



THE SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

# **Abbreviated Framework 4 – Adjusting Golden Tilefish Catch Levels**

**April 2025**

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# SEDAR 89 (2024)



## Stock Assessment Report

### Fishery Overview

- Not overfished/not overfishing
- Recent fishing mortality rate ( $F$ ) is almost equal to  $F_{msy}$  (the line between overfishing/not)
- Spawning stock biomass ( $SSB$ ) is just below  $SSB_{msy}$





# OFL/ABC RECOMMENDATIONS

<b>Overfishing Limit (OFL) RECOMMENDATIONS</b>		
<b>Year</b>	<b>Landed (1000 lbs gw)</b>	<b>Landed (number, 1000s)</b>
<b>2025</b>	495	75
<b>2026</b>	508	77
<b>2027+</b>	517	78
<b>Acceptable Biological Catch (ABC) RECOMMENDATIONS</b>		
<b>Year</b>	<b>Landed (1000 lbs gw)</b>	<b>Landed (number, 1000s)</b>
<b>2025</b>	407	61
<b>2026</b>	429	64
<b>2027+</b>	447	67
Current ABCs (Am 52): 458,000 lbs gw (2025), 466,000 lbs gw (2026)		



# COUNCIL DISCUSSIONS

- Council discussed several potential management changes based on previous AP comments
- Decided catch levels would be revised more immediately based on the most recent stock assessment (Abbr FW 4)
  - Abbr FWs are only used when catch levels are the only change being made
- Other changes, including changing the recreational season start date to better align the season start dates for multiple deep water species will be addressed through another amendment

# WHAT IS AN ABBREVIATED FRAMEWORK AMENDMENT?



- Council's fastest way to adjust catch levels
- 1 action – Changing catch levels
  - 1 alternative other than No Action
  - No changes to allocation and ACL-specification processes; just the numbers resulting from a new ABC
- No scoping required; public hearing held in conjunction with the Council meeting when the amendment is being approved



# ABBR FW 4 ACTION

Draft Action: Revise acceptable biological catch, annual catch limits, and annual optimum yield

Alt 1 (No Action).

Year	ABC = Ann OY = Total ACL (lbs gw)	Com ACL (lbs gw) (96.7%)			Rec ACL (# fish) (3.3%)
		Total (lbs gw)	LL ACL (lbs gw) (75%)	H&L ACL (lbs gw) (25%)	
2025	458,000	442,886	332,165	110,722	2,694
2026+	466,000	450,622	337,967	112,656	2,741

Alt 2.

Year	ABC = Ann OY = Total ACL (lbs gw)	Com ACL (lbs gw) (96.7%)			Rec ACL (# fish) (3.3%)
		Total (lbs gw)	LL ACL (lbs gw) (75%)	H&L ACL (lbs gw) (25%)	
2025	407,000	393,569	295,177	98,392	Rec Wt
2026	429,000	414,843	311,132	103,711	Needed for
2027+	447,000	432,249	324,187	108,062	Conversion



# ABBR FW 4 TIMING

Date	Abbreviated Framework Amendment
December 2024	Council initiated amendment
March 2025	Direct staff to begin drafting the amendment with the intent to hold a public hearing during the June Council Meeting
June 2025	Public hearing (11 <sup>th</sup> ) during the Council meeting (9 <sup>th</sup> -13 <sup>th</sup> ); Review draft amendment and approve for formal review
September - December 2025	NMFS conducts rulemaking
2026	Regulations effective

# QUESTIONS?

