

Potential Citizen Science Project Ideas
SAFMC Citizen Science Program Design Workshop
January 19-21, 2016

Plenary Discussion Notes:

Project Theme 1– Invasive/Protected/Rare Species

Project Ideas

- Collect presence/absence data

Approaches

- Logs: Web portal, logbooks, app, etc.

Additional Discussion

- Can look at ranges of species
- How prolific are invasives?
- What is spatial and temporal overlap of fishery and protected species?

Project Theme 2– Socio-economic Data

Project Ideas

- Need better, more consistent socio-economic data
- Try to get at why we see trends in other data (landings, etc.)

Approaches

- Where's my fish? Type of tracking of fish from being caught through the entire process.
- Incentives/compensation for participation
- Logbook to collect socio-econ data
- Online reporting/mapping tool to look at how far people drive, where tackle shops are in relation to fishing docks, etc.

Additional Discussion

- Evaluation of economic value

Project Theme 3– Better Private Rec Data

Project Ideas

- Both catch and effort data
- Need better CPUE estimates
- Try to address gaps for rare species or areas of rec sector not well sampled

Approaches

- Logs (Catch and Effort)
- Harvest tags
- Tournament reporting

Project Theme 4– Biological Sampling/Life History (Biostatistics)

Approaches

- Citizen Dockside sampling of catch.
- Carcass collection programs.
- Video collection of bio data
- Logbook add-on
- Tag program for restricted/data limited species

Additional Discussion

- Try to approach real-time collection of data

Project Theme 5– Discards

Project Ideas

- Need better data on amount of discards, disposition, size, etc.

Approaches

- Tagging studies
- Logbook/web portal/etc.
- Use of cameras/photos

Additional Discussion

- Look at predation
- Use of descending devices
- Size comps, disposition, etc. collected by logbooks

Project Theme 6– Species Distribution

Project Ideas

- Where are species of interest and when
- How prolific are they in different areas of the South Atl?

Approaches

- Tagging studies

- Acoustics

Project Theme 7- Environmental Data

Project Ideas

- Oceanographic data collection (Temp, currents, etc.)

Approaches

- Sensors/probes on boats or anchors to collect data

Additional Discussion

- We have very little environmental data at local scales, which are important to fish and fishermen.
- Need this data to eventually incorporate into assessments.

Project Theme 8- Characterize fisher behavior

Project Ideas

- In response to different management changes

Approaches

- Online survey form
- Compliance Reports

Additional Discussion

- Can help with analyses in Council Amendments

Project Theme 9- Historical Catch Reconstruction

Project Ideas

- Allow people to report all their old logs and data
- Reconstruct historical data

Approaches

- Online service to enter catch logs
- Data from logs, photos, newspapers

Additional Discussion

- Can be very important for assessments

Project Theme 10- Outreach/Education

Project Ideas

- Issues with Buy-in
- Need to change public perceptions

Approaches

- Training of stewards from community/industry

Additional Discussion

- Important for training of volunteers
- Affects all projects

Project Theme 11– Habitat Distribution

Approaches

- Sonar mapping
- Video data

Project Theme 12– Spawning Information

Project Ideas

- Spawning areas
- Info on spawning fish
- Photos of gonads and whole fish

Approaches

- Carcass program
- Acoustics

Project Theme 13– Fishing infrastructure

Project Ideas

- Look at how far people drive, where tackle shops are in relation to fishing docks, etc.

Approaches

- Online reporting/mapping tool

Additional Discussion

- Evaluation of economic value to people within geographic areas

Project Theme 14– Test/develop tools and technologies

Project Ideas

- For example, descending devices and volunteer training programs

Additional Discussion

- A program that can be applied to many situations

Project Theme 15– Measure Recruitment

Project Ideas

- Both a topic and an approach

Overarching Ideas

- Training of volunteers
- Matching service - match scientists with interested community volunteers
- Incentives

Priority Projects

1. Discards - logbooks/catch cards/web reports (could include size, disposition, predation, descending device use, etc)
2. More Private Recreational Data - catch logs (could include catch, effort, and misc by variables)
3. Environmental data – fishermen collect environmental and catch data using probes