Interview 7 Transcription

So the purpose of this study is to try

(00:45.4 - 00:50.4)

to improve marine safety. Fishing safety in Norton Sound.

(00:51.0 - 00:52.3)

And so I'm just going to ask

(00:52.3 - 00:55.0)

you about your experiences commercial fishing.

(00:55.5 - 00:59.1)

And the idea is to use lessons learned

(00:59.1 - 01:01.2)

or knowledge that you have to try to

(01:01.2 - 01:03.5)

make fishing safer for other fishermen.

(01:04.2 - 01:09.1)

Well, I started fishing back in 62

(01:09.2 - 01:11.2)

when I was twelve years old.

(01:12.1 - 01:18.3)

And we fished for king salmon, $5 apiece,

(01:18.3 - 01:30.2)

straight and chum for a nickel a fish, silver salmon for a quarter a fish.

(01:33.0 - 01:34.6)

That wasn’t a lot of money.

(01:35.3 - 01:39.2)

But to us, what we made was a lot because

(01:39.4 - 01:43.3)

everything was cheap back then and we didn't need much.

(01:43.8 - 01:50.2)

We needed main staples like flour, coffee, sugar, rice

(01:50.3 - 01:53.4)

and potatoes, which we grew on my gardens back there.

(01:56.2 - 02:10.1)

This house I'm living in now, is built on top of my grandpa’s house that he

(02:10.1 - 02:14.6)

lived in, was built in the 1800s, so 100 years old.

(02:15.1 - 02:17.8)

This cash we're sitting under was built in

(02:17.9 - 02:21.8)

1936 by my dad and my grandpa.

(02:23.3 - 02:24.8)

She's still standing

(02:24.9 - 02:26.8)

pretty solid.

Yeah.

(02:26.9 - 02:29.1)

It looks like the bark was hand peeled.

(02:29.3 - 02:30.8)

No, they peeled it.

(02:31.0 - 02:34.0)

They peeled it before they put them up. Right.

(02:34.1 - 02:37.5)

And that's what you're seeing from everything that

(02:37.5 - 02:39.8)

was stored up there throughout the years. The sap,

(02:40.1 - 02:44.6)

the oil that's coming down off the fish

(02:44.6 - 02:48.2)

and most of the fish was up there, dry fish.

(02:50.6 - 02:55.8)

Well, anyway, back in 62, I fished

(02:55.8 - 02:58.2)

right out here, right behind the sandbar.

(02:58.3 - 03:03.5)

Because I was young and not very tall, but

(03:03.6 - 03:07.5)

I was strong because I worked hard all my life

(03:08.3 - 03:11.3)

growing up like packed wood, cut wood and packed

(03:11.3 - 03:20.3)

wood, and hauled ice up here farther up river, and hauled water

(03:20.5 - 03:27.2)

to wash clothes. So and that made me strong enough to fish.

(03:28.2 - 03:33.9)

And when I get the logs or trees in my net, I

(03:34.0 - 03:39.5)

come get my sisters and they go to help me take the logs out.

(03:39.7 - 03:43.2)

One time we got a big tree and I told them

(03:43.2 - 03:47.2)

what we got to do is untie the net and the anchor,

(03:48.0 - 03:50.8)

then pull in the net as we take that tree off.

(03:50.9 - 03:52.3)

That's the only way we'll get it

(03:52.3 - 03:54.8)

off, by pulling on the net.

(03:54.8 - 03:56.0)

Pulling the net in. (03:57.1 - 04:01.7)

And back then we had small boots, really

(04:01.8 - 04:06.4)

low because we never had no rough water.

(04:06.9 - 04:08.5)

It was always calm.

(04:11.3 - 04:15.7)

After global warming and climate change hit, that's

(04:15.8 - 04:19.0)

when the ocean changed and start getting rough.

(04:19.6 - 04:25.7)

And when it turns southwest, it's when

(04:25.8 - 04:30.3)

we get the roughest weather. Back,

(04:30.4 - 04:37.4)

my grandpa taught me how to tell weather, taught me how to look at

(04:37.4 - 04:41.7)

the country and see if wind is coming. And if wind is

(04:41.7 - 04:45.7)

coming like this, we come back in. Because your boat is too

(04:45.7 - 04:48.4)

low and you fill up with water real quick.

(04:53.4 - 05:03.0)

And so as time went on, my dad built higher boats and I

(05:03.0 - 05:07.2)

kept the small one because I was young and if I was

(05:07.2 - 05:12.1)

to swamp, I could just manage to get to shore.

(05:15.4 - 05:20.7)

Then in the 80s, 82, I got that same boat down here. It was built

(05:21.6 - 05:26.8)

so that we could go out there in any kind of weather.

(05:27.7 - 05:35.4)

But then I found out that you got to be ocean wise

(05:35.4 - 05:39.9)

to go out there when it's rough, because when you hit a wave, you’re most likely gonna flip over.

(05:44.9 - 05:49.1)

So what I learned to do is, when I'm going down, I

(05:49.1 - 05:54.0)

go slow and turn my wheel to the left to go

(05:54.0 - 05:57.5)

alongside the wave and slowly get down to the bottom.

(06:00.3 - 06:07.1)

Then I learned to follow the wave, as it’s coming in,

(06:07.1 - 06:12.1)

come in with the wave. Come in with it.

(06:12.2 - 06:18.9)

And those things you learn from experience by watching.

(06:19.6 - 06:21.2)

You got to watch the weather, and you

(06:21.3 - 06:24.8)

got to observe what's going on. Today

(06:24.9 - 06:27.4)

it's not like it used to be back then.

(06:28.6 - 06:33.4)

I was out here in the ocean one day, sitting on

(06:33.5 - 06:36.6)

the ice, and I noticed I was going around in circles.

(06:39.6 - 06:42.9)

So I wondered why and I looked down in the water, and I could see a

(06:42.9 - 06:49.3)

cyclone, like a cyclone going down from the top going down.

(06:49.6 - 06:52.5)

And I questioned myself as to why a cyclone or

(06:55.7 - 06:59.1)

tornado or whatever builds like that? Wind builds. Wind builds. The atmosphere from the water comes from that and goes up and meets the atmospheric air and creates the wind. So what I did was pull in and I came home and came to shore. By the time I got to shore it was super rough. I just barely made it in.

(07:28.2 - 07:33.8)

So that's something I learned by sitting on the ice.

(07:34.5 - 07:38.7)

So when I'm out there fishing and I see that happening,

(07:38.8 - 07:42.0)

while I'm working on my net, I see that happening,

(07:42.1 - 07:43.9)

I pull my net right away and come

(07:43.9 - 07:47.1)

Home, because the wind is going to blow.

(07:50.0 - 07:56.1)

How many feet across is it?

(07:56.1 - 07:59.7)

It's very small, maybe about 10ft.

(08:00.4 - 08:08.3)

But it's moving, moving fast. And it's hard to see unless

(08:08.3 - 08:13.1)

you learn to look at the water and study it.

(08:14.0 - 08:15.8)

And I've been doing that all

(08:15.9 - 08:17.9)

my life, studying Mother Nature.

(08:19.5 - 08:23.4)

That's why I was able to find out why we

(08:23.4 - 08:27.8)

have global warming and climate change, and I was able

(08:27.8 - 08:31.6)

to find out why the permafrost is thawing.

(08:32.1 - 08:37.5)

There's antibodies that's been frozen for

(08:37.5 - 08:39.8)

millions of years in that permafrost.

