

Guided Angler Fish Program Annual Conversion Factors

Updated November 28, 2023

Year	Conversion Factor (IFQ lb / GAF)	
	Area 2C	Area 3A
2014	26.4	12.8
2015	67.3	38.4
2016	65.1	36.1
2017	74	42
2018	71	44
2019	66	42
2020	61	40
2021	72	57
2022	74	27
2023	65	23
2024	61	23

Guided Angler Fish (GAF) conversion factors are posted annually. Conversion factors are not subject to change during the fishing year and may not be challenged. Federal regulations at 50 CFR 300.65(c)(5) provide that the net pounds of halibut Individual Fishing Quota (IFQ) transferred to/from an IFQ permit holder in IPHC regulatory area 2C or 3A will be equal to the number of GAF transferred to/from the GAF account of a GAF permit holder in the corresponding area, multiplied by the estimated average net weight.

The average net weight is estimated from the average length of GAF retained in that area during the previous year as reported to NMFS via the GAF electronic reporting system. Beginning in 2017, NMFS rounds the conversion factor to the nearest whole pound. NMFS will round up to the nearest whole number (no decimals) when transferring IFQ to GAF and when transferring GAF to IFQ. Expressed algebraically, the conversion formula is:

$$\text{IFQ net pounds} = (\text{number of GAF} \times \text{average net weight})$$