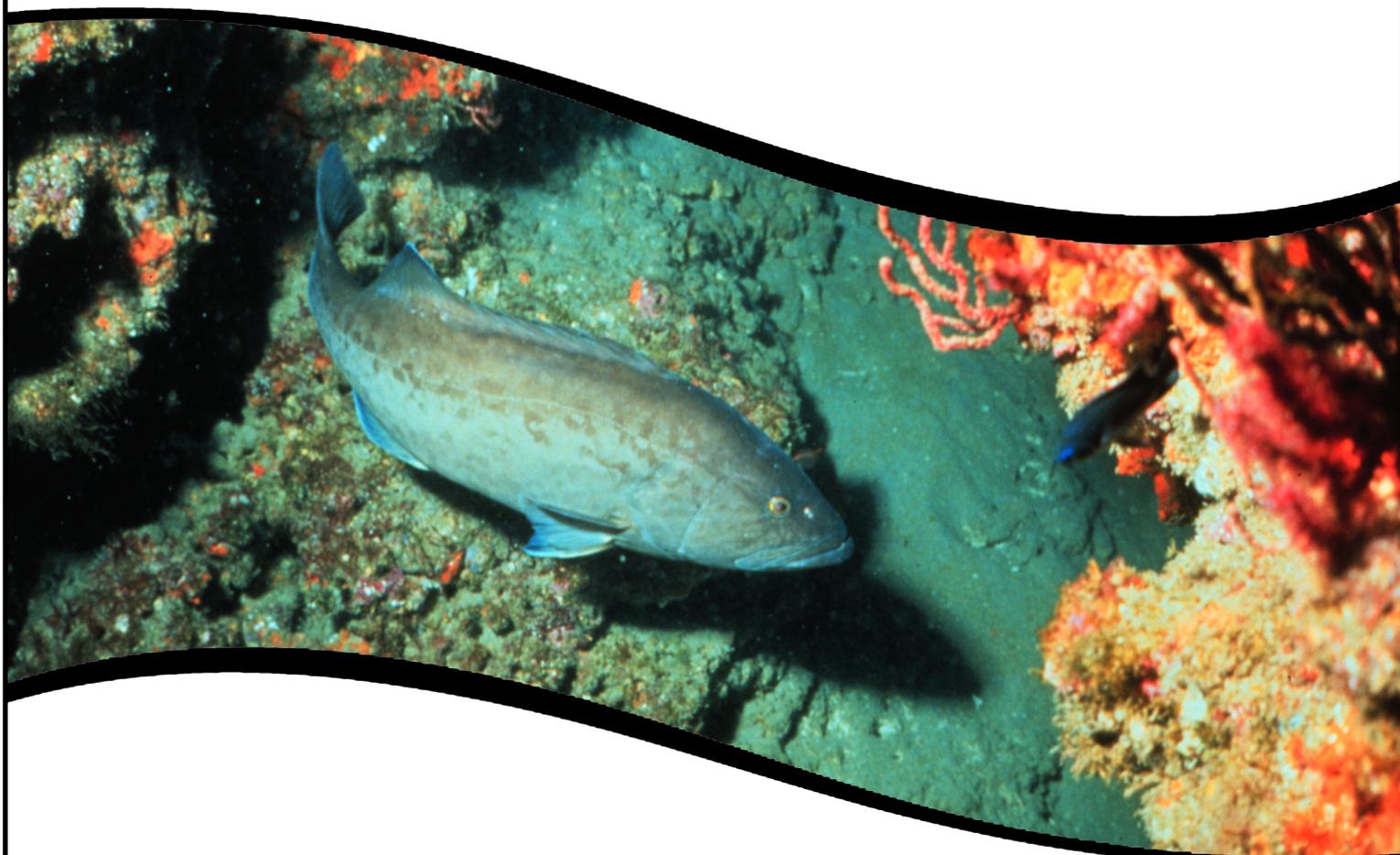


# Survey of Participants in the Gulf of Mexico Grouper-Tilefish Individual Fishing Quota Program - 2014



**QuanTech**

*Quantitative Technologies for Research and Analysis*

## Section 1: Background Information

You have been identified as a past or current participant in the Gulf of Mexico (GOM) Grouper-Tilefish Individual Fishing Quota (GT-IFQ) Program. This questionnaire is intended for the following account holder(s) and IFQ UserID:

Account Holder(s): [insert Account Holder here]

IFQ UserID: [insert IFQ UserID here]

1. a) Is the account holder associated with other IFQ accounts in addition to the one listed above?

Yes       No → Skip to Q2



b) If 'yes', please list the IFQ UserIDs assigned to these other IFQ accounts. Please indicate whether or not a GT-IFQ Program participant survey has already been completed for these other IFQ accounts.

