



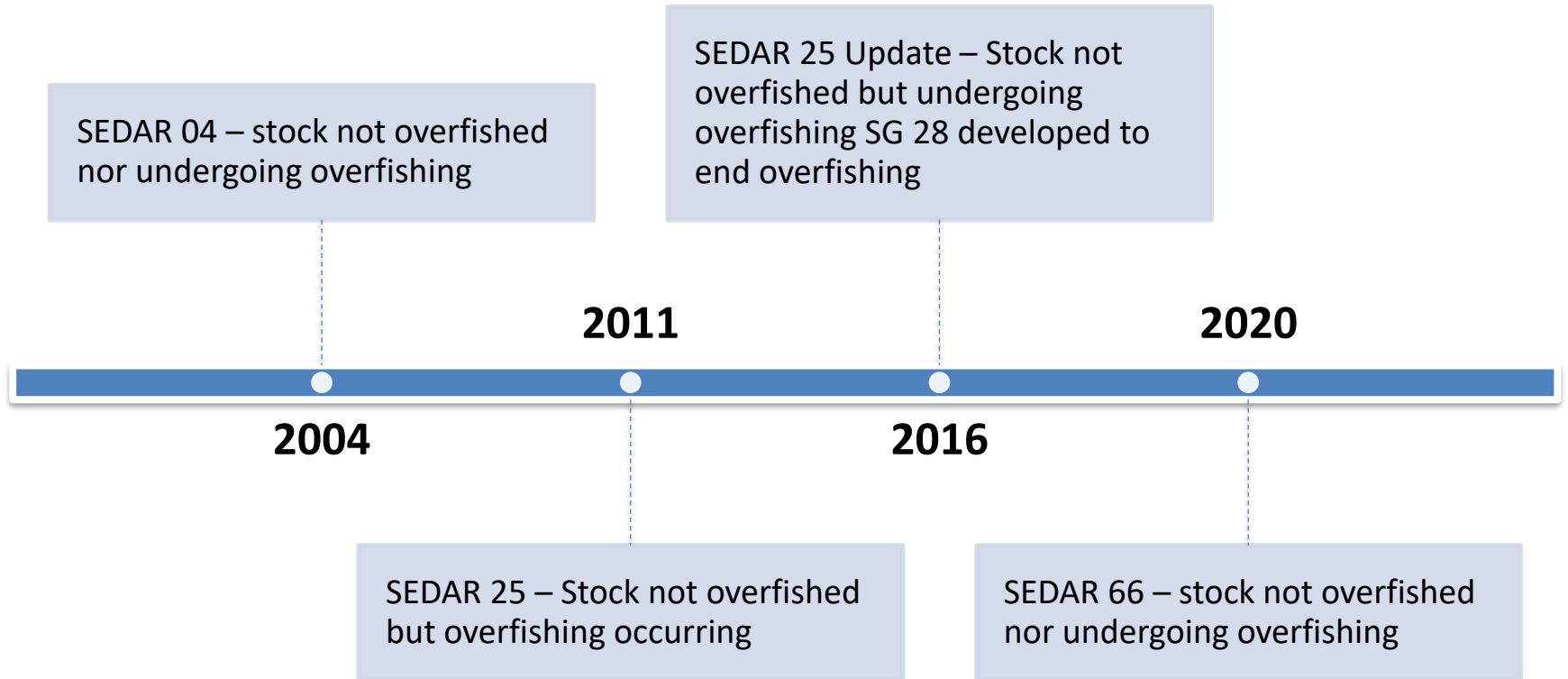
# **Snapper Grouper Amendment 52 Catch Level Adjustments and Allocations for Golden Tilefish**

**Snapper Grouper Advisory Panel Overview**

**Prepared by: Roger Pugliese**

**October 2021**

# Background



# Why is the Council taking action?

## **A new stock assessment was completed:**

The catch levels must be adjusted based on the results of SEDAR 66 and the recommendation of the SSC. The new assessment used revised recreational landings estimates.

## **Allocations must be revised:**

The Council's policy is to review sector allocations for a species when a new assessment is completed and consider revising



# What would this amendment do?

- Adopt new ABC and OFL recommendations
- Revise Total ACL
- Revise sector allocations and ALCs
- Establish management measures to constrain harvest to revised catch levels in the South Atlantic



# Golden Tilefish Fishery

## Overview



# ABC Recommendations

ABC RECOMMENDATIONS		
Year	Landings (lbs gw)	Landings (numbers of fish)
2022	418,000	51,000
2023	435,000	53,000
2024	448,000	54,000
2025	458,000	55,000
2026	466,000	56,000

**Current ABC = 342,000**

# OFL Recommendations

OFL RECOMMENDATIONS		
Year	Landings (lbs gw)	Landings (numbers of fish)
2022	573,000	70,000
2023	562,000	69,000
2024	552,000	68,000
2025	543,000	67,000
2026	535,000	66,000

