

Science, Service, Stewardship

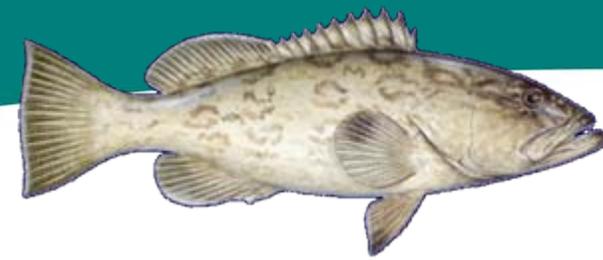
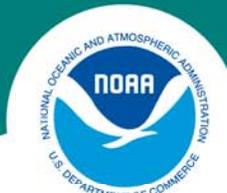


An Overview of the Gulf of Mexico Grouper/Tilefish IFQ Programs

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**NOAA
FISHERIES
SERVICE**

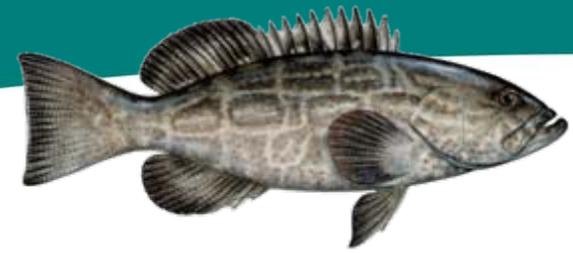


Grouper/Tilefish Fishery

- Multispecies fishery:
 - o 8 shallow-water grouper 7.48 mp quota
 - o 5 deep-water grouper 1.02 mp quota
 - o 5 tilefishes 0.44 mp quota

