

**From:** [John Garofalo](#)  
**To:** [Mike Schmidtke](#)  
**Cc:** [John M. Garofalo M.D., FACOG](#)  
**Subject:** Recreational golden tilefish season closure  
**Date:** Sunday, April 28, 2024 8:47:03 PM  
**Attachments:** [John M. Garofalo MD.vcf](#)

---

Dear Mr. Schmidtke:

I am a recreational fisherman out of Summerland Key, FL. I am terribly dismayed at the closure of the Golden Tilefish season after only 8 weeks. I am in full agreement with the importance of resource management. However in this case, there is clearly a misallocation of the quota between the commercial fishery and the recreational fishery. I believe it is 97% to 3%. Moreover, I question the validity of the estimation of the recreational catch. No one asked me about the number of fish that I had caught as of February 28, 2024. This is clearly an injustice to the recreational fisherman.

What can be done to remedy this situation for the coming 2025 fishing season?

Thank you,  
John Garofalo

John M. Garofalo, MD, FACOG  
(203) 984-5910  
1092 Bay Dr.  
Summerland Key  
Florida 33042