

Program Activities



Seminars, Conferences & Symposiums



CitSci Project Idea Portal



CitSci Initial Evaluation



SMILE Project



FISHstory



SAFMC Release



SciFish Policies & Platform



Citizen Science Project Idea Portal

- Goal: Develop online form to gather citizen science project ideas from stakeholders
- How will the information be used?
 - Ideas reviewed by Program in May and Oct
 - Compile & consider when citizen science research priorities updated
 - Help connect fishermen and scientists with similar research interests

Initial Program Evaluation Plan

 Gather baseline data on knowledge, attitudes, collaborations, engagement, and trust levels of various stakeholders in three stages:



Interviews



Complete: 6 fishermen, 6 scientists, 6 managers



Gather information from broader group



Online survey – scientists & managers More interviews - fishermen



Implement & analyze results





SMILE Pilot Project

 Partnering with recreational divers to collect length information on data limited species

• Laser mounted Olympus underwater camera

 Field tested in FL Keys – Aug/Sept 2023











Next Steps

Move from pilot to full scale project



Funding to grow project



Expand geographic & temporal range of photos



Improve efficiency of processes



Estimate
length
compositions
for more
species

FISHstory Scanning Events

- Goal: Collect historic fishing photos from across the South Atlantic region from the 1940s 1980s for the FISHstory project
- Host in collaboration with upcoming Council & Advisory Panel meetings
- September Council meeting
- Outreach & Communication AP meeting
- Fall Snapper Grouper AP meeting
 Dolphin Wahoo AP meeting
 Mackerel Cobia AP meeting

December Council meetings

FISHstory: Photos for Analyses

Photo Description	Good	Better		
Photo Type	Picture taken at the end of a trip displaying harvested catch with anglers	Fish hanging on leaderboard		
Photo Date	Year	Month & Day		
Photo Location	State	City & Dock		
Photo Background	Photo provider name & contact	Vessel name & captain name		

Exploring other avenues to gather historic photos







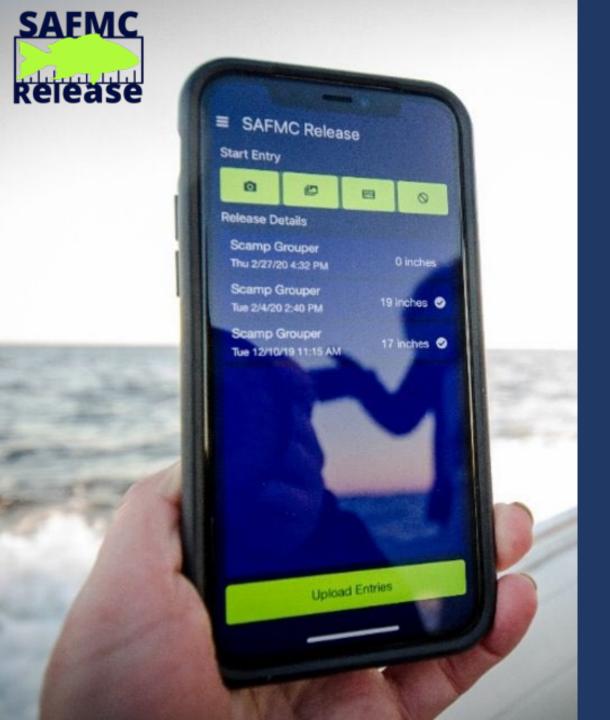
HISTORICAL SOCIETIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

LIBRARIES

RESTAURANTS

FISHstory: FY 23 Timeline

Tasks	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
Gather & archive historical photos												
Refine project in Zooniverse												
Re-launch in Zooniverse												
Red Snapper & King Mackerel Lengths												
Outreach & Volunteer												



SAFMC Release



Scamp Snapper Graysby Yellow-Black mouth Gag Rock Yellowfin Hind Red Hind Coney Red

Updates

Participants recording released shallow water grouper and Red Snapper in SciFish app

Continued outreach, including collaboration with Best Fishing Practices initiative

Participant Recognition Program (PRP)

