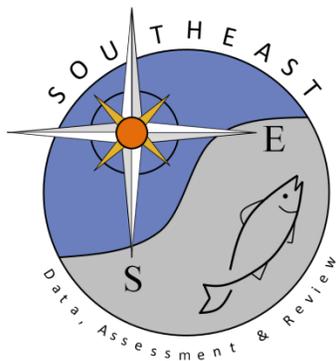


Public Comments submitted via  
Wufoo form for SEDAR 50  
Atlantic Blue line Tilefish



## SEDAR 50 Public Comments

**Updated 6/30/2016**

### Submitted by Rusty Hudson via email 6/28/2016

**From:** [DSF2009@aol.com](mailto:DSF2009@aol.com)

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 28, 2016 7:37:16 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)

**To:** Julia Byrd; SEDAR Comment

**Cc:** [cfreeman23@bellsouth.net](mailto:cfreeman23@bellsouth.net); [HullsSeafood@aol.com](mailto:HullsSeafood@aol.com); [DSF2009@aol.com](mailto:DSF2009@aol.com)

**Subject:** Re: Blueline tilefish observations from Florida

Thank you Julia.

Sorry about my disjointed comments through the question box that I copied and pasted into the email comment with multiple parts that were repetitive in part, but I was trying to provide the information in a semi-coherent way while the Workshop Panel were talking about our area historically, Erik et al, but then the subject shifted as I was sending those hurried thoughts. Jim Freeman and I can speak to the current and historic periods, methods, areas, seasons and values to help Panelists understand.

In a message dated 6/28/2016 5:20:24 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time, [DSF2009@aol.com](mailto:DSF2009@aol.com) writes:

**Hi Julia,**

**I added some clarification to my Q&A post. You said to wait until the data workshop in October, now January for Steve Brown and I to correct the SEDAR 32 commercial landings database for my observations.**

**Rusty**

**Q: Hi Julia,**

**A:** Hi Rusty - what's up?

**Q: They are small mouth fish compared to my snowy and if I caught 10% ratio to my snowy landings that was a big catch of blueline. They paid a lot less than snowy so I would not use the smaller hooks to catch them.**

**Q: Shame I am not there because I could explain the reality of where I caught Blueline tilefish from Cape Canaveral north to St. Augustine in 220 feet to 300 feet in depth, while fishing for Snowy grouper with Bandit gear.**

**A:** Hi Rusty - if you are interested you can submit a public comment via email that I can share with the group. The public comment email address is [sedarcomment@safmc.net](mailto:sedarcomment@safmc.net) and put SEDAR 50 in the subject line.

**Q: The 1981-1985 bandit and bottom longlines landings of Blueline tilefish are inflated high due to the unclassified status of all tilefish for that period before the trip tickets began in Florida during 1986.**

**Q: They were mostly golden tilefish, but SEDAR 04 made a decision back in the day to call the unclassifieds as being 40% blueline tilefish if I recollect, when only 10% were actually bluelines. Like triggerfish, blueline tiles in our area are bait stealers.**

**Q: The 1981-1985 bandit and bottom longlines landings are inflated high due to the unclassified status of all tilefish for that period before the trip tickets began in Florida during 1986.**

**Q: They were mostly golden tilefish, but SEDAR 04 made a decision back in the day to call the unclassifieds as being blueline tilefish. Like triggerfish, blueline tiles in our area are bait stealers.**

**Q: I had to clarify some of my posts above in my email to you and the address you provided about blueline tiles. I can pull my landing logs to look at the blueline tiles that were caught in the 220 feet to 300 feet in depth.**

**Q: My golden tilefish are caught in 550 feet and further offshore with bandits and longline back in the early 1980's. That is why the commercial landings spike for 1981 to 1985 for blueline tilefish is mostly golden tilefish for both gear types.**

Rusty ;-)

Russell H. Hudson, President  
Directed Sustainable Fisheries, Inc. (DSF, Inc.)  
PO Box 9351  
Daytona Beach, Florida 32120-9351

**Submitted by Rusty Hudson via email 6/29/2016**

Hi Julia,

Proportions of Blueline landings from SEDAR 32 Table 3.3 are skewed high and need to be greatly reduced, and the removals need to be added to the Golden tilefish landings for the same period. Even though the Florida trip ticket system began during 1986 in earnest, compliance and species ID still has issues that will need to be reexamined during the SEDAR 50 Data Workshop. Here is the snapshot image of the period that has well over a million pounds of Golden Tilefish in the early to mid-1980's. Also, bottom longline (BLL) was ended inshore of 300-feet of depth during 1992, but it does appear some Blueline tilefish BLL landings can still occur a bit outside of 300-feet in some areas of hard bottom, but not in mud bottom.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Hand Line</b>	<b>Long Line</b>	<b>Other</b>
1950	0	0	0

1976	55,755	19	0
1977	30,898	0	97
1978	68,763	0	13,950
1979	52,174	5,891	1,734
1980	83,565	34,461	238
1981	293,139	107,641	2,825
1982	774,072	406,280	265
1983	338,780	317,818	92
1984	166,296	339,574	602
1985	58,207	333,759	89
1986	112,750	107,255	8,673
1987	94,468	49,017	1,585
1988	62,440	43,252	1,391
1989	66,580	44,450	1,582
1990	111,891	60,300	2,934
1991	119,674	70,784	4,396
1992	125,046	151,578	2,905
1993	54,962	133,940	11,302
1994	70,982	112,901	4,355
1995	65,079	103,386	2,416
1996	116,976	31,270	*

In my opinion, for the period 1981-1986 needs to be reduced in aggregate by 2 million to nearly 3 million pounds to become historically realistic. The 2 to 3 million pounds excessive landings in aggregate for blueline tilefish for those six-years have to be golden tilefish and need to be removed and reassigned.

*Rusty :-)*

Russell H. Hudson, President  
 Directed Sustainable Fisheries, Inc. (DSF, Inc.)  
 PO Box 9351  
 Daytona Beach, Florida 32120-9351

**Submitted by Rusty Hudson via email 6/29/2016**

The average BLT landings before and after the 1981-1985 period are mostly 5-figure landings by gear type, except for the period in question in general, besides a few outliers for a few other years. The excessive years need modification downward as per total landings annually. That is reality.

Can you add this email to the comment page?

Rusty