



# Expert Group: Participants 1

## Expert Group Participants:

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# Citizen Science Program Component: *Program Goals*

## Recommendations:

- Program should fill in data gaps and be based on data needs
- Increase communication and matchmaking between scientists and fishermen
- Develop projects that produce usable, timely, and transparent data
- Program where citizens have a vested interest
- Improved data collection from private recreational fishermen
- Education in combination with data collection



# Citizen Science Program Component: *Current Skills*

## Recommendations:

- Knowledge and experience of species, fish identification, regions, timing, location, etc.
- Can collect biological, physical, and environmental data
- Have physical assets and infrastructure (e.g. boat, different types of gear)
- Networking and communication with other fishermen
- Fishermen being vehicle for outreach



# Citizen Science Program Component: *What Willing to Do?*

## Recommendations:

- **Volunteer time**
- **Willing to take scientists on board**
- **Harvest of specific species**
- **Collect biological samples from fish**
- **Fishing logs**
- **Photograph fish and upload data/picture**
- **Willing to collect all types of data as long as know what kind of data is needed**
- **Record bycatch or catch composition**



# Citizen Science Program Component: *Training Needs*

## Recommendations:

- **How to gather data correctly so it can be used**
- **Some type of certification for certain projects**
- **How training is delivered is project specific**
  - **Complex project – in-person training**
  - **Simple project – online training or instructions, reference card, YouTube videos**
- **Training of recreational fishermen to collect relevant data and keep good records**



# Citizen Science Program Component: *Incentives*

## Recommendations:

- Ensuring fish for future generations
- Seeing how data is being used in management decisions
- Log-on to website to see data contributed
- Sharing data is enough!
- Being allowed to keep fish but send in carcass
- Avoid incentives that provide compensation/\$
- Commercial sector providing motivation for recreational sector to be involved - Outreach
- Education to youth



# Citizen Science Program Component: *Data sharing/accessibility*

## Recommendations:

- Platform or mechanism to show people the data and how it's being used
- Built in QA/QC for instantaneous data submissions (e.g. OCEARCH shark)
- Social Media for broad overview of projects or available reports
- Alerts when new data is available for a project (opt-in email alerts)



# Citizen Science Program Component: *Expectations for Sharing Results*

## Recommendations:

- **In-person meeting of project participants to discuss project summary**
- **Webinars or Video report**
- **Email report and/or website where report is located**
- **Consider regional meetings/reporting/emails with regional approaches to any communication**
- **Status report of where citizen science project has helped in management process**





# Citizen Science Program Component: *How Projects Should be Prioritized*

## Recommendations:

- **Top down approach – management needs from scientists and SAFMC**
- **Fishermen providing ideas to scientists or SAFMC (some type of Request for Proposals/Ideas)**
- **SEDAR steering committee helping to flush out priorities**
- **Projects need to be appropriate for citizen scientists**
- **List of SAFMC research needs**