



South Atlantic Fishery Management Council **Citizen Science Program Update**

Snapper Grouper AP Meeting

April 2021



Activities 2020/2021

[Cit Sci SOPPS](#) updated with new vision, mission, goals, and objectives

[BioScience article](#) on development of Council's CitSci Program

NOAA FY19-20 CitSci & Crowdsourcing Report to Congress

- *FISHstory project highlighted*

[AFS Cit Sci Symposium](#) with NOAA colleagues

NOAA releases [Citizen Science Strategy](#)

Citizen Science Program Outreach

- *#CitSciFri social media*
- *Cit Sci email updates*
- *April 2021 Cit Sci Month campaign*



Program Planning & Evaluation

Program Vision:

Advancing science and increasing trust, one project at a time

GOAL 1: Design, implement, and sustain a program framework to guide the development of projects that support fishery management decision making.

GOAL 2: Facilitate development of individual projects to address specific research priorities.

GOAL 3: Ensure that data collected are accessible, robust, and fit for purpose.

GOAL 4: Foster mutual learning, collaboration, and program engagement.



Initial Evaluation Plan

- Working with Rick Bonney to gather baseline data on knowledge, attitudes, collaborations, engagement, and trust levels of various stakeholders in three stages:



Interviews - 2021



Develop survey - 2021



Implement & analyze survey - 2022



Projects & Collaborations Under Development



Rare Species Observations

Partners: UNC, NOAA Fisheries, SECOORA, University of Tasmania
Looking for funding opportunities



Diver Observations of Data Limited Species

Partners: REEF & SECOORA
Jan 2021: NFWF pre-proposal



Dolphin Wahoo Participatory Workshops

Partner: SEFSC
Discussing options for FL Keys



eMOLT

Industry, science, academic collaboration to collect environmental & oceanographic data
Interest in expanding to South Atlantic



Dolphin Movement & Migration

Partner: Dolphinfish Research Program
Exploring ways to collaborate to expand tagging efforts in the Atlantic



FISHstory

A pilot project to document historic for-hire catch and length estimates using historic photos





FISHstory Project Components



Digitizing historic fishing photos - *complete*



For-hire catch composition – *underway, launch in Zooniverse May 2020*



Method to estimate length composition - *underway*



For-Hire Catch Composition

as of March 31, 2021

- **2,009** volunteers
- **33,428** classifications
- **1,374** individual photos uploaded
 - All **1,374** photos have been linked to the FISH & PEOPLE: Count workflow
 - **1000** photos have been linked to the FISH: Classify workflow
- **2,269** photos have been retired
 - **1,374** from FISH & PEOPLE: Count workflow
 - **895** from FISH: Classify workflow



PC: Rusty Hudson



PC: Rusty Hudson



For-Hire Catch Composition

- **Validation Team**
 - Photo validation for 'live' data began January 2021
 - Shiny app developed summarizing validation data
- **'Live' Data Analysis**
 - Initial photos identified for Validation Team review
 - Shiny app developed summarizing 'live' data
 - Preliminary data analysis underway





Length Analysis

- Production length measurements continue with 5 analysts
- King Mackerel measurements completed for 700 photos
- Methods reviewed by SSC at October 2020 meeting





Outreach & Promotion

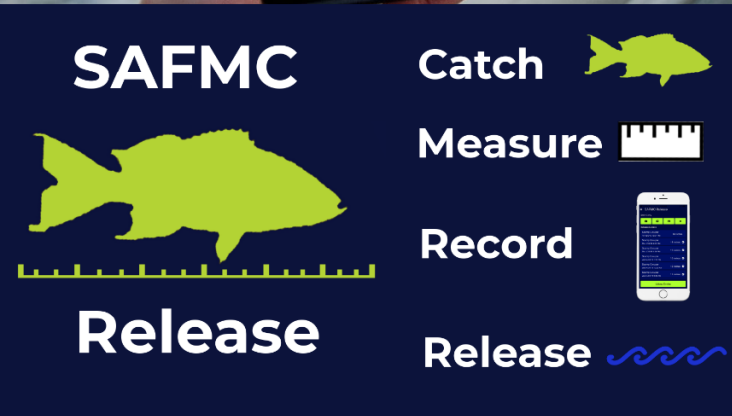
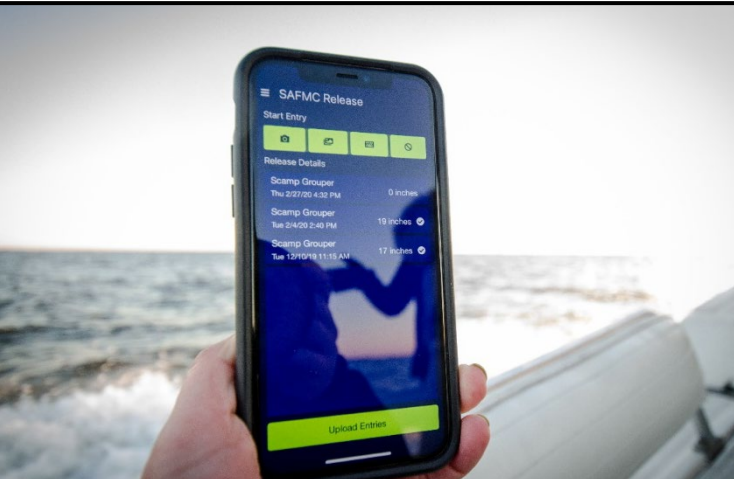
- New FISHstory features:
 - [Feature in 2020 Zooniverse 'highlights' book](#)
 - [Seven Seas Media Article: Dec 2020 Issue](#)
 - NC State and SciStarter's Make it Count Monday
- Developing questionnaire for volunteers to learn more about their motivations for participating