(08:40.3 - 08:45.3)

And what it’s doing is coming down the streams to

(08:45.4 - 08:49.2)

where the fish spawn and getting into the fish.

(08:49.8 - 08:51.9)

And it's microscopic.

(08:51.9 - 08:53.2)

We can't see it.

(08:58.3 - 09:00.3)

You learned to tell that if the fish

(09:00.4 - 09:05.0)

is good by looking at the liver, looking

(09:05.1 - 09:08.2)

at the heart, and looking at the meat.

(09:09.1 - 09:13.8)

If the organs, internal organs are sticking to their bloods, you know their

(09:14.8 - 09:18.3)

blood line inside. If the organs are sticking to

(09:18.3 - 09:20.6)

that, the fish is no good.

(09:24.7 - 09:27.1)

And obviously, I've been fishing all my life, and I was

(09:27.2 - 09:33.9)

able to observe that. Before I quit commercial fishing,

(09:35.0 - 09:39.8)

in August, we started getting these Russian fish that come

(09:39.9 - 09:46.0)

across from Siberia with our silver salmon, and I didn't

(09:46.0 - 09:49.1)

know what they were, so I brought them to Fish and Game to find out, see if they're edible.

(09:53.1 - 09:58.9)

They said, Yeah, those are edible. They come from Siberia. They come across with silver salmon.

(10:00.3 - 10:01.8)

So you've never seen them before?

(10:01.9 - 10:04.4)

No, that's the first time I've seen them.

(10:04.5 - 10:06.1)

So I had to find out.

(10:06.5 - 10:10.5)

And after I found out, I decided I’d fish up north.

(10:10.6 - 10:14.6)

I used to fish about 18 miles north and go

(10:14.6 - 10:17.3)

on the beach and cook for myself and eat.

(10:17.8 - 10:20.8)

So I decided to fire roast one of those.

(10:22.2 - 10:24.4)

And boy, that was super good fish.

(10:25.5 - 10:29.2)

So after that, when I get them,

(10:29.3 - 10:31.6)

I start selling them as silver salmon.

(10:36.2 - 10:39.3)

Today we used to fish kings.

(10:39.5 - 10:41.4)

We never had this kind of weather.

(10:42.1 - 10:43.8)

We fish out here.

(10:44.0 - 10:48.1)

Then I learned to go down south about

(10:48.1 - 10:53.5)

8 miles down, and about 300ft off shore, because

(10:53.6 - 10:57.0)

I set inside and it was too shallow

(10:57.1 - 11:00.8)

 and there's a lot of breakers and the fish weren't there.

(11:01.0 - 11:05.9)

So I moved out trying to find a fish. And I found

(11:05.9 - 11:10.1)

them and I just stayed there all the years I was fishing,

(11:10.3 - 11:24.0)

the 80s and 90s. And what you gotta do, what I did was put my net over the

(11:24.1 - 11:30.1)

boat and check, then turn sideways for the waves

(11:30.2 - 11:33.0)

just roll, push me in.

(11:35.2 - 11:37.5)

But if you do that when it's

(11:37.5 - 11:40.9)

rough, the waves will swamp you.

(11:44.0 - 11:46.4)

So what I did after that, when it started getting

(11:46.5 - 11:49.3)

rough like that, is pull the net in, fish and

(11:49.3 - 11:53.1)

all and come in. Fast as I could.

(11:53.2 - 11:55.1)

Come in as soon as I could before I get too rough.

(11:55.1 - 12:01.2)

Stop across the river and take the fish out.

(12:02.2 - 12:04.4)

That's the safest way to do it.

(12:06.4 - 12:10.1)

Besides, you don't have fish moving around side to side in the boat.

(12:10.3 - 12:15.3)

Big wave come, it’ll flip you.

(12:18.6 - 12:19.4)

I did that.

(12:19.5 - 12:25.0)

I learned that fishing over halfway to Shaktoolik,

(12:25.7 - 12:28.4)

coming home, it's rough all the way.

(12:28.9 - 12:33.3)

And I looked at my fish that was moving around.

(12:33.3 - 12:36.4)

So what I did was throw my anchor back.

(12:36.5 - 12:39.6)

The waves are coming toward me and got my

(12:39.6 - 12:42.8)

nets and put them all around the sides and

(12:42.9 - 12:44.4)

put them on top of the fish.

(12:45.1 - 12:47.5)

So you stop the fish from moving?

Yeah.

(12:47.6 - 12:48.7)

So you'd be more stable.

(12:48.8 - 12:50.0)

Yeah, more stable.

(12:52.1 - 13:03.7)

That kept me from flipping over because the waves were huge. There's a lot of

(13:03.7 - 13:07.6)

ways to find out how you could be safe out there.

(13:08.2 - 13:12.3)

And that's one of the best ways I found out.

(13:12.4 - 13:14.7)

Put your net over the fish.

(13:18.1 - 13:25.5)

Another thing, you don't want to set near shore

(13:29.1 - 13:32.0)

unless you know it's gonna stay calm.

(13:32.8 - 13:40.2)

Like for silvers, the silvers travel along the beach, and if you learn to tell

(13:40.3 - 13:44.7)

the weather, you could set right, pull your net up to the tide

(13:44.7 - 13:49.2)

mark and set and you'll get a lot of silvers.

(13:50.2 - 13:56.0)

But I found out if it gets rough, what I do is when

(13:56.1 - 14:00.7)

I get to my net when it's rough, is tie a rope to my

(14:00.8 - 14:05.0)

net and make sure it's long enough to get near shore.

(14:06.8 - 14:11.6)

And once I get on shore, I tie my boat, the

(14:11.6 - 14:17.7)

stirring to the net, then run up and unclip my anchor

(14:17.9 - 14:21.0)

and run down, the waves pull the boat out already.

(14:21.1 - 14:24.1)

So I'm there pulling the boat back

(14:24.1 - 14:32.7)

in and jump in. And then what I do is, the net that’s on the side,

(14:32.7 - 14:36.9)

I pull it in, on the side and run to

(14:36.9 - 14:39.8)

my bow and pull my net in, fish and all.

(14:44.0 - 14:48.2)

So you’re on land?

Yeah.

You’re not in the water?

I have my anchor on land and part of my net on land.

(14:49.8 - 14:54.3)

Then I pull my net in fish and all.

(14:57.9 - 15:02.5)

Then when I get to my outside anchor, I start my motor,

(15:02.7 - 15:12.1)

then run up and untie my anchor, and leave it there because it’d be too heavy to try and come home with that. Leave

(15:12.1 - 15:16.3)

it there and I come home, what I do is go out,

(15:16.3 - 15:22.5)

way out and travel way out where the waves are just swelling.

(15:23.0 - 15:25.4)

They're not bricking, they're only swelling.

(15:26.1 - 15:29.3)

And when I get out here, I

(15:29.4 - 15:34.1)

zigzag my way in with the waves.

(15:34.1 - 15:37.9)

And after I find a big breaker, I

(15:38.0 - 15:40.6)

travel right behind it all the way in.

(15:45.3 - 15:50.7)

When I get shallow, I speed up, I fly right

(15:50.8 - 15:55.9)

over the wave and go onto the shallow and come on in.

(15:56.5 - 15:58.7)

People used to wonder how I manage.

(16:01.8 - 16:04.6)

Everything is easy out there once you learn.

(16:08.8 - 16:11.5)

Do you have crew members ever with you?

(16:11.6 - 16:14.8)

Huh?

Did you have crew members with you?

One.

