Citizen Science Program Update

CitSci Projects AP
March 2025

Program Activities

- ASMFC Memorandum of Understanding
- SMILE Project Update
- SAFMC Release
- SciFish Platform
- FISHstory Re-Launch


PC: REEF


PC:Tom Sparke

PC: REEF

SMILE Project

- Partner with divers to collect length info on data limited species
- Laser-mounted Olympus underwater cameras
- Field testing in FL Keys
- Second field season wrapping up
- Data processing & analysis underway

REEF™
Reef Environmental Education Foundation

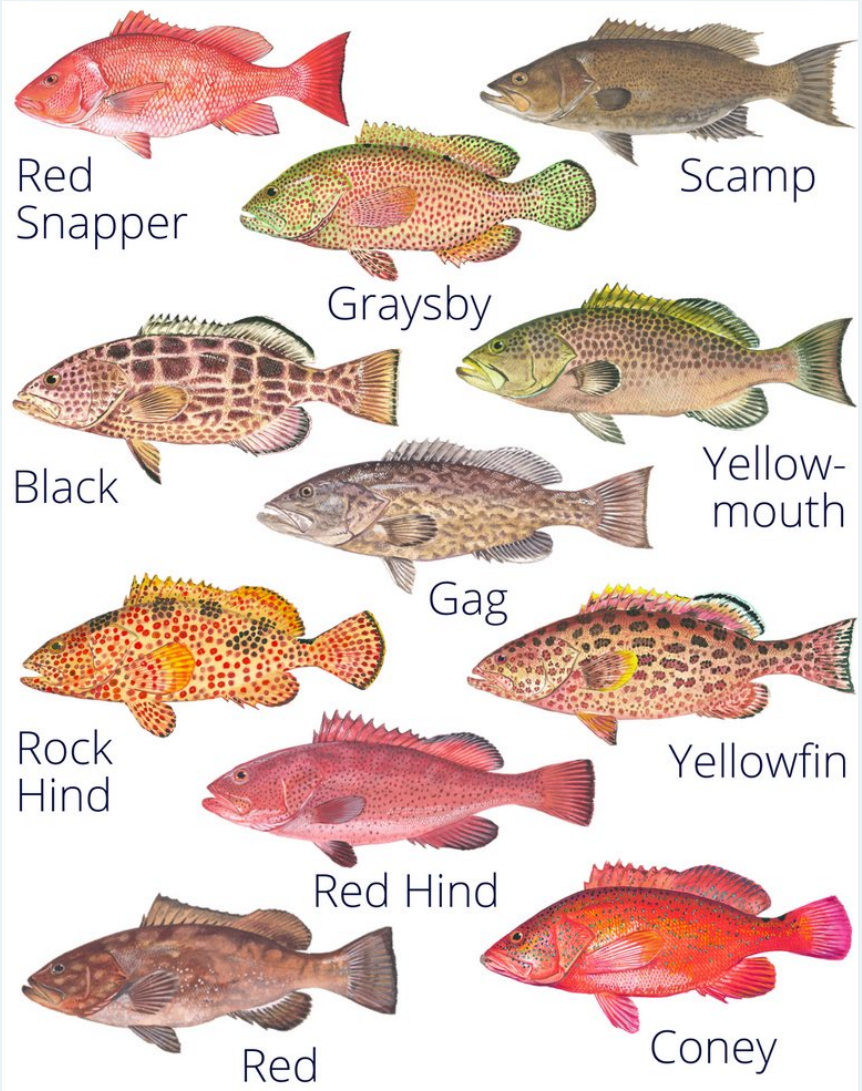
Citizen Science

SECOORA
Southeast Coastal Ocean Observing Regional Association

SAFMC Release

Working with commercial, for-hire, and recreational fishermen

Collecting data on released shallow water grouper and Red Snapper using the SciFish mobile app