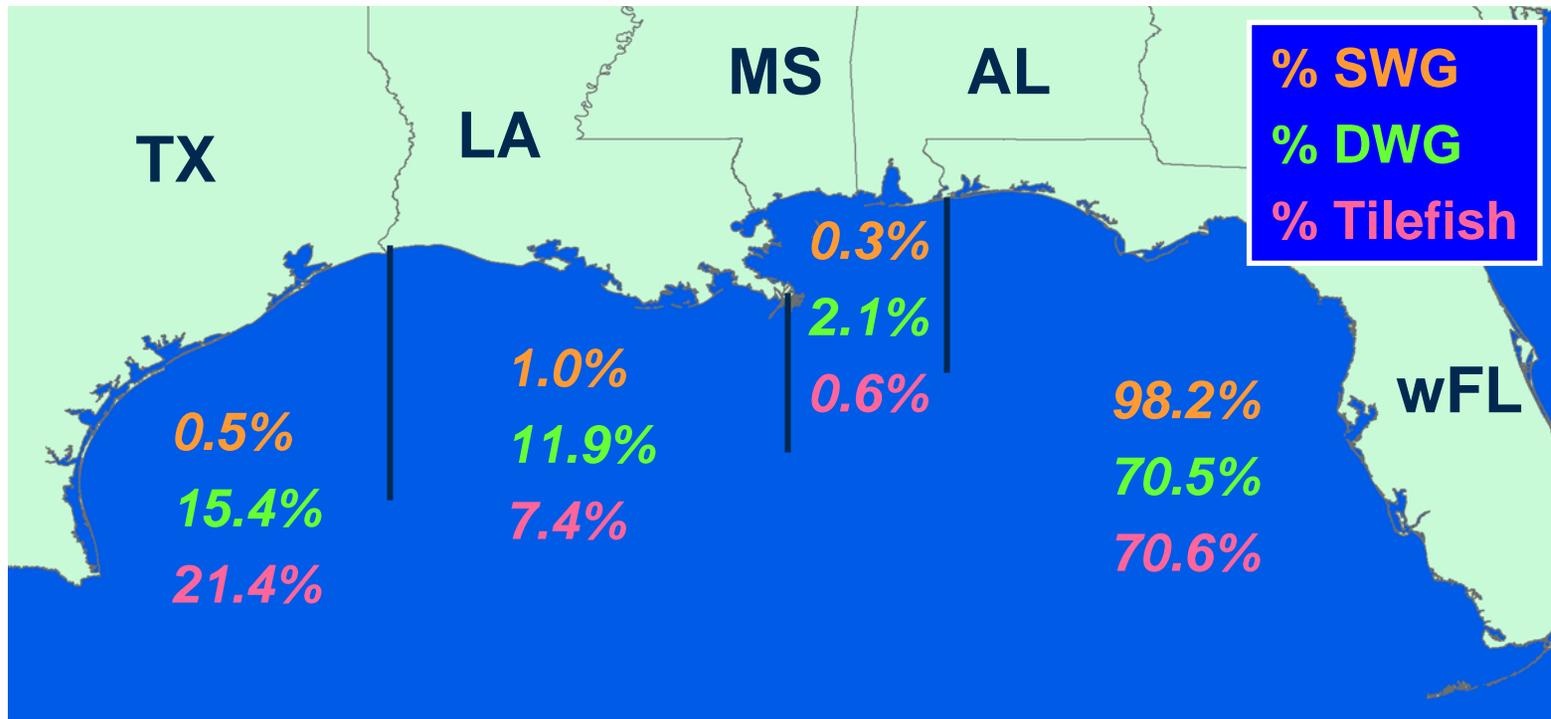
- 8.94 mp

- Avg. annual revenue trends from '99-04 to '05-08
 - Red grpr: -16%; Gag: -26%; DWG: -13%; Tile: -14%
- Avg. annual vessel trends from '05-06 to '07-08
 - Red grpr: -18%; Gag: -16%; DWG: -28%; Tile: -24%

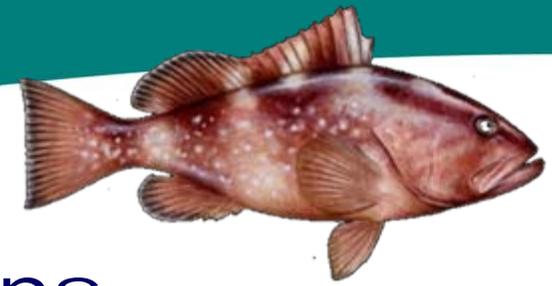


Grouper/Tilefish Landings

- Longline, hook-and-line, and bandit rigs

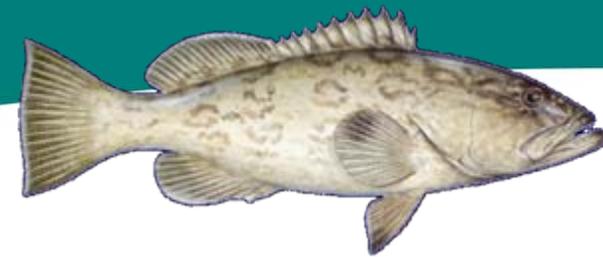


Source: 2004-07 avg. ALS landings



Current Regulations

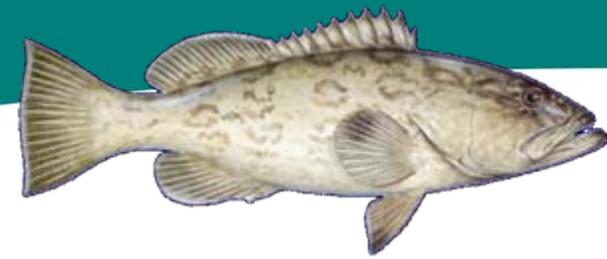
- Permits (moratorium since 1992)
- Quotas
- Trip Limit – 6,000 pounds all grouper
- Seasonal and area closures
- Gear restrictions
- Size limits
- Amendment 31 – loggerheads and longlines



Grouper/Tilefish IFQ Objectives

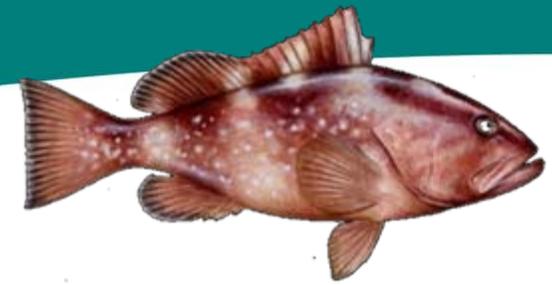
- Reduce overcapitalization of the fleet
- Eliminate derby fishing
 - Lengthen fishing season
 - Improve market conditions and eliminate gluts
- Improve economic efficiency
 - Lower operating costs
- Reduce bycatch and discard mortality
- Protect participation of small-scale fishermen
- Promote safe fishing operations

