



# Southeast Fishery Bulletin

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## **Commercial Harvest for the Hook-and-Line Component of Golden Tilefish in South Atlantic Waters Will Close on August 29, 2014**

The commercial hook-and-line component of golden tilefish harvest in South Atlantic waters will **close, at 12:01 a.m. (local time) August 29, 2014**. Commercial harvest will reopen at 12:01 a.m. (local time) on January 1, 2015. The 2014 hook-and-line component commercial catch limit is 135,324 pounds gutted weight. Reports indicate the hook-and-line catch limit will be met by August 29, 2014.

The operator of a vessel that has been issued a federal commercial permit for snapper-grouper and is landing golden tilefish for sale must have landed and bartered, traded, or sold such golden tilefish prior to 12:01 a.m., local time, August 29, 2014.

- The longline component closed on March 5, 2014, and recreational harvest of golden tilefish was prohibited on June 7, 2014; therefore, all commercial and recreational harvest of golden tilefish is closed for the remainder of 2014.
- During the commercial closure, sale and purchase of golden tilefish is prohibited.
- The commercial and recreational closures apply in both state and federal waters for vessels which have a federal commercial or charter vessel/headboat permit for South Atlantic Snapper-Grouper.

This closure is necessary to protect the snapper-grouper resource.