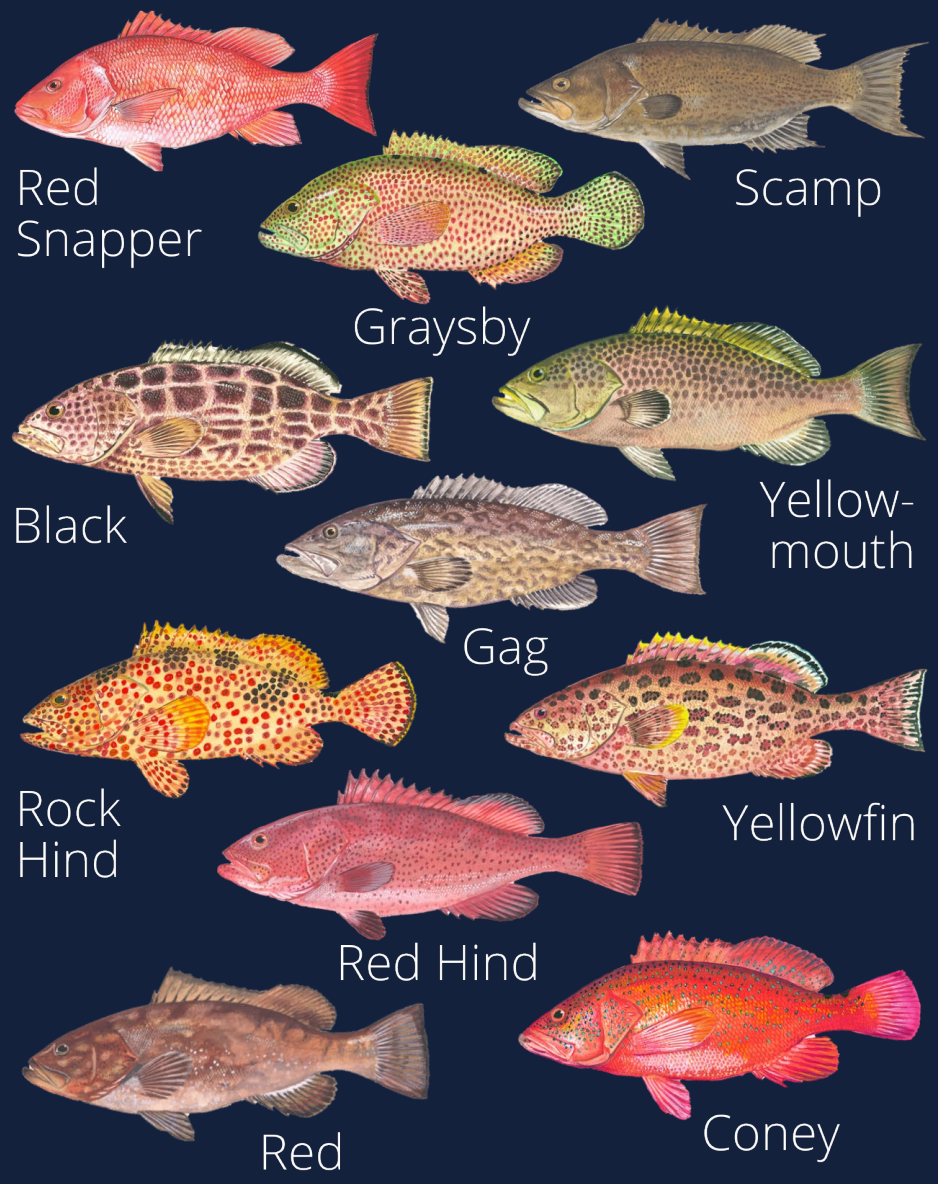
safmc.net/documents/safmc-release-shallow-water-grouper-id-guide/

Data Fields & Usage

Data collected include:

- Species
- Depth caught
- Fish length
- Optional location
- Hook type & location
- Shark depredation
- Venting & descending device use

Learn more about the size and survival rates of released fish.