January 1, 2010 - Implementation

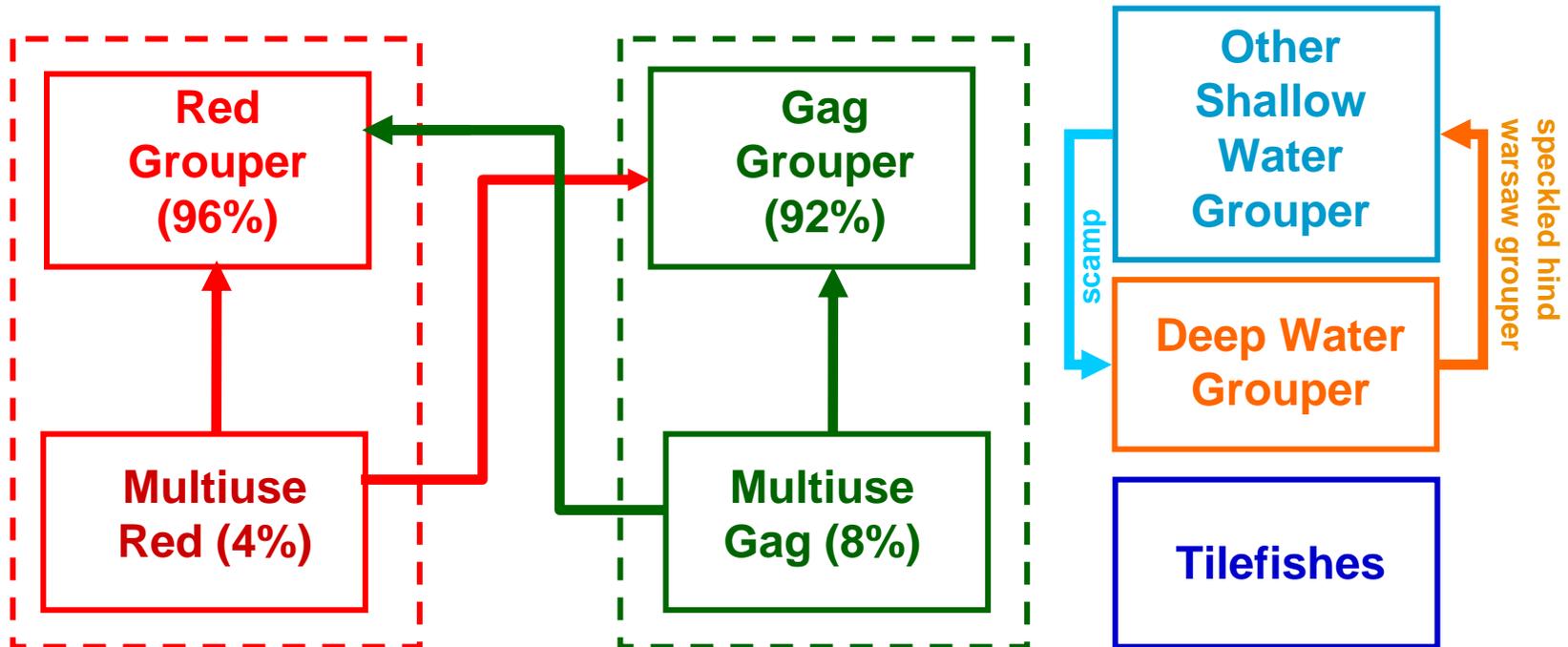


Key Elements of IFQ Program

- Referendum before approval (81%)
- All active commercial reef fish permit holders eligible
- Transfer allowed
- Initial shares based on best 5 of 6 years of landings (1999-2004) and distributed proportionately
- Caps on share ownership and allocation
- 3% cost recovery fee
- Multiuse allocation



Flexibility: Multiuse Allocation





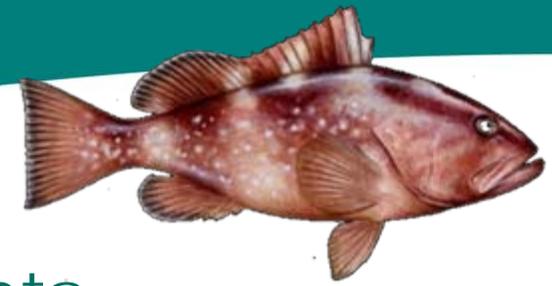
Potential Performance Methods

Performance Metric	IFQ Program Objective	Fishery Objective
S/S ₀	Improve status of stocks	Improve status of stocks
% of quota filled	Quota management	Improve status of stocks
Average ex-vessel prices	Increase fishery value and stabilize market conditions	Increase fishery value
# of shareholders	Consolidation of fleet	Reduce overcapitalization
Landings to discard ratio	Reduce directed bycatch	Reduce directed bycatch
Fishing year round?	Increase season length	Increase fishery value



Preferred Economic and Social Performance Methods

Performance Metric	IFQ Program Objective	Data Source
# vessels, trips, days Vessel charact.	Reduce overcapitalization	Logbooks, permits databases
Date when allocation reached, last day fishing	Eliminate derby, lengthen season	IFQ monitor program
Price trends	Improve market conditions	IFQ monitor program, ALS data
Seasonal distribution of landings	Eliminate market gluts	IFQ monitor program
Lower operating costs	Improve economic efficiency	Logbook econ. add-on
Concentration ratios	Protect small-scale fishers	IFQ monitor program



Closing Thoughts

- Stratified sampling for economic add-on likely will under-sample IFQ highliners
 - Targeted sampling + volunteers = unknown statistical equations
 - Existing panel could be compromised
- Preferred data: dealers collect ex-vessel and allocation prices, and cost recovery fees at time of offloading
- How do we know when derby is over or no more excess capacity?