

2. Golden Tilefish Management Overview

2.1. Fishery Management Plan and Amendments

The following summary describes only those management actions that likely affect golden tilefish fisheries and harvest.

Original SAMFC FMP

The Fishery Management Plan (FMP), Regulatory Impact Review, and Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Snapper Grouper Fishery of the South Atlantic Region, approved in 1983 and implemented in August of 1983, establishes a management regime for the fishery for snappers, groupers and related demersal species of the Continental Shelf of the southeastern United States in the fishery conservation zone (FCZ) under the area of authority of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council and the territorial seas of the states, extending from the North Carolina/Virginia border through the Atlantic side of the Florida Keys to 83° W longitude.

Measures in the original FMP that would have affected golden tilefish include data reporting and research needs. No regulations specific to golden tilefish were included.

SAFMC FMP Amendments affecting golden tilefish

Description of Action	FMP/Amendment	Effective Date
Prohibit fish traps, entanglement nets, and longline gear within 50 fathoms. Landed with heads & fins attached. Permits - income requirement & required to exceed bag limits.	Amendment 4	1/1/92
Establish Total Allowable Catch (TAC) and adjust the annual TAC downward by reserving a portion based on bycatch. Phase-in reduction over 3 years; year 1=1994 fishing year (calendar year). Logbook 1992 landings 1,777,772 lbs) used as base year: 1994 = 1,540,795 1995 = 1,303,818 1996 = 1,066,663 -allow retention of now more than 300 pounds of golden tilefish when the directed golden tilefish quota is filled; set the golden tilefish incidental catch at 65,000 pounds and deduct it from the quota as a set-aside for after the directed quota is filled -establish a 5,000 pound (gutted weight) golden tilefish trip limit while the directed golden tilefish quota is open -include all tilefish species in the current 5 grouper aggregate bag limit	Amendment 6	6/27/94

-100% logbook coverage upon renewal of permit -creation of the <i>Oculina</i> Experimental Closed Area -data collection needs specified for evaluation of possible future IFQ system		
Limited entry program: transferable permits and 225-lb non-transferable permits.	Amendment 8	12/14/98
Vessels with longline gear aboard may only possess snowy, warsaw, yellowedge, and misty grouper, and golden, blueline and sand tilefish. Specify that within the 5-fish aggregate grouper bag limit (which currently includes tilefish and excludes goliath grouper and Nassau grouper), no more than 2 fish may be gag or black grouper (individually or in combination).	Amendment 9	2/24/99
-commercial quota = 295,000 lbs gw -commercial trip limit of 4,000 lbs gw until 75% of quota is taken then reduce to 300 lbs; do not adjust trip limit downwards unless 75% is captured on or before September 1 -recreational bag limit of 1/person/day and included within 5 grouper aggregate bag limit	Amendment 13C	10/23/06
established eight marine protected areas (MPAs) in which fishing for or possession of South Atlantic snapper grouper are prohibited	Amendment 14	2/12/09
1) prohibited sale the sale of bag-limit caught snapper grouper species, 2) reduced the effects of incidental hooking on sea turtles and smalltooth sawfish, 3) changed the commercial permit renewal period and transferability requirements, 4) implemented a plan to monitor and address bycatch, and 5) established management reference points, such as MSY and OY for golden tilefish. MSY equals the yield produced by F_{MSY} . MSY and F_{MSY} are defined by the most recent SEDAR. $F_{MSY} = 0.043 = 336,425$ lbs whole weight. If a stock is overfished, F_{OY} equals the fishing mortality rate specified by the rebuilding plan designed to rebuild the stock to SSB_{MSY} within the approved schedule. After the stock is rebuilt, $F_{OY} = a$ fraction of F_{MSY} . Golden tilefish is not overfished. Therefore, $F_{OY} = 75\% F_{MSY} = 326,554$ lbs whole weight. MSST equals	Amendment 15B	12/16/09

