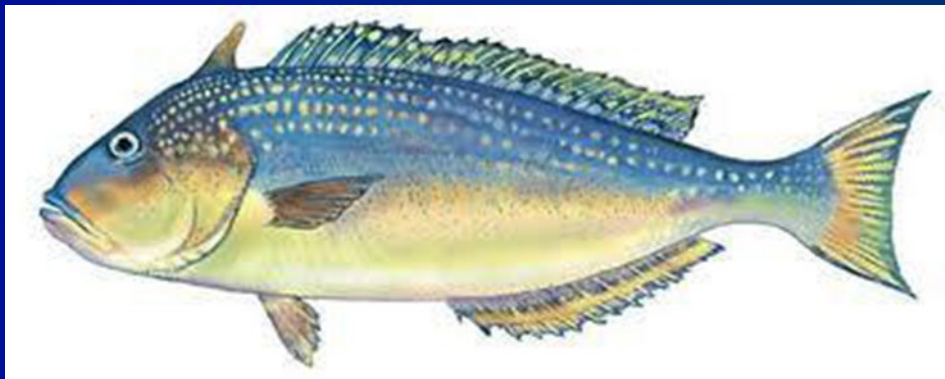




Tilefish Multi-Year Specifications Framework

1st Meeting



April 7, 2021

Today's Objectives

- Review range of alternatives in the Tilefish Multi-Year Specifications Framework
- Select preferred alternatives

Background

- October 2020 Council meeting – E.O. 13921
 - List of recommendations
 - “Initiate a framework to allow golden tilefish specifications to be set for more than 3 years”
 - 2021 Council Proposed Actions and Deliverables
 - Initiate golden tilefish multi-year specifications framework (E.O. 13921 recommendation)

Multi-Year Specifications Framework

- What's in it?

- Considers measures to revise the specifications process
- Minor modifications to the management system – process related
 - Duration for setting multi-year management measures
 - The timing of the fishing year
- Set new specifications for 2023-2024

Issues and Alternatives

- 1) Multi-Year Specifications
 - Golden tilefish management specifications set for up to 3 years
 - Modify process to simply change the number of years (time period) for which those measures could be set so they match Northeast Regional Coordinating Council (NRCC) stock assessment schedule

Issues and Alternatives

■ 1) Multi-Year Specifications

- Alternative 1 (5.1.1): No Action/*Status Quo*
- Alternative 2 (5.1.2): Specifications to be set for maximum number of years needed to be consistent with the Northeast Regional Coordinating Council (NRCC)-approved stock assessment schedule

Issues and Alternatives

- 1) Multi-Year Specifications
 - None of the multi-year specification alternatives are expected to impact the prosecution of the golden tilefish fishery, including landings levels, distribution of fishing effort, or fishing methods and practices

Issues and Alternatives

■ 1) Multi-Year Specifications

Alternatives	Biological	Physical Habitat	Protected Resources	Human Communities
Alternative 1 (No Action/Status Quo)	0	0	0	0
Alternative 2 (Specifications to be set for maximum number of years needed to be consistent with the Northeast Regional Coordinating Council (NRCC)-approved stock assessment schedule)	0	0	0	0 However, some administrative efficiencies would result.

❖ Advisory Panel input

Issues and Alternatives

- 2) Fishing Year Timing
 - Fishing year is November 1 – October 31
 - Modify process to simply change how the fishing year timing is set

Issues and Alternatives

■ 2) Fishing Year Timing

- Alternative 1 (5.2.1): No Action/*Status Quo*
- Alternative 2 (~~5.2.1~~ 5.2.2): The golden tilefish fishing year is the 12-month period beginning with January 1, annually
 - Therefore, the fishing year is January 1 – December 31

Issues and Alternatives

■ 2) Fishing Year Timing

□ Under Alternative 2

- Fishing year = calendar year
- Matches fishing year with cost recovery calculations
- Matches stock assessment results/projections which are based on calendar year

Issues and Alternatives

- 2) Fishing Year Timing
 - None of the fishing year timing alternatives are expected to impact the prosecution of the golden tilefish fishery, including landings levels, distribution of fishing effort, or fishing methods and practices

Issues and Alternatives

■ 2) Fishing Year Timing

Alternatives	Biological	Physical Habitat	Protected Resources	Human Communities
Alternative 1 (No Action/Status Quo)	0	0	0	0
Alternative 2 (The golden tilefish fishing year is the 12-month period beginning with January 1, annually)	0 to sl +	0	0	0 to sl +

❖ Advisory Panel input

Issues and Alternatives

- 3) 2023-2024 Specifications
 - 2021-2022 (interim) multi-year specifications cycle
 - Typically, set/review specs in early Spring
 - Slight change in timing to conduct specs process

Issues and Alternatives

- 3) 2023-2024 Specifications

- NRCC stock assessment process/schedule
 - Management track assessment update – June 2021
 - Review 2022 and set 2023-2024
 - Research track stock assessment – June 2024
 - Set 2025-2026-2027

Issues and Alternatives

- 3) 2023-2024 Specifications
- Findings and recommendations will be presented to Council (August 2021)

Issues and Alternatives

- 3) 2023-2024 Specifications
- To facilitate this transition:
 - Modify 2022 specs/FY
 - Currently from Nov 1, 2021 – Oct 31, 2022, to
 - Nov 1, 2021 – Dec 31, 2022 (One-time only adjustment)
- Then, set specs for
 - 2023: Jan 1, 2023 – Dec 31, 2023; and
 - 2024: Jan 1, 2024 – Dec 31, 2024

Framework Activity

2021 Development Track	
Action	Timeline, based on current Council meeting schedule
Tilefish AP meeting	February 2021
Develop Description of the Alternatives	February – April 2021
MAFMC Meeting (Council reviews & approves alternatives. Select preferred alternatives) - 1 st Framework Meeting	April 2021
Further Develop EA	May – July 2021
MAFMC Meeting (Complete selection of preferred alternatives) – 2 nd Framework Meeting	August 2021
Finalize EA	August 2021
Submit Document to NMFS	September 2021
Final Rule	Late 2021/early 2022

Questions?