(16:16.4 - 16:20.4)

Most of the years I fished by myself. In the 80s and 90s, I decided to have one crewmember to help

(16:20.4 - 16:28.1)

because I started aging.

(16:30.7 - 16:32.3)

That made it easier.

(16:37.0 - 16:41.8)

I got one from Kaltag one year and

(16:41.9 - 16:44.3)

I told him it was rough out there.

(16:45.2 - 16:46.6)

I told him, it's not rough,

(16:46.6 - 16:50.9)

let's go pull my net at Blueberry Point there.

(16:52.1 - 16:54.6)

The swells are huge up there.

(16:55.3 - 17:00.2)

So we got there and I said, pull that anchor and I’ll motor.

(17:00.2 - 17:10.8)

I'll go backwards, let the bow stay

(17:10.8 - 17:14.8)

up there, keep that net over the bow and

(17:15.7 - 17:19.0)

when I get to that anchor, I'll pull it in and tie it.

(17:19.3 - 17:22.5)

And you could start pulling the net in fish and all.

(17:23.2 - 17:26.2)

And I'll mortor out, make it easier for you.

(17:26.7 - 17:30.2)

So we got done with one net and he was tired.

(17:30.8 - 17:33.4)

I said, okay, we're out far enough.

(17:33.6 - 17:36.4)

What I'll do is shut my motor off to help you.

(17:36.5 - 17:42.4)

We'll pull the net together because the breakers won't

(17:42.5 - 17:44.1)

hit the boat and make it tough.

(17:44.8 - 17:46.0)

So we did that.

(17:46.1 - 17:49.9)

And then we came home, landed across the

(17:49.9 - 17:51.8)

river and took all the fish out.

(17:51.9 - 17:59.4)

We had over 300 to keep the fish off the net.

(17:59.6 - 18:04.8)

That many would make us really flip over if

(18:04.9 - 18:06.9)

I didn't keep the fish on the net.

(18:07.7 - 18:10.1)

So that's what we did.

(18:10.3 - 18:12.3)

And when we got home, he was

(18:12.3 - 18:14.9)

in bed for two days, seasick.

(18:15.7 - 18:18.8)

So what I did was go out front.

(18:18.8 - 18:22.1)

You got water from the ocean, but

(18:22.1 - 18:23.7)

I didn't let them drink it.

(18:24.2 - 18:26.6)

He didn't want to, but I made him do it.

(18:27.4 - 18:29.4)

And he got well after that.

(18:29.5 - 18:32.1)

And he never got seasick after that.

(18:32.3 - 18:34.7)

How much did you make him drink?

One cup.

(18:35.9 - 18:37.0)

One cup.

(18:37.2 - 18:40.8)

That's what I learned that from my grandparents.

(18:41.6 - 18:43.1)

When I first went out with

(18:43.1 - 18:45.0)

them, I started getting seasick.

(18:45.6 - 18:47.9)

So what they did was grab a cup,

(18:48.5 - 18:50.7)

give me a cup of salt water.

(18:51.2 - 18:54.4)

I drank that, and I never got seasick after that.

(18:55.1 - 19:05.2)

All these years.

Can you describe

(19:05.6 - 19:07.4)

who taught you how to fish?

(19:07.9 - 19:13.9)

Me, myself and I. Well, actually, before that,

(19:14.1 - 19:16.6)

I used to fish up along the beach

(19:16.8 - 19:20.2)

before commercial fish. With my mother.

(19:20.3 - 19:23.8)

We go down there and she taught me how to set.

(19:24.9 - 19:26.9)

And we had no motors back then.

(19:27.0 - 19:30.0)

All we do is use a paddle and pull

(19:30.1 - 19:35.4)

our nets out, and they're only about 50ft long. And I fished up river with her.

(19:44.0 - 19:49.3)

After a while, I got [sled] dogs and she looked

(19:49.4 - 19:54.4)

at me and says, well, since you're feeding your

(19:54.5 - 19:56.9)

fish to your dogs, you cut fish yourself. [laughs]

(19:59.2 - 20:01.5)

So that's what I had to learn.

(20:04.1 - 20:05.7)

I learned to do that.

(20:08.0 - 20:11.1)

I learned to skin animals by myself.

(20:11.2 - 20:13.7)

Because they told me, if you're on the

(20:13.7 - 20:15.5)

hook, you got to skin them yourself.

(20:15.5 - 20:18.7)

You got to take care of yourself.

(20:19.7 - 20:21.6)

You can't depend on us.

(20:22.5 - 20:24.7)

So I learned all that.

(20:28.8 - 20:31.0)

I learned to butcher a moose in

(20:31.1 - 20:32.3)

15 minutes. And I used to be really fast when I was young.

(20:38.9 - 20:42.0)

Did any elders teach you any lessons about

(20:42.1 - 20:44.4)

safety or being safe out in the water?

(20:44.6 - 20:47.6)

Well, they’d talk about it you know.

(20:48.7 - 20:50.7)

They’d tell me what to look for.

(20:51.9 - 20:54.9)

Tell me what to try to observe.

(20:55.1 - 20:58.6)

Always look at the water, and they said. I

(20:58.6 - 21:00.9)

always look at the water and see what it's doing.

(21:02.0 - 21:05.8)

If there's current and it's flowing and you see little

(21:06.5 - 21:12.2)

waves, time for you to turn around and get home.

(21:14.6 - 21:19.6)

We were down the coast here about 20

(21:19.7 - 21:23.8)

miles fishing, and I happened to look north

(21:24.5 - 21:28.2)

and I see a white squall moving. When it’s white, that’s a north wind coming.

(21:37.2 - 21:38.3)

What looks white?

(21:38.4 - 21:40.9)

Yeah, it looks like a fog, that's wind.

Oh, yeah.

(21:43.0 - 21:47.8)

And I pulled out and I said, by the time we get

(21:48.6 - 21:54.5)

2 miles from town, it's going to be rough. I have to go slow. Sure enough I got out here and it was rough,

(21:57.0 - 22:00.7)

and I said, I'm going to have to go outside these white caps, otherwise the white caps will make us swamp.

(22:06.0 - 22:07.4)

And I came in.

(22:07.6 - 22:11.1)

Coming in, I found a big wave, and I stayed right

(22:11.1 - 22:16.6)

behind it all the way because big waves have big breakers.

(22:17.1 - 22:21.4)

So I stayed right on it like that all the

(22:21.4 - 22:25.9)

way in until I got close to the shallow water

(22:26.0 - 22:28.9)

and I opened up and a bird, climbed up, flew off that way, made it in.

(22:36.1 - 22:38.7)

Can you think about a time that felt

(22:38.7 - 22:41.4)

really dangerous that you haven't shared yet?

(22:41.5 - 22:42.5)

Quite a few.

(22:43.3 - 22:45.3)

And describe everything that happened?

(22:45.4 - 22:50.1)

Well, the worst one was when I

(22:50.1 - 22:54.1)

was fishing near Shaktoolik and a north wind hit.

(22:58.2 - 23:01.1)

And usually it's calm with north wind up there.

(23:01.7 - 23:03.8)

But then there was little waves

(23:05.4 - 23:06.7)

right where I was fishing.

(23:06.7 - 23:09.5)

So I said, oh, dear, it's going to be

(23:09.5 - 23:12.9)

rough when I get 20 miles out of town.

(23:13.8 - 23:17.7)

So what I did was travel along the beach

(23:17.8 - 23:23.2)

until I got to the Blueberry Point here and

(23:23.9 - 23:26.8)

waves started to turn into white caps.

