

Jane De Lay: I'm Jane De Lay and I'm the deckhand or the crew on the fishing boat, the *Sea Hawk*. The *Sea Hawk* is just a couple of slips down. The owner of that boat, Mike Ricketts, is fishing right now, and he's catching fish. So, he couldn't come in to see you. So, I called the (frog?). I think since I told the frog that Mike was catching fish, his deckhand came out and took it. He went fishing. So, I've been fishing since 2003. I work for the non-profit Save Our Shores, and I got to know the fishermen a lot, and they invited me to go out fishing. That was it, I was hooked. I wanted to start fishing full time at that time, but because of habitat destruction, we lost the salmon run to the Sacramento River, and then we lost them in the Clement because of the other competition for water. So, we lost those freshwater sources, and hence, we lost our salmon. The salmon couldn't take it, so they closed the salmon season just when I wanted to start fishing full time. So, I couldn't support myself, so I had to get a desk job and work the year when I wasn't crabbing. So, the boat that I worked on fishes for Dungeness crab when it's in season, and it's in season now until the end of June. Salmon, when we have a season, albacore, and rockfish. This is a live fish trap. We use this type of a gear for fishing the live fish, the rockfish. The Andrea is set up for – I don't know if she fishes crab, but she set up now for salmon trolling. It's trolling, T-R-O-L-L-I-N-G. That's really important to know the difference between trawling, which is where we have the poles and the fishing lines. Usually, we have three lines out on both sides of the boats or six lines when those poles come down, and the leaders and hooks are attached to these lines. Then they're controlled by the three gurneys here. We call them blocks, the three blocks, and then you've got the motor. I don't think he's been fishing, but we said we put the leaders with hooks on them, and then we send them out in that various steps because we have weights, fifteen-pound, twenty-five, and fifty-pound weights. That takes the lines down so that they don't get tangled up. Then you float around in the water, you go about two knots very, very slow. You hope that the salmon bite the hooks, and then you reel them in. So, this boat right now is set up for salmon fishing. We catch Chinook salmon in Central California on California or king salmon. The commercial salmon is twenty-seven inches. So, that's just about seven pounds or above. Seven, eight pounds is the average for twenty-seven-inch salmon. Certainly, as they get bigger, they get heavier. We do not catch the coho or the silver. Coho and silver are the same species, but we can't catch them here in California. We can catch them in Alaska. Any questions?

Female Speaker: Do you have family that fishes?

JD: No. So, I got into fishing because I like being outside. It's the best life in the whole world. I'm outside, I'm working really hard. I'm with the ocean. I'm catching a good product and bringing a really excellent, perfect product to the market for consumer. So, you don't get a better life than that to be out working hard on the ocean.

FS: How many boats have you got?

JD: I don't own a boat. I work on a boat. So, I have had zero. My captain has had two. He had the *Commando* before, a smaller boat, and then he has the *Sea Hawk*. *Sea Hawk* is a fiberglass boat. It's kind of like this one right here in front of us. This one looks like a fiberglass, a single haul, and it's thirty-four feet. So, it's about this size. This is larger than thirty-four feet.

FS: This is larger than thirty-four feet?

JD: Yes.

FS: How much?

JD: This is closer to forty-four.

FS: Can you swim?

JD: Yes, I can swim very well. Fortunately, I've never had to swim because I haven't fallen overboard, knock on wood. Seventy-five percent of the deaths for – because commercial fishing is the single most dangerous profession in the United States, or because of the loss of life. There are fewer fishermen, and when you lose one, it makes a bigger impact. But the majority of fishermen lose their lives when they fall overboard because they drown because of cold water shock.

FS: Do you eat the fish that you catch?

JD: Yes. It's good.

FS: What's your favorite?

JD: My favorite? I like rockfish. My daughter like salmon. You asked about my family. My daughter is fishing with me. So, when we take the boat out alone, she comes with me as my crew. So, I've had a lot of questions here. Are there any questions here? Way back?

