



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

**Mackerel Cobia AP Meeting**

**April 2019**



# Citizen Science Research Priorities

Updated every two years

Will help guide projects the Program pursues

SAFMC Citizen Science Research Needs		
TOPIC	DATA NEEDED:	POTENTIAL OUTCOME:
Age Sampling	Otolith collection	Age of catches
Maturity Data	Gonad collection	Improved reproductive information
Discard information	Length, depth, # of fish, reason, devices used	Improved discard removal estimates, size comps of discards
Genetic Sampling	Fin clips	Stock I.D.
Bottom habitat mapping	Imagery	Improved resolution of habitat
Monitoring in managed areas	Species, length, depth	Changes in fish abundance
Fishing infrastructure	Location and type of infrastructure	Document social/economic impacts of regulations over time
Historical Fishing Photos	Images (electronic)	Length comps; improved historical information
Oceanographic/ Environmental Conditions	Bottom temperature; weather	Build database on climate and changing conditions
Rare species observations	Point observations	Baseline for species shift



# Citizen Science Research Prioritization Process

Summer/Fall 2019

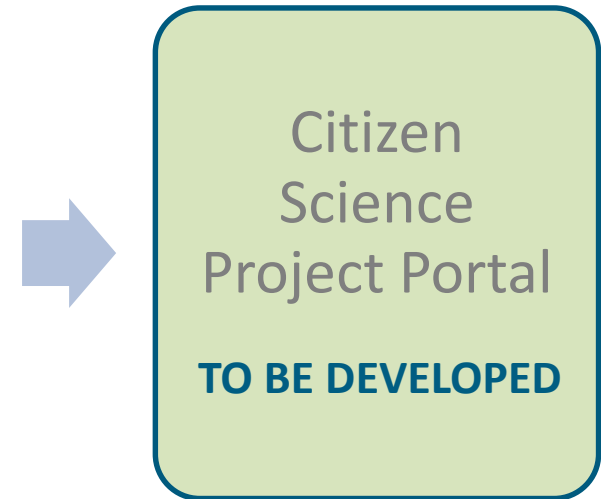


- Informed by SSC, AP's, SEDARs, SAFMC

Fall/Winter 2019



- Cit Sci Projects Advisory Team
- Cit Sci Operations Committee



# Cit Sci Projects Advisory Team

## Role & Responsibilities

- Identify citizen science research & data needs across all FMPs
- Assist with developing volunteer engagement strategies
- Outreach ambassadors for Program

## Membership

- 1-2 representatives from each SAFMC species related Advisory Panels

**Meet via webinar 1-2 times per year**

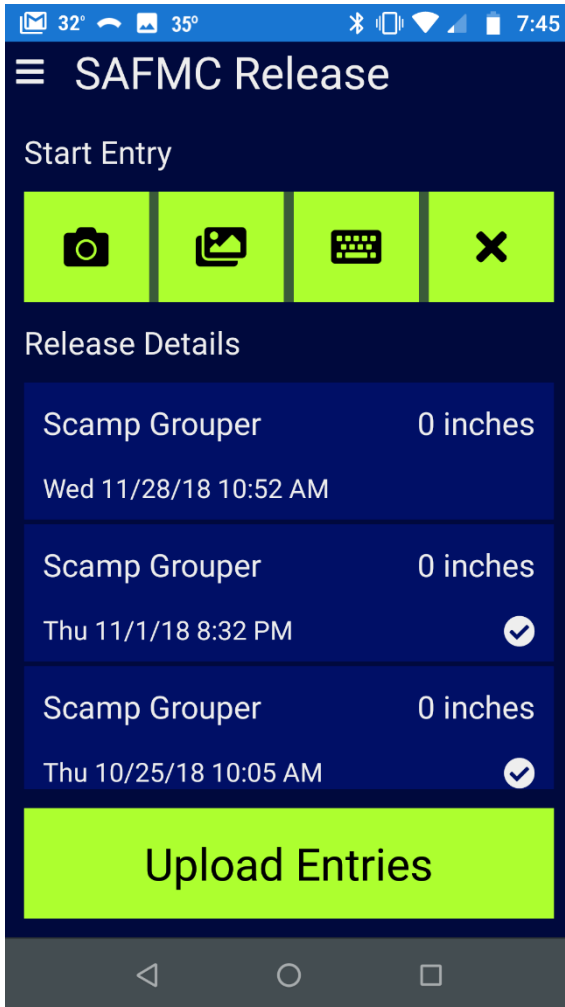
**Need to identify Mackerel Cobia AP Representatives!**





# RELEASE

## *SAFMC Citizen Science Pilot Project Scamp Release*



**Focus:** work with fishermen and scientists to design a project to collect supplementary data on scamp discards using a mobile app

**Data:** discard data (length, depth, images)

**Use:** consideration for use in 2019 stock assessment

### **Project Update:**

- **Release Evaluation App Testing Wrapping Up**
- **Developing training and outreach materials**
- **Target to have production app ready by late spring**
- **Need help recruiting Scamp fishermen and promoting app!**



# Project FISHstory

Photo credit: Rusty Hudson



**Documenting historic catch and length estimates from historical photos in the for-hire sector using electronic data collection and imagery analysis platforms and crowdsourcing approaches.**



DAGLEY'S  
CAUGHT ABOARD

DOCK  
PHYLLIS-K

Photo credit: Rusty Hudson

## PROJECT OBJECTIVES/METHODS:

- Fill in historical data gap – headboat photos from 1940s-70s; prior to fishery dependent surveys
- Species composition analysis
- Crowdsourcing – Zooniverse Platform
- Expert validation team
- Length analysis of one key species



# Keep Up with Projects & the Program!

Julia Byrd

843-302-8439 / [julia.byrd@safmc.net](mailto:julia.byrd@safmc.net)



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