Updates

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

Continued outreach, communication with participants, and participant recognition

Participant engagement and retention

Recent Outreach Efforts

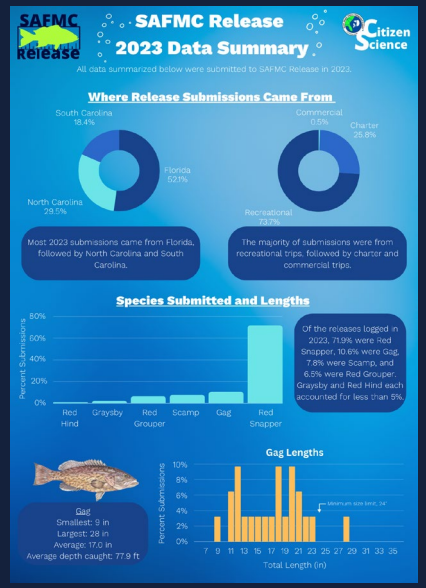
BFP MVP St. Augustine
PC: A. Oliver

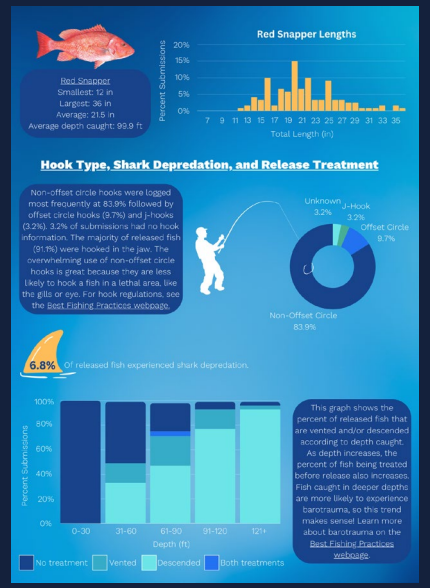
SeaCoast Anglers Assoc.
PC: A. Oliver

Florence Blue Water Fishing Club
PC: Blue Water Fishing Club

Upcoming Activities

- 2024 Annual Data Summary
- PRP 2025 Milestones
- CitSci & BFP Outreach





SciFish Platform

www.accsp.org/what-we-do/scifish/

SciFish Introduction

Growing interest in using citizen science, which is a powerful tool to better understand marine fish populations

Vision: To create a citizen science mobile application that encourages and supports the capture and sharing of data on Atlantic coast fisheries.

Develop a citizen science mobile application and menu-driven project builder interface to eliminate need for stand-alone apps and standardize data collection

SciFish Development Drivers

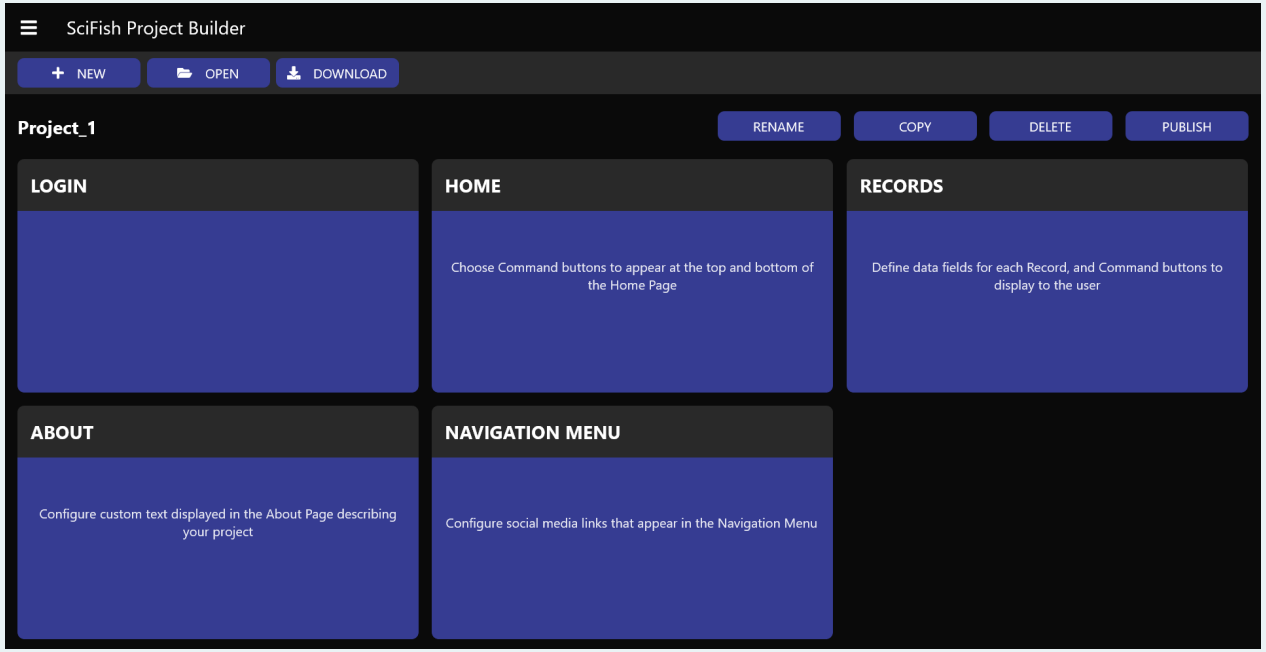
Reduce costs needed to develop individual applications

Reduce time to create applications from ground up

Increase consistency in data fields and structure

SciFish Platform

SciFish Project Builder



[ACCSP SciFish Builder.mp4]

SciFish Mobile App

SciFish Uses

SciFish Projects

New Project

New Project

SciFish API

PC: Cathy Owen & Charles C. Owen Jr.