SSB _{MSY} (0.75) = 1,454,063 lbs whole weight.		
<p>1) Defined allocations for golden tilefish based upon landings from the ALS, MRFSS, and headboat databases. The allocation would be based on the following formula for each sector: Sector apportionment = (50% * average of long catch range (lbs) 1986-2008) + (50% * average of recent catch trend (lbs) 2006-2008). 97% com/3% rec.</p> <p>2) Established the ACL at the Foy level (Total ACL = 326,554 lbs whole weight or 291,566 lbs gutted weight).</p> <p>3) The commercial ACL (282,819 lbs gutted weight) is based on the allocation alternative selected (97% commercial: 3% recreational).</p> <p>4) The commercial AM for this stock is to prohibit harvest, possession, and retention when the quota is projected to be met. All purchase and sale is prohibited when the quota is projected to be met.</p> <p>5) Specify a recreational ACL in numbers of fish (1,578 fish) based upon the allocation decision (97% commercial: 3% recreational) and the yield at Foy.</p> <p>6) Implement accountability measures (AMs) for the recreational sector for golden tilefish. If the ACL is exceeded, the Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the length of the following fishing season by the amount necessary to ensure landings do not exceed the sector ACL for the following fishing season. Compare the recreational ACL with projected recreational landings over a range of years. For 2010, use only 2010 landings. For 2011, use the average landings of 2010 and 2011. For 2012 and beyond, use the most recent three-year running average.</p> <p>7) Updated the framework procedure.</p>	Amendment 17B	1/31/11

2.2. Emergency and Interim Rules (if any)

SAFMC None.

2.3. Secretarial Amendments (if any)

SAFMC None.

2.4. Control Date Notices (if any)

1. Notice of Control Date (07/30/91 56 FR 36052) - Anyone entering **federal snapper grouper fishery (other than for wreckfish)** in the EEZ off S. Atlantic States after 07/30/91 was not assured of future access if limited entry program developed.
2. Notice of Control Date (10/14/05 70 FR 60058) - Anyone entering **federal snapper grouper fishery** off S. Atlantic states after 10/14/05 was not assured of future access if limited entry program developed.
3. Notice of Control Date (2/20/09 74 FR 7849) - Anyone entering **federal golden tilefish segment of the snapper grouper fishery** off S. Atlantic states after 12/4/08 was not assured of future access if limited entry program developed.
4. Notice of Control Date (01/31/11 76 FR 5325) - Anyone **entering federal snapper grouper fishery** off S. Atlantic states after 09/17/10 was not assured of future access if limited entry program developed.

The net effect of these various control dates is that there are two control dates:

1. Federal Snapper Grouper Fishery – 1/31/2011
2. Federal Golden Tilefish Segment of the Snapper Grouper Fishery – 2/20/2009

2.5. Management Program Specifications

Table 2.5.1. General Management Information

South Atlantic

Species	
Management Unit	Southeastern US
Management Unit Definition	All waters within South Atlantic Fishery Management Council Boundaries (VA/FL boundary south to the SAMFC/GMFMC boundary)
Management Entity	South Atlantic Fishery Management Council
Management Contacts SERO / Council	Myra Brouwer or Gregg Waugh
Current stock exploitation status	Overfishing
Current stock biomass status	Not overfished

Table 2.5.2. Specific Management Criteria

Criteria	South Atlantic - Current		South Atlantic - Proposed	
	Definition	Value	Definition	Value
MSST	SSB _{MSY} (0.75)	1,454,063 lbs whole weight	SSB _{MSY} (0.75)	SEDAR 25
MFMT	F _{MSY}	0.043	F _{MSY}	SEDAR 25
MSY	Yield at F _{MSY}	336,425 lbs whole weight	Yield at F _{MSY}	SEDAR 25
F _{MSY}	F _{MSY}	0.043	F _{MSY}	SEDAR 25
OY	Yield at F _{OY}	326,554 lbs whole weight	Yield at F _{OY}	SEDAR 25
F _{OY}	75%F _{MSY}	0.03225	F _{OY} = 65%, 75%, 85% F _{MSY}	SEDAR 25
M	n/a	0.08	M	SEDAR 25

NOTE: "Proposed" columns are for indicating any definitions that may exist in FMPs or amendments that are currently under development and should therefore be evaluated in the current assessment. "Current" is those definitions in place now. Please clarify whether landings parameters are 'landings' or 'catch' (Landings + Discard). If 'landings', please indicate how discards are addressed.

Table 2.5.3. Stock Rebuilding Information

N/A

Table 2.5.4. Stock projection information.

