California Life Jacket Laws & Requirements

Under California boating laws all **personal flotation devices must be readily accessible** and **one throwable flotation device must be immediately available**.

With the exception of kayaks and canoes, every vessel must carry one wearable U.S. Coast Guard-Approved PFD for every person on board if the vessel is 16 feet or longer.

Inflatable PFD must be worn <u>in order to</u> be considered readily accessible. Inflatable U.S. Coast Guard-Approved PFD are acceptable for persons age 16. Be aware that the fine is \$400 per person, skipper liable.

PFDs must be kept in serviceable condition. If they are badly torn, damaged, rotted, punctured, or otherwise unserviceable, they no longer meet legal requirements and should be replaced.

OR USE ON RECREATIONAL VESSELS: THIS IS A TYPE II PFD FOR USE ON UNINSPECTED COMMERCIAL VESSELS: THIS IS A TYPE V PFD NINSPECTED COMMERCIAL VESSELS is is a Type V Commercial Inflatable PFD tecause it is approved only when worn truse in lieu of a Type II PFD under 45 CFR 160.064 on uninspected ommercial vessels less than 40 feet alength not carrying passengers for hire then used and serviced in accordance the owner's manual. to approved for "hot work".