UserID	Was a GT-IFQ Program participant survey already completed for this account?	
_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

c) If GT-IFQ Program participant surveys were already completed for any of the above IFQ account UserIDs, are the answers you provided in those surveys consistent with answers you would provide for this IFQ account?

Yes



No



If you answered 'Yes' to question 1(c), you do not need to complete the remainder of this survey. Please return this survey to:

QuanTech, Inc.  
6110 Executive Blvd, Suite 400  
Rockville, MD 20852

If you answered 'No' to question 1(c), please proceed to Question 1(d) and complete the remainder of this survey.



d) Would you like to use this survey for the IFQ accounts listed in question 1(b) for which no surveys have been completed, in addition to the selected IFQ UserID for this survey?

Yes       No

2. In which year did you first become involved in the commercial GOM reef fish fishery?

Year: \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 2: Attitudes and Perceptions Concerning the GT-IFQ Program**

3. Did you vote in the GT-IFQ referendum?

- Yes       No

4. Did you support the GT-IFQ Program at the time of its implementation on January 1, 2010?

- Yes       No       Undecided       Not applicable

5. Do you support the GT-IFQ Program NOW?

- Yes       No       Undecided

6. a) Overall, how satisfied are you with the GT-IFQ Program?

<b>Highly Unsatisfied</b>	<b>Unsatisfied</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Satisfied</b>	<b>Highly Satisfied</b>	<b>No Opinion</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

b) What do you consider to be the most positive outcomes of the GT-IFQ Program on your fishing operations?

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c) What do you consider to be the most negative outcomes of the GT-IFQ Program on your fishing operations?

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**Questions 10-12 ask about changes in pay to captain, crew, and vessel owner since the GT-IFQ Program began.**

10. a) Have you generally hired a captain to fish some/all of your annual GT-IFQ allocation?

Yes → Go to Q10(b)

No → Skip to Q11

b) If you answered yes to hiring a captain to fish some/all of your annual allocation, how was the captain generally paid?

*(check only one box for **Before GT-IFQ** and only one box for **After GT-IFQ**)*

<b>Before GT-IFQ</b>	<b>After GT-IFQ</b>	
--------------------------	-------------------------	--

- |                          |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Share of total revenues without any deductions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Share of total revenues after deductions       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Flat rate per day, trip, or season             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (please explain):                        |

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c) If you deduct expenses from total revenues before paying the captain, which of the following expenses have you normally deducted?

*(check all that apply)*

<b>Before GT-IFQ</b>	<b>After GT-IFQ</b>	
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- |                          |                          |                                 |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | IFQ allocation                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Fuel expenses                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Bait expenses                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Grocery expenses                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Payments to crew                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other expenses (list expenses): |

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11. a) Have you generally employed crew when fishing your annual GT-IFQ allocation?

- Yes → Go to Q11(b)
- No → Skip to Q12

b) If you answered yes to employing crew, how were crew generally paid?

*(check only one box for **Before GT-IFQ** and only one box for **After GT-IFQ**)*

- | <b>Before<br/>GT-IFQ</b> | <b>After<br/>GT-IFQ</b>  |  |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Share of total revenues without any deductions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Share of total revenues after deductions       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Flat rate per day, trip, or season             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (please explain):                        |

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c) If you deduct expenses from total revenues before paying crew, which of the following expenses have you normally deducted?

*(check all that apply)*

- | <b>Before<br/>GT-IFQ</b> | <b>After<br/>GT-IFQ</b>  |                                 |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | IFQ allocation                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Fuel expenses                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Bait expenses                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Grocery expenses                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Payment to a captain            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Other expenses (list expenses): |

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12. Prior to the GT-IFQ Program, the distribution of payments described in questions 10 and 11 was approximately:

Vessel Owner \_\_\_\_\_% + Captain \_\_\_\_\_% + Crew \_\_\_\_\_% = 100%

After implementation of the GT-IFQ Program, the distribution of payments was approximately:

Vessel Owner \_\_\_\_\_% + Captain \_\_\_\_\_% + Crew \_\_\_\_\_% = 100%

If the payments above do not add up to 100%, please briefly explain why:

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13. What is your primary business plan with respect to your activities in the GT-IFQ Program over the next five years?

*(check all that apply)*

- I plan to sell (or give away) my shares TO others.
- I plan to sell (or give away) my allocation TO others.
- I plan to keep my activities at approximately the same level.
- I plan to obtain (e.g., buy) shares FROM others.
- I plan to obtain (e.g., lease) allocation FROM others.
- Other (please explain): \_\_\_\_\_

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With respect to the activities that you checked above, would you please elaborate as to why you selected those items:

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**Section 4: Transfer of GT-IFQ Allocation or Shares**

14. Do you think **CURRENT allocation** prices for the following GT-IFQ categories are low, about right, or high? What do you consider to be a **FAIR IFQ allocation** price?