(23:27.3 - 23:30.1)

I moved out, traveled out there and waited til I got out here and could come straight in.

(23:37.8 - 23:39.3)

Well, there was another time when I

(23:39.3 - 23:42.7)

was hunting up in Norton Bay.

(23:45.0 - 23:46.6)

It was nice and calm

(23:48.8 - 23:49.7)

when we left. When we got to Cape Denbigh, I went out up it was dark. I thought, why am I climbing? My partner, “It’s, it’s it’s real rough.” So I looked and noticed I was going down. When I got to the bottom I looked at both sides of us. The waves were way up.

(24:16.5 - 24:17.9)

How big was the boat?

(24:18.0 - 24:22.1)

20 footer, only about this high [motions]

(24:22.2 - 24:25.7)

3ft high?

Yeah. 2 and a half.

(24:29.0 - 24:33.1)

So what I did, I told him, I'm going

(24:33.1 - 24:34.8)

to have to work my way out.

(24:35.6 - 24:36.9)

I can't go straight out.

(24:36.9 - 24:43.0)

I got to work my way slowly along these waves, and I'm

(24:43.0 - 24:45.5)

going to travel way out there all the way home.

(24:46.0 - 24:50.8)

It's too rough and I couldn't speed up.

(24:50.9 - 24:52.2)

I couldn't go fast.

(24:52.9 - 24:57.3)

Every time I did we [motions out of control] almost flip

(24:57.3 - 25:01.3)

over, I traveled out there.

(25:01.3 - 25:02.3)

It was dark.

(25:02.9 - 25:05.9)

By the time we got home, it was 400 in the morning.

(25:06.7 - 25:10.8)

When I got out here all I could see is white. White caps.

(25:13.9 - 25:16.5)

I told my partner I'm going to have to

(25:17.3 - 25:22.2)

start my way in. And you better sit up because

(25:23.1 - 25:25.5)

white capsule will be coming in the boat.

(25:26.7 - 25:28.2)

What you got to do is bale.

(25:28.3 - 25:32.7)

I got my drain hole open, but it won't be fast enough.

(25:33.1 - 25:36.0)

You’re gonna have to grab that bucket and start baling.

(25:36.8 - 25:39.3)

So he did, and we got in.

(25:39.4 - 25:41.8)

We lived at \_\_\_\_ Valley back then.

(25:43.3 - 25:50.2)

And when I stopped my boat over there it sunk. That’s how close it was.

(25:50.8 - 25:53.6)

And so we unloaded that boat real fast

(25:53.7 - 25:55.6)

to get out of my gear and stuff out.

(25:56.5 - 26:01.7)

And I said, well, we'll pull it over this way. The stern,

(26:02.4 - 26:05.8)

we'll pull the stern up, get my motor out of the

(26:05.9 - 26:09.4)

water, and we'll leave it here for the night.

(26:10.5 - 26:15.1)

Tomorrow, when I wake up, it'll be low, tide.

(26:15.6 - 26:17.5)

And I could drain the boat then.

(26:18.6 - 26:20.6)

So that's what I did.

(26:20.7 - 26:23.7)

Next morning, I went down and opened my drain plug.

(26:23.8 - 26:27.2)

I had to use a hammer on the outside, pound it

(26:27.2 - 26:30.9)

in because there was too much water on the end.

(26:34.5 - 26:36.9)

That was the scariest moment I

(26:37.0 - 26:38.6)

had in my life out there. That was rough.

(26:44.0 - 26:48.0)

But learning from commercial fishing, I learned

(26:48.0 - 26:51.0)

how to move with the waves.

(26:54.2 - 26:59.2)

I learned how to surf. I learned how to travel alongside of them when it's

(26:59.3 - 27:04.9)

super rough, and I learned how to come in.

(27:06.3 - 27:09.9)

What I do is just pour real slow out there till

(27:09.9 - 27:15.1)

I climb up one wave that's real big, and I turn and follow it in.

(27:17.9 - 27:20.6)

And every time I see a white cap coming, I speed up, get a

(27:20.7 - 27:29.5)

little higher onto that wave, slow down on that wave

(27:29.6 - 27:32.9)

all the way until it get to the shallows.

(27:33.0 - 27:35.0)

But it's not very big no more and

(27:35.7 - 27:37.2)

I just speed up and come in.

(27:38.9 - 27:41.0)

Did you have gear on the boat that

(27:41.0 - 27:43.3)

you felt like would make you safer?

(27:43.9 - 27:46.9)

Did you have life jackets or anything on

(27:46.9 - 27:48.9)

the boat that would make you feel safer?

(27:49.0 - 27:53.2)

I never had that first until the 80s,

(27:53.4 - 28:03.4)

until it became a regulation, because I felt

(28:03.4 - 28:05.9)

Safe out there. I knew what I was doing.

(28:11.4 - 28:13.4)

It's years and years of experience

(28:13.5 - 28:16.0)

that taught me all that.

(28:16.1 - 28:18.2)

I started fishing when they first started

(28:18.2 - 28:21.8)

commercial fishing here. We didn't have no permits.

(28:21.9 - 28:25.9)

We had, went to the store and got a license, and

(28:26.0 - 28:41.4)

that's what we used to fish. Back in the 60s, or early 70s they started that permit system, because there were too

(28:41.4 - 28:46.3)

many white people coming up to fish, and that was depleting

(28:46.3 - 28:49.9)

our fish because they didn't care how many they get.

(28:50.5 - 28:52.3)

What they want to do is make money.

(28:52.3 - 28:55.4)

They didn't care about what happened to the fish,

(28:56.0 - 28:58.4)

so they came up with that permit system.

(28:59.1 - 29:02.6)

And up here, it was residents

(29:02.6 - 29:05.5)

only that could get the permits.

(29:09.3 - 29:11.8)

So a lot of us got permits.

(29:12.6 - 29:15.7)

A lot of them died, the state took them back.

(29:17.0 - 29:20.5)

White people start applying for them,

(29:20.6 - 29:23.7)

got them.

In this area?

(29:23.8 - 29:25.9)

Yeah, a lot of white people

(29:25.9 - 29:39.6)

bought permits in the winter time when the natives were dry. They wanted to drink, so they sold their permits for cheap, which was bad.

(29:42.6 - 29:46.4)

I learned to cope with them. When we were herring fishing,

(29:51.4 - 29:54.3)

one fisherman set his net right over mine.

(29:55.1 - 29:58.6)

And what I did was cut his net in half and

(29:58.6 - 30:01.1)

took it off my net and pulled my net in.

(30:02.5 - 30:04.8)

He came by while I was pulling in.

(30:04.9 - 30:06.0)

He said, “Oh,

(30:06.7 - 30:08.5)

I set right over your net, huh?”

(30:08.6 - 30:11.8)

I had my rifle right there and looked at it.

(30:11.9 - 30:14.6)

He wouldn't argue.

(30:14.7 - 30:19.5)

I said, “Yeah, I didn't like that, so I cut your net,

(30:19.8 - 30:22.7)

and if you don't like it, that's just too damn bad.”

(30:24.8 - 30:28.2)

I didn't come here to I don't do that to you.

(30:29.9 - 30:34.5)

I expect you not to do that to me, but you did, so.

(30:37.2 - 30:38.0)

He got good.

(30:38.0 - 30:40.1)

He pulled his nets out and took off.

(30:42.8 - 30:44.8)

That was the days back in the 70s when

(30:47.8 - 30:49.2)

nobody cared.

