

Dear Participant,

I am a student at East Carolina University in the Masters of Occupational Safety program. I am asking you to take part in my research study entitled, "Understanding the Risk Perception of Commercial fishermen?"

The purpose of this research is to explore, describe, and evaluate the risk perceptions of commercial fishermen. By doing this research, I hope to learn how commercial fishermen perceive their occupational risks. This information can later be used by industry trainers to improve training efforts by addressing the risks and hazards perceived to be of higher importance. Your participation is completely voluntary.

You are being invited to take part in this research because of your commercial fishing occupational background. The amount of time it will take you to complete this interview approximately 20-30 minutes. Interviews will be recorded for purposes of transcription. A 16 question survey will also be given covering demographics and occupational risk.

During this interview and survey, you will be asked questions that are related to different occupational risks associated with commercial fishing and how you view the possibility of sustaining an injury from the specified risks.

Your name and contact information will remain confidential and will not be released beyond my thesis advising committee and the ECU Institutional Review Board (IRB) that will oversee this research. Therefore some of the IRB members or the IRB staff may need to review my research data. Your identity will be evident to those individuals who see this information. However, I will take precautions to ensure that anyone not authorized to see your identity will not be given that information. Your responses will be kept confidential and no data will be released or used with your identification attached.

If you have questions about your rights when taking part in this research, call the Office of Research Integrity & Compliance (ORIC) at phone number 252-744-2914 (days, 8:00 am-5:00 pm). If you would like to report a complaint or concern about this research study, call the Director of ORIC, at 252-744-1971.

You do not have to take part in this research, and you can stop at any time. If you decide you are willing to take part in this study, please indicate your verbal consent and we will continue on with the interview process.

Thank you for taking the time to participate in my research.

Sincerely,
Francis E. Bly
Principal Investigator

Signature _____ Date _____