Next Steps

- Current grant funding will end mid-2021
- Looking for future funding opportunities



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SAFMC Scamp Release

Continue work to recruit and retain commercial, for-hire, and recreational fishermen

Graduate student research

- Identify best strategies to market self-report apps to fishermen
- Interviews with SAFMC Release participants
- Analysis of MyFishCount survey results & marketing strategies

FY20 ACCSP Project - underway

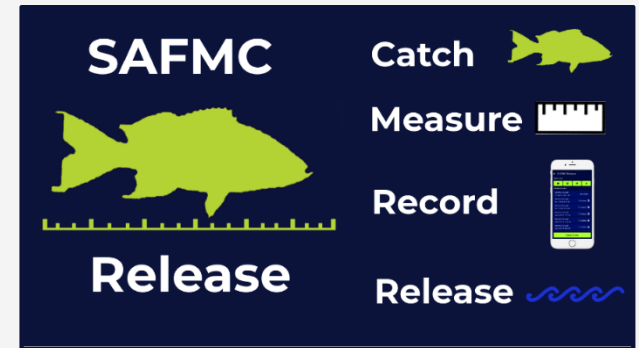
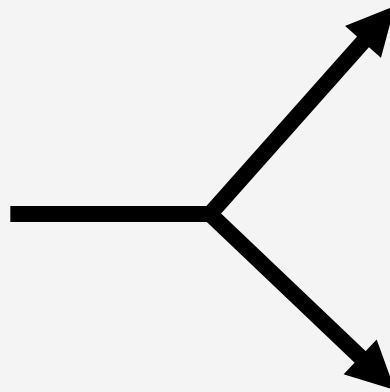
- Combine SAFMC Release & NCDMF's Catch U Later under new ACCSP citizen science app
- Expand SAFMC Release to all shallow water grouper
- Target launch: Spring 2021

New ACCSP Citizen Science App



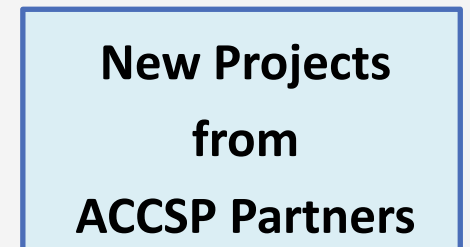
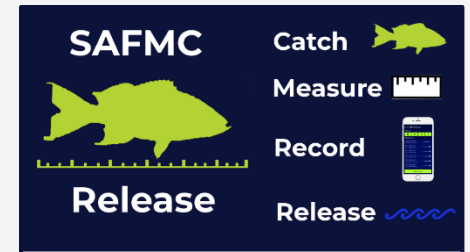
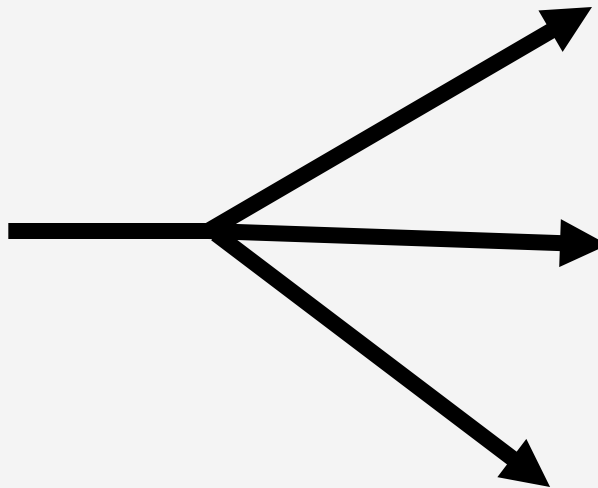
New ACCSP Citizen Science App

Target Launch: Spring 2021



New ACCSP Citizen Science App

Into the future...



Customizable Citizen Science App Scoping Meetings

To develop a mobile application that encourages & supports the capture and sharing of information about Atlantic coast fish



Online questionnaire

- To gather information from broad group of fishermen, scientists, and managers



Virtual town hall meetings

- March 9 at 5pm EST
- March 11 at 10am EST



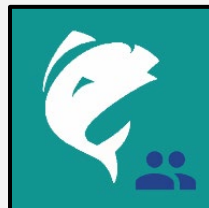
Half day virtual workshops

- April 1 at 9am EST
- April 14 at 9am EST
- April 20 at 1pm EST

SciFish Demo



CITIZEN SCIENCE POWERED BY ACCSP



Keep Up with Projects & the Program!

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<http://safmc.net/citizen-science-program/>