



SOUTH ATLANTIC FISHERY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

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Jessica McCawley, Chair | Mel Bell, Vice Chair

Gregg T. Waugh, Executive Director

AGENDA

Citizen Science Operations Committee

Friday, October 25, 2019, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. – meeting via webinar

1. Welcome & Meeting Overview
 - a. Overview of webinar agenda, materials, and goals for the meeting
2. Citizen Science Program & Project Update (*Attachment 1*)
3. Citizen Science Program Evaluation (*Attachment 2-3*)
4. Review Citizen Science Research Priorities and Update as appropriate (*Attachment 4-6*)

Other Business

Adjourn

Committee Members

Holly Abeels

Scott Baker

Rick DeVictor

Michelle Duval

Brett Fitzgerald

Bob Lorenz

Marcel Reichert

Erik Williams

Attachments

Attachment 1: SAFMC Citizen Science Program & Project Update Presentation

Attachment 2: A Rubric to Evaluate Citizen-Science Programs for Long-Term Ecological Monitoring, Tredick et al. 2017

Attachment 3: Citizen Science Program Goals & DRAFT Objectives

Attachment 4: SAFMC Citizen Science Research Priorities (with Citizen Science Project Advisory Committee recommendations)

Attachment 5: Citizen Science Projects Advisory Committee Webinar Summary

Attachment 6: South Atlantic Research and Monitoring Prioritization Plan for 2020-2025

Staff Lead: Julia Byrd

OVERVIEW

Citizen Science Operations Committee

1. Welcome & Meeting Overview

- a. Overview of webinar agenda, materials, and goals for the meeting

Meeting Goals:

- *Provide update on Citizen Science Program and Pilot Projects*
- *Discuss development of an evaluation plan for the Citizen Science Program, providing feedback on objectives and indicators of success*
- *Review and update citizen science research priorities, as appropriate*

2. Citizen Science Program & Projects Update (*Attachment 1*)

Staff will provide an update on Citizen Science Program activities, as well as the two pilot projects, SAFMC Scamp Release and FISHstory.

Dr. Jennifer Shirk will provide an update on her research, ‘Researching the Role of Program Infrastructure in Guiding Effective Development of a Scamp Discard Citizen Science Project’.

3. Citizen Science Program Evaluation (*Attachments 2-3*)

- a. Evaluation Introduction – Rick Bonney

Rick Bonney will give a brief presentation on evaluation highlighting its importance and the differences between goals, objectives, and indicators of success.

Two additional resources have been provided to assist with discussions about evaluation.

- ***Attachment 2:*** A Rubric to Evaluate Citizen-Science Programs for Long-Term Ecological Monitoring (Tredick et al. 2017)
- ***Attachment 3:*** Citizen Science Program Goals and DRAFT Objectives

- b. Discussion of Citizen Science Program Evaluation

To develop an evaluation plan a Program needs to have clear, agreed upon goals, objectives, and indicators of success. The Citizen Science Program goals were developed by the Operations Team in August 2018 and adopted by the SAFMC in December 2018. Based on these goals, staff, working with Rick Bonney and Jennifer Shirk, have developed draft Program objectives. During the meeting, staff would like initial feedback from the Committee on the draft objectives, considering the bullets below. The Committee will be provided additional opportunities to refine the objectives in the upcoming months, but staff would like initial guidance on whether the draft objectives are moving in the right direction.

- Are the objectives reasonable based on the goals?
- Are there any objectives that should be removed?
- Are there any additional objectives that should be added?

After briefly reviewing the draft objectives, the Committee will discuss and brainstorm potential indicators of success for the Program objectives. Staff would like to devote a large part of this agenda item to this discuss in order to better understand what Committee

members think success would look like for the Program. If time allows, staff would also like to discuss how the indicators of success could potentially be measured.

4. Review Citizen Science Research Priorities and Update as appropriate (*Attachments 4-6*)

The Committee will review the citizen science research priorities. The current priorities were developed by the Citizen Science Action Teams during 2017/2018. Their development was informed by the Council's Research and Monitoring Prioritization Plan, SEDAR Consolidated Research Recommendations, and project ideas generated at the 2016 SAFMC Citizen Science Program Design Workshop. They were reviewed by the Snapper Grouper and Mackerel/Cobia Advisory Panels in their Spring 2018 meetings and were adopted by the SAFMC in June 2018.

The Citizen Science research priorities will be updated every two years in conjunction with the Council updating their Research and Monitoring Plan. The Citizen Science Projects Advisory Committee and the Operations Committee will review and provide feedback to update the research priorities during their Fall 2019 meetings. Recommendations from these groups will be incorporated and the updated Citizen Science Research Priorities will be presented to the Council for their review and potential adoption at their December 2019 meeting.

The Citizen Science Projects Advisory Committee met via webinar on October 3, 2019 to provide feedback on the Citizen Science Research Priorities. In addition to asking for general feedback on the research priorities, the Projects Advisory Committee was asked to provide input on feasibility of data collection during their normal fishing activities. A webinar summary that details their feedback is provided in Attachment 5.

Staff will walk the Committee through the current priorities, highlighting recommendations from the Citizen Science Projects Advisory Committee. Attachment 4 lists the current research priorities with recommendations from the Projects Advisory Committee included in red font. Committee members are asked to review the current citizen science priorities and to recommend updates as appropriate. Additionally, we would like input from the Committee on which priorities may help address the most immediate needs for science and management decision making.

The following questions may be helpful to consider when providing feedback.

- Are there any priorities that should be removed or added to this list?
- Are there any additional Council Research and Monitoring needs where a citizen science approach may work that aren't included on this list?
- Are there any additions/deletions to the species under the applicable priorities?
- Which of the priorities may help address the most immediate needs for science and management?

Other Business

Adjourn