

What was in the Vans?

PFD Product Guide



The pros and cons detailed with the following lifejacket and PFD product profiles are based on fishermen's feedback and are not the opinions of the Northeast Center or manufacturers.



Stormline 662 Heavy Duty Oilskin Fishing Flotation Pants

stormlinegear.com

Flotation Method: Inherent
Buoyancy: 50N (~11-13 lbs.)
Certification: None/ISO Level 50

Pros: Two in one—something most fishermen wear, bibs, plus flotation; lightweight; comfortable flotation padding on chest and knees; flexible material

Cons: Can be hot in summer; pant leg at foot could be wider; not certified as a lifejacket



Mustang Survival Elite 28 Hydrostatic Inflatable MD 5183

mustang survival.com

Flotation Method: Auto
Buoyancy: 26 lbs.
Certification: USCG Type V with Type III performance

Pros: Lays flat; not in the way; lightweight; can flip most face up if unconscious; conveniently placed manual pull; red/green indicator for maintenance

Cons: Some found it narrow in neck



Kent Rogue II Fishing Vest

kentsafetyproducts.com

Flotation Method: Inherent
Buoyancy: 12 lbs.
Certification: None

Pros: Low profile; segmented foam for better movement/comfort; added warmth in winter; can be worn under bibs/clothing; many size options

Cons: Added heat in summer; not certified as a lifejacket



Hyde Wingman Vest

wingmanlifejacket.com

Flotation Method: Manual
Buoyancy: 22.5 lbs.
Certification: USCG Type V with Type III performance

Pros: Very low profile; sits high on chest

Cons: When layering clothing neck may be snug



Mustang Survival HIT Inflatable Work Vest MD 3188

mustangsurvival.com

Flotation Method: Auto
Buoyancy: 35 lbs.
Certification: USCG Type V

Pros: Low profile; high visibility; wide neck; high buoyancy; turns most unconscious wearers face up; red/green indicator for maintenance; easy to clean

Cons: Manual pull tab hangs down



Stearns 1404 Ship Mate II Vest

stearnsflotation.com

Flotation Method: Inherent

Buoyancy: 15.5lbs.

Certification: USCG Type III

Pros: No maintenance, useful for all swimming abilities

Cons: Slightly stiff foam



westmarine.com

Flotation Method: Manual

Buoyancy: 19 lbs.

Certification: USCG

Type V Approval with
Type III performance

Pros: Compact; out of the way; nothing on your chest or around neck

Cons: Manual pull tab hangs down



HERO Inflatable Rash Guard

herowaterwear.com

Flotation Method: Manual or Automatic

Buoyancy: 80-100N (15-19 lbs.) dependent on size

Certification: ISO Level 50

Pros: “just a t-shirt”; low profile; can choose manual or auto inflation; does not look like a PFD

Cons: Not machine washable, hand wash only; runs small—size up; black color can be hot in sun; not certified as a lifejacket



Mustang Survival MD3075 Inflatable Belt Pack

mustangsurvival.com

Flotation Method: Manual

Buoyancy: 38 lbs.

Certification: USCG Type III

Pros: Compact and light; out of the way; nothing around neck

Cons: Manual pull tab hangs down



Mustang Survival Khimera Dual Inflation PFD MD 7183

mustangsurvival.com

Flotation Method: Dual,
Foam, and Manual

Buoyancy: 20.5 lbs. (7.5 lbs. foam, 13 lbs. inflation)

Certification: Harmonized
Level 70 - USA & Canada

Pros: Wide around neck; dual flotation methods - Foam & CO2

Cons: Material may not be strong enough to withstand traps/equipment



Spinlock Duro 170N Commercial Lifejacket

spinlock.co.uk/en

Flotation Method: Automatic

Buoyancy: 170N (~38 lbs.)

Certification: ISO Approved

Pros: High buoyancy; lift strap for re-boarding; ability to integrate a strobe light and personal locating beacon

Cons: Higher buoyancy slightly increases stiffness