

Allocation Review Procedures Update



May 2021 SSC

Definitions

- ❖ **Fisheries Allocation Review:** the evaluation that leads to the decision of whether or not the development and evaluation of allocation options is warranted, but is not, in and of itself, an implicit trigger to consider alternative allocations.
- ❖ **Evaluation of Fisheries Allocation Options for an FMP Amendment:** If the allocation review determines a reallocation is warranted then the full analysis and evaluation of allocation options should be initiated. The goal is an FMP amendment (or framework action) to update the allocation or maintain status quo.

Council's Review Triggers

- ❖ **Time-based** as **primary trigger**; and,
- ❖ Council's **public comment process** as **secondary trigger**
- ❖ Suggested triggers do not prevent the Council from conducting allocation reviews based on other factors
- ❖ Council could initiate additional reviews as needed, e.g., if new information becomes available (data recalibration)

Fisheries Allocations in the Gulf of Mexico

Fisheries allocations subject to NMFS' Allocation Review Policy include allocations:

- ❖ between the commercial and recreational sectors;
- ❖ within the recreational sector, i.e., between the federal for-hire and the private angling components;
- ❖ between Gulf zones and gear types;
- ❖ between the Gulf and South Atlantic Councils; and,
- ❖ between the five states in the Gulf of Mexico.

Time intervals & expected starts of initial allocation reviews

Allocations	Time Intervals	First review (expected start)
Recreational red snapper ACL allocation between the private angling and federal for-hire components	4 years	April 2023
Red snapper allocations between the Gulf states	5 years	April 2024
Gray triggerfish and greater amberjack allocations between the recreational and commercial sectors	6 years	April 2025
Gulf of Mexico group king mackerel allocations between the recreational and commercial sectors, zones, and gear types	6 years	April 2025
Recreational and commercial allocations of red snapper, gag, red grouper and, SWG, DWG, and tilefish IFQ aggregates	7 years	April 2026
Black grouper, mutton snapper, yellowtail snapper allocations between the Gulf and South Atlantic Councils	7 years	April 2026

Additional Allocations Reviews and Evaluation of Allocation Options (FMP Amendment)

- ❖ **Red grouper:** recreational & commercial allocations (Reef Fish Amendment 53)
- ❖ **Red snapper:** recreational & commercial allocations; and for-hire and private angling components (Reef Fish Amendment 52)
- ❖ **Gulf Cobia:** between zones (CMP Amendment 32)
- ❖ Other documents considering the conversion of recreational data from CHTS to FES

Allocation Review Tiers

- ❖ Two-tiered allocation reviews
- ❖ **Tier 1:** allocations established to facilitate Grouper-Tilefish IFQ quota distribution such as commercial and recreational allocations for
 - ❖ Shallow Water Grouper (SWG)
 - ❖ Deep Water Grouper (DWG)
 - ❖ Tilefish
- ❖ **Tier 2:** All remaining allocations

Tier 1 Allocation Reviews

- ❖ Allocations established in Generic ACL Amendment (2012)
- ❖ **SWG Aggregate:** Black grouper, Yellowmouth grouper, Yellowfin grouper, Scamp (77% commercial, 23% recreational)
- ❖ **DWG Aggregate:** Yellowedge grouper, Snowy grouper, Warsaw grouper, Speckled hind (96.4% commercial, 3.6% recreational)
- ❖ **Tilefish Aggregate:** Golden tilefish, Blueline tilefish, Goldface tilefish (99.7% commercial, 0.3% recreational)

Tier 1 Allocation Reviews

Allocation reviews could be limited to discussion/evaluations of:

- ❖ Reef Fish FMP objectives
- ❖ Changes in ACLs (and quotas)
- ❖ Recreational and commercial historical landings & trends
- ❖ Quota utilization rates by sector

Tier 2 Allocation Reviews

- ❖ Gulf Reef fish and CMP allocations not included in Tier 1
- ❖ Potentially more controversial; resources & time-consuming
- ❖ Challenges due to data unavailability
- ❖ Approach specifying a predetermined list of analyses to complete may be too prescriptive
- ❖ Alternative approach would, on a case-by-case basis, set review criteria; criteria specified in the terms of reference for each review

Thank you