaires des Îles-de-la-Madeleine Mario Déraspe

Comité sectoriel de la main-d'œuvre des pêches maritimes
Léa Richard

Commission des normes, de l'équité, de la santé et de la sécurité du travail Michel Castonguay

Commission scolaire des Îles Donald Chiasson

École des pêches et de l'aquaculture du Québec Isabelle Jalbert

<u>Pêches et Océans Canada</u> Cédric Arseneau

Regroupement des pêcheurs professionnels de homard du sud de la Gaspésie Sylvain Arsenault

<u>Transports Canada</u> Robert Fecteau



- Centre d'innovation de l'aquaculture et des pêches du Québec, Merinov http://www.merinov.ca/fr/
- Comité permanent sur la sécurité des bateaux de pêche du Québec http://www.epag.gc.ca/cpsbp
- Commission des normes, de l'équité, de la santé et de la sécurité du travail
 Information Guide: Beaudin, B., Boulet, M.-A., Castonguay, M., Laberge, S., Paquet, B., Roussel, A., Sauvé, G., Turcotte, G. Health and Safety on Fishing Boats, Montréal, CNESST, 2008, 47 pages.

 http://www.csst.gc.ca/en/publications/Pages/DC_200_6251A.aspx
- Institut de recherche Robert-Sauvé en santé et en sécurité du travail (IRSST)
 Scientific Report: Montreuil S., Coulombe, F., Richard, J-G., Tremblay, M. Overboard Falls of Crew Members on Québec Lobster Boats: Risk Analysis and Prevention Solutions, Studies and Research Projects/Report R-869, 2014, 113 pages.

http://www.irsst.qc.ca/en/publications-tools/publication/i/100809/n/falls-crew-members-quebec-lobster-boats-risk-prevention-r-8691

To keep abreast of research regarding occupational health and safety risks on fishing boats, visit

www.irsst.qc.ca/fishing



Research team

Francis Coulombe, Merinov Jean-Guy Richard, Université Laval Sylvie Montreuil, Université Laval Michel Tremblay, Merinov

Video production IRSST

Under the supervision of

François Ouellet, IRSST Linda Savoie, IRSST

IRSST - Direction des communications et de la valorisation de la recherche

505, boul. De Maisonneuve Ouest, Montréal (Québec) H3A 3C2

Téléphone : 514 288-1551 publications@irsst.qc.ca

www.irsst.qc.ca

© Institut de recherche Robert-Sauvé en santé et en sécurité du travail APRIL 2016

Legal deposit

Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec 2016

ISBN: 978-2-89631-865-0

ISSN: 2292-9444