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Transcript of The Garibaldi Coast Guard Rescue

Richard Carter

William Carter

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Title: The Garibaldi Coast Guard Rescue

Storytellers: Dick Carter, Bill Carter

Interviewer: Chris Forrer

Interview Date: 2011-07-15

Collection: Launching through the Surf: The Dory Fleet of Pacific City

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Transcribers: Whitney Weber, Andrea Snyder, Julian Adoff

RICHARD WILLIAM CARTER (DICK): Okay, my name is Richard William Carter, Dick Carter to, most everybody. I began fishing here in 1974.

WILLIAM JOSEPH CARTER (BILL): I'm William Joseph Carter. I started fishing, uh, with dad, uh, probably when I was eight pullin' for him.

BILL: Ah, we got towed in—a Coast Guard came and got me, and dad, and Mike¹ one time—off Cape Lookout. And, we stayed out all night long and that's when he had his first boat, the *Salem* boat. The engine broke down. And me and Mike had to sit in the very back 'cause so the bow didn't, you know, dig in when they were towing us. And it had a open well, and so it give us little surges and stuff and every—the water would come in and [psshhh] hit me and Mike. [Laughs] Dad was steering the boat.

DICK: We, we got towed to, uh, Garibaldi.

BILL: [Overlapping] Yeah.

DICK: And a, Coast Guard came out and hooked onto us and, and so I, I had the, I had the boys, Bill and Mike, get on the, get on the Coast Guard cutter. And, and then I stayed on board, the, the dory. And then they, they towed us across the bar, there was, it was 20-foot waves coming across

the bar up there that day. It was exciting. [Laughs] I uh, I—but anyway, uh, we, we started to go once and then the, the skipper backed off of the Coast Guard boat and then—and then, uh—and then the next time he caught the wave, and he was up on top and he was, surfing with the big boat. And I was down at the bottom of the wave looking up, way up there at him. [Laughs] And, uh, anyway we got across the bar and then he, he pulled me up alongside him and tied me off and he said, "Boy that was exciting wasn't I," I said, "It sure was." [Laughter] And he said, "Well," he said, "Everything was going along fine, 'til"—they have two 500-horse engines in, in those, uh, those Coast Guard boats. And, uh, he lost one up there. And, uh—he had, he had enough power and he was far enough a—ahead of the, the wave, that he, he could surf. And so he got us on in. He said, "Boy," he said, "If, if, if I'd got on the back side of that wave it'd have ate us both!" [Laughter]

BILL: We had over 100 silvers on board too that day.

DICK: Yeah, we'd had a good day of fishing.

NOTES:

¹Mike Carter is one of Dick Carter's sons.