GT-IFQ Category	Don't Know Price/No Opinion	Low	About Right	High	FAIR IFQ Allocation Price
Deep-Water Grouper	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$_____/lb
Gag/Gag-Multi	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$_____/lb
Red Grouper	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$_____/lb
Shallow-Water Grouper	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$_____/lb
Tilefishes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$_____/lb

15. Do you think **CURRENT share** prices for the following IFQ categories are low, about right, or high? What do you consider to be a **FAIR IFQ share** price?

GT-IFQ Category	Don't Know Price/No Opinion	Low	About Right	High	FAIR IFQ Share Price
Deep-Water Grouper	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$_____/lb
Gag	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$_____/lb
Red Grouper	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$_____/lb
Shallow-Water Grouper	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$_____/lb
Tilefishes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$_____/lb

**When answering questions 16-25, we are interested in your perceptions about the GT-IFQ Program since its implementation in January 2010.**

16. Have you received transferred allocation **FROM** another IFQ account?

- Yes → Go to Q17       No → Skip to Q19

17. **If you received (e.g., leased, gifted) transferred GT-IFQ allocation FROM another IFQ account, how important were the following reasons for doing so? Please check the appropriate box for each statement.**

<b>Reasons for RECEIVING TRANSFERRED GT-IFQ allocation FROM another IFQ account</b>	<b>Not Important</b>	<b>Somewhat Important</b>	<b>Very Important</b>
I did not have the financial resources at the time to purchase IFQ shares.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I only need (additional) allocation for a relatively short period of time (e.g., a single fishing year).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I want to be able to retain grouper-tilefish species which I would have otherwise discarded.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over the long run, I believe that buying allocation on an annual basis will be less expensive than purchasing an equivalent amount of shares.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Purchasing annual allocation provides greater flexibility than owning IFQ shares.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I consider the buying of additional IFQ shares as too risky due to uncertainty in:	/ / / / /	/ / / / /	/ / / / /
(a) future ex-vessel prices	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(b) future commercial quotas due to changes in stock assessments or modifications to the commercial/recreational allocation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(c) future harvesting costs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(d) the duration of the GT-IFQ Program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(e) other ( please specify): _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I bought allocation to sell or give to other fishermen.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please explain): _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



19. Have you transferred allocation **TO** another IFQ account?

Yes → Go to Q20

No → Skip to Q22

20. If you **transferred (e.g., leased, gifted) GT-IFQ allocation TO another IFQ Account**, how important were the following reasons for doing so? Please check the appropriate box for each statement.

<b>Reasons for TRANSFERRING GT-IFQ allocation <u>TO</u> another IFQ account</b>	<b>Not Important</b>	<b>Somewhat Important</b>	<b>Very Important</b>
I received a higher return from TRANSFERRING allocation than from fishing it.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reduced financial uncertainty.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Illness or health issues prevented me from fishing.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vessel repairs prevented me from fishing.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
My allocation from shares is too small to be worth harvesting.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The vessel fishing capacity availability that I have is insufficient to allow for the harvest of my allocation.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The amount of labor (captain and crew) that I have is insufficient to allow for the harvest of my allocation.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I TRANSFERRED allocation as barter for red snapper or other species IFQ allocation/shares.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I no longer have a Gulf of Mexico reef fish permit.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I transferred allocation to my other IFQ account(s).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please explain): _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



22. Have you **purchased GT-IFO shares**?

- Yes → Go to Q23       No → Skip to Q24

23. If you **purchased GT-IFO shares**, how important were the following reasons for doing so? Please check the appropriate box for each statement.

<b>Reasons for <u>PURCHASING</u> GT-IFO shares</b>	<b>Not Important</b>	<b>Somewhat Important</b>	<b>Very Important</b>
The asking price for the purchased shares was reasonable compared to the financial return I anticipated from fishing the additional shares.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The asking price for the purchased shares was reasonable compared to what I anticipate I will be able to sell the shares.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The asking price for the purchased shares was reasonable relative to the return I anticipated from selling the related annual allocation.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I believed that the additional shares would allow me to fish at a more efficient level.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I needed additional shares because I wanted to retain the grouper-tilefish I land as bycatch.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I anticipated that Total Allowable Catch (TAC) will increase after the next stock assessment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please explain): _____ _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

24. Have you **sold GT-IFQ shares**?

- Yes → Go to Q25       No → Skip to Q26

25. If you **sold GT-IFQ shares**, how important were the following reasons for doing so? Please check the appropriate box for each statement.