Annual Data Summary

Outreach





- FWC email
- BFP (e.g., Pitman Creek mailings)
- Articles



Social media

Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn



Tackle shop visits

Each state at least 2x



Seminars & Events

- Haddrell's Fishing Expo
- SCDNR Open House
- ICAST
- JOSFC

Communication with Participants



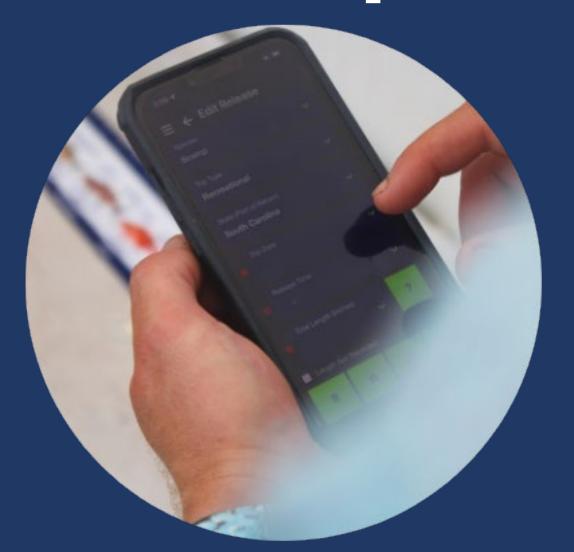
Newsletters



Thank you emails



Data summary

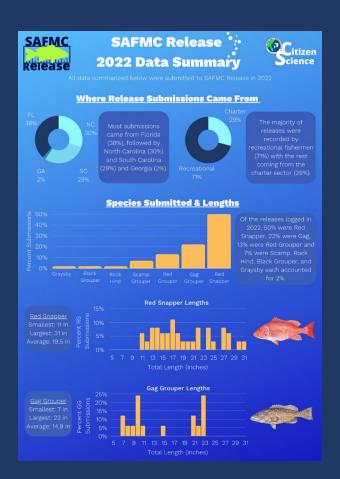


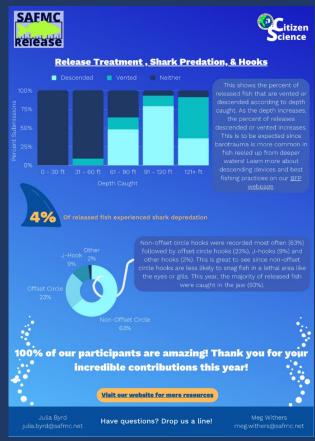
Participant Recognition Program

Milestones

<u>Recognition</u>	First Submission	Five Submissions	Smallest/ Largest	Most Species	Best Photo	Most Submissions
Release Newsletter	✓	✓			✓	✓
Annual Data Summary			✓	✓		
Social Media					✓	✓
SA Bite						✓

2022 Data Summary





Summary includes:

- Release submissions by state & fishing sector
- Species submitted
- Length compositions
- Release treatment by depth
- Shark depredation
- Hook type & location



Thanks to the SciFish Organizing Committee for all of their hard work and dedication to this project!

- SAFMC: Julia Byrd, Meg Withers, Chip Collier, Nick Smillie, Allie Iberle
- NCDMF: Brandi Salmon, Jeff Moore, Ami Staples, Andrew Valmassoi, Steph McInerny, Drew Cathey
- ACCSP: Julie Simpson & Jamal Oudiden
- GADNR: Kathy Knowlton
- RIDMF: Mike Bucko
- NOAA: Lauren Dolinger-Few
- Harbor Light: Fran Karp & Bill Spain

SciFish - Introduction









Citizen science is a potentially powerful tool to better understand marine fish populations



Growing interest in using citizen science to supplement marine fisheries data collection



Development of SciFish, citizen science mobile application and project builder, to support capture and sharing of information about fish along the Atlantic coast



SciFish Long Term Goal



Develop for ACCSP partners:

- citizen science mobile application and
- menu-driven project builder interface to
- easily create a customizable application by selecting specific data fields
- without need to develop stand-alone applications for each new project or data need



SciFish Development Drivers



Reduce costs needed to develop individual applications



Reduce time to create applications from ground up



Increase consistency in data fields and structure



SciFish Administration & Oversight



Administration through ACCSP



Primary oversight by: SciFish Advisory Panel (SAP)



