

Richard C. Hiscock

Email: rch@gmavt.net / www.offsoundings.com

QUALIFICATIONS SUMMARY

- Proven skills as a marine and fishing vessel safety advocate, legislative staff and marine safety historian; marine casualty investigator; and cold-water survival instructor.
 - Experienced environmental, waterways policy advocate, and administrator.
 - Additional skills include drafting of legislation, regulations, bylaws, and the translation of complicated regulations into simple informative documents.
-

BACKGROUND / WORK EXPERIENCE

Barre Supervisory Union – Barre Town Middle and Elementary School.

Paraeducator – Fifth Grade, August 2018 – Present.

Assist and support challenged students at the Middle School level.

U.S. Marine Safety Association ([USMSA](#)), Wall Township, New Jersey

Technical Advisor, March 2012 – December 2017

Responsible for researching and developing policy and positions for the Association regarding domestic regulatory issue involving life-saving / firefighting equipment and training. Provide timely updates on all pending U.S. Coast Guard regulatory projects.

Off Sounding LLC, Vergennes, Vermont

President / Owner, 2011 – 2015

Privately held Vermont Corporation, dedicated to providing quality consulting and information services regarding vessel safety. **Specific projects include work for:**

[DNV-GL](#), Houston, Texas

Domestic Class – Fishing Vessels

Independent Consultant, December 2010 – August 2012; June 2014 to April 2015.

Assist in the development of 'rules' for the classing of commercial fishing vessel in the U.S. that are built after 1 July 2013, are over 50-feet in overall length, and operate beyond 3-nautical miles of the coast.

Communication and outreach to the fishing industry regarding the 'classing' of new vessels including discussion with industry, naval architects and shipyards about the proposed 'rules'.

Environmental Defense Fund ([EDF](#)), Washington, DC

Safety Coalition & Network Coordinator March 2013 - August 2013

Provide project management, and advice regarding a project to link fishery management and fishing safety, focusing on revisions to National Marine Fishery Service (NMFS) revisions to the guidelines for National Standard 10 of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act ([FCMA](#)).

National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)

National Occupations Research Agenda (NORA), National Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing Agenda

Member of NORA Fishing Safety Sector Council, 2009 – 2011

Provide input on national priorities for health and safety research for the fishing industry. Develop an agenda to lead the nation on high priority research areas and share information with government, academia, and safety and health organizations to help focus research and work in this area.

U.S. Senate, Washington, DC

Senator Edward M. Kennedy, Massachusetts

Maritime Policy Advisor, June 2009 – August 2009

Provide information and advise the Senator's staff on Coast Guard oversight of the Cape Wind project proposed for Nantucket Sound.

U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation

Senior Professional Staff, February 2007 – June 2009

Drafted legislation, legislative reports, and other Committee documents, including H. Res. 1382 "Honoring the Heritage of the United States Coast Guard"; H.R. 2830 "Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2007"; H.R. 2652 the "Maritime Safety Act of 2009"; H.R. 2650 the "Coast Guard Modernization Act of 2009" that became part of H.R. 3619 the "Coast Guard Authorization Act of 2010" (P.L. 111-281); in particular Title V, Subtitle B: Workforce Expertise; and Sec. 604, Fishing Vessel Safety; Sec. 608, Safe Operations and Equipment Standards; Sec. 609, Approval of Survival Craft; Sec. 618 Associated Equipment; Sec. 619 Lifesaving Devices on Uninspected Vessels; and, Sec. 620, Study of Blended Fuels in Marine Applications.

Prepared background memorandums for hearings on: Coast Guard Budget, Fishing Vessel Safety, Challenges Facing the Coast Guard Marine Safety Program, November 2007 Oil Spill Causes and Response, Cosco Busan and Marine Casualty Investigation Program, Coast Guard and NTSB Casualty Investigation Program, Rebuilding Vessels under the Jones Act, Coast Guard Icebreaking, Oil Spill in New Orleans in July 2008 and Safety on the Inland River System.