FS: What is common and uncommon in your bycatch?

JD: The question is what is common and uncommon in bycatch? Actually, the technology and science behind fishing has gotten so good that we have very, very little bycatch. So, in the crab pots, probably we get octopi. The octopi get in there. Every now and then we'll get a rockfish that's very rare. One time we got a little nurse shark in the crab pot, and we just set him free. That was really fun. That was neat to see him come up. When we're salmon fishing, I've only caught one rockfish once, and that was because the line was too heavy. I didn't have the right length, and the line got cut down in the rocks and kind of hooked us up for a while, and I brought a rock fish up on the line. Sometimes we get the sharks on the line, and you know right away because the line starts spinning because they're trying to get off. Right here?

FS: What tools do you use to fish?

JD: What tools do I use to fish, was that the question?

FS: Yes.

JD: What tools? So, I've got my boots, I put them on first thing. I've got my rain gear. Do you guys want me to dress up? Do we have time?

Multiple Speakers: Yes.

JD: So, we're going to go salmon fishing, right? We're salmon fishing now, but I always put my boots on because they're nice and rubber. They're waterproof. They're kind of old, so they've got a hole in them. They're not that waterproof anymore. [laughter] Time for new ones. I always have my vest on. I do have a little survival kit always in my pocket. I put my rain gear on because things get pretty yucky on the deck. When you're salmon fishing, it's pretty clean, but you have to gut the fish and clean them right away, so that gets kind of messy. When you're crab fishing, my job is to bait the jar, so I'm handling the bait all the time. Then I get really stinky. My gloves because my hands I try to keep them nice. It's not that successful, but I try, and I have my gloves. Then when I go salmon fishing, I'm using the three lines. I'm using the gurneys and all the gears here, right here, and the poles because the poles, they're straight up now. But when I'm fishing, we lower them so they're not V shaped. It's not set up. I'm using my hooks and leaders and either spoons or flashers to attract the fish. When we're salmon fishing, we don't use live bait. That's just for salmon. For crab, I use a whole different set of gear. For live fish, we have the buoy with our number on it, our license number, the line and the trap and then bait.

FS: How many are in your crew when you go out?

JD: The captain usually fishes alone. So, when we go out, it's just the two of us and sometimes the dog because it's a really small boat. Roger's not fishing on the front, but his crew took the boat out alone, so it's just one man fishing. Most of the guys just go run for salmon when the boat is small enough. The big squid boats will have as many as eleven, twelve men onboard because they've got the big nets and they're working a lot. Traveling, we always try to have a minimum of two, sometimes three, because it's really dangerous.

Male Speaker: What year was the best for fishing?

JD: For me?

MS: Yes.

JD: 2003. Because in 2003, we still had the salmon season, and I got to fish every day if the weather let us, and we also had a really good crab season that year. It was an amazing crab season. I got to fish for rockfish. So, that was the best year by far. But I don't know, overall, for the whole industry, what the best year was. That's a great question.

FS: Do you sport fish?

JD: Yes, I sport fish. I like to fish, so I have my kayak and I can fish off with my kayak. My ex-husband, we used to have an inflatable, and we'd go salmon fishing all the time. He used to get halibut for us. I'm going to go over here and then over here.

MS: When you go sport fishing on your kayak, have you ever caught a bigger fish when you

were on your kayak?

JD: Not yet, but someday. I'm looking forward to that.

FS: Have you ever had any related injuries?

JD: No, knock on wood, other than just sore hands. This boat will have to go to see a boat that has a lazarette. The lazarette is the hatch in the middle and usually, the stern of the boat. That's where we access the rudder. The fuel tanks are down there and the hydraulic lines. There's a lot of stuff down in the lazarette. But if you're not watching and if somebody leaves the hatch open or you leave the hatch open and then forget, it hurts when you fall in. I fell in and hurt my shin really bad. That's the worst one, fortunately. I'm really afraid of getting hurt.