PC: Billy Smitherman

FISHstory

A SAFMC CitSci Project

FISHstory

Citizen Science

Project Components

Digitizing & archiving historic fishing photos

Estimating for-hire catch composition using the online crowdsourcing platform Zooniverse

Developing method to estimate fish length in historic photos outside of Zooniverse and estimating size composition for key species

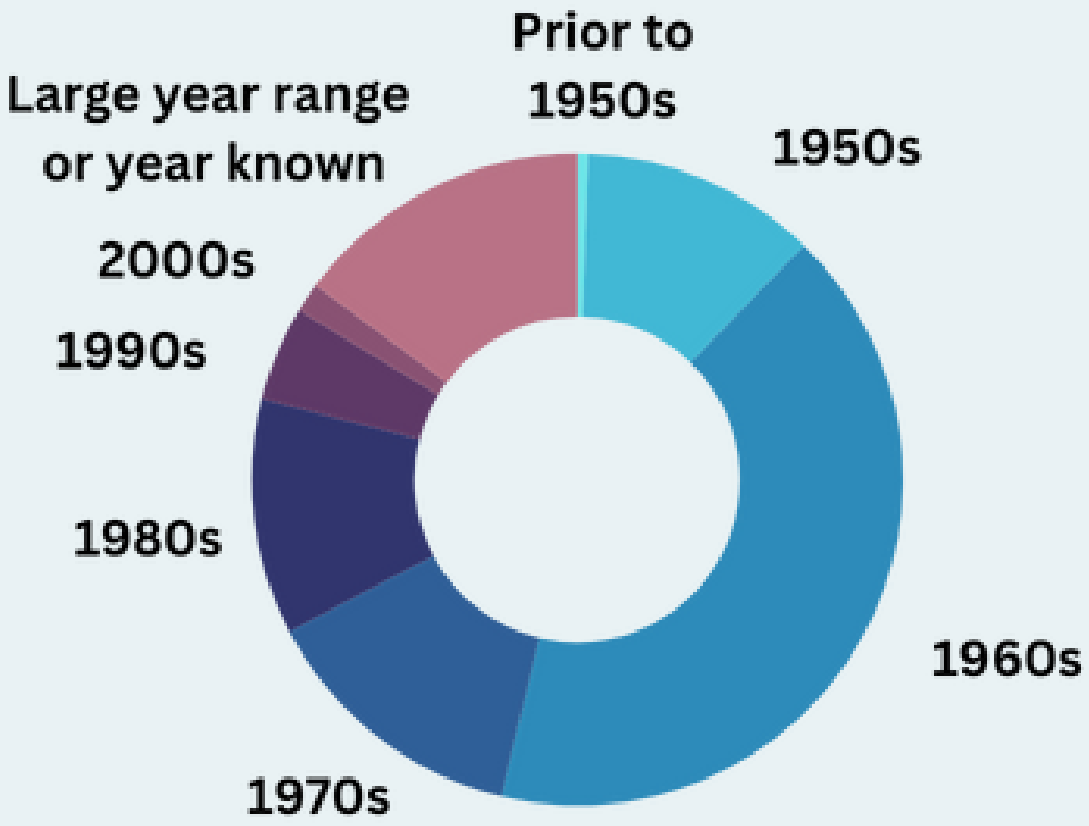
FISHstory
A SAFMC CitSci Project

FISHstory Photo Archive

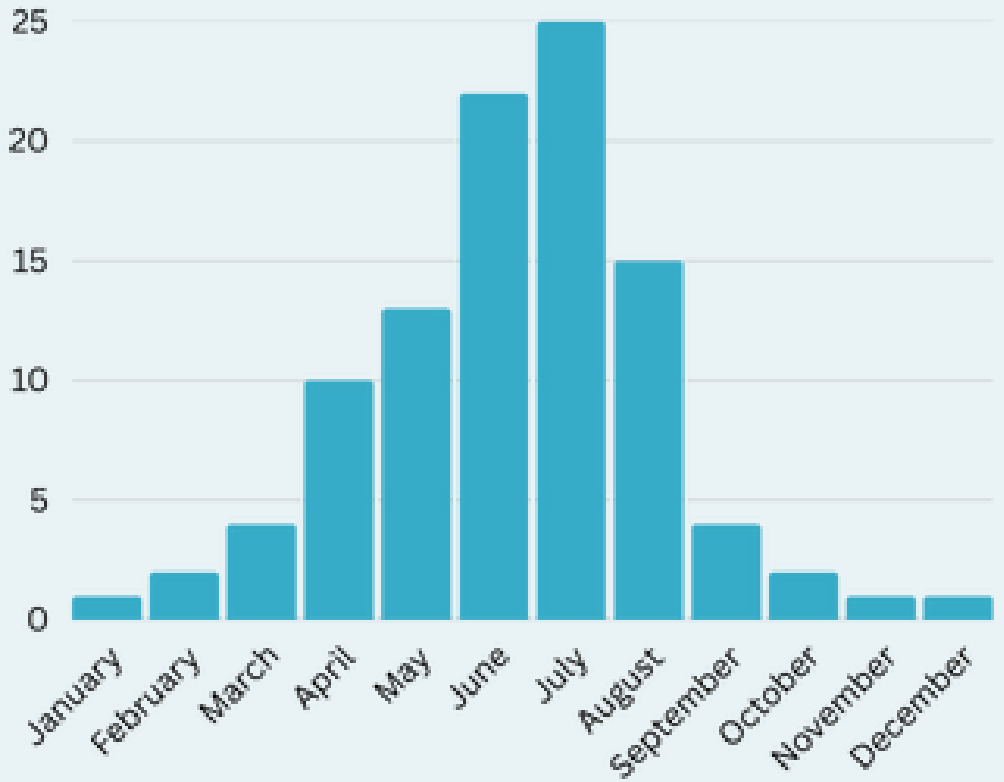
>2,300 photos contributed to FISHstory by 14 photo providers

FISHstory Photo Archive

Percentage of photos by decade



Percentage of photos by month



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

FISHstory project re-launched in Zooniverse July 2024!

FISHstory

ABOUT CLASSIFY TALK COLLECT RECENTS

Level 3 is now unlocked for all volunteers - so you can keep classifying away and helping us identify and count fish within the photos. Not a fish ID expert? No worries - we have tips and tricks in our tutorials and field guide. Feel free to reach out to our research team via the Talk Boards with any fish ID questions.