<b>Reasons for <u>SELLING</u> GT-IFQ shares</b>	<b>Not Important</b>	<b>Somewhat Important</b>	<b>Very Important</b>
The selling price was high relative to the expected financial returns I anticipated from fishing the shares.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The selling price was higher than what I anticipated receiving for the shares in the future.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I had more shares than necessary for an efficient level of production.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I anticipated that the value of my shares would decrease after the next stock assessment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I felt uncertain about the duration of the GT-IFQ Program.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I wanted to leave the fishery.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I TRANSFERRED shares as barter for red snapper or other species IFQ allocation/shares.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please explain): _____ _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



## Section 5: Social Well-Being and Demographic Information

**28.** The following set of questions is designed to evaluate the well-being of fishermen who harvest grouper and tilefish species, including their views of fishing as a job and way of life. If you did not fish or if you hire a captain to fish your allocation in the GT-IFQ Program, please proceed to Question 29.

How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Please check the appropriate box for each statement.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree	No Opinion
“Fishing is hard work” is less true now than prior to the GT-IFQ Program.	<input type="checkbox"/>					
It is easier for people to get started in fishing now than prior to the IFQ Program.	<input type="checkbox"/>					
I enjoy fishing more now than prior to the IFQ Program.	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Fishing is just one of many jobs I could be happy doing.	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Young people should be encouraged to pursue a career in commercial fishing.	<input type="checkbox"/>					
My primary motivation for fishing is financial.	<input type="checkbox"/>					
I would choose to be a commercial fisherman if I had my life to live over again.	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Overall, IFQ programs have made commercial fishing a better industry to be a part of.	<input type="checkbox"/>					

**29.** Are you male or female?

Male       Female

**30.** In what year were you born?

19\_\_\_\_\_

**31.** How many people in the following age groups live in your household?

\_\_\_\_\_ Under 18      \_\_\_\_\_ 18 to 35      \_\_\_\_\_ 36 to 60      \_\_\_\_\_ Over 60

32. What is your marital status?

- Never married
- Married
- Separated
- Divorced
- Widowed

33. Are you of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin?

- Yes
- No

34. What is your race? (check one or more boxes)

- American Indian or Alaska Native
  - Asian
  - Black or African American
  - Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
  - White
  - Some other race – Please print race below
- 

35. What is the highest level of education that you have attained (check only one box)?

- Not a high school graduate
- High school graduate or Certificate of High School Equivalency
- Some college or post-secondary training, but no degree
- Associate or vocational degree
- Bachelor degree
- Advanced degree

36. What was your household income in 2013 (before taxes)?

- Under \$15,000
- \$15,000 to \$24,999
- \$25,000 to \$34,999
- \$35,000 to \$49,999
- \$50,000 to \$74,999
- \$75,000 to \$99,999
- \$100,000 and over

**Section 6: Other Issues**

**For each question, please check the box on the scale below that best indicates your level of satisfaction. If the question does not apply, please check the No Opinion box.**

37. a) How satisfied are you with the IFQ Online System for managing share and allocation and completing landing transactions?

<b>Highly Unsatisfied</b>	<b>Unsatisfied</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Satisfied</b>	<b>Highly Satisfied</b>	<b>No Opinion</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

b) What improvements would you suggest to the IFQ Online System?

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38. a) How satisfied are you with the customer service you receive when contacting NOAA Fisheries Service regarding questions about the IFQ Program?

<b>Highly Unsatisfied</b>	<b>Unsatisfied</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Satisfied</b>	<b>Highly Satisfied</b>	<b>No Opinion</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

b) What improvements would you suggest to IFQ customer service?

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39. a) How satisfied are you with the customer service you receive when making a landing notification via phone?

<b>Highly Unsatisfied</b>	<b>Unsatisfied</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Satisfied</b>	<b>Highly Satisfied</b>	<b>No Opinion</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

b) What improvements would you suggest to the landing notification system?

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40. a) How satisfied are you with enforcement of the IFQ Program?

<b>Highly Unsatisfied</b>	<b>Unsatisfied</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>Satisfied</b>	<b>Highly Satisfied</b>	<b>No Opinion</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

b) What improvements would you suggest to the enforcement of the IFQ Program?

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**PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT STATEMENT:**

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response including the time for reviewing the instructions, searching the existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspects of this burden to Larry Perruso National Marine Fisheries Service, 75 Virginia Beach Drive, Miami, Florida 33149. This reporting is authorized under 50 CFR 622.5(a)(1)(v). Information submitted will be treated as confidential in accordance with NOAA Administrative Order 216-100. Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless that collection displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. The NMFS requires this information for the conservation and management of marine fishery resources. These data will be used to evaluate the economic effects of proposed regulations in the fishery.