FS: So, do you fish on this boat?

JD: Not on this boat. I fish on the *Sea Hawk* and the *Sea Hawk* is fishing. He's out catching fish, so he said he couldn't come in because while he's catching, it needs to be catching because there are people who want the fish. So, when I don't go fishing with him, I can help him best by sharing about the industry with all of you and also making the calls and delivering the fish. So, he can keep bringing it in, and I can keep selling it. Lots of questions. Hello.

MS: What is your daily schedule for fishing?

JD: Daily schedule for fishing? Well, my captain's getting up about 3:34 a.m. and he's going until the fish stop catching or until something happens in the boat and he wants to come in. So, that's a long day. Sometimes he's out there until way past dark. Sometimes he keeps the boat and just anchors, and he stays out there. In crabbing, we can go in the morning and come back in the afternoon. Hello, sir.

MS: Oh, I just wanted to pass on kids between eight and sixteen that wanted to go sailing, the Monterey Peninsula Yacht Club is having a week-long sailing seminar camp every summer.

JD: You guys, thank you. Did you hear that? Thank you very much. Between eight and sixteen, the Monterey Yacht Club is having a week-long sailing camp. So, give them a call if you want to learn how to sail. Thank you.

MS: It is a club membership.

JD: Pardon?

MS: We also give a junior club membership.

JD: You get a junior club membership. See how much fun it is being down on the dock? [laughter] Thank you. Your life will change, I promise.

FS: What skills do you have to know to be really good at fishing?

JD: Wow, what skills do you have to know to be really good at fishing? Just because you're on a boat and you can get out on the ocean doesn't mean that you're a good fisherman. You'll hear the guys talk about, "So and so is a really good fisherman because he really brings it in." So, you have to be super, super observant. I think that's the number one skill I noticed about my captain, Mike, is that he'll see things that I can't. I'm just like, "What? You saw that?" He's looking at the clouds. He's looking at the color of the water. He's looking at where the birds are. He's looking at if they are fish, if he sees them skimming. He's looking for everything on the water, both what's normal and stuff that's unusual. He's looking at the depth. He's looking at the temperature. If anybody else is catching, he's keeping his eye on the ball. He's looking at what kind of gear they're using. Are they using the gold flashers or the silver flashers? So, being more observant and being really smart and able to react and be willing to have the patience and the tenacity to stick with it. That's what makes it. You have to stick and stay. You're not going to catch fish every day. He didn't catch anything yesterday. But he got up this morning and went out, and now he's fishing, and not because he's catching, Roger went out. The frog went out.

MS: How many pounds of fish can your boat carry?

JD: How many pounds? I don't know. We brought in a thousand pounds of crab once, and we were fine. We should know that question. I'll find out for you so we don't sink when we kept so many fish. That's a good one. Because we also have to consider how much fuel we have on board, the weight of the fuel. I wish you could see the block. It holds quite a few tons, actually.

FS: How has technology changed since you started commercial fishing?

JD: How has technology changed since when I started commercial fishing? I've only been fishing for, what, eight years. So, I've seen that we have a new radar now. We have a total of three radars on board. One on the back deck and two in the front. The big thing about the radar is that one of them tells us pretty much where things are. The new radar, though, tells us what the name of the boat is, how fast it's going, and what direction it's going, which is really important because the great big tanker ships, container ships, when we're out there fishing in the fog and we're out in the shipping lanes, we can't see them. They're just a dot on the radar. So, we have to really be careful to check the radar, but we don't know how fast they're coming on top of us, and we don't know which direction. So, now we know. We can get out of the way, or we can radio them. The radios improved. Certainly, the depth sounder. The depth sounder, which tells us what the bottom of the ocean floor looks like. It's either rocky or it's flat, and how much fish is in between, those two pieces. We have a new engine. The air pollution control gave us a new engine so that we wouldn't pollute so much with air quality.

