

# Western Pacific Stock Assessment Review of the 2024 Stock Assessment Update for Uku in the Main Hawaiian Islands

Short Description: A stock assessment update for uku in the main Hawaiian islands.

Scientists from the Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center updated the stock assessment of the main Hawaiian island uku fishery. The assessment update added five years of data (2019-2023) of catch, CPUE, and size data and an extra year of fishery-independent diver survey (2019). The assessment utilized the same modeling approach as that of the benchmark assessment in 2020 with a minor tweak to implement correction factors for the recreational catches related to the decline of phone landlines between 2003 and 2016, as done in the recent Deep-7 assessment (Syslo et al., 2024).

This update stock assessment continues to use the Stock Synthesis modeling framework. This approach used catch, catch-per-unit-effort (CPUE), diver surveys, and size composition time series in an integrated statistical catch-at-age model to generate maximum likelihood estimates of population parameters, derived outputs, and their associated variability. These outputs were then used to determine stock status and to develop stock projections under different management scenarios.

NOAA Fisheries and the Western Pacific Fishery Management Council announced the review of the 2024 Stock Assessment Update for the Guam Bottomfish Complex in the Federal Register on August 21, 2024.

## Additional Info:

Date: September 9 – 10, 2024

Time: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm (HST)

Location: NOAA Honolulu Service Center at Pier 38 with a hybrid option.  
1139 N. Nimitz Hwy, Suite 220. Honolulu, HI 96817

## Schedule:

Monday, September 9, 2024 (9 am – 4 pm Hawaii Standard Time)

1. Introduction
2. Review objectives and terms of reference

3. Presentation of stock assessment updates
4. Summary of comments and analysis during desktop phase
5. Questions to presenters
6. Public comment

Tuesday, September 10, 2024 (9 am – 4 pm Hawaii Standard Time)

7. Panel presentation on the review results and recommendations
8. Questions to reviewers
9. Public comment
10. Closing comments and adjourn