**Gulf of Mexico**

**Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Program Fact Sheet**

[portal.southeast.fisheries.noaa.gov/cs](https://portal.southeast.fisheries.noaa.gov/cs)

(866) 425-7627 (select option 2)

e-mail: nmfs.ser.catchshare@noaa.gov

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**Shares**

Shares are a percentage of the commercial quota assigned to fishers (shareholders).

**Your Share**

Allocation is the **amount of pounds** (gutted weight) you are ensured the opportunity to possess, land, and sell in a calendar year.

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**Shareholder Account**

Your shareholder account contains your shares and controls all of your vessel accounts. On January 1, allocation is placed in your shareholder account. From this account you can transfer allocation and shares to other shareholders or to your vessel account(s).

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**Vessel Account**

Sufficient allocation must be in the vessel account or linked shareholder account prior to your landing notification. Your vessel account has limited functionality; vessel accounts can only make landing transactions with dealers.

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**Red and Gag Multi-Use**

On January 1, a portion of your gag allocation and a portion of your red grouper allocation may be converted to multi-use allocation. You can use this allocation when you run out of the species-specific allocation to land either red grouper or gag. Multi-use is set by a formula; see the IFQ webpage for current percentages.

**SWG Flexibility**

Warsaw grouper and speckled hind are considered deepwater grouper (DWG). However, if you use all of your DWG allocation, you can use remaining SWG allocation to land Warsaw grouper and speckled hind.

**DWG Flexibility**

Scamp is considered a shallow water grouper (SWG). However, if you use all of your SWG allocation, you can use remaining DWG allocation to land scamp.

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**Steps when going on an IFQ fishing trip**

1. **VMS declaration of fishing trip/gear**
   (888) 219-9228

2. **3-24 hour advanced landing notification**
   (866) 425-7627 (select option 1)

3. **Complete IFQ landing transaction**

4. **Offload** 6 a.m. – 6 p.m.

5. **Land at a pre-approved location**

   *If you sell to multiple dealers or land at multiple locations, you must complete a landing notification for each.*

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**10% Overage**

You may exceed your remaining allocation, by up to 10%, on your last fishing trip of the fishing year. A one time per year overage is allowed for each category. **You must hold shares in that category to complete a 10% overage.** The allocation used for a 10% overage will be removed from your initial allocation at the beginning of the following year.

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This publication was updated in April 2015 for general informational purposes. Additional requirements and changes to regulations are available at [https://portal.southeast.fisheries.noaa.gov/cs/](https://portal.southeast.fisheries.noaa.gov/cs/)
Red Grouper

Gag Grouper

Red Snapper

Shallow Water Grouper (SWG)

Black Grouper

Scamp

Yellowmouth Grouper

Deep Water Grouper (DWG)

Warsaw Grouper

Snowy Grouper

Speckled Hind

Yellowedge Grouper

Tilefishes

Golden Tilefish

Also includes Goldface Tilefish

Blueline Tilefish

Important Phone Numbers

Southeast Catch Shares Program
(866) 425-7627

Landing Notifications
(select option 1; 24/7 Call Center)

Support Line
(select option 2; M-F 8am – 4:30pm EST)

Southeast VMS Trip Declaration
(888) 219-9228
(866) 425-7627 (select option 3)

Southeast VMS Support
(800) 758-4833
(866) 425-7627 (select option 4)

Southeast VMS Fax
727-824-5318

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