FS: They gave you a new one?

JD: They did through a get a grant. So, it's not as good as the old Cummins. But apparently, it doesn't pollute, but it stalls on us. That's not fun. One here, and then one over here.

MS: What is the farthest that you can go out to sea?

JD: The farthest that we can go out to sea, we have a single haul, which means this is a single haul thirty-four-foot smaller than this fishing boat. So, we don't go more than a hundred miles. We'll go to the hundred-mile line, but the captain chooses not to go beyond that because he's scared. Don't tell him I said that. We don't go. But some of the guys can go in a bigger boat go a couple hundred miles. They usually do that when they go fishing for albacore. This turn.

FS: Is fishing stressful?

JD: Is fishing what, (chuckie-chuck?)?

Multiple Speakers: Stressful.

JD: Yes. It can be really stressful.

FS: That was quick.

JD: Because you're dealing with the ocean, and the ocean changes from moment to moment and place to place. So, just because it's like this here now, it doesn't mean it's like this outside or just fifty yards from here. Time changes, too. You're dealing with really dangerous gear, a lot of it, and you're dealing also with the boat. Then you're dealing with marine animals. So, if it all comes together, if it all works really well, that's good. If it doesn't work really well, then it can be kind of stressful. You've got to think fast. You have to be really observant what's happening, where, and what do I need to address first to stay safe and bring the fish on board. But it's the greatest job.

MS: What are those white boxes?

JD: What are the white boxes? We pay for the slips and those, we call those our dock boxes. Everybody uses them for storage. So, whatever we need to store, what we don't want to have on the boat, but we want to have close by is stored in the dock box. Then the frog has a refrigerator or ice machine, and we have one, too, but ice machines never work. They're broken all the time. So, that's one of the things that the city really could help the fishing community is by providing or helping us buy an ice machine and then helping us keep it up and parking and storage. Those are things that the city doesn't help the fishing community too much and helping us to promote fresh-caught fish off the boat.

FS: What are some of the challenges your industry is facing right now?

JD: Challenges the industry is facing, that's a lot.

FS: How about salmon, particularly?

JD: Salmon, particularly, is maintaining the habitat for the salmon because salmon right now is an endangered species. The reason it's endangered is not because of fishing. It's because of our habitat. They are freshwater fish and ocean fish. Then they return to the freshwater to spawn

and die. But our rivers, because of dams and the competition for water use, we're taking all the water out of the rivers. We're taking all of the habitat out for the baby salmon and for the older salmon. So, the species is dying on and that's the single greatest threat, I think, we have to our wild salmon is protecting their freshwater habitats. The regulations, we have to deal with the regulations. We put a lot – I didn't, not until recently – but worked really hard to put the regulations in place so that we could have a sustainable fishery. So that when you guys all decide you want to become fishermen, there are fish, and there's an industry that can support you. Because of the closure of the salmon season and because of the marine protected area and the regulations that are coming in, we've lost our infrastructure. There used to be a gear shop right here. It's not the pub. So, we don't have anywhere to get our gear. We can go up to Moss Landing or we can go Halfmoon Bay or San Francisco or buy it online from Seattle. But when you need something now, you can't get it. We ordered these fancy hooks, we thought. We couldn't see them, so we ordered them online, and they're already breaking. We used to have a processing plant here at Royal Fish, but we don't anymore. So, guess what? The squid that the guys are catching here, they ship it to China to process and package and that shipped back here so you can buy it for your bait.

FS: Wow.

JD: So, that kind of stuff is certainly the market. I didn't even touch a lot of it. Lots of questions back here. So, I'll start with you first and then with you. Is that okay?

FS: Yes. How many times do you go fishing in a month?