(30:50.5 - 30:53.0)

Law enforcement wasn't very strict

(30:58.7 - 31:00.5)

When things were stressful.

(31:00.7 - 31:04.6)

Did you have a way of coping or staying positive?

Yeah. Yeah.

(31:06.5 - 31:09.7)

When I get tired, I stopped.

(31:10.3 - 31:13.8)

I turned my apartment stove on, cook a little meal

(31:14.0 - 31:19.1)

and drink coffee, and I made it so I could lay

(31:19.2 - 31:22.6)

on my floor in my boat and take a nap.

(31:24.0 - 31:25.3)

I did that.

(31:33.2 - 31:36.8)

Eating just clears your mind, makes you

(31:37.0 - 31:41.7)

feel at ease, makes you sleep.

(31:41.8 - 31:46.8)

And then after you sleep a while, 10 to 15 minutes you feel a lot better.

(31:47.6 - 31:49.8)

So just a short nap.

Yeah.

(31:50.8 - 31:53.3)

You can't sleep very long out there, you might drown. [laughs]

(31:53.4 - 32:01.8)

During the fishing season, did you get much sleep,

(32:01.9 - 32:04.9)

like when you came to land?

(32:05.2 - 32:07.6)

Yeah, I come home 10:00 o’clock at night,

(32:08.5 - 32:10.2)

sleep till eight in the morning.

(32:11.4 - 32:13.1)

So I got enough sleep.

(32:14.9 - 32:16.2)

I made sure of that.

(32:16.3 - 32:18.6)

Because you don't want to go out there tired.

(32:19.3 - 32:22.6)

If you go out there tired, your mind is not all there.

(32:22.7 - 32:24.6)

And you do stupid things.

(32:26.7 - 32:28.6)

Once you start doing stupid things,

(32:28.6 - 32:31.3)

that's the end of it. End of your life.

(32:38.3 - 32:40.6)

That's one thing I learned from my grandparents.

(32:40.6 - 32:43.1)

Never do anything stupid out there.

(32:47.0 - 32:51.1)

You don't play with Mother Nature. You live with it,

(32:51.2 - 32:52.5)

don't play with it.

(32:56.6 - 33:01.0)

If you tune yourself by yourself out here in the

(33:01.0 - 33:07.5)

country, if you tune yourself into the surroundings, mother Nature,

(33:07.6 - 33:10.4)

you could listen to the trees, you could listen to

(33:11.7 - 33:15.0)

voices in the air telling you what to do.

(33:15.6 - 33:25.5)

But you got to learn to clear

(33:25.5 - 33:27.2)

your mind and listen to that. It’s a rare gift, rare gift to have.

(33:36.8 - 33:39.8)

Have you tried to teach that to people?

No. No.

(33:44.8 - 33:49.6)

The way they are today is too dangerous for them to

(33:49.6 - 33:57.6)

learn, because their mind isn't, their mind isn’t what I grew up with.

(33:57.8 - 34:00.1)

They grew up doing nothing.

(34:02.6 - 34:04.7)

For them to learn that would

(34:04.8 - 34:06.7)

make it devastating for them.

(34:09.5 - 34:11.0)

They’d lose their mind.

(34:13.0 - 34:14.6)

You got to learn to control.

(34:15.5 - 34:17.9)

You got to learn to tell yourself

(34:18.0 - 34:20.0)

to get back to your normal being.

(34:20.9 - 34:23.6)

You got to learn to accept what's going

(34:23.7 - 34:26.6)

on around you and you got to learn

(34:26.7 - 34:31.1)

to look around and see what's going on.

(34:32.8 - 34:37.9)

Not question what's going on, but accept what's going

(34:37.9 - 34:41.8)

on and you could live with what's going on.

(34:47.1 - 34:49.0)

That's why I learned about climate change

(34:49.0 - 34:51.8)

and global warming and the weather.

(34:52.5 - 34:55.2)

That's why I learned to tell the

(34:55.2 - 35:00.4)

weather. By listening. By looking. By observing. And that’s a rare gift.

(35:06.2 - 35:12.3)

Not too many people know that because my great

(35:12.3 - 35:17.6)

grandpa lived in Kaltag and he was a shaman.

(35:18.1 - 35:19.5)

And I used to talk to him

(35:19.5 - 35:21.5)

and he'd tell me things like that.

(35:22.2 - 35:24.1)

And he told me how to do it.

(35:24.5 - 35:30.7)

And he says, don't tell nobody.

(35:32.7 - 35:35.6)

Don't teach them because their

(35:35.6 - 35:37.3)

mind is not strong enough.

(35:38.1 - 35:40.2)

And I looked at him and said, how

(35:40.2 - 35:42.2)

do you know my mind is strong enough?

(35:43.5 - 35:47.2)

He said, I could tell by what you do.

(35:47.7 - 35:50.3)

I watch you and I could tell what you do.

(35:50.8 - 35:53.9)

And I know you are, got a strong mind.

(35:56.8 - 36:03.6)

And Capone says unbelievers always see things.

(36:04.1 - 36:06.0)

Well, it's not that.

(36:06.0 - 36:10.8)

The Bible says

(36:10.9 - 36:14.5)

you'll see things in the future near the

(36:14.5 - 36:17.4)

end of the world, you will start seeing

(36:17.5 - 36:21.0)

things that you never knew existed.

(36:21.1 - 36:23.5)

We've been there, but you never see them. And it’s true.

(36:29.4 - 36:31.4)

I've known about the little people for

(36:31.4 - 36:34.0)

years, ever since I was little.

(36:35.1 - 36:40.3)

And I knew about ghosts, but I experienced it myself.

(36:41.2 - 36:45.3)

And when we got up 60 miles to a place where we

(36:45.3 - 36:50.5)

hunt moose and camp out in the mail cabin, our parents used

(36:50.5 - 36:57.4)

to make us run around the cabin to the west three times.

(36:59.4 - 37:00.6)

We never questioned it.

(37:00.7 - 37:02.0)

We just did it.

(37:02.4 - 37:04.6)

When you came out of the house, you had to

(37:04.6 - 37:08.6)

go around the house three times.

Three times and nothing bothers you.

(37:08.8 - 37:12.9)

And if you tell that

(37:13.0 - 37:16.0)

to people nowadays, they say that's bullshit.

(37:16.5 - 37:19.4)

But it's not. It's true fact.

(37:21.8 - 37:26.3)

I was taught back by my grandparents, and they

(37:26.4 - 37:29.9)

were taught that by the Norwegians that came up.

(37:31.6 - 37:33.9)

Teach them how to avoid

(37:52.6 - 37:54.7)

having ghosts bother you.

I had a white man fishing lodge up here. I told him about the cabin, third one over, “you don’t go in there.”

(37:55.0 - 37:56.6)

That guy in there don’t like nobody staying there and he especially don’t like white people. So don't go in there.

(37:56.7 - 37:58.1)

Don't sleep there.

(38:02.6 - 38:04.4)

“Ahh, he won’t bother me.” So he slept in there.

(38:07.2 - 38:09.3)

The bed shook. He turned around, went back to sleep.

(38:10.1 - 38:12.1)

Kicked over, threw him on the floor.

(38:12.3 - 38:14.5)

He went back up, went back to sleep.

(38:15.1 - 38:18.4)

Next thing he knew he was flying clear across the room.

(38:18.6 - 38:22.7)

He hit the wall on the other side, fell to the floor, and

(38:22.7 - 38:27.7)

he got up and ran out of that house, fast as he could, no clothes on.