SciFish Project Development

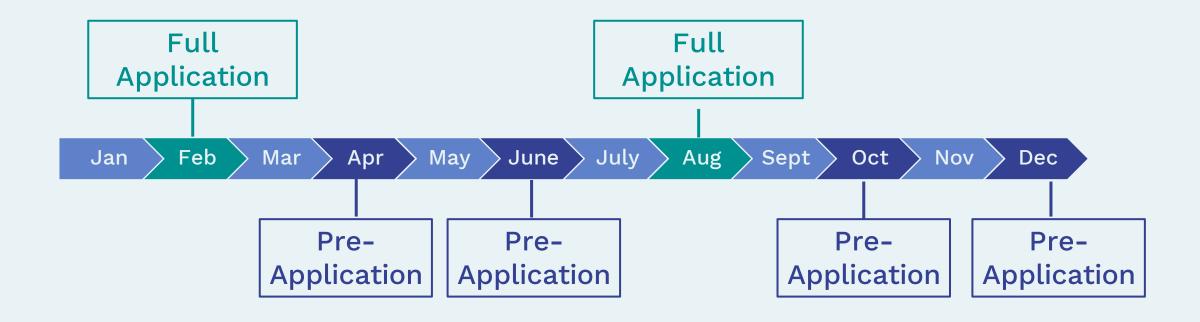
Approach

- Focus on data collection for marine and/or diadromous fisheries along the Atlantic coast
- Fill data gaps or data deficiencies and address identified research needs
- Use intentional design and clearly articulate how collected data will be used in management and/or stock assessments
- Encourage scientist and fishermen collaboration