**Current OFL = 426,000**



# **Recommended Catch Levels and Proposed Actions**



# Adjust catch levels (annual catch limit) and revise annual optimum yield

- New annual catch limits are needed because of the updated ABC/OFL recommendations.
- The current total ACL is 342,000 lbs gw and is equal to the current ABC.
- The SSC recommended an alternative method for calculating ABC (75% Fmsy method) that allowed for a greater amount of harvest following the last assessment. The larger P\* in the most recent recommendation is more in line with standard application of the Control Rule.
- SEDAR 66 includes MRIP data. A new ACL would be based on the SSC's recommended ABCs and the most recent assessment.
- **Given that total ACL may not exceed the SSC's ABC recommendations, what total ACLs or ACL-ABC buffers should be considered?**



# Revise Sector Allocations

- Sector allocations need to be revised due to the updated total ACL and the change to MRIP FES data.
- The current allocations for the recreational and commercial sectors are 3% and 97%, respectively.
- These allocation percentages were based on applying the formula of sector annual catch limit =  $((\text{mean landings 2006-2008}) * 0.5) + ((\text{mean landings 1986-2008}) * 0.5)$  to the landings dataset used in Snapper Grouper Amendment 17B (CHTS for recreational.)
- The current commercial ACL is 331,740 lbs gw.
- The current recreational ACL is 2,316 fish.
- Applying the same allocation method to data used in SEDAR 66, including recreational FES data where applicable, would result in allocations of 96.70% and 3.30% for the commercial and recreational sectors, respectively.
- **Are there additional allocation percentages that should be considered?**



# Consider other changes to management

## Current Recreational Regulations:

- Season: Season: Jan 1-Dec 31 (In-season closure when ACL met or projected to be met)
- Bag limit: Part of Aggregate Grouper Bag Limit of 3/person/day, with a limit of 1 golden tilefish/person/day.
- Size limit: None
- Gear requirements: dehooking tool required, descending device required onboard vessel, non-stainless steel circle hooks required north of 28° North latitude.
- Sale of recreationally caught fish prohibited.



# Consider other changes to management

## Current Commercial Regulations:

- Season: Jan 1-Dec 31 (In-season closure when ACL met or projected to be met)
- Trip Limits:
  - Longline trip limit: 4,000 lbs gw
  - Hook and Line trip limit: 500 lbs gw
  - Size limit: None
- Gear requirements: dehooking tool required, descending device required onboard vessel, non-stainless steel circle hooks required north of 28° North latitude.



# Consider other changes to management

## Current Recreational Accountability Measures:

- If recreational landings of golden tilefish reach or are projected to reach the recreational ACL of 2,316 fish, the recreational sector closes for the remainder of the fishing year **regardless if the stock is overfished**, unless NMFS determines that no closure is necessary based on the best scientific information available.



# Consider other changes to management

## Current Commercial Accountability Measures:

- If commercial hook-and-line landings for golden tilefish reach or are projected to reach the hook-and-line commercial ACL, the hook-and-line component of the commercial sector closes for the remainder of the fishing year.
- If commercial longline landings for golden tilefish reach or are projected to reach the longline commercial ACL, the longline component of the commercial sector closes for the remainder of the fishing year.



# Revise the Total Annual Catch Limit

What is the current total ACL?

342,000 lbs gw

Potential options for the total annual catch limit (ACL) for golden tilefish based on percentages of the acceptable biological catch (ABC).



Year	ACL=ABC (lbs gw)	ACL=95%ABC (lbs gw)	ACL=90%ABC (lbs gw)
2022	418,000	397,100	376,200
2023	435,000	413,250	391,500
2024	448,000	425,600	403,200
2025	458,000	435,100	412,200
2026	466,000	442,700	419,400



# Revise Sector Allocations and ACLs

## What are the current allocations and ACLs?

Commercial (97%) =  
331,740 lbs gw

Recreational (3%) =  
2,316 fish

Current percentages applied to  
total ACL = revised ABC for  
2022/2023 FY:

- Commercial = 405,460 lbs gw
- Recreational = 2,831 fish\*

Note: Average weight from SG Reg Amend 28





# Revise Sector Allocations and ACLs (2022/2023 FY)

	ACL (lbs gw)	Commercial (97%)	Recreational (3%)
ACL=ABC	418,000	405,460	2,831
ACL=95%ABC	397,100	385,187	2,689
ACL=90%ABC	376,200	364,914	2,548

# Revise Sector Allocations and ACLs

Revised allocation %s based on same formula with revised landings:

Commercial = 96.70%

Recreational = 3.30%



When applied to total ACL = recommended ABC for the 2022/2023 FY:

- Commercial = 404,206
- Recreational = 3,114 fish

Note: Average weight from SG Reg Amend 28



# Revise Sector Allocations and ACLs (2022/2023 FY)

	ACL (lbs gw)	Commercial (96.7%)	Recreational (3.3%)
ACL=ABC	418,000	404,206	3,114
ACL=95%ABC	397,100	383,996	2,958
ACL=90%ABC	376,200	363,785	2,802



**QUESTIONS?**