

## SAFMC Citizen Science Program Evaluation

1/21/2020 - DRAFT

### Background

The Citizen Science Program goals were developed by the Operations Committee in August 2018 and adopted by the SAFMC in December 2018. Based on these goals, staff, working with Rick Bonney and Jennifer Shirk, developed draft Program objectives that were initially shared with Operations Committee members as part of their October 2019 meeting materials.

Based on discussion on the October 2019 Operations Committee webinar, a google doc was created with Program goals and draft objectives. Committee members were asked to provide edits/feedback on the draft objectives and brainstorm potential indicators of success within the google doc. Staff, working with Rick Bonney and Jennifer Shirk, reviewed and incorporated Committee feedback into the draft below in advance of the Jan 24 webinar.

During the Jan 24 meeting, we would like the Committee to focus on finalizing objectives and discussing potential strategies to help meet objectives. Indicators of success will be discussed as time allows. If we aren't able to cover indicators during the Jan 24 meeting, we can potentially schedule a subsequent meeting to address them.

I've divided this document into two sections to facilitate the meeting discussion.

- Section 1 (starts on pg 2) – just has the goals and draft objectives to help streamline the document for our initial discussions
- Section 2 (starts on pg 4) – has the goals, draft objectives, & draft indicators of success; wanted everyone to see the draft indicators of success brainstormed by Committee members; if we have time to discuss indicators on the webinar, we will flip to this section of the document

## **SECTION 1: CitSci Program Goals & Draft Objectives**

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

### *Draft Objectives*

- Establish organizational infrastructure (e.g. Committees, APs, Action Teams, Ad-hoc Groups) to provide program administration and oversight
- Develop program components and policies to guide development of projects that support SAFMC research priorities and needs
  - Create program Standard Operating Procedures and Practices (SOPPs)
  - Develop and maintain a citizen science research needs prioritization process
  - Implement the above process to update the citizen science research priorities every two years
  - Create and implement a CitSci Project Endorsement Program
  - Develop and provide support resources (e.g. best practices, templates, etc.) to assist in development of citizen science projects
- Create a funding framework that is adaptable to changing circumstances and needs.

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

### *Draft Objectives*

- Advertise the SAFMC's citizen science research priorities
- Advertise the SAFMC's CitSci Project Endorsement Program
- Provide project support resources (e.g. best practices, templates, etc.) to assist in the development of citizen science projects
- Promote collaboration by a diverse team of stakeholders (e.g. scientists, fishermen, managers, etc.) to design/develop projects using the provided resources

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

### *Draft Objectives*

- Implement program framework in designing projects to address data standards and quality.
- Review project results to ensure data meet intended needs.
- Document the contribution of citsci projects/data to specific SAFMC research priorities and science and management decision making.

**GOAL 4: Build partnerships that foster mutual learning, collaboration, and programmatic support.**

### *Draft Objectives*

- Ensure that scientists, fishermen, managers, and interested members of the public participate in the program

- Foster existing partnerships and develop new partnerships to support both program and project goals
- Improve trust among scientists, managers, and fishermen
- Document learning and collaboration

**GOAL 5: Inspire active engagement through communication about purposes, processes, and impacts.**

*Draft Objectives*

- Develop CitSci Program volunteer engagement (recruitment, training, retention) strategies, products, and activities using best practices outlined by the CitSci Action Teams
- Develop Citizen Science Program communication and outreach plans to include routine program communication, program website, social media development, program support materials, and annual report
- Engage new stakeholders that are not typically involved in Council process

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## SECTION 2: CitSci Program Goals, Draft Objectives, and Draft Indicators of Success

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

#### *Draft Objectives*

- Establish organizational infrastructure (e.g. Committees, APs, Action Teams, Ad-hoc Groups) to provide program administration and oversight
- Develop program components and policies to guide development of projects that support SAFMC research priorities and needs
  - Create program Standard Operating Procedures and Practices (SOPPs)
  - Develop and maintain a citizen science research needs prioritization process
  - Implement the above process to update the citizen science research priorities every two years
  - Create and implement a CitSci Project Endorsement Program
  - Develop and provide support resources (e.g. best practices, templates, etc.) to assist in development of citizen science projects
- Create a funding framework that is adaptable to changing circumstances and needs.