SciFish Project Development

Multi-step Application Process*



^{*}Projects must have ACCSP partner as PI or be sponsored by an ACCSP partner



SciFish: Policy Highlights



Project PIs must be partner or sponsored by partner



Focus on supporting citizen science projects



Projects initially limited to current data fields in project builder



Project development doesn't require funding, but uses ACCSP resources

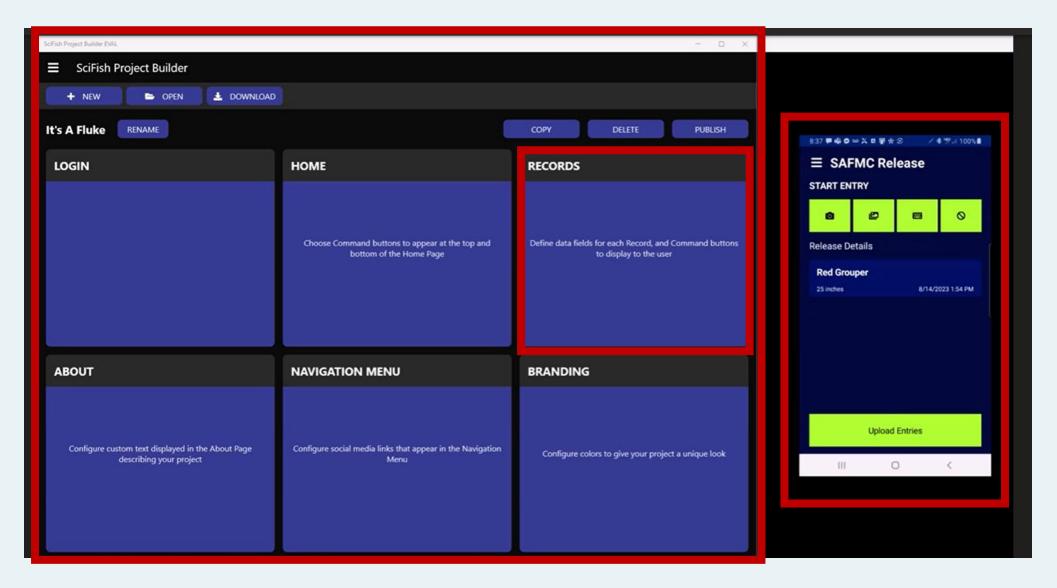


Creation of SciFish Advisory Panel

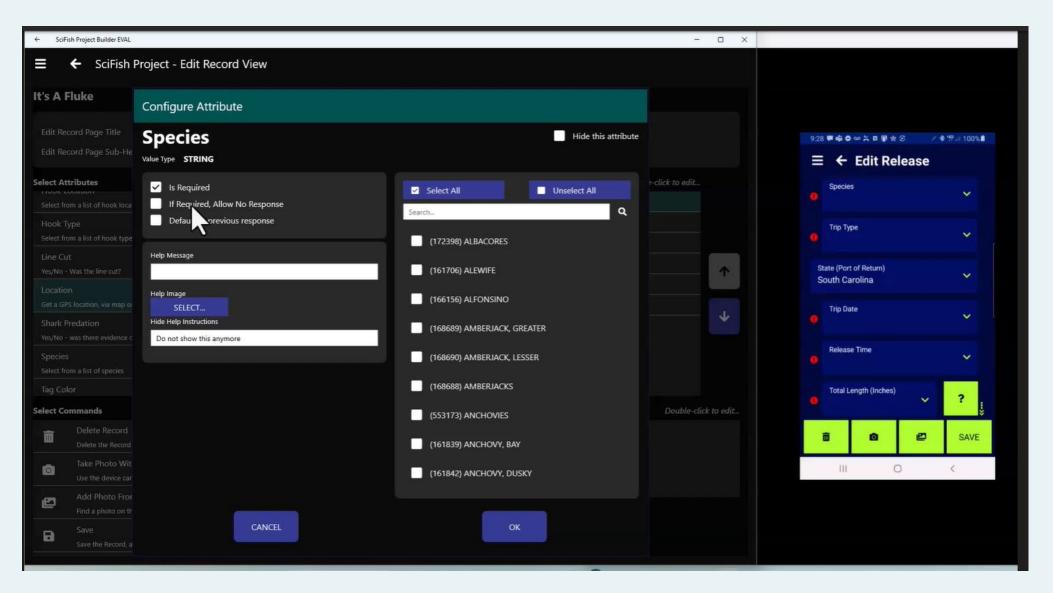


Account creation currently done through SAFIS

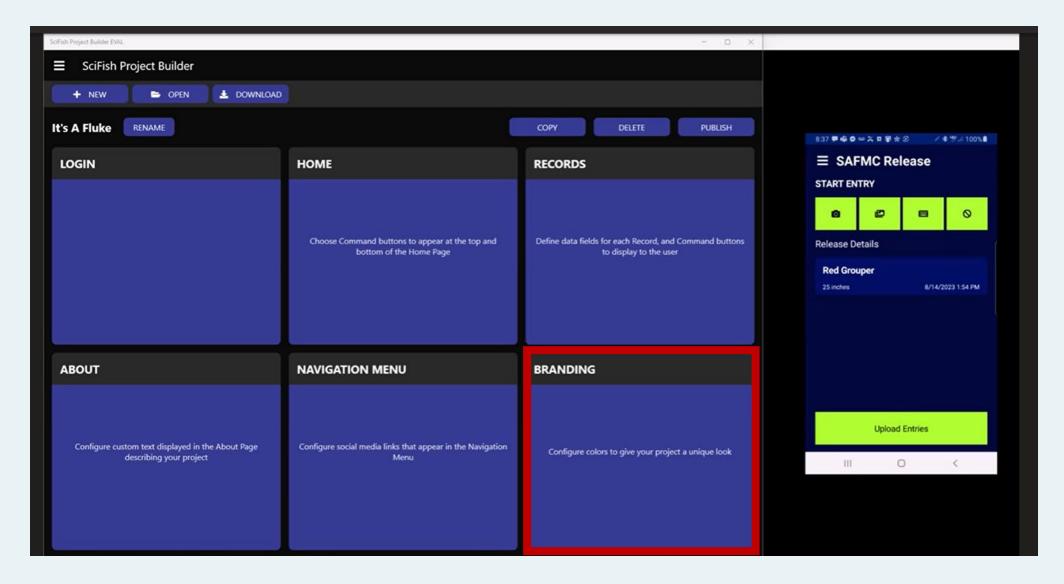




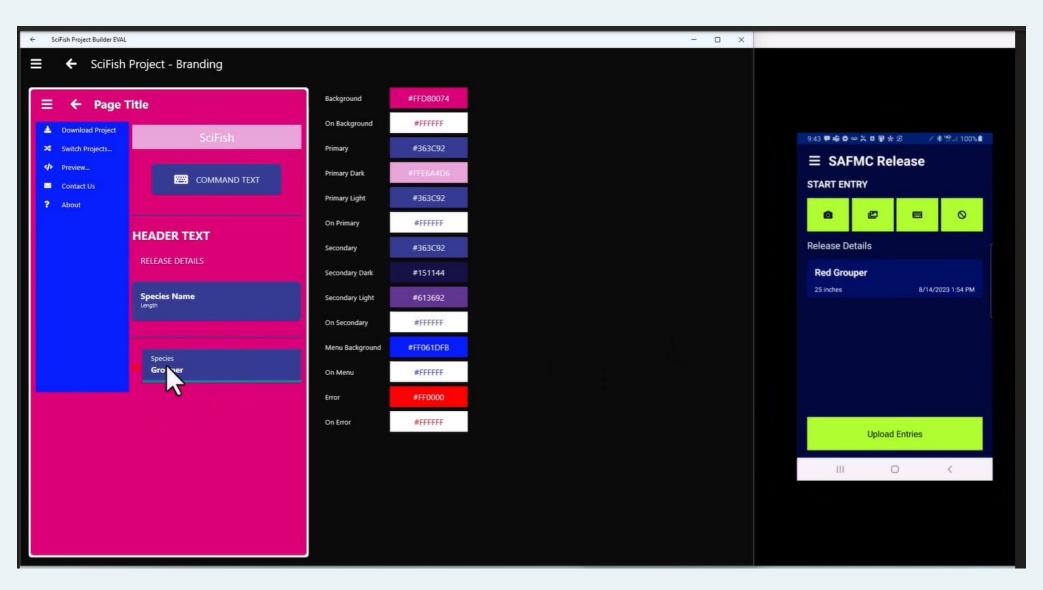




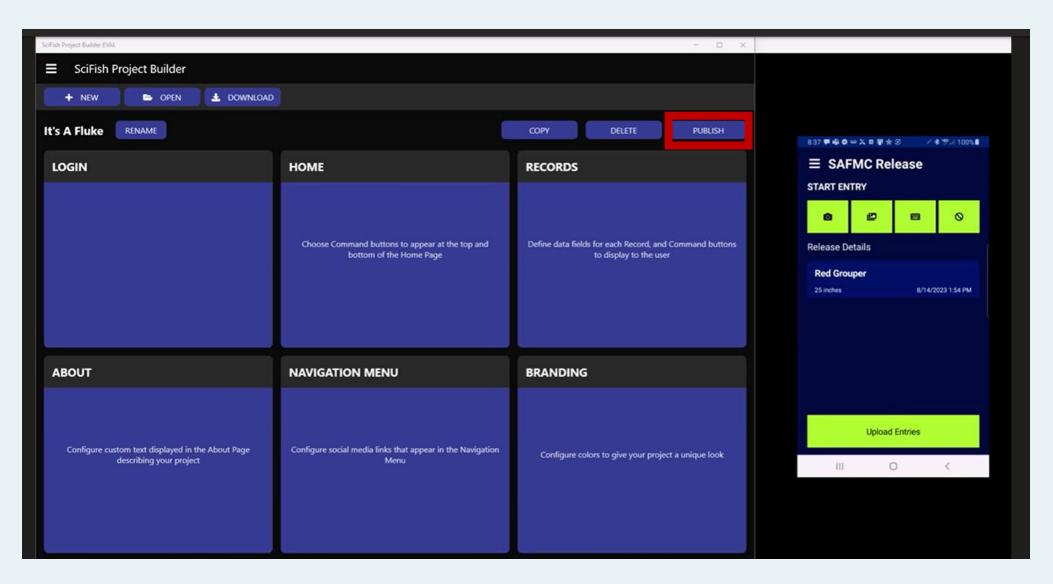




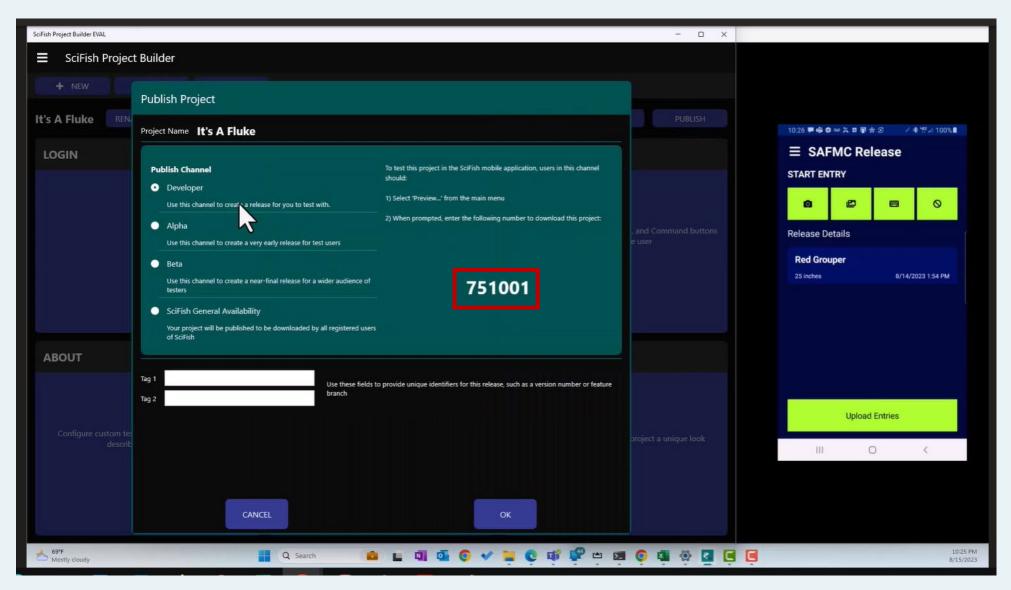




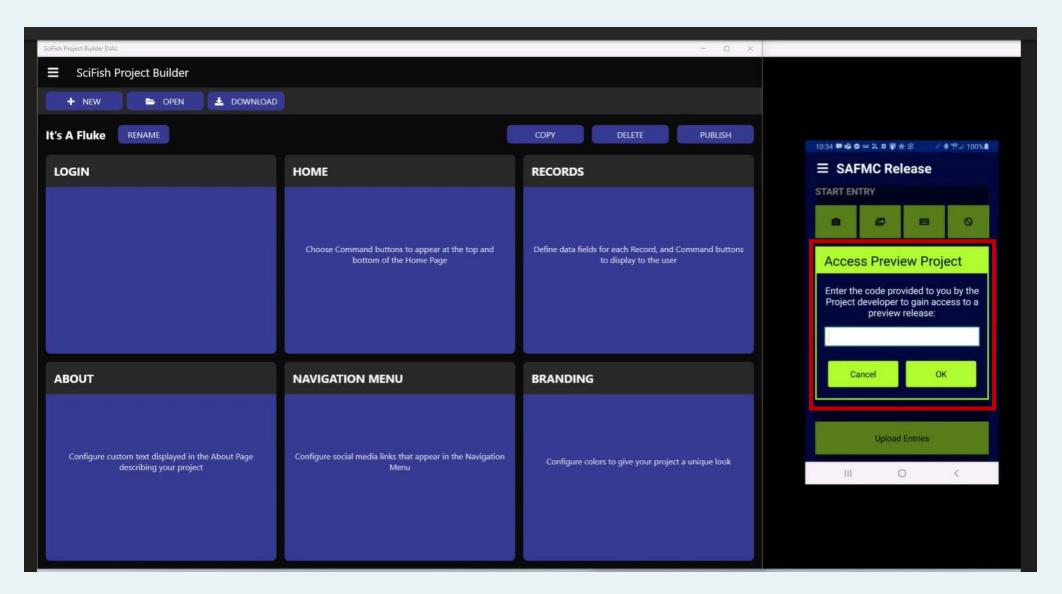




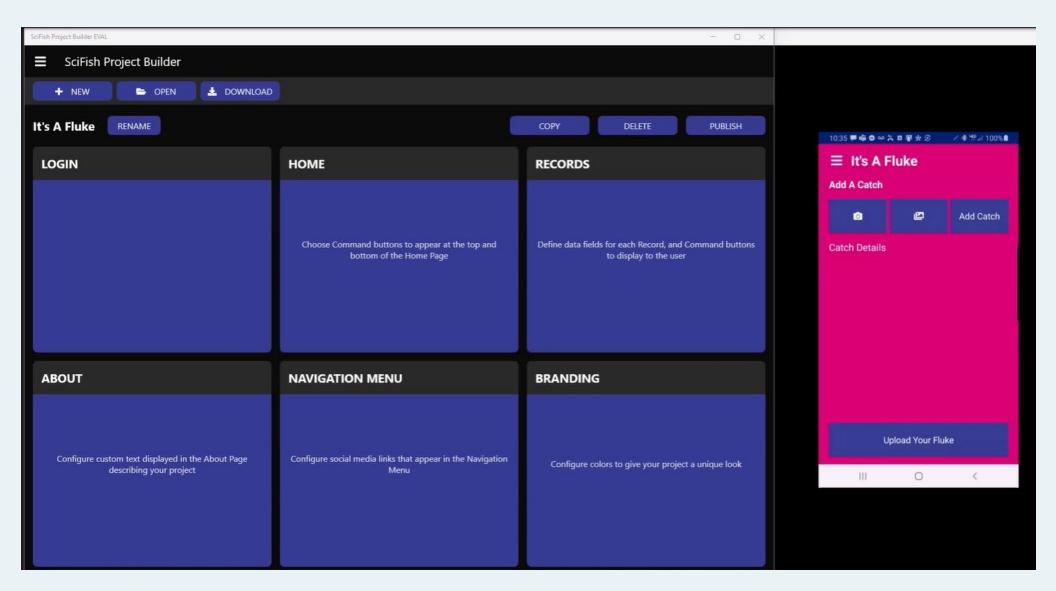