(38:28.7 - 38:57.9)

He came up to where we slept and I asked him “where’s your clothes? Where’s your sleeping bag?” “Back in that cabin. I ain’t going back to get them.” He found out the hard way.

If you can't teach younger people or

(38:57.9 - 39:05.2)

other fishermen about how to tune in, what can you teach them?

(39:05.3 - 39:09.0)

I taught my oldest grandson that, my youngest grandson

(39:09.0 - 39:15.3)

is learning. I teach them how to distinguish

(39:15.4 - 39:19.5)

what's good and what's bad as to fishing.

(39:20.3 - 39:27.0)

And I took my youngest grandson 12 miles up river

(39:27.2 - 39:31.9)

And we’re on a sandbar making hot dogs to eat and drink coffee.

(39:32.0 - 39:35.7)

And I had a jig stick in my boat.

(39:36.3 - 39:44.4)

He went over and he seen humpies going by, by the thousands. And he put bait on the hook.

(39:59.6 - 40:01.2)

And he said, “papa, why aren’t these fish biting my hook?” It's right amongst them.

(40:03.0 - 40:04.7)

I said, “Those are farm fish.

(40:04.7 - 40:07.9)

They can't smell and they can't see.

(40:09.4 - 40:15.0)

They won't go after anything, any kind of hooks at all.” They’re on a mission to go up rover and that’s it.

They’re farmed fish?

Farm fish

(40:23.6 - 40:27.9)

You cut them open, their insides, their internal organs

(40:28.0 - 40:32.8)

are stuck to their bloodline on all of them.

(40:33.0 - 40:39.9)

And after ten years of farm fish, the

(40:40.0 - 40:43.8)

scientists came out with the warning that farm

(40:43.8 - 40:52.4)

fish wasn't, wasn’t safe to eat. It has chemicals inside the system

(40:52.4 - 40:56.5)

that will hurt your internal system.

(40:59.1 - 41:00.4)

I always knew that.

(41:00.5 - 41:02.5)

I never ate farm fish.

(41:02.7 - 41:04.5)

You knew that because of the organs?

(41:04.7 - 41:08.0)

Yeah, because I cut fish and see what's going on.

(41:08.8 - 41:11.4)

I had to learn to cut fish when I was young

(41:12.1 - 41:15.7)

and I had to learn to observe what's going on in the insides.

(41:17.7 - 41:19.8)

And some of the farm fish come along with

(41:19.9 - 41:23.8)

nose is deformed.

The nose?

Yeah.

(41:24.0 - 41:27.7)

Or they have no tail or part of

(41:27.7 - 41:36.5)

their body up in front is caved in.

(41:36.7 - 41:40.3)

It's just like you see babies that

(41:40.4 - 41:43.5)

are born with parts that are missing.

(41:43.7 - 41:46.3)

It's because of the drugs they took.

(41:47.4 - 41:49.6)

And that's what's going on with farmed fish.

(41:49.6 - 41:51.6)

There's too many drugs in there.

(42:03.2 - 42:05.9)

Can you describe how you prepare for a

(42:05.9 - 42:08.0)

fishing trip before you would go out?

(42:08.8 - 42:10.3)

Mentally or physically?

(42:11.0 - 42:14.1)

Mentally, I just don't worry about it.

(42:16.3 - 42:19.8)

Once you get yourself to the point

(42:19.8 - 42:22.8)

where you're going to be thinking about

(42:22.8 - 42:27.7)

what might happen, it's gonna to happen.

(42:27.9 - 42:30.2)

Because you're thinking about it and you'll do it.

(42:30.2 - 42:31.5)

You'll make it happen.

(42:32.1 - 42:35.4)

It's not ordinary.

(42:35.5 - 42:36.8)

It won't happen.

(42:37.0 - 42:40.1)

If you just don't think about it and just

(42:40.2 - 42:43.1)

do what you're supposed to, everything will go right.

(42:43.2 - 42:45.9)

But if you think something's going to happen,

(42:46.0 - 42:48.6)

then it will, because you make it happen.

(42:55.6 - 42:58.8)

Those are things that anybody got

(42:58.8 - 43:03.1)

to learn by themselves. Self-taught.

(43:04.5 - 43:07.0)

But if you talk to somebody like you're talking to

(43:07.0 - 43:15.8)

me, you'll learn. You learn by asking. Because you won't learn;

(43:15.9 - 43:21.1)

fishermen won't tell you won't tell you their secrets.

(43:25.1 - 43:28.5)

I was going to ask if you would ask

(43:28.6 - 43:32.5)

other people for knowledge when you were younger and when you were starting out?

No. No I don’t need to. I got it stored in my head.

(43:45.6 - 43:49.3)

So I ran dogs all my life. And when you run dogs, you're out there

(43:49.4 - 43:54.7)

by yourself and the dogs are quiet, and

(43:54.7 - 43:57.0)

you learn to observe what's going on.

(43:57.7 - 44:00.3)

And when you learn to observe what's going

(44:00.4 - 44:03.1)

on, then you'll know what to do.

(44:04.1 - 44:05.9)

You don't need to ask anybody.

(44:06.9 - 44:16.2)

It’s self taught experience. For me, that's for me.

(44:16.2 - 44:16.8)

Yeah.

(44:17.0 - 44:18.4)

That's for nobody else.

(44:21.8 - 44:24.1)

What's the longest you've been out where you

(44:24.1 - 44:26.7)

couldn't come back home, come back to land?

(44:29.2 - 44:31.1)

Maybe two weeks.

(44:34.2 - 44:39.7)

I worked on a ship. They used to haul groceries for the villages

(44:39.9 - 44:42.2)

on what they call the North Star B.

(44:42.3 - 44:43.4)

I ship.

(44:53.8 - 44:55.1)

I worked down there for

(44:55.2 - 44:57.1)

one week unloading, distributing: St. Michele’s Stebbins, Unalakleet groceries. I worked down there one week straight without sleep.

(44:58.2 - 45:00.5)

And when the Iditarod came around,

(45:01.8 - 45:06.0)

I stayed up for one week because I walked

(45:06.1 - 45:09.7)

back and forth town checking in and checking out mushers.

(45:10.3 - 45:12.7)

And I didn't get to sleep for one week.

(45:13.1 - 45:15.8)

But I made sure I drank water and eat.

(45:16.8 - 45:18.7)

If you make sure you do that,

(45:18.8 - 45:20.7)

you'll be able to cope with it.

(45:23.5 - 45:27.1)

Did you have any strategies to stay awake?

(45:27.3 - 45:29.4)

No, just natural.

(45:31.5 - 45:35.2)

Like right now, if I were to lay down, I'd sleep.

(45:36.6 - 45:41.3)

That's because of my organ system, where they are.

(45:41.9 - 45:44.2)

It's not because of how I want. It makes me mad when I do. But I can’t stop it. That’s the way it is.

(46:00.3 - 46:02.0)

Did you ever need to ask for help

(46:02.1 - 46:03.5)

when you were out on the water?

(46:03.8 - 46:05.8)

Ask for what?

Help.

(46:05.9 - 46:09.6)

No, I broke down out there.

(46:11.1 - 46:13.6)

See, I went to school to be a mechanic

(46:14.6 - 46:17.7)

and never once did I work as a mechanic.

(46:18.5 - 46:24.1)

But I learned to work on my own outboards my own snow machines.

(46:25.1 - 46:29.8)

See, I went to automotive mechanics school.