ERE Associates Ltd. Chatham, Orleans, Massachusetts, and Waitsfield, Vermont.

President and Principal Investigator, 1991 - 2002

Privately held Massachusetts Corporation, dedicated to providing quality vessel safety and information services "without prejudice".

Specializing in the investigation and management of marine personal injury (P&I) claims, and waterways management.

Author and publisher of *Safety Notes*, a series of articles on new fishing vessel safety regulations, and other issues regarding fishing vessel operations.

Expert witness in *U.S. v. Miller* (federal criminal trial) involving loss of factory trawler *Aleutian Enterprise* and the death of nine crewmembers.

National Parks Conservation Association, 1300 19th Street, Washington, D.C. 20036

Field Representative for the Northeast Regional Office, January to October 2001

Responsible for developing and maintaining working relationships with Cape Cod National Seashore, local, state and non-governmental organizations on a variety of issues impacting the seashores, particularly motorized abuse – Personal Watercraft (PWC) – and environmental degradation.

Coordinator of the successful campaign that banned the use of PWCs in waters contiguous to the Cape Cod National Seashore in four Outer Cape Cod towns – Eastham, Orleans, Harwich and Chatham.

Drafted the local bylaws and got out the vote to insure passage in all the towns; assisted in development of arguments that persuaded state officials to approve the bylaws.

Marine Safety Foundation, Inc. Southborough, Massachusetts.

Board of Directors (1993–2007) Vice-President (1999 – 2007)

A national public not-for-profit foundation, formed in 1993, dedicated to advancing the safety of life and property at sea through research, education and coordination.

International Fishing Industry Safety and Health (IFISH) Conference

Member, International Advisory Committee, 2000

Woods Hole, Massachusetts, October 23rd -25th, 2000

U.S. Coast Guard Fishing Vessel Casualty Task Force, Industry Advisor, 1999, Washington, DC

Served as advisor to multi-agency task force on Fishing Vessel Safety.

Drafted working document on Fishing Vessel Safety Past & Present

Commercial Fishing Industry Vessel Advisory Committee, Member, 1991 – 1998

U.S. Coast Guard, Washington, DC

Marine Safety Consultants, Inc. Fairhaven, Massachusetts

Marine Surveyor/Investigator and Chief of Vessel Safety, 1987–1991

Investigating marine casualties involving injury, loss of life or vessel.

Developing vessel safety recommendations and strategies for vessel owners and operators.

Marine Safety Advocate/Consultant/Instructor, 1978–1991 Chatham, Massachusetts.

Authored and published *Safety Notes for Fishermen*, a newsletter specifically for commercial fishermen. 1981-1983.

Testified before Congressional Committees on marine and fishing vessel safety. 1983.

Co-author/editor of the *Fisherman's Digest* published by First Coast Guard District, Marine Safety Division, 30,000 printed. 1983-1986.

Drafted H.R. 1836 "a bill to establish crew licensing, inspection and additional safety requirements for certain fishing industry vessels." 1987

Instructor, Hypothermia, Cold Water Survival, Emergency Rescue Equipment, and Fishing Vessel Safety, conducting classes, for over 2,200 participants, conducted in New England and Alaska for Coast Guard, Rescue Squads, fishermen and college students. 1979-1987.

U.S. Lifesaving Manufactures' Association, Executive Director, 1984–1986

(now the [U.S. Marine Safety Association](#))

Prepared statements and testified before Congressional and Coast Guard hearings on delegation of Coast Guard marine safety inspection responsibilities.

Wrote and distributed association newsletter.

**Cape Cod CZM Advisory Committee, [Cape Cod Commission](#). Barnstable, Massachusetts
*Founding Member 1977–1992; Chairperson 1986 – 1991.***

Assisted in the development of the Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Plan, and the Cape Cod Coastal Oil Spill Contingency Plan.

Continuous review of coastal issues, including offshore oil exploration on George's Bank.

Reviewed grant proposals for Community Assistance / Coastal Facilities Improvement Projects.

