



National Marine Fisheries Service, Northwest Region
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PUBLIC NOTICE

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PACIFIC COAST GROUND FISH FISHERY

Trawl Rationalization Program: Details on January 11 Start Date

As previously announced by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on December 31, 2010 (NMFS-SEA-10-23), **fishing will begin under the Shorebased Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) Program on January 11, 2011, as soon as you log on to your vessel account through the QS account and vessel account link on [NMFS Trawl Program website](#), which we anticipate to be available at noon (Pacific time)**. This public notice contains more details on the start of the Shorebased IFQ Program. In addition, NMFS has mailed the following:

- Initial administrative determination (IAD) letters on applications for quota share (QS) permits, mothership catcher vessel (MS/CV) endorsements, mothership (MS) permits, and catcher/processor (C/P) endorsements.
- User IDs and passwords (mailed separately), along with a user guide, for QS accounts and vessel accounts in the Shorebased IFQ Program.
- Interim first receiver site licenses to applicants.

No Trawl Fishing Between January 1-11

Between January 1, 2011 and noon on January 11, 2011 (with a link to log on to QS accounts and vessel accounts), there should be no fishing by any vessel registered to a limited entry trawl permit (i.e., the trawl fishery is closed). That means that there is no fishing under quotas or trip limits. It also means

that a vessel cannot leave port to head out on a fishing trip before the fishery opens, or before they have logged on to their vessel account.

What do I Need to do for my First Trip?

Once fishing under the Shorebased IFQ Program opens, vessels will need to do the following before leaving port on their first fishing trip:

1. **Log on to your vessel account using the User ID and password sent in a certified letter from NMFS to view your vessel account and to get your vessel account number.** A link to log on to QS accounts and vessel accounts will appear on [NMFS Trawl Program website](#) on January 11, 2011, and is anticipated to be at noon (Pacific time). To log on, go to NMFS Northwest Region website at www.nwr.noaa.gov, and click on “West Coast Groundfish Trawl Catch Shares Management Program” and follow the links.

Logging on serves two purposes; it confirms you have access to your vessel account and provides you with your vessel account number (which will appear on your vessel account summary page). You will need to provide your vessel account number to first receivers to report on the electronic fish ticket when making a landing in the Shorebased IFQ Program.

2. **Have an observer on your trip.**
3. **Make sure your VMS is turned on and activated.**
4. **Make a fishery declaration** in to the Shorebased IFQ Program by calling 888-585-5518.

In addition, vessels will need to be aware of the following:

5. **Vessels participating in the Shorebased IFQ Program must land at a shorebased IFQ first receiver that has a first receiver site license.**
A list of first receiver license holders and their authorized landing sites will be available on the [NMFS trawl website](#).
6. **Quota pounds (QP) should be transferred from a QS account to a vessel account or between vessel accounts to cover catch (landings + discards) of IFQ species,** even if the owner of both the QS account and the vessel account is the same person. QP do not need to be deposited in a vessel account before leaving port on your first fishing trip in 2011; however, a vessel may not leave on a subsequent fishing trip if the vessel account shows a negative balance (deficit) for any IFQ species. In addition, the vessel would be subject to an enforcement action if the vessel account has a negative balance for an IFQ species for greater than 30 days, unless the negative balance is within the carryover provision limits and the vessel opts out of the fishery for the remainder of the year.

Note: If the QS account owner and vessel account owner are the same person, a separate User ID and password will be sent for each account. That person will have to log on separately to each account.

Additional details on the Shorebased IFQ Program are available in the [compliance guide](#), which will be sent with each permit and endorsement, and is available on [NMFS trawl website](#).

EXAMPLE: QP transfer

A link to log on to QS accounts and vessel accounts will appear on NMFS Trawl Program website. To get there, go to NMFS Northwest Region website at www.nwr.noaa.gov, and click on “West Coast Groundfish Trawl Catch Shares Management Program” and follow the links.

QS Account to Vessel Account

Bob owns both a QS account and a vessel account. In January 2011, NMFS will issue QP in to Bob’s QS account. Bob will need to log on to his QS account and select the species and an amount of QP to transfer to his vessel account. This will show up as a “pending transfer” in both Bob’s QS account and vessel account. Bob will then need to log on to his vessel account to accept the pending transfer. Once accepted, the transfer is final, and the QP are available for Bob to use in his vessel account.

Note: QP can be transferred from QS accounts to vessel accounts and between vessel accounts, but may not be transferred from a vessel account to a QS account or between QS accounts.

Vessel Account to Vessel Account

Dan owns a vessel account for the F/V Dover, and Paul owns a vessel account for the F/V POP. Dan wants to transfer QP from his vessel account to Paul’s. Dan will need to log on to his vessel account and select the species and an amount of QP to transfer to Paul’s vessel account. This will show up as a pending transfer in both Dan and Paul’s vessel accounts. Paul will then need to log on to his vessel account to accept the pending transfer. Once accepted, the transfer is final, and the QP are available for Paul to use in his vessel account.

Note: All QP transfers are subject to daily and annual limits for a vessel.