



NOAA FISHERIES

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CATH UP ON CATCH SHARES

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Below you will find **2024 Third Quarter Price Summary Data** for each species and share category in the Gulf Catch Shares programs.

Share Category	Species	Share Price (per 1lb equivalent)	Allocation Price (per/lb)	Ex-Vessel Price
Red Snapper	Red snapper	\$49.33	\$4.46	\$6.03
Deep Water Grouper	Snowy grouper	\$5.70	\$0.80	\$6.41
	Speckled hind			\$6.43
	Warsaw grouper			\$5.55
	Yellowedge grouper			\$6.89
Gag	Gag	\$44.28	\$3.84	\$7.61
			multi-use: \$3.84	
Shallow Water Grouper	Black grouper	\$4.99	\$0.73	\$7.33
	Scamp			\$7.15
	Yellowfin grouper			-
	Yellowmouth grouper			\$7.35
Red Grouper	Red grouper	\$16.66	\$1.72	\$6.33
			multi-use: \$1.72	
Tilefish	Blueline tilefish	\$7.17	\$0.66	\$2.92
	Golden tilefish			\$4.18
	Goldface tilefish			\$2.95

- Insufficient data for yellowfin grouper ex-vessel price calculation.

Cost Recovery Fee Basics in the Gulf of Mexico IFQ Programs

Why does it exist, how is it calculated, and how is it used?

The Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation and Management Act (Act), the primary law that governs marine fisheries management in the U.S., states that the Secretary of the Department of Commerce is authorized to collect a fee from any Limited Access Privilege Program, including Catch Share Programs. The Act also indicates that the fee cannot exceed 3% of the ex-vessel value of fish harvested and must be collected at either the time of landing, filing of the landing report, sale of the fish, or in the last quarter of the calendar year in which the fish was harvested. These fees, referred to as cost recovery fees, can only be used to support costs directly related to the program, such as costs associated with management, data collection, and enforcement.

CRF is paid by the shareholder account associated with the vessel, regardless of how the allocation was obtained. The dealer then submits the collected fees to NOAA Fisheries quarterly on the behalf of the shareholder.

The Catch Shares Online System automatically calculates how much the dealer should collect from the shareholder for each landing transaction. When the dealer completes a landing transaction, the "Landing Transaction Confirmation" page provides the Total Price, CRF Value, and Net Value (see example below). This allows for information transparency for both the fishermen and the dealer.

In reality, dealers often just pay the fishermen the net value (total value minus the CRF) instead of doing the exchange of funds for CRF.

Who pays the Cost Recovery Fees?

Cost recovery fee (CRF) payment is a multi-step process that involves the fishermen, the dealer, and NOAA Fisheries. IFQ dealers are responsible for collecting the CRF from the IFQ shareholder of the vessel at the time of the landing. The



When are Cost Recovery Fees due?

Cost recovery fees are paid quarterly. Dealers have one month to pay the fees after each quarter has ended. The entire quarter is used to calculate the fees, therefore you cannot pay your fees for that quarter before the due date.

Quarter	Months	CRF Due	Accounts Delinquent
1	January 1 - March 31	April 1-30	May 1
2	April 1 - June 30	July 1-31	August 1
3	July 1 - September 30	October 1-31	November 1
4	October 1 - December 31	January 1-31	February 1

How are they paid?

Payments of CRF are accessed through the [Catch Shares Online System](#) which directs the dealer to the Department of Treasury’s (Treasury) pay.gov website to make the actual payment.

To start, click “Cost Recovery” from the blue banner on the Catch Shares Online System along the top of the page and select the “View Cost Recovery” drop down. A table (see next page) with quarterly CRF will appear. If multiple quarters are outstanding, each payment must be made separately and the oldest quarter’s CRF must be paid first. For example, in the table below, 2024 Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 fees are both in the “Due” status, but Quarter 1 fees must be paid first. To pay, click the row of the quarter you wish to pay (it will become highlighted dark gray), then click on the blue “Click to Pay Cost Recovery” button in the upper left corner of the screen (see example on next page).

After you select the “Click to Pay Cost Recovery” button you will be brought to the secure Pay.Gov website to complete your payment. You must first select your method of payment on the screen below. The Treasury Department has revised the maximum amount allowed to be charged

View Cost Recovery

[Click to Pay Cost Recovery](#)

The payment screen will open in a new browser window
Payment is accepted for one quarter at a time, oldest quarter first

Announcement: The Treasury Department has revised the maximum amount allowed to be charged using a credit card to reduce the fees incurred for credit card processing. Cost recovery fees that are in excess of \$24,999.99 must be paid using a debit card or Automated Clearing House (ACH) debit.

