

East coast inshore fishery

Quota allocation

Snapshot: east coast inshore quota allocation

There will be five individual transferable quota (ITQ) species for the east coast inshore fishery—barramundi, king threadfin, grey mackerel, school mackerel and sand whiting. Quota for these species will be divided between five management areas. Quota allocation is based on your reported catch from the best four of five calendar years between 2013 and 2017.

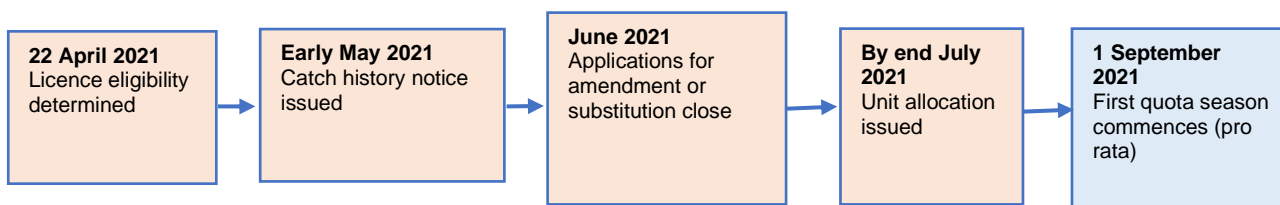
Quota species	Management areas	Relevant symbols
Barramundi	1–4	N2
	5	N2, L1
King threadfin	1–4	K1, K2, K3, K4, K5, K6, K7, K8, N1, N2, N4, N10, N11, L2, L3
	5	K1, K2, K3, K4, K5, K6, K7, K8, N1, N2, N4, N10, N11, L1
Grey mackerel	1–4	K1, K2, K3, K4, K5, K6, K7, K8, N1, N2, N4, N10, N11, L2, L3
	5	K1, K2, K3, K4, K5, K6, K7, K8, N1, N2, N4, N10, N11, L1
School mackerel	5	K1, K2, K3, K4, K5, K6, K7, K8, N1, N2, N4, N10, N11, L1
Sand whiting	5	K1, K2, K3, K4, K5, K6, K7, K8, N1, N2, N4, N10, N11, L1

What you need to do

To be eligible for **east coast inshore quota**, you must have the relevant fishery symbol on your primary fishing boat licence on **22 April 2021** (it does not have to remain on the licence after this date).

You will need to **review the reported catch notice** we send you and, if relevant, follow the instructions to apply for amendment or substitution by the date outlined in the notice.

Important dates



Catch history

Eligible licence holders will receive a catch history notice of their reported catch for each prescribed year from Fisheries Queensland (FQ).

If you believe there is an error in the details of your reported catch, you will be able to apply for it to be amended. You will need to provide evidence of the error (such as original logbooks).

More information on this part of the process will be sent in early 2021.

Your quota

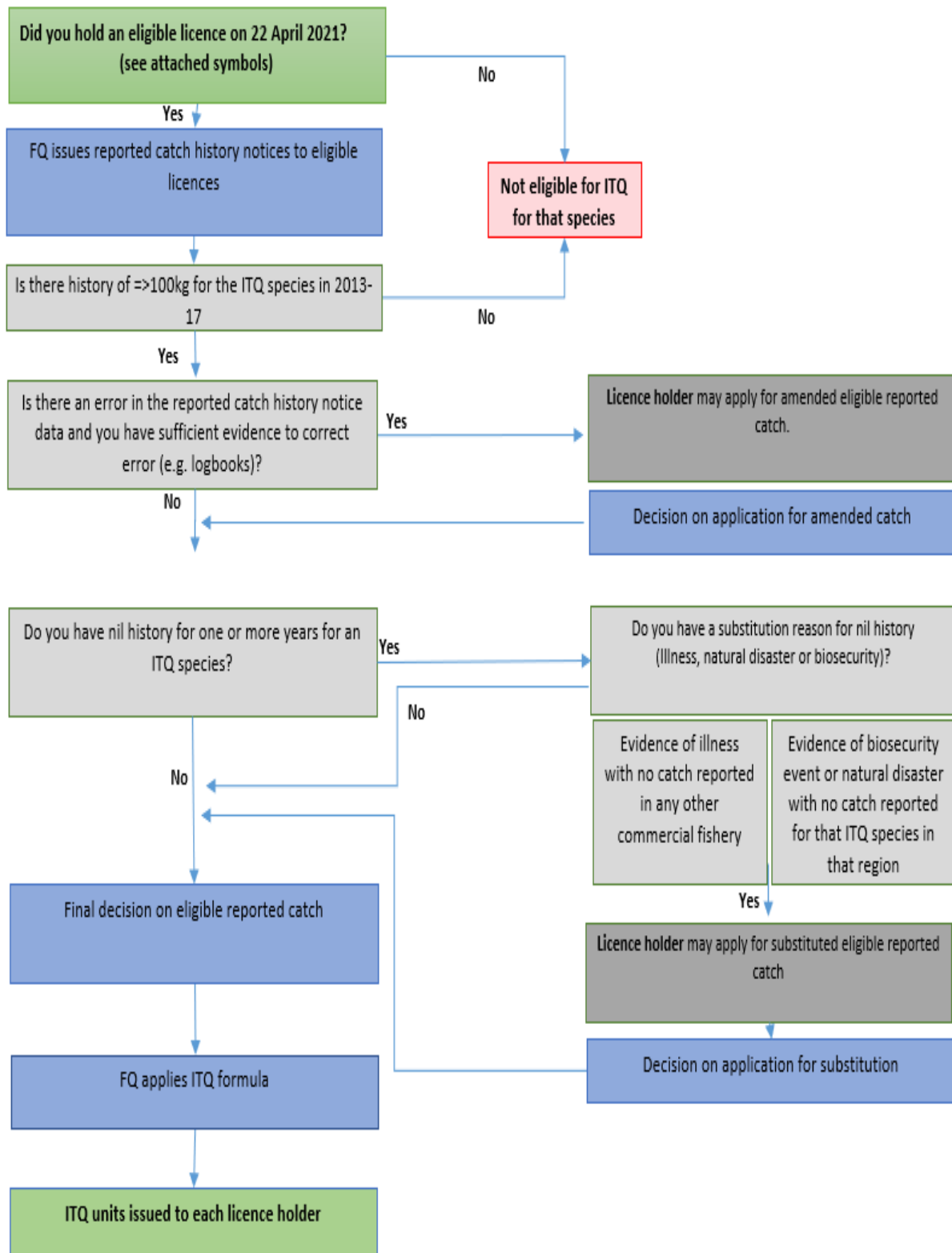
Your quota (entitlement to fish) is calculated by multiplying the number of fishery units you are allocated, by the unit value for the fishery. You will find out the final unit value when you are granted your unit entitlement.