JD: I wish I could go every day. So, I try to make sure I get to go at least once a week for salmon season. The reason is because I have my desk job, which I have to keep because it supports me when we're not fishing. Then I had two little girls who are now leaving home, so I guess I have more time. But with salmon fishing, once you leave the dock, you could be gone all day or all week because you're going to go wherever the fish you're baiting. So, the captain called and said, he's catching, and he might follow the fish all the way up to Bodega or all the way down to Morro Bay. He'll be back next week, and you'll land his catch in Morro Bay or the closest port. So, I get to go maybe once a week. With crabbing, I can go every day. We can be up in the morning and on the gear by four or five, and we can run the whole gear, and we can be back in and time for me to go to work at nine or ten. Then I can go every day. There's another question here, and then I'll bounce back.

FS: How long does the season usually last?

JD: How long does the season usually last? This year for salmon, the commercial season started May 1st, and we get to go through the end of September. Looks like for sure the end of September and maybe a couple of weeks in October. Those might change, so we have to check fishing game website all the time. But this year, we've got a really nice season. Fishing game also tells us wet blocks. They call them districts blocks, right? Some might be closed, and some might be open at different times during those months. The crab season, crab is managed by size, sex, and season. So, only Dungeness crab is from about, legally it's November 15th to the end of June. Now, those are commercial seasons. You guys, those aren't sports season. The sports

season always opens up a little bit earlier. Rockfish depends on the species and the size and the poundage. So, we'll start, but they're usually close February, March, normally. So, it just depends on what fish you're looking for. Therefore, when you go to the restaurant and you ask for fishing, you want to order something, and the server will say, "Yes, it's Monterey Bay caught." I laugh at them, and then I say, "We've been close for five years. How can it be from Monterey Bay, right?" I don't want to be such a smart aleck, but they should know. But now, when you go to the restaurant and it should probably be Monterey Bay caught or Alaska, the coho from Alaska. But wait until it's in season before you actually order it.

FS: You were saying that if it was salmon, you will follow where they were going and you just land your fish in the closest port. Is the market value the same throughout California?

JD: Yes. We tried to be really consistent with that. So, we have the salmon council and The Salmon Stamp Program. Salmon stamp works to protect the habitat. So, we all pay a tax, five cents on every pound of salmon landed in the state. We're all divided into the associations. This is the Monterey Bay commercial fishermen's association, Morro Bay, Halfmoon Bay, San Francisco, Bodega. Then the council then sets the price. The market has a lot to do with the price. That's more complicated than we have time for. Because the big guys, Pacific Choice, you always hear about the strike from Dungeness crab, they won't go fishing. That's because the market says, "We're not going to pay more than so much a pound for your crab." The fishermen say, "We can't survive on that. We can't pay the fuel and come in on that." Because we're losing our infrastructure, we're losing all of our mom-and-pop rail seafood, train dollies, that can buy and give more variation to the price. Now, the big buyers, the Costco and wholesalers and Whole Foods, they set a price and it's certainly on supply and demand. Less fish come in for salmon, the price goes up. More fish come in, it goes down. But we have a little bit of a problem with that because they take it and they freeze it and then they keep the price low all year long. Did that answer your question?

FS: Yes.

JD: It's really complicated. I don't understand the market so much. So, I'm Jane De Lay. I'm the crew member. I work with Mike Rickettes on the *Sea Hawk*. We have the little fishing vessel *Sea Hawk* F/V stands for fishing vessel. I've got to start fishing with Mike, so my commercial license started in 2003. I've been able to renew it every year since 2003. We fish for salmon when the season is open, Dungeness crab, albacore, and the live rockfish. Sometimes we go out for Humboldt squid, pretty much anything. But those are the four main ones that we go fishing for. The boat that I fish on is smaller than this one. It's only thirty-four feet. It's a single hall like this one, just one haul, but it's made out of fiberglass. This is a fiberglass boat next door, and this is a big old wooden fishing boat. This is like when you think of the traditional boats and this is much bigger. So, that's enough about me. I'm going to open it up so you guys can ask me questions.