Summary of Cost Recovery Fees by Quarter (Select a line to view detail below)

Show 12 entries

Year	Quarter	CRF Fees	CRF Paid	CRF Pending	Owed	Adjusted	Due Date	Date Paid	Status
2024	2						2024-07-01		Due
2024	1						2024-04-01		Due
2023	4						2024-01-01	2024-01-29	Paid
2023	3						2023-10-01	2023-11-19	Paid
2023	2						2023-07-01	2023-08-01	Paid

Previous 1 2 3 4 5 ... 12 Next

using a credit card to reduce the fees incurred for credit card processing. Fees that are in excess of \$24,999.99 must be paid using a debit card or Automated Clearing House (ACH) debit. At the end of your Pay.Gov session, you will be redirected back to the SERO Catch Shares Online System. No information from Pay.Gov will be retained in the SERO Catch Share Program website, other than the success or failure of that transaction. Payments via Pay.Gov will usually be credited against your CRF within 48 hours.

What happens if they are not paid?

If fees are not paid by the due date, the dealer account is suspended. Once an account is suspended, online functions are limited to paying the CRF. Suspended dealer accounts cannot process landing transactions and cannot receive any IFQ species from vessels. Once the

CRF payment is paid in full, the dealer account will regain full capabilities.

If a CRF payment is not completed within 90 days of the due date, the debt will be eligible for referral to the Treasury for collection actions (50 C.F.R. § 622.16). Once the debt is referred to the Treasury, they have legal authority over the debt and all issues must be resolved with the Treasury. Dealers would no longer be able to pay the CRF through the Catch Shares Online System. Once a dealer is referred to the Treasury for payment, there could be a considerable delay in regaining full access in the Catch Shares Online System. Additionally, the dealer could be assessed late charges.

If you have any questions about CRF or need assistance with the payment process through the Catch Shares Online System, please call the Catch Shares Support Line at (866) 425-7627 or see the [Troubleshooting Guide](#).



Casting the Net into the Ocean of Economic Fisheries Data Part II: Economic Data and Fisheries Disasters



Fort Myers, FL after Hurricane Ian 2022

results in the loss of fishing vessels or gear in the 12 months following the triggering event. Causes of fishery resource disasters include natural, undetermined, and discrete human-made events under certain circumstances. In late December 2022, the Fisheries Resource Disasters Improvement Act was signed into law. This includes several statutory changes to the disaster program, such as specific timelines and information requirements for fishery disaster requests, determinations, and assistance.

Catch Share Program staff continued their conversation from Issue 12 with Dr. Michael Travis, NOAA Fisheries Economist of over 30 years, to better understand how the IFQ data are used when fishery di-



Gulf of Mexico after the BP Oil Spill 2010

Over the past several years, we have seen how devastating a hurricane, spillway opening, or oil spill can be on fisheries and related fishing communities. The Magnuson-Stevens Act provides the NOAA Fisheries authority and sets the requirements for fishery resource disaster determinations. A Fishery Resource Disaster is defined as an event that causes a minimum 35% reduction in revenue for one or more sectors of the affected fishery as a result of an unexpected and large decrease in fish stock biomass or an event that results in the loss of access to the resource.

An example would include an event that



Cortez, FL after Hurricane Milton 2024

disasters occur. Dr. Travis explained, “Per the Fisheries Disaster Improvement Act, revenue data are required to assess the economic effects of the triggering event on a fishery; specifically, the commercial, for-hire, and processing sectors, as well as subsistence fishing. We examine the reduction in revenues in the year of the alleged disaster and compare it to average revenues in the preceding 5 years (excluding fishery disaster years), which serve as the baseline for evaluation purposes. In this case, a “year” can be any 12-month time period, as long as the months are consecutive.”

The IFQ program collects a variety of economic data, such as price of share and allocation transfers, as well as the ex-vessel price. Dr. Travis told us, “Revenue is obtained by multiplying the ex-vessel price per pound by the amount of pounds har-

vested (landings). Other types of “losses” or “damages” (e.g., reductions in the fishery’s economic impacts at the state or regional level and losses in infrastructure) are generally only looked at if the revenue loss in one or more of the sectors in a fishery is between 35% and 80%.” This highlights the importance of reporting accurate landings, share, allocation, and ex-vessel price data in order to determine an accurate baseline. Reporting artificially low landings or price data can devalue the fishery, reduce the likelihood that a fishery qualifies for federal disaster recovery assistance, and may limit the amount of recovery funds allocated to states and fishery participants. Click here for more information on the [Fishery Resource Disasters Determination Process](#) and [Fishery Resource Disaster Assistance](#).

Additional Resources:

National Marine Fisheries Service [Policy on Disaster Assistance](#)

Small Business Helene [Disaster Assistance loans](#)

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for [Helene Assistance](#)

Apply through [DisasterAssistance.gov](#), FEMA app, or by calling 1-800-621-3362.

DATES & RESOURCES

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[ELECTRONIC CODE OF
FEDERAL REGULATIONS](#)

[GULF COUNCIL](#)

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**JAN
1-31**

3rd Quarter Cost
Recovery Fees Due

**JAN
27-30**

Gulf Council Meeting
New Orleans, LA

Like what you see?
Do you have suggested topics to feature?

Please send feedback to
NMFS.SER.CatchShare@noaa.gov
or call 866-425-7627 (option 2).

