Southeast Fishery Bulletin

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Reminders Regarding the Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Program in the Gulf of Mexico

Set-Aside Distribution of IFQ Shares and Allocation
Ninety-seven percent of grouper-tilefish IFQ shares were distributed to qualifying shareholders on January 1, 2010. The additional 3% was set-aside to settle appeals. The full amount held in reserve was not used to complete the appeals process. The remaining set-aside amounts for redistribution are below:

Red Grouper: 2.727313%
Gag Grouper: 2.720724%
Shallow Water Grouper: 2.932531%
Deepwater Grouper: 2.714167%
Tilefish: 2.655847%

The amount of shares received on August 3, 2010, from each share category is proportional to that shareholder's qualifying catch history. A letter was sent on August 3, 2010, to each commercial reef fish permit holder who held a permit as of October 1, 2009, and qualified for initial shares and allocation. This letter informed them that their increase in grouper and tilefish IFQ shares, and 2010 allocation was added to their shareholder account(s).

To view your additional grouper and tilefish shares and allocation log in to your IFQ account at ifq.sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/. You can view the additional shares you received from the set-aside distribution by clicking on the "Shares" tab, then selecting "View Share History" from the drop-down menu. A breakdown of allocation added to your account from the set aside distribution can also be viewed by selecting "Allocation" then "View Allocation History" from the drop-down menu. The additional allocation will be from transferor IFQGT1 and shown at or toward the top of the table, with both a start and end date of August 3, 2010.

Update Your Account
If you have not done so already, please log into your account and select the tab for "Update Account." For each account that you manage, select the UserID from the table; the Personal Identification Number (PIN) corresponding to the account you select will automatically populate. Please add a valid e-mail address. This is used to send reminders to submit Cost Recovery Fees, receipts of allocation and share transfers, and copies of any messages that go into your IFQ account. Please add secret questions. If you forget your password, you will be able to answer these questions to have your password e-mailed to you.

Accept Share Transfers
Remember that a share transfer is not complete when the transferor submits the share transfer. The transferee must log into their shareholder account, select the "Receive Transferred Shares" tab, and then accept the share transfer.

Cost Recovery Fees (CRF)
Fishers are responsible for submitting 3% of the ex-vessel value of IFQ species to the dealer purchasing the fish. At the end of each calendar quarter, the dealer is responsible for submitting the CRF to NOAA Fisheries Service via the online system. The dealer has 30 days to submit the CRF. Dealer accounts may be suspended after 30 days pending payment of applicable fees.

If you have any questions or need assistance setting up your IFQ account, please feel free to e-mail SER-IFQ.Support@noaa.gov, or call IFQ Support at **1-866-425-7627 (Option 2)** Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Eastern Time, excluding federal holidays.

This bulletin provides only a summary of the information regarding the existing regulations. Any discrepancies between this bulletin and the regulations as published in the *Federal Register* will be resolved in favor of the *Federal Register*.