Building a Project in SciFish: Current Fields

Biological sample collected	Gear	Line Cut	Release Disposition	
Comment	Hook location	Location	Species	
Date	Hook type	Number of fish	Time	
Depth	Hours fished	Number of people fishing	Trip type	
Descending device usage	Info collected in other survey	Photo	Venting	
Fish tag number	Length	Predation		
Fish tag color	Length type	Primary target species		



SciFish Policy: Approval

ACCSP Coordinating Council:

Initial Review & Feedback

Aug 2023

Sept 2023

ACCSP
Coordinating
Council:
Consider for Action

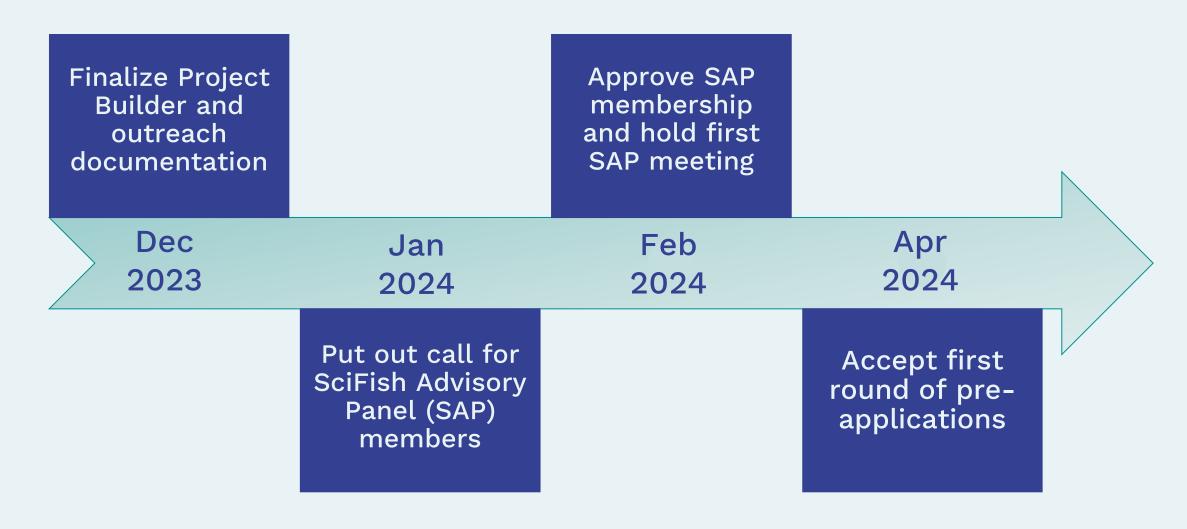
Oct 2023

ACCSP Operations & Advisory Committees:

Review & Feedback



SciFish: Rollout



Keep Up with Projects & the Program!

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



Julia Byrd CitSci Program Manager julia.byrd@safmc.net

Meg Withers CitSci Project Coordinator meg.withers@safmc.net