(This provides the basic information necessary to bridge the gap between the terminal year of the assessment which is the 2010 calendar year and the year in which any changes may take place or specific alternative exploitation rates should be evaluated)

South Atlantic

Requested Information	Value
First Year of Management	2012
Projection Criteria during interim years should be based on (e.g., exploitation or harvest)	Fixed Exploitation; Modified Exploitation; Fixed Harvest* Ask Council in March
Projection criteria values for interim years should be determined from (e.g., terminal year, avg of X years)	Average of previous 3 years Ask Council in March

*Fixed Exploitation would be $F=F_{MSY}$ (or $F<F_{MSY}$) that would rebuild overfished stock to B_{MSY} in the allowable timeframe. Modified Exploitation would be allow for adjustment in $F\leq F_{MSY}$, which would allow for the largest landings that would rebuild the stock to B_{MSY} in the allowable timeframe. Fixed harvest would be maximum fixed harvest with $F\leq F_{MSY}$ that would allow the stock to rebuild to B_{MSY} in the allowable timeframe.

First year of Management: Earliest year in which management changes resulting from this assessment are expected to become effective

Interim years: those between the terminal assessment year and the first year that any management could realistically become effective.

Projection Criteria: The parameter which should be used to determine population removals, typically either an exploitation rate or an average landings value or a pre-specified landings target.

Table 2.5.5. Quota Calculation Details

If the stock is managed by quota, please provide the following information

	Commercial ACL	Recreational ACL	Total ACL
Current Quota Value	282,819 lbs gutted weight	1,578 fish (based on 3% of Total ACL)	326,554 lbs whole weight (291,566 lbs whole weight)
Next Scheduled Quota Change	NA	NA	NA
Annual or averaged quota ?	annual	annual	annual
If averaged, number of years to average	NA	NA	NA
Does the quota account for bycatch/discard ?	Yes	Yes	Yes

How is the quota calculated - conditioned upon exploitation or average landings? Commercial ACL (282,819 lbs gutted weight) and Recreational ACL (1,578 fish) is based on yield at F_{OY} and assumes population biomass at equilibrium. Yield at F_{OY} is allocated to commercial and recreation sectors based on the following formula for each sector: Sector apportionment = (50% * average of long catch range (lbs) 1986-2008) + (50% * average of recent catch trend (lbs) 2006-2008). The allocation is 97% commercial and 3% recreational. This allocation was established in Amendment 17B (effective 1/31/11).

Amendment 13C established a quota (295,000 lbs gutted weight) based on the yield at F_{MSY} . 98% of the yield at F_{MSY} was determined to be the commercial quota in Amendment 13C based on historical landings from 1999-2003.

Does the quota include bycatch/discard estimates? If so, what is the source of the bycatch/discard values? What are the bycatch/discard allowances? Commercial and Recreational ACLs do not require monitoring of discards and are based on landed catch. Assessment takes into consideration bycatch and provides estimates of yield at F_{MSY} and F_{OY} as landed catch rather than landed catch plus dead discards.

Are there additional details of which the analysts should be aware to properly determine quotas for this stock? No.

2.6. Management and Regulatory Timeline

The following tables provide a timeline of Federal management actions by fishery.

Table 2.6.1. Annual Commercial Golden Tilefish Regulatory Summary (please fill out as appropriate)

No size limit has been established or considered for golden tilefish given the high discard mortality in this deep water fishery.

	<u>Fishing Year</u>	<u>Gear Regulations</u>	<u>Possession Limit</u>
1992	Calendar Year	Prohibited longline gear within 50 fathoms	None
1993	Calendar Year	Prohibited longline gear within 50 fathoms	None
1994	Calendar Year	Prohibited longline gear within 50 fathoms	1,540,795 lb quota; 5,000 pound (gutted weight) golden tilefish trip limit; allow retention of no more than 300 pounds when quota filled
1995	Calendar Year	Prohibited longline gear within 50 fathoms	1,303,818 lb quota; 5,000 pound (gutted weight) golden tilefish trip limit; allow retention of no more than 300 pounds when quota filled
1996	Calendar Year	Prohibited longline gear within 50 fathoms	1,066,663 lb quota; 5,000 pound (gutted weight) golden tilefish trip limit; allow retention of no more than 300 pounds when quota filled
1997	Calendar Year	Prohibited longline gear within 50 fathoms	1,066,663 lb quota; 5,000 pound (gutted weight) golden tilefish trip limit; allow retention of no more than 300 pounds when quota filled
1998	Calendar Year	Prohibited longline gear within 50 fathoms	1,066,663 lb quota; 5,000 pound (gutted weight) golden tilefish trip limit; allow retention of no more than 300 pounds when quota filled
1999	Calendar Year	Prohibited longline gear within 50 fathoms. Vessels with longline gear aboard may only possess snowy, warsaw, yellowedge, and misty grouper, and golden, blueline and sand tilefish.	1,066,663 lb quota; 5,000 pound (gutted weight) golden tilefish trip limit; allow retention of no more than 300 pounds when quota filled
2000	Calendar Year	Prohibited longline gear within 50 fathoms. Vessels with longline gear aboard may only possess snowy, warsaw, yellowedge, and misty grouper, and golden, blueline and sand tilefish.	1,066,663 lb quota; 5,000 pound (gutted weight) golden tilefish trip limit; allow retention of no more than 300 pounds when quota filled

