

**FINAL
SUMMARY REPORT
CITIZEN SCIENCE COMMITTEE
SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
Kitty Hawk, NC
December 6, 2018**

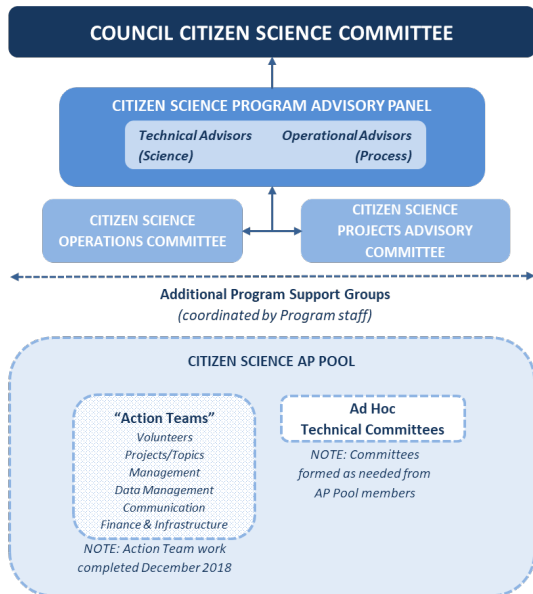
The Committee approved the December 2018 Citizen Science Committee meeting agenda and the minutes from the June 2018 meeting.

Review of Draft Citizen Science Program Standard Operations Policies & Procedures (SOPPs)

The committee received an overview of the draft Citizen Science Program SOPPs and provided input on the specific sections and content of the draft document. Specifically, feedback was requested on:

Section II: Program Administration & Oversight

Staff presented the proposed organizational structure and the roles, responsibilities, membership, and terms for each panel or committee (see figure and table).



	Program Advisory Panel	Operations Committee	Projects Advisory Committee
Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommend program policies – science and operations Recommend SOPPs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advise on operational policies as program grows to meet needs & guide program direction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advise program on project related issues
Roles/ Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recs on science standards, fiscal support, legal issues, governance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modify SOPPs as needed Operational recs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I.D. cit sci research needs for species Volunteer Engagement Outreach ambassadors
Membership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agency level reps – NOAA, Sea Grant, ASMFC, ACCSP Fishery Stakeholders Council Cit Sci experts/others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Member from each of 5 A-Teams SERO SEFSC SSC 	Chair/designee from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Species APs Habitat/Eco AP I&E AP
Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual In-person 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As needed Webinar/in-person 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Twice/year Webinar
Interactions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Info from other committees Recs to Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with Projects Adv Comm/staff Recs to Prog Adv Panel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with Ops Comm/staff Recs to Prog Adv Panel

The vision for implementing the organizational structure would be to maintain the existing Citizen Science Advisory Panel Pool and the Operations Committee; convene the Projects Advisory Committee in 2019; and appoint and activate the Program Advisory Panel in the future once the Program has several projects completed in order to evaluate the operation of the Program and success of projects.

The committee discussed the overall structure, purpose and operation of the organizational chart proposed and provided the following feedback:

- Consider the scope of work being proposed by the Program and the organizational structure needed to support the Program at its current stage of development.
- Consider using an Advisory Panel structure with both fishermen and citizen science experts as members of the Advisory Panel, if appropriate.
- Ensure the SSC, SERO, and SEFSC are engaged in the organizational structure.
- For the Projects Advisory Committee, the committee supported the structure and a flexible term for members to ensure that the fishermen that are champions of the Program remain engaged with the Program for continuity early on in Program development.

Section III.a. Citizen Science Program Research Prioritization Process

Staff described the three step approach for developing research priorities for the Citizen Science Program that includes a review of the Council's Research & Monitoring Plan; development of a Citizen Science Research Priorities document; and development of a project idea portal on the Council's website to allow citizens to submit research ideas for citizen science projects.

The committee discussed the proposed process and provided the following feedback:

- When the Council reviews the Research & Monitoring Plan, it would be helpful to provide a summary of what research (species and topic) has been conducted on research items in the plan.

Section III.b. Project Endorsement Program

Staff explained the project endorsement program and how it is a mechanism that allows project collaborators working on a citizen science project to receive an "endorsement" from the Citizen Science Program. The process for receiving endorsement involves submitting an application that is reviewed against the Program's citizen science standards. Endorsed projects would receive a letter of endorsement and use of the Program's logo to support their project.

The committee discussed the proposed program and provided the following feedback:

- Ensure that the Program periodically reviews and receives updates/reports from endorsed projects.

Other general discussion included how the Program will pursue partnerships to help develop citizen science projects. The vision for partnership development includes facilitating "matchmaking" with fishermen and researchers to help develop project ideas into actual citizen science projects; development of a funding opportunity inventory that can be shared with fishermen and researchers seeking funding for their citizen science project idea; and development of Memorandum of Understanding with other agencies and organizations. NOAA General Counsel informed the committee that their office is researching mechanisms for the Program to develop fiscal partnerships that remain within the legal bounds of Council activities. One such mechanism is the draft MOU under development with the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission to become a fiscal partner for the Program. NOAA General Counsel is working with Department of Commerce General Counsel on review of the draft MOU. This MOU and an update on fiscal partnership options will be available by the March 2019 meeting.

MOTION #1: ADOPT THE CITIZEN SCIENCE PROGRAM SOPPs, WITH MODIFICATIONS AS NEEDED.

APPROVED BY COMMITTEE

APPROVED BY COUNCIL

Update on Citizen Science Program & Projects

The Committee received an overview of the draft MOU with ASMFC (see above) and the two citizen science projects that are being developed and implemented.

Staff presented the mobile application, Release, which will collect discard length data on scamp grouper. The evaluation app will be ready for testing this week and the production app will be launched in January 2019.

The second citizen science project for the Program called, FISHstory, was recently funded through the NOAA FIS grant program. This project will document historical catch and length estimates using historic photos from 1940s – 70s from a headboat fleet in Daytona Beach, FL. The project will use an online crowdsourcing platform to build a project that will allow citizens to be trained to identify species in the

images. Once species are verified, one key species will be selected for length analysis to document lengths.

Additional projects are under development with new Program Partners that will address several of the Citizen Science Research Priorities.

Other Business

No further business was brought before the committee.

Note: Council staff drafts the timing and task motion based on Committee action. If points require clarification, they will be added to the draft motion. The Committee should review this wording carefully to be sure it accurately reflects their intent prior to making the motion.

Timing and Task(s)

No additional motions were made.