#### *INDICATORS OF SUCCESS*

- Organizational infrastructure was developed to include (insert infrastructure components here).
- # of policies and procedures that were created and utilized when identifying projects and research priorities. These were used # times to create # projects and # research priorities.
- CitSci projects have contributed to (insert type of decision making component) and used to make management decisions for X species/complex.
- Number of external funding sources/partners (i.e. non-SAFMC budget -- whether FIS, SeaGrant, NGO, etc.)

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

#### *Draft Objectives*

- Advertise the SAFMC's citizen science research priorities
- Advertise the SAFMC's CitSci Project Endorsement Program
- Provide project support resources (e.g. best practices, templates, etc.) to assist in the development of citizen science projects
- Promote collaboration by a diverse team of stakeholders (e.g. scientists, fishermen, managers, etc.) to design/develop projects using the provided resources
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#### *INDICATORS OF SUCCESS (add below)*

- # of citSci projects that have been developed.
- # of stakeholders involved in development of citSci projects. Stakeholders are from # different organizations such as (list affiliations).
- CitSci projects have contributed to (insert type of decision making component) and used to make management decisions for X species/complex.

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

*Draft Objectives*

- Implement program framework in designing projects to address data standards and quality.
- Review project results to ensure data meet intended needs.
- Document the contribution of citsci projects/data to specific SAFMC research priorities and science and management decision making.

*INDICATORS OF SUCCESS (add below)*

- # of stakeholders involved in the development of citsci projects. Stakeholders are from # different organizations such as (list affiliations).
- Citsci projects have contributed to (insert type of decision making component) and used to make management decisions for X species/complex.
- # of policies and procedures that have been created and have been used # times to create # of projects and # of research priorities.
- # of projects have been evaluated for effectiveness. Effectiveness is shown by (insert measure showing how the project has been effective in management decisions).

**GOAL 4: Build partnerships that foster mutual learning, collaboration, and programmatic support.**

*Draft Objectives*

- Ensure that scientists, fishermen, managers, and interested members of the public participate in the program
- Foster existing partnerships and develop new partnerships to support both program and project goals
- Improve trust among scientists, managers, and fishermen
- Document learning and collaboration

*INDICATORS OF SUCCESS (add below)*

- # of stakeholders involved in the development of citsci projects. Stakeholders are from # different organizations such as (list affiliations).
- # of new partnerships that were created. Partners include (list of partner organizations or types of partners).
- # of partners that continue to be part of the program. Partners include (list of partner organizations or types of partners).
- # of new stakeholders that were engaged. These stakeholders come from # of different organizations including (list affiliations).
- # of people reached through communication and outreach plan. # of people who were engaged or responded to communication and outreach plan by (list type of engagement).
- # of volunteers who were recruited for the program.
- # of volunteers who were trained through the program. # of projects volunteers participated in.
- # of volunteers retained in the program. # of projects volunteers participated in.

**GOAL 5: Inspire active engagement through communication about purposes, processes, and impacts.**

*Draft Objectives*

- Develop CitSci Program volunteer engagement (recruitment, training, retention) strategies, products, and activities using best practices outlined by the CitSci Action Teams
- Develop Citizen Science Program communication and outreach plans to include routine program communication, program website, social media development, program support materials, and annual report
- Engage new stakeholders that are not typically involved in Council process

*INDICATORS OF SUCCESS (add below)*

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- # of people reached through communication and outreach plan. # of people who were engaged or responded to communication and outreach plan by (list type of engagement).
- # of volunteers who were recruited for the program.
- # of volunteers who were trained through the program. # of projects volunteers participated in.
- # of volunteers retained in the program. # of projects volunteers participated in.