[Waterways Committee](#) Town of Chatham, Massachusetts,

Founding member and chairperson, 1983–1987

Developed policy on construction of private piers and established 'safety zone' in major channel; drafted completely revision of Waterways Bylaws; conducted comprehensive survey/report, and recommendations, on all Town Landings; obtained Coastal Facilities Improvement grant for upgrading for four Town Landings; and, instrumental in Town acquisition of additional public waterfront accesses.

[Assistant Harbormaster](#) 1977–1987, Chatham, Massachusetts,

Maintaining and servicing over 100 seasonal and year-round private aids to navigation; regulating the placement of mooring systems for vessels in local waters; administrative duties as office manager; responsible for reports and communication; waterway law enforcement; and, oil pollution control.

Fisherman, 1977–1978, Lobster Vessel *Benjo* (O.N. 559811), Chatham, Massachusetts; Paul Bergquist, owner/operator. Operated 37 foot vessel and handled 750 lobster traps.

Professional photographer, 1967–1979

Peter Bent Brigham Hospital, Boston, Massachusetts, photography lab assistant, 1967– 69.

Freelance news, features and marine coverage for publications including [The Cape Codder](#), [The Cape Cod Chronicle](#), and [Soundings](#), 1969 – 1979.

EDUCATION

[Moses Brown School](#), Providence, Rhode Island, High School diploma

[American University](#), Washington, D.C. Two year undergraduate work in government

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

Cold Water Survival and Hypothermia Workshop, Rhode Island Safe Boating Council, University of Rhode Island, Marine Advisory Service. January 1979

International Hypothermia Conference and Workshop, University of Rhode Island. January 1980

Hypothermia and Cold Water Survival Conference, American Red Cross, Westchester County Chapter, State University of New York. March 1980

Boating Safety and Boarding Officer Training Course – one week – First Coast Guard District, Boating Safety Team (BOSDAT), Coast Guard Station, Chatham. 1981

Oil Spill Control Training Course – one week – Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management Program, Massachusetts Maritime Academy, Buzzards Bay. January 1981

The Nature and Treatment of Hypothermia, School of Medicine, University of Minnesota at Duluth, Duluth, Minnesota. June 1981

Search & Rescue, Small Boat Operations – two weeks – First Coast Guard District, Operations Training Team, OTIS ANGB. April 1982

Human Performance in the Cold, Naval Medicine Research and Development Command, University of Minnesota School of Medicine, AAAS, 33rd Alaska Science Conference, Fairbanks Alaska. September 1982

Harbormaster Course – one week – Massachusetts Criminal Justice Training Council, Plymouth, Mass. 1986

Sea Survival Seminar conducted for the U.S. Marine Safety Association, by [Alaska Marine Safety Education Association](#) (AMSEA), Sitka, Alaska. July 1990

Maritime Workers Compensation in Massachusetts – eight hour – program sponsored by the National Business Institute, Boston, Massachusetts. December 1990

Boating Basics Safety Course – Certificate [EP-14933] of Training issued by Massachusetts Environmental Police, 6 June 2000. [Course approved by [National Association of Boating Law Administrators](#).]

[National Transportation Safety Board](#) – Accident Investigation Orientation for Marine Professionals, October 2008.

PROFESSIONAL HONORS, AWARDS, LICENSES, MEMBERSHIPS

Member, [Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers](#) (SNAME) (1982 – 2015)

Honorary Life-Member, [U.S. Marine Safety Association](#) (USMSA)

Member: U.S. [Life-Saving Service Heritage Association](#)

Member: [Association for Rescue at Sea](#)

U.S. Coast Guard **Public Service Commendation**, August 1984, for "outstanding service to the public and the Coast Guard in promoting the protection of life and property at sea."

U.S. Coast Guard **Certificate of Merit**, September 1998, for service on the Commercial Fishing Industry Vessel Advisory Committee 1991 – 1998.