$$\text{Individual catch quota 1 September 2021} = \text{Number of units} \times \text{Unit value (kg)}$$

* Unit value (kg) = total allowable commercial catch ÷ number of available units

Overview of allocation process

Your quota allocation is calculated using final reported, amended or substituted catch history.



How the allocation is calculated

The allocation formula will be the same for all species in all management regions.

$$\text{Licence holder's number of units} = \frac{\text{Eligible licence holder's best catch} \times \text{Number of available units: BM 1-5, GM 1-5, KT 1-5, SM 5, WT 5}}{\text{Sum of all eligible fishers' reported catch}}$$

The **licence holder's number of units** is the number of units that will be allocated to you.

The **eligible licence holder's best catch** is calculated as your best four catch years reported between 2013 and 2017.

The **number of available units** is specified for each fishery for calculating licence holder's units. The final number issued at the completion of the process may be slightly higher.

The **sum of all eligible fishers' best catch** is calculated as the total of all licence holders' best four years catch.

Example of quota unit allocation

A licence holder has reported a species quota catch in the fishery across the years as follows.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
East coast inshore reported species quota catch (kg)	0	4556	4866	4021	0
Best 4 years	0 + 4556 + 4866 + 4021 = 13 443 kg				

The total of their best four years catch for allocation calculations would be 13 443 kg.

$$\frac{13\,443 \text{ kg Best 4 years catch} \times 15\,500 \text{ units available}}{144\,886 \text{ kg e.g. sum of all eligible fishers best catch}} = 1439 \text{ units}$$

Every licence holder will be issued whole units rounded up.

The total of their best four years catch would result in the allocation of 1439 units of that quota species.

Applying for extra allocation

In some circumstances, you can apply to have one or two nil-reported catch years substituted with your average catch. The substituted catch number will replace the zero for calculating your unit allocation.

More information on this part of the process will be sent in early 2021.

Substitution catch history

STEP 1: Are you eligible for substitution reported catch?

Reported catch years	Eligible for substitution	Number of zero years that can be substituted
4 or 5 years of reported catch	No	N/A
3 years of reported catch (2 zeros)	Yes	1
2 years of reported catch (3 zeros)	Yes	2
1 year of reported catch (4 zeros)	Yes	2
0 years of reported catch (5 zeros)	Not eligible for allocation	N/A

STEP 2: Do you have a substitution reason?

Illness, natural disasters and biosecurity issues are the only circumstances in which you may be granted a substitution. To be eligible for reasons of illness, evidence must be produced and there must be no reported catch in any commercial fishery for the same period of time. To be eligible for reasons of natural disaster or a biosecurity issue, evidence must be produced.

STEP 3: What will your substitution catch amount be?

If you are eligible for substituted catch, then the zero reported catch will be substituted with average catch. Your average catch will be calculated based on the relevant years in which there is reported catch.

Example of quota unit allocation with substitution year

A licence holder has reported catch of a quota species in the east coast inshore fishery and has not fished in any other fishery. They provide medical evidence of a significant illness during 2013 that affected their ability to fish. The zero catch reported in 2013 can be replaced with their average catch from the other years for the purposes of applying the ITQ formula and calculating unit allocation: $(4556 + 4866 + 4021) \div 3 = 4481$ kg. This would increase their best four years total by 4481 kg.

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
East coast inshore reported species quota catch (kg)	0	4556	4866	4021	0
With substitution year	4481	4556	4866	4021	0
Best 4 years total	Initial best 4 years catch = 13 443 kg With substitution year = 17 924 kg				

The following explains how the total catch is used in the allocation formula. By having a higher best four years of catch, the licence holder will now receive a greater number of units than if their 2013 zero year had been used. This will translate into additional quota.

$$\begin{array}{r} 17\,924 \text{ kg} \\ \text{Best 4 years catch} \end{array} \times \begin{array}{r} 15\,500 \\ \text{units available} \end{array} = \begin{array}{r} 1860 \\ \text{units} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 149\,367 \text{ kg} \\ \text{e.g. sum of all eligible fishers best catch} \end{array}$$

If the licence holder had provided evidence that they were unable to fish for two years due to illness, they may have been eligible for two substitution years, further increasing their allocation.

Appeal process

Due to a recent amendment to the *Fisheries Act 1994*, the appeal process has changed. If you are not satisfied with the number of quota units allocated to you, you must seek an internal review of the departmental decision first. Following this review, if you are still not satisfied with the decision you can appeal to the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal (QCAT).

More information on this part of the process will be sent in mid-2021.

More information

For more information, visit fisheries.qld.gov.au, email FisheriesManagers@daf.qld.gov.au or call **13 25 23**.