

# **April 2025 Committee Reports**

**May 2025 Quarterly Business Meeting**

## **Documents**

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Southern Regional Advisory Committee

Northern Regional Advisory Committee

Finfish Advisory Committee



JOSH STEIN  
*Governor*

D. REID WILSON  
*Secretary*

KATHY B. RAWLS  
*Director*

April 28, 2025

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Marine Fisheries Commission  
Southern Regional Advisory Committee

FROM: Coral Sawyer, Program Assistant  
Marine Fisheries Commission Office

SUBJECT: Meeting of the Marine Fisheries Commission's Southern Regional Advisory Committee, April 8, 2025, to provide recommendations regarding Southern Flounder FMP Amendment 4.

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The Marine Fisheries Commission's (MFC) Southern Regional Advisory Committee (AC) held a meeting on April 8, 2025, at the Division of Marine Fisheries Central District Office in Morehead City, North Carolina, and via webinar. AC members could attend in either setting to communicate with other committee members.

The following Advisory Committee members were in attendance in person: Michael Oppegaard, Glenn Skinner, Jeremy Skinner, Ken Seigler. The following members were in attendance online: Tom Smith – Vice Chair, Samuel Boyce. (Absent: Fred Scharf, Pam Morris, Truby Proctor, Tim Wilson, Michael Yates)

Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) Staff: Chris Stewart, Coral Sawyer, Jesse Bissette, Jeff Dobbs, Dan Zapf, Holly White, Brandi Salmon, Alan Bianchi, Barbie Byrd, Lucas Pensinger, Tina Moore, Mike Loeffler, Jason Rock, Captain Garland Yopp, Officer Ashley Bishop, Anne Markwith – virtually.

No members of the public were present at this meeting.

The Southern Regional AC had 6 members present at the start of the meeting and a quorum was met.

Southern Regional AC Vice Chair Tom Smith called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. The full meeting can be viewed [here](#).

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Glenn Skinner and seconded by Michael Oppegaard. The motion passed unanimously. A motion to approve the minutes from the March 19, 2025, meeting was made by Ken Seigler and seconded by Glenn Skinner. The motion passed unanimously.

**SOUTHERN FLOUNDER FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN**

DMF Biologists Jeff Dobbs, Dan Zapf and Holly White gave a presentation on the management options under the Southern Flounder Fishery Management Plan Amendment 4. Vice Chair Tom Smith turned the floor over to the AC to discuss potential management options. The presentation and following discussion can be viewed [here](#).



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### **VOTE TO RECOMMEND MANAGEMENT OPTIONS**

Motion by Glenn Skinner to recommend to the Marine Fisheries Commission to remain at status quo regarding the sector allocation schedule in Southern Flounder Fishery Management Plan Amendment 4. Second by Jeremy Skinner. The motion failed due to a tie. The discussion regarding this motion can be viewed [here](#).

Motion by Michael Oppegaard to expedite the allocation shift to 2025. Second by Samuel Boyce. The motion failed due to a tie. The discussion regarding this motion can be viewed [here](#).

### **ISSUES FROM AC MEMBERS**

Vice Chair Tom Smith opened the floor to the AC for any issues or concerns. The discussion can be viewed [here](#).

Michael Oppegaard motioned to adjourn, seconded by Glenn Skinner. Motion passed by unanimous consent. The meeting ended at 7:12 p.m.



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April 28, 2025

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Marine Fisheries Commission  
Northern Regional Advisory Committee

FROM: Coral Sawyer, Program Assistant  
Marine Fisheries Commission Office

SUBJECT: Meeting of the Marine Fisheries Commission's Northern Regional Advisory Committee, April 10, 2025, to provide recommendations regarding Southern Flounder FMP Amendment 4.

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The Marine Fisheries Commission's (MFC) Northern Regional Advisory Committee (AC) held a meeting on April 10, 2025, at the College of the Albemarle – Dare in Manteo, North Carolina, and via webinar. AC members could attend in either setting to communicate with other committee members.

The following Advisory Committee members were in attendance in person: Sara Winslow – Chair, Keith Bruno, Melissa Clark, Stuart Creighton, Wayne Dunbar, Morton Gaskill, Robert Makowsky, Thomas Newman, Jonathan Worthington. The following members were in attendance online: Jamie Lane Winslow. (Absent: Everett Blake)

Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) Staff: Jesse Bisette, Coral Sawyer, Jeff Dobbs, Dan Zapf, Holly White, Charlton Godwin, Jason Rock, Brandi Salmon, Melinda Lambert, Officer Eddie Mann, Anne Markwith – virtually.

The following members of the public signed in: Lee Paramore, James Fletcher, Adolphus Hines, Lammar Gray.

The Northern Regional AC had ten members present at the start of the meeting and a quorum was met.

Northern Regional AC Chair Sara Winslow called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. The full meeting can be viewed [here](#).