U.S. Coast Guard **Meritorious Team Commendation**, April 1999, "for exceptionally meritorious service ... while serving ... on the Fishing Vessel Casualty Task Force."

Member : [General Society of Mayflower Descendants](#), and the Vermont Society of Mayflower Descendants (Gov. Bradford)

U. S. Coast Guard License – Master, near coastal (1981 - 1997)

[Plimsoll Award](#) – presented by the editors of [Professional Mariner](#) at CMA Shipping 2007.

TRAINING CONDUCTED in FISHING VESSEL SAFETY, HYPOTHERMIA / COLD WATER SURVIVAL

Cape and Islands Fishermen's Forum and Workshop, 1979 & 1980.

Cape Cod Regional Technical High School, Commercial Fisheries Class, 1980.

Massachusetts Lobstermen's Association, Annual Meeting, Hyannis, 1980 and 1981.

Alaska Vocational Technical Center, Seward.

Conducted two-night program for fishermen and rescue personnel. 1982

First Coast Guard District: Operations Training (ott), Otis ANGB.

1982 - 1987. [35 classes, 700 personnel]

Coast Guard Station - Chatham. Station personnel, 1981 and 1982.

Coast Guard Auxiliary. Cape Cod Flotilla 1101, 1981.

Oil Spill Control Training Course, Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management Program,
conducted at Massachusetts Maritime Academy, Buzzards Bay, 1981.

Massachusetts Harbormaster's Association, Monthly Meeting, 1980.

Cape Cod Rescue Squads: 1980 – 1987

Cape and Islands Emergency Medical Services, Hyannis, Massachusetts.

1982 - Workshop w/Drs. Steinman, USCG and Hamlet, USARIEM

1983 - Workshop w/Dr. Hamlet, USARIEM.

Air-Sea Rescue Workshop, Marblehead/Swampscott YMCA, Cat Island,
Marblehead Bay. 1982, 1985, 1986

Massachusetts Maritime Academy, Buzzards Bay.

Two introductory sessions for all 4th Class Cadets, 1982, 1984

Cape Cod Power Squadron, Allen Harbor YC, Harwichport. 1984

University of New Hampshire. Special Class for water sports students. 1984

Cape & Islands Harbormasters Association. Assistant/Seasonal Harbormaster Training. 2000

Mad River Valley Ambulance Service, Hypothermia / Cold Water Survival, 2002.

Addison County CERT, Hypothermia / Cold Water Survival, 2006 and 2010.

ARTICLES, PAPERS, PUBLICATIONS, TESTIMONY

The Independent Fisherman Isn't (The Editor's Log).

[*National Fisherman*](#), February 1979, page 6.

[*The Development of Exposure Suits by the Liaison Committee on Emergency Rescue Equipment*](#),
1943. Presented at: International Hypothermia Conference, University of Rhode Island. 1980.

Letter regarding Coast Guard User Fees.

United States, House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries,
Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Navigation.

Hearing on User Fee Proposals.

Serial No. 97-11: 101-102. 97th Congress, first session, 1981.

Safety Notes for Fishermen.

Newsletter specifically for U.S. fishing vessel owners, operators and crewmen.

Fourteen issues: 1981 - 1983.

Circulations: 150 - 200 individual fishermen, fishermen's organizations, Coast Guard and safety professionals.

Reprinted and distributed by: [Massachusetts Lobstermen's Association](#), Massachusetts Inshore Draggermen's Association and U.S. Coast Guard in *Atlantic Notice to Fishermen*.

Uninspected Vessel Safety, A Proposal to Save Lives, Save Dollars.

Distributed to Coast Guard and political decision makers, December 1981.

Published as prepared statement:

United States, House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries,
Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Navigation.

Hearing on Coast Guard Operations.

Serial No. 97-26: 111-115. 97th Congress, second session, 1982.

U.S. Department of Transportation, Coast Guard.

"A Review of Fishing Vessel Safety -- Past and Present."

Proceedings of the Marine Safety Council (CG-129) 39(2):51-53, February 1982.

