

**FINAL**  
**SUMMARY REPORT**  
**CITIZEN SCIENCE COMMITTEE**  
**SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**  
**Key West, Florida**  
**June 16, 2022**

The Committee approved the June 2022 Citizen Science (CitSci) Committee meeting agenda and the transcript from the December 2021 meeting.

**Program Evaluation Interview Results**

Rick Bonney provided an overview of key findings from the interviews conducted as part of the Citizen Science Program initial evaluation plan. The interviews provided insights from fishermen, scientists, and managers on their levels of knowledge about, confidence in, and trust in the citizen science process of collecting data to inform fisheries resource management. The Council found the interview findings informative and were supportive of the continuation of this work. NOAA Fisheries and the Council committed to providing funding to contribute to the survey component of this work.

**FISHstory Highlights**

Staff presented key findings and lessons learned from the FISHstory pilot project. The Council was very supportive of the continuation of FISHstory. During the discussion it was noted that the data collected through the project could be informative to assessments. The Council supported staff pursuing additional funding for the project and exploring ways to identify and archive additional historic for-hire photos in the South Atlantic region.

**Snowy Grouper Project Update**

At the March 2022 meeting, the Council provided guidance to work with the Citizen Science Program to explore development of a project working with dealers to gather supplemental commercial snowy grouper length data. Staff presented information summarizing the biological data available through current data collection programs and things to consider if the Council wants to pursue development of a citizen science project working with dealers to gather supplemental length data. Based on the commercial snowy grouper data available through current data collection programs and the resources available, the Council did not support the continued development of this project idea at this time. However, there was support for potentially pursuing it in the future.

**Citizen Science Program Update**

Due to time limitations, staff provided a brief verbal update on the Citizen Science Program and project activities highlighting work not covered in other agenda items. Key activities noted were the hiring of a new Citizen Science Project Coordinator, Meg Withers, and the incorporation of red snapper into the SAFMC Release project. The Citizen Science Update presentation (Attachment 4) provides more detailed information on program activities.

**Other Business**

No further business was brought before the Committee.