FISHSTORY

Filling Fisheries Data Gaps with Historical Dock Photos

LEARN MORE

GET STARTED!

Welcome to the FISHstory Project! We have four workflows where you can help us collect information from historic dock photos. Start with LEVEL 1 and unlock additional levels as you classify more photos. If you're not a fish ID expert, no worries! We welcome all and encourage you to use our Field Guide to help identify fish and provide your best guess. Thank you for your participation!

The collection of SAFMC FISHstory information is authorized under the OMB Control Number included in the Citizen Science & Crowdsourcing Information Collection page.

UNLOCKED

5% COMPLETE
LEVEL 3: Classify Red Snapper, Amberjack & Sharks

2% COMPLETE
LEVEL 4: Classify Dolphinfish, Cobia, Gray Triggerfish & Little Tunny

LOCKED

Good participation thus far.....

but working to recruit more volunteers

As of February 24, 2025

LEVEL 1: Count Fish and People

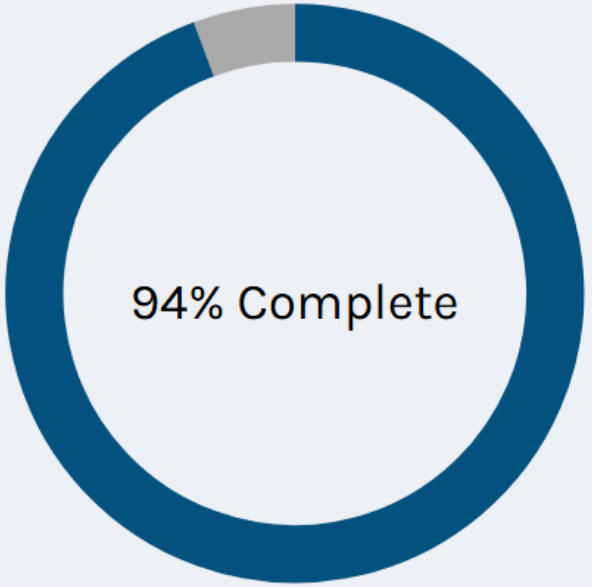
Retirement limit: 20
Images retired: 580 / 580
ETC* 0 days

