



# *Southern Flounder Fishery Management Plan*

## Amendment 4

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Marine Fisheries

Marine Fisheries Commission | Jeff Dobbs, Holly White, Anne Markwith | August 2025



# *Presentation Outline*

- Timeline
- Issue Paper
  - Origination
  - Background
  - Management Options
- Legislative Review
- Action Item
  - Vote on final approval



# *Southern Flounder FMP Amendment 4*

## *Timeline*

- |  |                                |
|--|--------------------------------|
| • Division drafts FMP Amendment 4                              | October 31 - December 20, 2024 |
| • AC review of draft FMP (Finfish AC meeting)                  | January 27, 2025               |
| • MFC votes to send draft FMP for AC review and public comment | March 12 - 13, 2025            |
| • Public and MFC AC review (Northern, Southern, Finfish)       | April 1 - April 30, 2025       |
| • MFC selects preferred management option                      | May 21 - 23, 2025              |
| • Legislative review of draft FMP                              | June - July, 2025              |
| • MFC votes on final adoption of FMP Amendment 4               | August 20 - 21, 2025           |
| • Division implements management strategies                    | August 25, 2025                |

You are  
here



# *Issue*

## Increasing Recreational Access to Southern Flounder Through Sector Allocation Parity



# Background

## Current Allocation Schedule

Year	Allocation	Total Allowable Catch (TAC)	Dead Discards	Total Allowable Landings (TAL)	Total Allowable Commercial Landings	Total Allowable Recreational Landings
2021-2024	70/30	548,034	15,682	532,352	372,646	159,706
2025	60/40	548,034	15,682	532,352	319,411	212,941
2026	50/50	548,034	15,682	532,352	266,176	266,176



# *Expedited Allocation Shift*

- Expedite sector parity by fall 2025
  - 25% increase in recreational TAL
  - Reduces likelihood of recreational overages
  - Short term approach

Allocation	Total Allowable Landings	Total Allowable Commercial Landings	Total Allowable Recreational Landings
50/50	532,352	266,176	266,176

# *Issue Paper: Management Options*

- Status Quo
  - Maintain allocation shift from Amendment 3
- Expedited Allocation Shift
  - Expedite transition to 50/50 in 2025



# *Legislative Review*

- Sent to DEQ Secretary for transmittal to
  - Legislative Oversight Committee on Agriculture and Natural and Economic Resources (AgNER)
  - Fiscal Research Division
- 30 days to submit comments & recommendations to the Secretary
- No comments received





## *Action Item*

Vote on final adoption of Amendment  
4 to the Southern Flounder Fishery  
Management Plan



# *Questions?*

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