

## Buoyant Apparatus

### Links to applicable regulations

[46 CFR 28.120](#) – Survival craft requirements

[46 CFR 28.120\(g\)](#) – Substitution of auxiliary craft

[46 CFR 28.125](#) - Stowage

[46 CFR 28.130](#) - Equipment

[46 CFR 28.135](#) - Markings

[46 CFR 28.140](#) - Readiness, maintenance, inspection

[NVIC 4-86](#) – Hydraulic releases / floatfree arrangements

[NVIC 1-87](#) – Installation of retro-reflective material

[NVIC 1-92](#), [\(change 1\)](#), [\(change 2\)](#) – Additional guidance

[MOC Policy Ltr 4-08](#) – Unserviceable survival craft

### Checklist for this item

	Ensure the buoyant apparatus is in serviceable condition.
	Coast Guard approved
	Retro-reflective material in serviceable condition NVIC 1-87.
	Stowed in a location that is readily accessible or stowed as to float free.
	A Life float, Inflatable Buoyant Apparatus, or SOLAS A, B, or Coastal pack equipped life raft is also acceptable.
	The buoyant apparatus must be connected to a painter line.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The painter line must be 100 ft long.</li></ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>One end of the painter line is attached to the buoyant apparatus, the other end must be attached to the vessel using a weak link that is certified to meet Coast Guard approval 160.073.</li></ul>
	A serviceable floating water light CG Approval 160.010 must be attached to the buoyant apparatus with a line.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The battery must not be expired. If not dated the battery must be replaced annually.</li></ul>
	NOTE: An auxiliary craft that is integral to and necessary for normal fishing operations such as a seine skiff used by seiners can substitute for the required buoyant apparatus ( <a href="#">see 46 CFR 28.120(g)</a> ).

### Voyage Termination Warning

Your vessels voyage can be terminated for any of the following:

- Failure to have the required survival craft on board.
- The survival craft is in unserviceable condition.
- Insufficient survival craft capacity for the number of people on board the vessel.

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