

For the reasons set out in the preamble, NMFS proposes to amend 50 CFR part 622 as follows:

PART 622--FISHERIES OF THE CARIBBEAN, GULF OF AMERICA, AND SOUTH ATLANTIC

1. The authority citation for part 622 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

§ 622.34 [Amended]

2. In § 622.39, revise paragraph (a) (1) (iii) (C) (2) to read as follows:

§ 622.39 Quotas.

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(a) * * *

(1) * * *

(iii) * * *

(c) * * *

(2) For fishing year 2027 - 4.83 million lb (2.19 million kg).

(i) To allow for a red grouper commercial quota pool to be implemented in 2027, NMFS will withhold distribution of XX lb (xx kg), gutted weight, of the 2027 IFQ distribution of the red grouper commercial quota on January 1, 2027.

Commented [SS1]: Red Grouper

Commented [SS2]: The red grouper 2027 commercial quota that is in Am62. Am62 proposed rule currently in rulemaking.

Commented [SS3]: Placeholder. Pounds of the red grouper 2027 commercial quota to be withheld.

(ii) If a final rule to implement a red grouper commercial quota pool is not effective by July 1, 2027, NMFS will distribute withheld 2027 IFQ allocation of red grouper to the current shareholders based on their current shares held as of the date of distribution.

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Commented [SS4]: Placeholder date. Any specific date in 2027 to be discussed/determined.