## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY



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## **Attention Petersburg Commercial Fishermen**

Several Coast Guard Commercial Fishing Vessel Examiner will be in Petersburg conducting Fishing Vessel Dockside Exams from 1:00 PM on Tuesday, May 16<sup>th</sup> thru 1:00 PM, Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. These vessel examinations are free, take about an hour and help ensure your vessel is equipped with all federally required equipment. Vessels that pass the examination will be issued a Dockside Exam Decal that is valid for 2 years.

On October 15, 2015, these exams became mandatory for Commercial Fishing Vessels that operate more than 3 NM off the outer coast of Southeast Alaska.

Vessel owners seeking information on what federal safety requirements apply to their vessel can go to <u>www.fishsafe.info</u> and select the link for "Generate your own checklist", then follow the directions to launch the Checklist Generator. This tool will enable you to create a custom list of requirements that apply to your vessel, crew size, fishery and operating area. This process has proven extremely valuable to fishermen preparing their vessel for a Dockside Exam. I am also available by phone or email (see above) to answer any questions about the requirements for your vessel prior to my arriving in Petersburg.

Anyone interested in scheduling an exam while we are in town should sign up at the Harbormaster's Office.

Sincerely, Steve Ramp