



# Greater Atlantic Region Bulletin

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## 2018-2020 Commercial Golden Tilefish Quotas

*Effective Date: November 2, 2017*

NOAA Fisheries announces final specifications for the 2018-2020 golden tilefish fishery. The catch limits and quotas for 2018 became effective on November 2, 2017. Initially, these specifications were developed concurrently with Framework Adjustment 2 to the Tilefish Fishery Management Plan, which changes how discards are deducted within the specifications. However, implementation of Framework 2 has been delayed, and these specifications are based on current regulations. For clarity, we also provide details of how the 2018 specifications would be changed under the process proposed by Framework 2 (Table 1). If Framework 2 is implemented as proposed, the 2018 specifications will be adjusted accordingly during the fishing year. All other golden tilefish fishery management measures, such as the 500-pound incidental trip limit and 8-fish recreational trip limit, remain unchanged.

**Table 1. 2018 Golden Tilefish Specifications as Implemented by this Action, and Potential Revisions under Tilefish Framework Adjustment 2**

	As implemented		Under Framework 2	
	million lb	mt	million lb	mt
<b>Overfishing Limit</b>	2.332	1,058	2.332	1,058
<b>ABC</b>	1.636	742	1.636	742
<b>ACL</b>	1.636	742	1.636	742
<b>IFQ ACT</b>	NA	NA	1.554	705
<b>Incidental ACT</b>	NA	NA	0.082	37
<b>TAL</b>	1.627	738	NA	NA
<b>IFQ TAL</b>	1.546	701	1.554	705
<b>Incidental TAL</b>	0.081	37	0.072	33

The 2019 and 2020 specifications are provided for planning purposes, and also anticipate the implementation of Framework 2 (Table 2). The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council will review the catch limits for these years and we will provide notice of the final 2019 and 2020 quotas prior to the start of each fishing year.

*For small entity compliance guides, this bulletin complies with section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement and Fairness Act of 1996. This notice is authorized by the Regional Administrator of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Greater Atlantic Region.*

**Table 2. Proposed 2019 and 2020 Golden Tilefish Specifications**

	<b>2019</b>		<b>2020</b>	
	<b>million lb</b>	<b>mt</b>	<b>million lb</b>	<b>mt</b>
<b>Overfishing Limit</b>	2.421	1,098	2.291	1,039
<b>ABC</b>	1.636	742	1.636	742
<b>ACL</b>	1.636	742	1.636	742
<b>IFQ ACT</b>	1.554	705	1.554	705
<b>Incidental ACT</b>	0.082	37	0.082	37
<b>IFQ TAL</b>	1.554	705	1.554	705
<b>Incidental TAL</b>	0.072	33	0.072	33

Please visit [www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/sustainable/species/tilefish](http://www.greateratlantic.fisheries.noaa.gov/sustainable/species/tilefish) for more information on this fishery.