(46:30.2 - 46:32.9)

They're a little different from small engines,

(46:33.1 - 46:35.3)

but small engines are simple.

(46:37.7 - 46:39.6)

I broke down a lot of times

(46:39.7 - 46:41.9)

out there while I'm fishing is rough.

(46:42.4 - 46:47.8)

And one time I had water in my gas and

(46:47.8 - 46:54.4)

the four stroke, you have what they call injection system.

(46:55.5 - 47:00.6)

And I had to take off the injectors and take the

(47:00.7 - 47:08.1)

water out. There’s a real pin hole and hard to take the water out of it.

(47:08.7 - 47:12.8)

And after I did that, I put

(47:12.9 - 47:16.2)

it back together, came home, started up and came home.

(47:19.4 - 47:24.5)

See we used to get gas that had water in it all the time.

(47:26.0 - 47:29.7)

After that, after several times of getting water

(47:29.7 - 47:35.6)

into my injection system, I got the rayband water.

(47:35.8 - 48:00.6)

It takes the water out of the gas. Filter. The water’s heavier than the gas. The

(48:00.7 - 48:03.2)

gas goes through and the water drips down.

(48:06.2 - 48:07.1)

I got that.

(48:07.2 - 48:09.0)

So that don't happen anymore.

(48:13.4 - 48:15.6)

Every fisherman should have that.

(48:19.9 - 48:22.7)

Can you tell me what the long term

(48:22.8 - 48:26.3)

effects of fishing were on your body?

The what?

(48:26.4 - 48:29.6)

Long term effects of fishing on your body.

(48:29.8 - 48:31.0)

Arthritis.

(48:36.7 - 48:48.4)

Bones are shaped, they rub against each other, make your knees get bumped

(48:49.4 - 48:52.2)

and they cause you, after

(48:52.2 - 48:54.4)

they rub so much in your

(48:54.4 - 48:59.9)

system, they deteriorate your bones.

(49:00.0 - 49:02.2)

They make your bones deteriorate

(49:02.9 - 49:05.9)

and you really feel that.

(49:08.2 - 49:11.8)

And your back gives out from bouncing

(49:11.8 - 49:16.7)

around so much, working hard and bouncing

(49:16.7 - 49:19.4)

around so much, your back gives out.

(49:26.2 - 49:27.9)

What about emotionally?

(49:29.9 - 49:31.4)

Never bothered me. I don’t know.

(49:32.4 - 49:33.8)

Or was it positive?

(49:35.3 - 49:37.6)

I always kept a positive attitude.

(49:39.0 - 49:43.6)

When you let yourself go and start to get

(49:43.7 - 49:48.2)

emotional about things, what good are you?

(49:48.5 - 49:50.3)

You can't function right.

(49:51.2 - 49:55.9)

So learn to stay positive and

(49:56.0 - 49:59.9)

everything will fall into place.

(50:02.6 - 50:06.4)

What about spiritually?

Spiritually?

Yeah.

(50:06.4 - 50:08.7)

Did you have a connection with fishing?

Yeah.

(50:11.3 - 50:16.0)

I pray once in a while when I'm alone out there in the ocean.

(50:16.5 - 50:18.3)

Ask for safety.

(50:19.3 - 50:21.8)

And I don't go to church.

(50:21.9 - 50:23.3)

That's why people call me

(50:23.3 - 50:24.3)

unbeliever.

(50:25.3 - 50:32.6)

But church doesn't save you if you believe in God, trust

(50:32.7 - 50:37.7)

in Him, and you pray to Him, ask for guidance, he’ll guide you.

(50:39.6 - 50:41.6)

And what the church does is

(50:41.6 - 50:45.0)

teach you today in this day

(50:45.0 - 50:48.7)

it's not teaching right.

(50:49.4 - 50:54.0)

You'll see animosity amongst the church goers.

(50:54.9 - 51:00.3)

You'll see the congregation trying to tell the preacher how

(51:00.3 - 51:03.6)

to preach and who to have up there on stage.

(51:04.4 - 51:11.5)

But the preacher, he's not here on his own will.

(51:14.0 - 51:15.5)

He's there to teach.

(51:16.9 - 51:21.5)

He's not there to condemn you, judge you,

(51:22.0 - 51:25.5)

or try to make you feel bad.

(51:26.3 - 51:30.0)

He's there to teach you, teach you what the Bible says.

(51:30.5 - 51:33.6)

And if he continues to just teach what

(51:33.7 - 51:36.6)

the Bible says, then he'll be okay.

(51:37.4 - 51:39.3)

But the people don't like that.

(51:39.4 - 51:41.3)

The congregation, some of them don't

(51:41.3 - 51:44.6)

like that because it's true.

(51:44.7 - 51:46.5)

The Bible said that'll happen.

(51:47.3 - 51:51.8)

The people will condemn a man

(51:51.9 - 51:54.1)

for trying to teach what's right.

(51:55.3 - 52:00.7)

And the people he have go up to testify

(52:01.3 - 52:05.9)

or sing or something is not his will.

(52:06.5 - 52:08.1)

It's God's will.

(52:10.6 - 52:14.6)

It's them that want to send a message out

(52:14.7 - 52:20.3)

through singing, send a message out through testimonial.

(52:24.1 - 52:28.0)

You listen, but don't convict them.

(52:28.1 - 52:33.4)

Don't judge them already because it's not your

(52:35.2 - 52:39.1)

place to judge people, because we'll all be

(52:39.2 - 52:43.6)

judged at the end.

(52:45.6 - 52:47.2)

Like I can't judge you.

(52:48.6 - 52:52.2)

If I was to judge you, then I’d get sick.

(52:54.6 - 52:57.3)

My best thing is to try to help you, try

(52:57.4 - 53:01.5)

to teach you, make you see what's going on.

(53:02.6 - 53:03.8)

That's the preacher.

(53:03.9 - 53:07.7)

That's his job, to teach what's in the Bible.

(53:09.0 - 53:13.1)

I always tell him, don't use people as example.

(53:14.0 - 53:15.5)

You don't need that.

(53:16.0 - 53:18.6)

The Bible doesn't teach examples.

(53:18.8 - 53:25.2)

It teaches you what Christ did while he was here on earth. It teach you

(53:25.9 - 53:30.5)

what was said before the New Testament, before Christ came.

(53:33.3 - 53:37.3)

It's like in the old days, the

(53:37.3 - 53:44.3)

Pharisees and the teacher. The Phasisees judged the teacher.

(53:48.1 - 53:50.0)

It says that in the Bible.

(53:50.5 - 53:52.2)

You don't judge people.

(53:53.4 - 53:55.3)

You don't judge the teacher.

(53:55.4 - 53:57.8)

You listen to what she's trying to tell you.

(54:00.4 - 54:04.4)

Jesus used a lot of examples when they confronted it.

(54:04.5 - 54:06.8)

Even the devil confronted it.

(54:07.0 - 54:13.1)

We use a lot of examples as to why he's here on earth, was here on earth.

(54:16.3 - 54:20.2)

He didn't come here to make life easier.

(54:21.0 - 54:22.8)

He came here to teach.

(54:24.9 - 54:26.2)

And it's your choice.

(54:30.4 - 54:33.8)

You can follow what he's teaching, or you can go the other way.

(54:34.0 - 54:38.3)

And it's easier to follow.

(54:38.4 - 54:42.0)

But it's talking, and I've always did

(54:42.0 - 54:46.7)

That. Coming to a real tough situation.