FS: What kind of equipment do you use?

JD: What kind of equipment I use? So, since we're salmon fishing, now we'll focus on salmon. In salmon fishing, you have to have the poles. For commercial fishing, you have to have the



lines on the poles. We have to have the gurneys or the gears that the lines are attached to and let the line out from the boat and the blocks, which are like little pulleys. The blocks for each line to bring the gear in. Then we attach what we call a leader, which is just kind of like a little clip with the fishing line and the hook. Then we either use a hoochie because we don't use bait anymore – most of us don't – or the spoon or the flasher. The spoon, the flasher, or the hoochie, that's where the hook is. That's what attracts and moves in the water and attracts the salmon. We can do about six, eight to a line. We have three lines on each boat on each side. We have the weights, usually fifteen-, twenty-five-, and fifty-pound weights. That keeps the lines at different levels, so they don't all get tangled up. It's really hard to imagine, but these lines are straight up. We lower them so that they're this shape. You can look out and see the fishing boats. They've all got this shape. The three lines going off of each side of the boat. Our boat is kind of weird because we have the lines that come down. Then we have a pull that goes forward, so we can fish off of the front of the boat, too. That goes really deep. I wish I had a spoon to show you what a hoochie, fun names, huh?

FS: Yes.

JD: Next?

FS: For how long have you been fishing?

JD: Since 2003.

FS: Why did you get into fishing?

JD: Because I loved it. Fishing, I started out in the conservation as an environmentalist for Save Our Shores. We're working to conserve the ocean and protect it from pollution and habitat protection. So, I got to go fishing with the fishermen. It was the best thing I've ever done. I found out how the fishing industry has worked really, really hard to conserve the species and conserve the ocean, take care of the ocean so that we can continue to bring a really good product to the market. So, it is a job, but that lets me be outside. It lets me work really hard. It's really honest work, and I get to bring a really good product, a fish. I get to work with the fish and ocean and everything all day long and I get to work with really nice people.

FS: Do you have any special techniques, like one of your own?

JD: Yes. Let's see. Do I have any special techniques just for me? I haven't figured that out yet. That's a great question. I'm going to think about that, and I'll come back to you. I know that my captain, his special techniques are, we asked this last group, to be really observant of everything. You have to see everything, and you have to be aware of everything. So, you have to be aware of how the gear is and the direction the wind is blowing, and the direction of the current because sometimes it's the opposite. You have to be watching the birds and the clouds, the color of the water, the temperature of the water, the temperature of the air, if there was a storm or if there wasn't a storm, if a storm is coming or if it's not coming, if it's sunny, how deep is the water, all of that. Then you have to watch what type of gear. Am I using the green hoochie or the red hoochie? Am I using the yellow spoon or the gold spoon or the bright green spoon? What are

the fish biting? So, every time we bring a fish up, we look at two things, what hoochie or spoon did it come up on and what was the color? Three things. How deep was it? Because there are stops on the line so I can tell about how deep it was. Is it a deep fish, or is it a shallow fish? Then the third, when we clean the fish because we have to clean them onboard the boat, what was in their tummies? What are the fish eating? Are they eating krill or sardines or baby squid, baby rockfish, all that, that'll help us target our fishing better. What was the temperature in the water?

FS: Is commercial fishing stressful?

JD: Yes. It's very stressful because we have to make sure that we have the boat. We have to make sure the boat is working. We have to make sure all the electronic gear is working, the radar, the depth sounder, the GPS, the radios. We have to make sure the fishing gear is correctly installed and that it's working and not tangled up. We have to make sure we have good weather. Then we have to make sure that we go out and we find the fish. Sometimes we don't find the fish. Sometimes everything goes wrong. Sometimes we run into bad weather. Sometimes we run into great weather. Sometimes we get caught in the fog. You have to always be aware of what's going on. Then you have to have a market when you come back in. You can't just have the fish there. What are you going to do with it? You have to sell it. You have to sell it for a good price, and you have to have enough fuel. Can I go back? Then I'll come back to you. Way back in the back.

