



## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[RTID 0648-XD748]

#### Research Track Assessment for Golden Tilefish

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** NMFS will convene the Research Track Assessment Peer Review Meeting for the purpose of reviewing Golden Tilefish. The Research Track Assessment Peer Review is a formal scientific peer-review process for evaluating and presenting stock assessment results to managers for fish stocks in the offshore U.S. waters of the northwest Atlantic. Assessments are prepared by the research track working group and reviewed by an independent panel of stock assessment experts from the Center of Independent Experts (CIE). The public is invited to attend the presentations and discussions between the review panel and the scientists who have participated in the stock assessment process.

**DATES:** The public portion of the Research Track Assessment Peer Review Meeting will be held from March 11, 2024 – March 14, 2024. The meeting will conclude on March 14, 2024 at 12 p.m. eastern standard time. Please see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for the daily meeting agenda.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held in person and virtually. The in person meeting will be held in the S.H. Clark Conference Room in the Aquarium Building of the National Marine Fisheries Service, Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC), 166 Water Street, Woods Hole, MA 02543 and virtually using this Google Meet link: <https://meet.google.com/rgd-unsq-quh>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Michele Traver, 508-495-2195;

michele.traver@noaa.gov.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** For further information, please visit the NEFSC website at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/new-england-mid-atlantic/population-assessments/fishery-stock-assessments-new-england-and-mid-atlantic>. For additional information about research track assessment peer review, please visit the NEFSC webpage at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/new-england-mid-atlantic/population-assessments/research-track-stock-assessments>.

### **Daily Meeting Agenda – Research Track Peer Review Meeting**

The agenda is subject to change; all times are approximate and may be changed at the discretion of the Peer Review Chair.

Monday, March 11, 2024

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Presenter(s)</b>	<b>Notes</b>
9:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.	Welcome/Logistics/ Agenda	Michele Traver Assessment Process Lead, Kristan Blackhart, PopDy Branch Chief, Mike Wilberg, Panel Chair	
9:45 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.	Introduction/ Executive Summary	José Montañez, WG Chair	
10:15 a.m. - 11 a.m.	Term of Reference (TOR) #1	Sarah Salois, Kimberly Hyde, Stephanie Owen, and Adelle Molina	Ecosystem
11 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.	Break		
11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.	TOR #2	Paul Nitschke	Removals (commercial)
12:15 p.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Discussion	Panel	
12:30 p.m. - 12:45 p.m.	Public Comment	Public	
12:45 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.	Lunch		
1:45 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.	TOR #2 cont.	José Montañez	Removals (recreational)
2:45 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.	TOR #3	Paul Nitschke	Indices

3:45 p.m. - 4 p.m.	Break		
4 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.	TOR #3 cont.	Paul Nitschke	Indices
4:45 p.m. - 5 p.m.	Discussion	Panel	
5 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.	Public Comment	Public	
5:15 p.m.	Adjourn		

Tuesday, March 12, 2024

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Presenter(s)</b>	<b>Notes</b>
9:30 a.m. - 9:35 a.m.	Welcome/Logistics/ Agenda	Michele Traver, Assessment Process Lead, Kristan Blackhart, PopDy Branch Chief, Mike Wilberg, Panel Chair	
9:35 a.m. - 10 a.m.	TOR #3 cont.	Andy Jones	Indices
10 a.m. - 11 a.m.	TOR #3 cont.	Paul Nitschke and Jason Boucher	Indices
11 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.	Break		
11:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.	TOR #8	José Montañez and Paul Nitschke	Alternative approach
11:45 a.m. - 12 p.m.	Discussion	Panel	
12 p.m. - 12:15 p.m.	Public Comment	Public	
12:15 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.	Lunch		
1:15 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.	TOR #4	Paul Nitschke	Models
3:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Break		
3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	TOR #4 cont	Dan Hennen	Models
4:30 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.	Discussion	Panel	
4:45 p.m. - 5 p.m.	Public Comment	Public	
5 p.m.	Adjourn		

Wednesday, March 13, 2024

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Presenter(s)</b>	<b>Notes</b>
9:30 a.m. - 9:35 a.m.	Welcome/Logistics/ Agenda	Michele Traver, Assessment Process	

		Lead, Kristan Blackhart, PopDy Branch Chief, Mike Wilberg, Panel Chair	
9:35 a.m. - 10 a.m.	TOR #5	Paul Nitschke	BRPs
10 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.	TOR #6	Paul Nitschke	Projections
10:45 a.m. - 11 a.m.	Break		
11 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	TOR #7	José Monteñez and Paul Nitschke	Research Recommendations
11:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.	Discussion	Panel	
11:45 a.m. - 12 p.m.	Public Comment	Public	
12 p.m. - 1 p.m.	Lunch		
1 p.m. - 3 p.m.	Summary/Meeting Wrap Up	Panel	
3 p.m. - 5 p.m.	Report Writing	Panel	
5 p.m.	Adjourn		

Thursday, March 14, 2024

Time	Topic	Presenter(s)	Notes
9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.	Report Writing	Panel	
12 p.m.	Adjourn		

The meeting is open to the public; however, during the ‘Report Writing’ sessions on Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, the public should not engage in discussion with the Peer Review Panel.

### **Special Accommodations**

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Special requests should be directed to Michele Traver, via email.

Dated: February 26, 2024.

**Everett Wayne Baxter,**

*Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries,*

*National Marine Fisheries Service.*