(54:48.6 - 54:52.7)

I think about it and I tell

(54:52.7 - 54:54.5)

myself, I can't do it by myself.

(54:54.6 - 54:57.7)

So I pray and ask for help, and

(54:57.8 - 55:01.4)

I get it, and I start seeing things.

(55:03.9 - 55:06.7)

You learn through your mistakes.

(55:06.9 - 55:08.5)

You learn by asking.

(55:09.9 - 55:13.0)

And you got to have trust in faith.

(55:13.4 - 55:15.1)

You can't see Jesus, you can't

(55:15.2 - 55:17.4)

see God, but you're trusting

(55:17.5 - 55:22.0)

your faith will help. It will make you see what you want.

(55:28.5 - 55:32.0)

Do you have any experiences that you think others could

(55:32.0 - 55:34.8)

learn from or that you would want to share?

(55:35.2 - 55:36.3)

Like what?

(55:37.0 - 55:38.2)

From fishing.

(55:38.8 - 55:40.7)

To be safer on the water.

(55:40.9 - 55:42.1)

To be safer?

(55:43.0 - 55:44.5)

Just watch the weather.

(55:44.7 - 55:46.2)

If it's rough out there, don't

(55:46.2 - 55:51.4)

Go. Because there'll be wood.

(55:56.2 - 55:58.2)

There'll be wood floating around,

(55:58.5 - 56:00.1)

and you can't see ‘em. You’ll hit your,

(56:00.2 - 56:04.8)

you'll run into them with your motor, and you may

(56:04.9 - 56:09.6)

break a shaft or you might freeze your engine.

(56:10.6 - 56:16.9)

And if that happens and it's rough, you got

(56:16.9 - 56:19.9)

to learn to come in with the waves.

(56:20.0 - 56:21.6)

You got to learn to do that.

(56:21.7 - 56:26.2)

And carry a bucket, like this here, [5-gallon bucket] and

(56:26.3 - 56:28.6)

you tie it to a rope and throw it out. You let that bucket fill with water so that it makes your boat straighten out.

Just one, or do you do…?

One.

On which side? In the back?

In front.

(56:45.7 - 56:47.4)

You don't want water coming in your back.

(56:48.0 - 56:50.3)

It's the easiest place for water to

(56:50.4 - 56:55.3)

come in. So put it up front. It’s a drag. It turns your boat in the waves.

(57:01.1 - 57:03.6)

The waves will keep the bucket out there,

(57:06.7 - 57:09.1)

and it will allow you to come in

(57:09.3 - 57:14.9)

slowly, but with the waves, not swampy.

(57:15.4 - 57:17.4)

How much line do you let out?

(57:17.6 - 57:18.7)

50ft.

(57:18.9 - 57:22.2)

You don't want it close.

So you have a

(57:22.2 - 57:25.5)

bucket on 50ft of line, and you drop it out front?

Yeah.

(57:28.2 - 57:30.6)

You want it to play with the waves. If you

(57:36.8 - 57:42.2)

make it sink, it'll hit the bottom and stop you.

(57:42.3 - 57:44.5)

Fill up with sand and stop you.

(57:52.4 - 57:54.8)

Is there anything else you'd like to add for this

(57:54.8 - 57:58.4)

interview or anything you'd like to share about fishing.

(58:07.1 - 58:14.3)

Can't think of anything. Unless you’ve got a serious question to ask.

(58:15.7 - 58:18.0)

I'll think about it and see if I could answer.

(58:20.0 - 58:24.8)

The only thing I'd like to hear more about, if

(58:24.8 - 58:29.0)

you feel like you still want to share, is the

(58:29.0 - 58:33.5)

comparison of fishing a long time ago and fishing now.

(58:33.6 - 58:36.0)

Fishing a long time ago seemed real

(58:36.1 - 58:39.7)

easy than nowadays because there was no current.

(58:41.6 - 58:43.0)

I wish I had my anchors

(58:43.0 - 59:05.1)

from back then. Here’s some of my lines I used right here. Some of my nets right here. See, our boats were only this high because we fished close by. And the sand bar was different

(59:05.2 - 59:10.6)

south to north and the inside was deep

(59:11.1 - 59:15.3)

and that's where I fished, on the south side,

(59:15.5 - 59:16.9)

where the fish come in.

(59:17.6 - 59:19.2)

And I got a lot of fish.

(59:22.2 - 59:24.1)

You go out there and you watch,

(59:24.4 - 59:25.9)

try to see where the fish is

(59:26.0 - 59:28.8)

coming from, which way it's coming in.

(59:28.9 - 59:32.7)

Then you get a point like that sandbar used to be.

(59:32.8 - 59:36.7)

And you set at that point where they come in and

(59:36.7 - 59:41.1)

they mill around. And you get all the fish you want.

(59:42.0 - 59:49.0)

But if you set over in the middle of it, you’ll get one or two as they’re trying to pass by. Most of

(59:49.0 - 59:54.7)

them just come in. But at the point where they come in and mill around, then come in.

(59:54.8 - 60:03.5)

You learn that from observing fish.

(60:04.0 - 60:04.6)

Watch.

(60:04.7 - 60:08.2)

By watching. You stop and anchor your boat and

(60:10.3 - 60:13.5)

you could see. The water used to be clear.

(60:14.3 - 60:17.7)

You find out what they're doing and

(60:17.7 - 60:24.8)

you're set there. Like out here,

(60:25.8 - 60:30.0)

about half a mile out there’s a dip where it’s shallow, then it dips down.

(60:30.0 - 60:34.9)

about 12ft deep and you

(60:35.0 - 60:37.2)

set your anchor up there where it's shallow.

(60:37.6 - 60:39.3)

Start setting the net where it dips.

(60:42.1 - 60:43.9)

That's where the fish travel. They’re following the dip.

(60:51.0 - 60:53.1)

Those things you learn from

(60:54.6 - 60:57.7)

moving around, trying different things.

(60:58.5 - 61:02.8)

And you learn by observing what they're doing.

(61:04.2 - 61:06.8)

That's how you learn to fish. Like kings, they don’t travel close to shore like silvers.

They move around out, down south there. I learned that they’re 500ft offshore. Because I moved around. Move my nets around

 (61:37.9 - 61:39.1)

trying to find out where I'll

(61:39.2 - 61:46.0)

get the most. And I found that 500ft offshore is where they’re traveling through.

(61:46.7 - 61:49.9)

When you get the route, then you get the fish.

(62:03.1 - 62:06.4)

So it's not as easy now as it used to be.

No, today.

(62:06.5 - 62:07.5)

Look at this weather.

(62:07.6 - 62:08.8)

Always windy.

(62:09.4 - 62:11.3)

It's always windy today.

(62:15.8 - 62:20.5)

When the kings really start hitting, our winds will shift to

(62:20.5 - 62:24.7)

the west and southwest and be rough all the time.

(62:26.3 - 62:30.4)

And what you got to do is go behind the

(62:30.5 - 62:36.1)

sand bar and fish there and get at least 20 that

(62:36.1 - 62:44.4)

come deliver. You don’t want to fill your boat too full because the waves will flip you.

Get 20, you’re

(62:44.4 - 62:45.6)

just right.

(62:46.8 - 62:49.1)

You don't have to have lots in your boat.

(62:50.9 - 62:53.3)

It's safe to not amount.

(63:00.7 - 63:04.0)

Thank you for doing the interview.

(63:04.8 - 63:06.8)

Is there anything else you want to add?

(63:08.0 - 63:09.4)

If you turn your phone out.