MS: What is your favorite fish to eat?

JD: I love the rockfish. I like fish tacos. You get a fresh rockfish and fish tacos, grilled, that's my favorite. My daughter will eat a whole salmon by herself. She loves salmon more than anything in the world. She fishes with me. There was another question back here.

FS: What areas do you fish at?

JD: What areas do I fish at? Wherever the fish are. But I won't be so flippant with that because how do we decide where to go fishing, right? Every morning? So, I listened to the radio in terms of where did we catch yesterday, who fished all night, who anchored, where did they catch the most, and I'm going to go out there. I look at what the birds are doing. If I see birds or the direction of the wind, we'll look at the temperature of the water. Then it's just a wild guess, man. It's just a wild guess. But we can fish all up and down the California coast with the license that we have.

MS: What is your fishing limit?

JD: Fishing limit? I have to catch the salmon. There's no limit to the number of salmon that I can catch. I have to make sure they're a minimum of twenty-seven inches long, and it must be the Chinook salmon. It can't be any other kinds of salmon, only the Chinook in California.

MS: What animals do you catch in your bycatch?

JD: Not much. The tier is really targeted to catch salmon. That means that we've got the right type of attraction. We've got it moving at the right speed. Usually, between two and three knots is a good trolling speed. We have the depth and habitat. We try to stay out of the rocks in the kelp, or we might catch something else. Great question for salmon.

FS: Is there a lot of competition?

JD: Lots of competition. Less this year because the salmon fishery has been closed for the past four or five years. So, many of the guys had to sell their boats. They couldn't afford to stay in. But this year, because it was promised to be a good industry, a good fishing, a good year, a lot of the guys got back in. Competition is just you have to be in the right place at the right time so that you're catching the fish. You don't let the guy know over there that you're catching fish if you don't want to share. If it's your running partner, of course, you share. Then we have to make sure that we protect the price, so everybody works together to keep the price constant.

FS: What was your best year?

JD: The best year for me personally was 2003. That was the last year before they closed the salmon. That's when I started fishing. There's one back here.

MS: What bait are you using?

JD: We're not using bait for salmon. We're using spoons or hoochies and the flashers. For crab, we use sardines or mackerel or squid. Then we also use the squid pretty much for the rockfish too. Squid is pretty much the best one for the rockfish. Sometimes we use the sardines. Albacore, we use a spoon, the hooks.

MS: Can you swim?

JD: Yes, very, very well. Why did you ask?

MS: Because I know this fishing dude, but he doesn't know how to swim. He just wears a life jacket.

JD: So, can we go to that? I'm glad he's wearing a life jacket because now we're all required. It's no longer voluntary. We're required to have safety training and safety drills on board. We lost two fishermen in the past month because they fell overboard. It's the most dangerous industry in the United States over placement and everything because we have fewer fishermen. So, when you lose a couple of fishermen, it makes a greater impact on the fleet. But we're all recommending that we have the life jacket because if you fall overboard, you will last maybe six, ten minutes at most because of cold water shock. The boat is going with that, you can't turn around. So, they're asking us to wear life jackets. So, I'm experimenting with a life jacket because the other thing, too, about being on board with the gear is that when I'm running through of these hooks and that gear is running, it's running out, I can't have this. I have to tuck this in. I don't wear any jewelry. I wear my hat, but I keep stuff so that it won't get caught and pull me overboard, especially when I'm crabbing. I don't want to get pulled overboard with a pot. So,

I'm really careful about the rope and where my feet are. Certainly, I carry a personal EPIRB. The EPIRB sends the signal to the satellite. So, when it goes off, the Coast Guard knows where to find me if I don't sink.

[end of transcript]