2001	Calendar Year	Prohibited longline gear within 50 fathoms. Vessels with longline gear aboard may only possess snowy, warsaw, yellowedge, and misty grouper, and golden, blueline and sand tilefish.	1,066,663 lb quota; 5,000 pound (gutted weight) golden tilefish trip limit; allow retention of no more than 300 pounds when quota filled
2002	Calendar Year	Prohibited longline gear within 50 fathoms. Vessels with longline gear aboard may only possess snowy, warsaw, yellowedge, and misty grouper, and golden, blueline and sand tilefish.	1,066,663 lb quota; 5,000 pound (gutted weight) golden tilefish trip limit; allow retention of no more than 300 pounds when quota filled
2003	Calendar Year	Prohibited longline gear within 50 fathoms. Vessels with longline gear aboard may only possess snowy, warsaw, yellowedge, and misty grouper, and golden, blueline and sand tilefish.	1,066,663 lb quota; 5,000 pound (gutted weight) golden tilefish trip limit; allow retention of no more than 300 pounds when quota filled
2004	Calendar Year	Prohibited longline gear within 50 fathoms. Vessels with longline gear aboard may only possess snowy, warsaw, yellowedge, and misty grouper, and golden, blueline and sand tilefish.	1,066,663 lb quota; 5,000 pound (gutted weight) golden tilefish trip limit; allow retention of no more than 300 pounds when quota filled
2005	Calendar Year	Prohibited longline gear within 50 fathoms. Vessels with longline gear aboard may only possess snowy, warsaw, yellowedge, and misty grouper, and golden, blueline and sand tilefish.	1,066,663 lb quota; 5,000 pound (gutted weight) golden tilefish trip limit; allow retention of no more than 300 pounds when quota filled
2006	Calendar Year	Prohibited longline gear within 50 fathoms. Vessels with longline gear aboard may only possess snowy, warsaw, yellowedge, and misty grouper, and golden, blueline and sand tilefish.	295,000 lbs gw -commercial trip limit of 4,000 lbs gw until 75% of quota is taken then reduce to 300 lbs
2007	Calendar Year	Prohibited longline gear within 50 fathoms. Vessels with longline gear aboard may only possess snowy, warsaw, yellowedge, and misty grouper, and golden, blueline and sand tilefish.	295,000 lbs gw -commercial trip limit of 4,000 lbs gw until 75% of quota is taken then reduce to 300 lbs
2008	Calendar Year	Prohibited longline gear within 50 fathoms. Vessels with longline gear aboard may only possess snowy, warsaw, yellowedge, and misty grouper, and golden, blueline and sand tilefish.	295,000 lbs gw -commercial trip limit of 4,000 lbs gw until 75% of quota is taken then reduce to 300 lbs

2009	Calendar Year	Prohibited longline gear within 50 fathoms. Vessels with longline gear aboard may only possess snowy, warsaw, yellowedge, and misty grouper, and golden, blueline and sand tilefish.	295,000 lbs gw -commercial trip limit of 4,000 lbs gw until 75% of quota is taken then reduce to 300 lbs
2010	Calendar Year	Prohibited longline gear within 50 fathoms. Vessels with longline gear aboard may only possess snowy, warsaw, yellowedge, and misty grouper, and golden, blueline and sand tilefish.	295,000 lbs gw -commercial trip limit of 4,000 lbs gw until 75% of quota is taken then reduce to 300 lbs
2011	Calendar Year	Prohibited longline gear within 50 fathoms. Vessels with longline gear aboard may only possess snowy, warsaw, yellowedge, and misty grouper, and golden, blueline and sand tilefish.	282,819 lbs gw -commercial trip limit of 4,000 lbs gw until 75% of quota is taken then reduce to 300 lbs

Table 2.6.2. Annual Recreational Golden Tilefish Regulatory Summary (Please fill out as appropriate)

No size limit has been established or considered for golden tilefish given the high discard mortality in this deep water fishery.