LEVEL 2: Classify King Mackerel, Grouper & Sailfish

Retirement limit: 20
Images retired: 1,054 / 1,054
ETC* 0 days

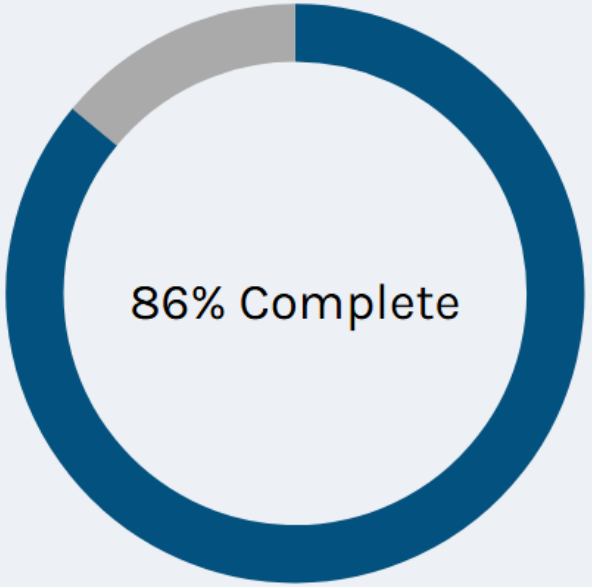
LEVEL 3: Classify Red Snapper, Amberjack & Sharks

Retirement limit: 20
Images retired: 787 / 1,054
Classifications: 19,891 / 21,080
ETC* 3 days

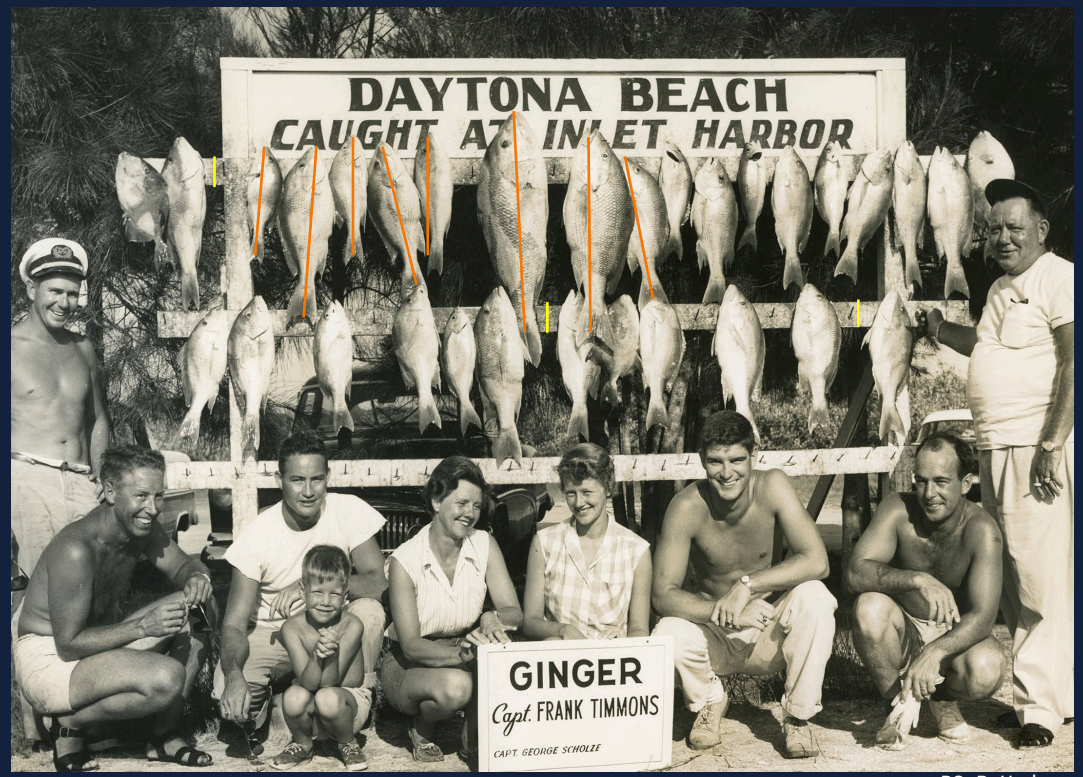


LEVEL 4: Classify Dolphinfish, Cobia, Gray Triggerfish & Little Tunny

Retirement limit: 20
Images retired: 545 / 1,054
Classifications: 18,140 / 21,080
ETC* 6 days



Estimating Fish Lengths



PC: R. Hudson

Keep up with projects & the Program!
safmc.net/citizen-science-program/

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