

Talking Points – things we want to make sure get said before, during, or after presentation.

- We sit on the Board of Directors of SAFA. We have hired Kate Quigley to help us through the management process. We will present the basic presentation but want her here to explain some of the details. This is our presentation.
- We have taken a ton of criticism over catch shares and honestly it is not easy. But we are still here because we, the fishermen, believe it can provide us with a way to continue fishing.
- We are giving the Council what they asked for: A proposal from fishermen, by fishermen, for a group of fishermen.
- We're not speaking for everyone. We know there are people that don't want catch shares. And we know you're going to hear a lot from those people.
- But bottom line, if you don't want to join, don't join. If you do, do join. It is simple as that.
- We are committed to research (3 grants in the pipeline), more monitoring, whatever it takes.
- We want a 21st century fishery with daily electronic mandatory reporting and adequate monitoring. We understand the need to stick to the ACLs and ACTs and we are willing to buy computers, make the time, and enter the data needed to stick to the ACLs.
- We cannot make it on 42 days of golden tilefish, 60 days of vermilion, a 4 month closure on grouper, and ACLs that may shut down other fisheries early. WE CANNOT make it.
- We have talked to XXX fishermen in the last XXX six months that are selling their boats and their permits and are looking for other work.
- The way things are now is spelling the end for commercial snapper grouper fishing in the South Atlantic, and for what

purpose when the SE regional office has the expertise, experience and IFQs on the water in the Gulf of Mexico.

- IFQs/LAPs/Catch shares are not new, they are not innovative, they are a type of management, just like any other, that is used effectively throughout the United States and the world.
- We have 35 fishermen representing 43 permits and a significant % of landings interested in a voluntary IFQ. They are – single permit owners (28), two permit owners (4), three permit owners (1), and one four permit owner. We have fishermen from NC (10), SC (20), GA (2), FL (10), and 1 permit in NY. SAFA has over 60 members and these include fishermen, dealers, crew, chefs, and seafood lovers.
- We want to try what every other region in the US has tried already. We have run out of other options. We want to be responsible.
- At this point, we don't know what else to give you (the Council). We've provided everything you've asked for. Please take action on this. Please move forward. Not moving forward with a voluntary IFQ will result in a huge missed opportunity to save the South Atlantic commercial fishery. We want to bring our restaurants and communities fresh, local seafood and right now almost everything is shipped north because we do not have freezing facilities. We receive low prices and have very low profit margins. Most of us barely break even or have losses every year. But, you can turn this around. Give us a chance to show by example how this fishery can be responsible and profitable.
- We will do everything we can to help.