"Industry or Government will Decide Safety of Fishermen."

National Fisherman Yearbook Issue 1982 62(13): 104-107, 1982.

U.S. Department of Transportation, Coast Guard.

"Emergency Care for Hypothermia."

Proceedings of the Marine Safety Council (CG-129) 39(11): 327-328, December 1982.

U.S. Department of Transportation, Coast Guard.

First District, Marine Safety Division, Boston, Massachusetts.

Fisherman's Digest, with LCDR L.P. Minott, Jr. USCG.

1 May 1983 (D1 INST. P16703.1C) - one printing.

1 January 1984 (D1 INST. P16703.1C) - five printings, including Portuguese language edition (December 1984).

1 April 1986 (D1 INST. M16703.1) - one printing.

[Testimony on Fishing Vessel Safety.](#)

United States, House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries,

Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Navigation.

Hearing on H.R. 3486, Marine Safety Programs - Washington, DC.

Serial No. 98-20: 332-342/355-359. 98th Congress, first session, 1983.

"Liferaft Selection, Service and Storage."

Commercial Fisheries News 11(4): 26-27, December 1983.

Testimony on Coast Guard Operations and non-emergency SAR.

United States, House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries,

Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Navigation.

Hearing on Coast Guard Operations - Boston, Massachusetts.

Serial No. 98-45: 68-71. 98th Congress, second session, 1984.

Testimony (for USLMA.) on delegation of Coast Guard Commercial Vessel Safety functions.
United States, House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries,
Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Navigation.
Hearing on Coast Guard Roles and Missions - Washington, DC.
Serial No. 99-23: 79-92 and 123-125. 99th Congress, first session, 1985.

Prepared statement on fishing vessel safety.
United States, House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries,
Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Navigation.
Hearing on Limitation of Shipowner's Liability and Fishing Vessel Insurance and Safety
Problems.
Serial No. 99-36: 773-793. 99th Congress, 1986.

Fishing Vessel Safety in New England.

Lieutenant Commander Douglas B. Cameron, USCG, and Richard C. Hiscock
Prepared for: The Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers, New England Section.
10 April 1986. See pages: 18-26.

Prepared statement on fishing vessel safety.

United States, House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries,
Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Navigation.
Hearing on H.R. 1836 and H.R. 1841, bills related to fishing vessel compensation and safety.
Serial No. 100-21: 205-210. 100th Congress, first session, 1987.

SAFETY NOTES a publication of ERE Associates Ltd.

A series of articles regarding fishing vessel safety.
Published in several fishing industry publications, including:
The Barnacle - Fairhaven, Massachusetts.
New England Fisherman - Brewer, Maine.
Thirty-eight articles September 1991 - 1993.

U.S. Department of Transportation, Coast Guard.

Commercial fishing vessel safety ... a legislative history.
With CDR Raymond G. Magno, USCG.
Proceedings of the Marine Safety Council 48(6): 2-10, November-December 1991.

Review of Dennis L. Noble, *That Others Might Live, The U.S. Lifesaving Service, 1878-1915.*
Nautical Research Journal, 40(1):53-55, March 1995.

Personal Survival and Emergency Drills Course -- A National Standard Curriculum.

Compiled by Madelyn Walker.

Edited by Tom Thompson and Richard C. Hiscock, 1995
Developed by the New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium, through a cooperative
agreement with the United States Coast Guard, with assistance from the United States
Marine Safety Association.

Expert witness testimony on: Development of fishing vessel safety guidelines, statutes and
regulations. *U.S. v. Miller*

Western District of Washington
Seattle, WA, 31 July 1995

Review of Harry Benford, *Naval Architects for Non-Naval Architects*.
Nautical Research Journal, 41(4): 246, December 1996. (Nautical Research Guild, Inc.)

Fishing Vessel Safety – Past & Present

A compilation of earlier work prepared as a working document for
U.S. Coast Guard Fishing Vessel Safety Task Force, 1999.

Water Wise - Safety for the Recreational Boater.

