

## Your IBQ Tier, Initial Share, and Allocation

### Calculation of Tiers:

An Atlantic Tunas Longline permit holder's initial IBQ share is based on:

- A. the number of bluefin tuna interactions (landings, dead discards, and live discards) for the years 2006 through 2012 (Column **A** in Table 1), and
- B. the amount of designated species landings (i.e., swordfish, yellowfin tuna, bigeye tuna, skipjack tuna, albacore tuna, dolphin, wahoo, shortfin mako sharks, porbeagle shark, and thresher shark) attributed to the qualified vessel based on logbook data for 2006 through 2012 (Column **B** in Table 1).

The number of bluefin interactions is then divided by the designated species landings to produce a ratio (Column **C** in Table 1).

**Table 1.** The vessel-specific data used to calculate your bluefin interactions: designated species landings ratio.

Number of Bluefin Interactions (A)	Designated Species Landings (lb) (B)	Bluefin Interactions: Designated Species Landings Ratio (C = A/B x 10,000)*
[number]	[number]	[number]

\* multiplied by 10,000 to derive a ratio that is more practical (i.e., 0.95 instead of 0.000095).

Thresholds based on percentiles (High 66-100%, Medium: 33<66%, Low: <33%) were used to group the 135 eligible vessels by the sum of Designated Species Landings and by the Bluefin Interactions: Designated Species Landings Ratio (Table 2). Vessels were assigned scores based on the bins into which they were categorized.

**Table 2.** Scoring of the two factors that determine tiers for IBQ share and allocation distribution.

Bins (Based on Percentiles)	Designated Species Landings (average lb/year) (B)	Bluefin Interactions: Designated Species Landings Ratio (C)
High Bin (66 - 100%)	≥ 61,269 (Score 3)	< 0.2884 (Score 3)
Medium Bin (33 - < 66%)	61,268 – 21,180 (Score 2)	0.2884 – 0.9427 (Score 2)
Low Bin (0 - < 33%)	< 21,180 (Score 1)	> 0.9427 (Score 1)

- Compare your numbers from **Table 1** to the bins identified in **Table 2** to determine the scores for your Designated Species Landings (**B**) and your Bluefin Interactions: Designated Species Landings Ratio (**C**).
- Then add the scores together to generate your combined score (ranges from 2 to 6).
- Combined scores were separated into three **Tiers: High (5-6), Medium (4), and Low (2-3)**. Your 2015 IBQ share and allocation depend on your tier.

### Information for *YOUR* account:

Your permit [permit #] (on vessel [vessel ID]) was classified in the [HIGH/MEDIUM/LOW] tier.