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Jonathan Worthington and seconded by Morton Gaskill. The motion passed unanimously. A motion to approve the minutes from the March 18, 2025, meeting was made by Stuart Creighton and seconded by Jonathan Worthington. The motion passed unanimously.

**SOUTHERN FLOUNDER FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN**

DMF Biologists Jeff Dobbs, Dan Zapf, Holly White, and Anne Markwith gave a presentation on the management options under the Southern Flounder Fishery Management Plan Amendment 4. After the presentation, Chair Sara Winslow opened the floor to advisors for comments and questions. The presentation and following discussion can be viewed [here](#).



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### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was one member of the public that provided comment. Public comment was given from 6:56 p.m. until 7:04 p.m. by James Fletcher. Chair Sara Winslow closed public comment and turned the floor back over to the AC to discuss potential management options. Public comment can be viewed [here](#).

### **VOTE TO RECOMMEND MANAGEMENT OPTIONS**

Motion by Keith Bruno to recommend to the Marine Fisheries Commission to remain status quo regarding southern flounder allocation. Second by Wayne Dunbar. Motion passes 7-3. The discussion regarding this motion can be viewed [here](#).

Motion by Keith Bruno to recommend that the Marine Fisheries Commission ask the DEQ Secretary to allow Amendment 5 to the Southern Flounder Fishery Management Plan to change the 72% reduction that was adopted in Amendment 3 to a 52% reduction and split the total allocation equally between the commercial and recreational sectors. Second by Morton Gaskill. Motion passed 7-3. The discussion regarding this motion can be viewed [here](#).

### **ISSUES FROM AC MEMBERS**

Chair Sara Winslow opened the floor to advisors for any comments and questions. Jesse Bissette gave updates regarding plans for future meetings.

Morton Gaskill motioned to adjourn, seconded by Wayne Dunbar. Motion passed by unanimous consent. The meeting ended at 7:48 p.m.



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April 28, 2025

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Marine Fisheries Commission  
Finfish Advisory Committee

FROM: Coral Sawyer, Program Assistant  
Marine Fisheries Commission Office

SUBJECT: Meeting of the Marine Fisheries Commission's Finfish Advisory Committee, April 16, 2025, to provide recommendations regarding Southern Flounder FMP Amendment 4.

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The Marine Fisheries Commission's (MFC) Finfish Advisory Committee (AC) held a meeting on April 16, 2025, at the Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) Central District Office in Morehead City, North Carolina, and via webinar. AC members could attend in either setting to communicate with other committee members.

The following Advisory Committee members were in attendance in person: Sammy Corbett – Chair, Brent Fulcher, Randy Proctor, Tom Roller, William Tarplee. The following members were in attendance online: Jeff Buckel. (Absent: Lewis Dunn, Jake Griffin, Christopher Hickman, Larry Lord, Jesse Mock)

Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) Staff: Jesse Bisette, Coral Sawyer, Jason Rock, Brandi Salmon, Dan Zapf, Jeff Dobbs, Holly White, Captain Daniel Ipock, Debbie Manley, Tina Moore, Alan Bianchi, Travis Williams, Anne Markwith – virtually.

The following members of the public signed in: William McClees, David Miller, Glen Garner, Gregory Judy.

The Finfish AC had six members present in person at the start of the meeting and a quorum was met.

Finfish AC Chair Sammy Corbett called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The full meeting can be viewed [here](#).

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA AND MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Randy Proctor and seconded by Brent Fulcher. The motion passed unanimously.

**SOUTHERN FLOUNDER FISHERY MANAGEMENT PLAN**

DMF Biologists Jeff Dobbs, Dan Zapf, Holly White, and Anne Markwith gave a presentation on the management options under the Southern Flounder Fishery Management Plan Amendment 4. After the presentation, Chair Sammy Corbett opened the floor to advisors for comments and questions. The presentation and following discussion can be viewed [here](#).



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### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was one member of the public that provided comment. Public comment was given from 6:45 p.m. until 6:50 p.m. by Gregory Judy. Chair Sammy Corbett closed Public Comment and turned the floor back over to the AC to discuss potential management options. Public comment can be viewed [here](#).

### **VOTE TO RECOMMEND MANAGEMENT OPTIONS**

Motion by Brent Fulcher to ask the Marine Fisheries Commission Chairman and the Director of the Division of Marine Fisheries to meet with the Secretary of the Department of Environmental Quality to ask to allow the lowering of the reduction from 72% to 52%, while maintaining the Amendment 3 allocation schedule. Second by Randy Proctor. Motion failed due to a tie. The discussion regarding this motion can be viewed [here](#).

Motion by Brent Fulcher to recommend to the Marine Fisheries Commission to remain status quo in regards to the allocation schedule in Southern Flounder Fishery Management Plan Amendment 3. Second by Randy Proctor. Motion passed 4-0 with two abstentions. The discussion regarding this motion can be viewed [here](#).

Chair Sammy Corbett adjourned the meeting at 7:22 p.m.