Jerry Dzugan and Sue Clark Jenson.

University of Alaska Sea Grant and U.S. Marine Safety Association, 1999.

Contributor on page iv.

[Fishing Vessel Safety in the United States – The Tragedy of Missed Opportunities.](#)

Presented: International Fishing Industry Safety and Health (IFISH) Conference.

Sponsored by Alaska Field Station, CDC / NIOSH and

Occupational Health Program, Harvard School of Public Health

Woods Hole, Massachusetts, USA.

October 23-25, 2000.

[The Insurance Survey \(C&V\) and its Impact on the Safety of U.S. Commercial Fishing Vessels.](#)

with Timothy R. McHugh, Esq. Looney & Grossman, LLP.

Presented: International Fishing Industry Safety and Health (IFISH) Conference.

Sponsored by Alaska Field Station, CDC / NIOSH and

Occupational Health Program, Harvard School of Public Health

Woods Hole, Massachusetts, USA.

23-25 October 2000; **and**

Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers (SNAME)

New England Section Meeting. Woods Hole, Massachusetts. 28 October 2000.

U.S. Department of Transportation, Coast Guard.

Historical Overview: "Dying to Fish, Living to Fish" Fishing Vessel Casualty Task Force Report,
USCG

With CDR Mark Prescott, USCG (G-MSO)

[Proceedings of the Marine Safety Council](#), 58-2:4-8, April – June 2001

U.S. Department of Transportation, Coast Guard.

Task Force of 1999

[Proceedings of the Marine Safety Council](#), 58-2:8, April – June 2001

U.S. Department of Transportation, Coast Guard.

Improving Fishing Vessel Safety Through C&V Surveys

With Timothy R. McHugh, Looney & Grossman, LLP, Boston, Massachusetts

[Proceedings of the Marine Safety Council](#), 58-2:44-47, April – June 2001

[Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety Digest](#)

Revised and republished by,

AMSEA (Alaska Marine Safety Education Association, 2008

CIVIC PARTICIPATION

- Member – Town of Ferrisburgh Energy Committee, 2012 – 2015.
- Volunteer, [Shelburne Museum](#), 2006, 2009 – 2010.
- CERT Teams in Washington and Addison Counties, Vermont, 2002-2006.
- Board of Directors, [Mad River Path Association](#), 2003 – 2005.
- Member – Waitsfield Democratic Town Committee, 2003 – 2005.
- Member – Waitsfield Planning Commission, 2003 – 2005.
- Member - [Friends of Pleasant Bay](#), 1988 – 2001. Board of Directors, 1998 – 2001
- Member - Town of Chatham, Bylaw Review Committee, 1995 – 1997.
- Member - Town of Chatham, Finance Committee, 1993 – 1995.
- Member - Barnstable County Coastal Resources Committee, 1992 – 1993.
- Member - [Friends of Chatham Waterways](#), 1988 – 1997. Board of Directors, 1991 – 1997.
- Member - Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management, Marine Sanitation Device Task Force, 1988 –1993.
- Member - Town of Chatham, Long Range Planning Committee, 1986 – 1987.
- Member Zoning Bylaw Re-write Subcommittee, 1987 – 1988.
- Member and Chairman - [Town of Chatham, Waterways Committee](#), 1983 – 1987.
- Co-Chairman - Cape Cod Seafest Committee, 1979 – 1981.
- Secretary - Chatham Fishermen's Association, Inc., 1979 – 1981.
- Town of Chatham Representative - Cape Cod Coastal Zone Management Advisory Committee, 1977 – 1992. Chairman 1986 - 1991.
- Member and Chairman - Town of Chatham, Bylaw Study Committee, 1973 – 1976.
- Executive Secretary - Cape Cod Community Council, 1972.
- Part-time Director and volunteer - Chatham Help-Line and Drop-In-Center, 1971.
- Press coordinator – Outer-Cape Co-coordinator and Photographer for STUDDS for CONGRESS COMMITTEE, 1970.