Year	Fishing Year	Bag Limit	Other Regulations
1992	Calendar Year	None	Landed heads & fins intact
1993	Calendar Year	Aggregate grouper bag limit (including golden, blueline & sand tilefish) – 5/person/day	Landed heads & fins intact
1994	Calendar Year	Aggregate grouper bag limit (including golden, blueline & sand tilefish) – 5/person/day	Landed heads & fins intact
1995	Calendar Year	Aggregate grouper bag limit (including golden, blueline & sand tilefish) – 5/person/day	Landed heads & fins intact
1996	Calendar Year	Aggregate grouper bag limit (including golden, blueline & sand tilefish) – 5/person/day	Landed heads & fins intact
1997	Calendar Year	Aggregate grouper bag limit (including golden, blueline & sand tilefish) – 5/person/day	Landed heads & fins intact
1998	Calendar Year	Aggregate grouper bag limit (including golden, blueline & sand tilefish) – 5/person/day	Landed heads & fins intact
1999	Calendar Year	Aggregate grouper bag limit (including golden, blueline & sand tilefish) – 5/person/day	Landed heads & fins intact
2000	Calendar Year	Aggregate grouper bag limit (including golden, blueline & sand tilefish) – 5/person/day	Landed heads & fins intact
2001	Calendar Year	Aggregate grouper bag limit (including golden, blueline & sand tilefish) – 5/person/day	Landed heads & fins intact
2002	Calendar Year	Aggregate grouper bag limit (including golden, blueline & sand tilefish) – 5/person/day	Landed heads & fins intact
2003	Calendar Year	Aggregate grouper bag limit (including golden, blueline & sand tilefish) – 5/person/day	Landed heads & fins intact
2004	Calendar Year	Aggregate grouper bag limit (including golden, blueline & sand tilefish) – 5/person/day	Landed heads & fins intact
2005	Calendar Year	Aggregate grouper bag limit (including golden, blueline & sand tilefish) – 5/person/day	Landed heads & fins intact
2006	Calendar Year	Limit possession to 1 golden tilefish in 5 grouper per person/day aggregate bag limit.	Landed heads & fins intact
2007	Calendar Year	Limit possession to 1 golden tilefish in 5 grouper per person/day aggregate bag limit.	Landed heads & fins intact
2008	Calendar Year	Limit possession to 1 golden tilefish in 5 grouper per person/day aggregate bag limit.	Landed heads & fins intact
2009	Calendar Year	Limit possession to 1 golden tilefish in 5 grouper per person/day aggregate bag limit.	Landed heads & fins intact Prohibited sale of bag-limit caught golden tilefish
2010	Calendar Year	Limit possession to 1 golden tilefish in 5 grouper per person/day aggregate bag limit.	Landed heads & fins intact Prohibited sale of bag-limit caught golden tilefish
2011	Calendar Year	Limit possession to 1 golden tilefish in 5 grouper per person/day aggregate bag limit. Recreational ACL in numbers of fish (1,578 fish); AM is if exceeded, Regional Administrator shall publish a notice to reduce the length of the following fishing season to ensure ACL	Landed heads & fins intact Prohibited sale of bag-limit caught golden tilefish

is not exceeded

2.6. Closures Due to Meeting Quota/ACL

Commercial:

- 2006 – Closed October 23, 2006 through December 31, 2006.
- 2007 – Closed October 3, 2007 through December 31, 2007.
- 2008 – Closed August 17, 2008 through December 31, 2008.
- 2009 – Closed July 15, 2009 through December 31, 2009.
- 2010 – Closed April 10, 2010 through December 31, 2010.

Table 7. State Regulatory History

Not Provided

References

None Provided