



Citizen Science

Citizen Science Program Update

SAFMC Meeting
June 2024

Program Activities



CitSci Project Idea Portal



SMILE Project Update



SAFMC Release Update



SciFish Update



FISHstory Update

Share a project idea via the **Citizen Science Project Idea Portal!**



Ideas will be used to update the
Citizen Science Research Priorities &
to help connect fishermen and
scientists with similar research
interests



SMILE Project

- Partner with divers to collect length info on data limited species
- Laser-mounted Olympus underwater cameras
- Field testing in FL Keys
- Data analysis underway for first field season
- Second field season has started





SciFish Platform

<https://www.accsp.org/what-we-do/scifish/>



SciFish Platform

Develop for ACCSP partners:

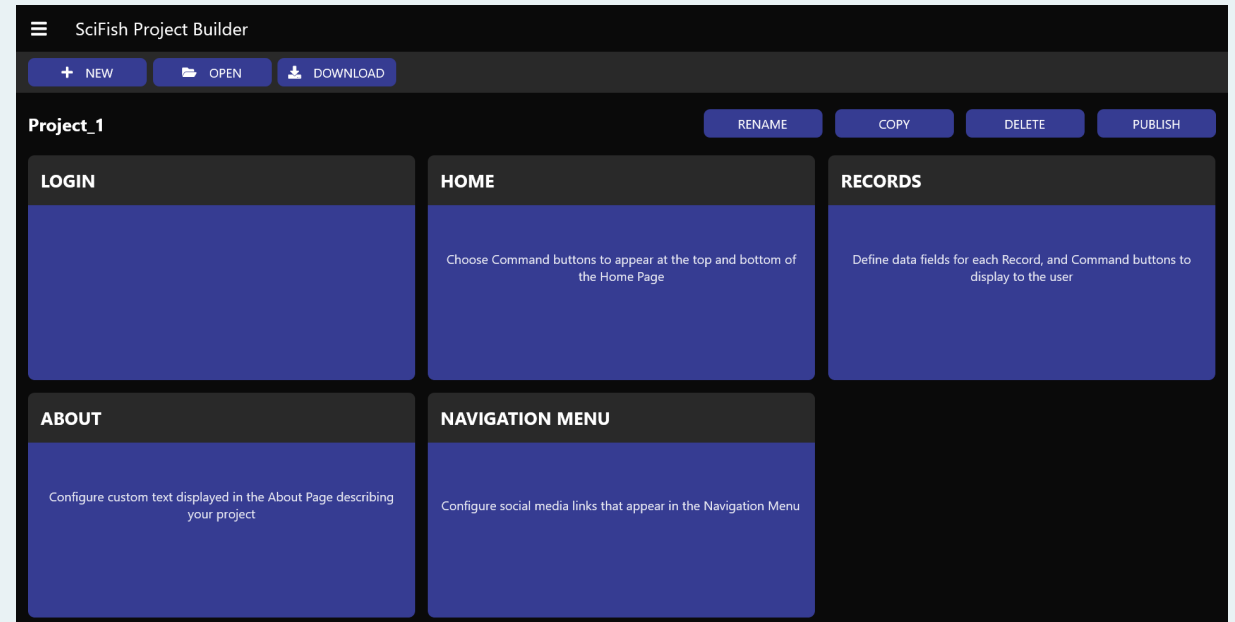
- ✓ citizen science mobile application and
- ✓ menu-driven project builder interface to
- ✓ easily create a customizable application by selecting specific data fields
- ✓ without need to develop stand-alone applications for each new project or data need



SciFish Platform Development



SciFish Project Builder



[ACCSP SciFish Builder.mp4](#)



SciFish: Rollout





FISHstory





Gathering New Photos

- Goal: Collect historic fishing photos from across the South Atlantic region from the 1940s – 1980s for the FISHstory project



In 2023, 6 scanning events were held via Council related meetings



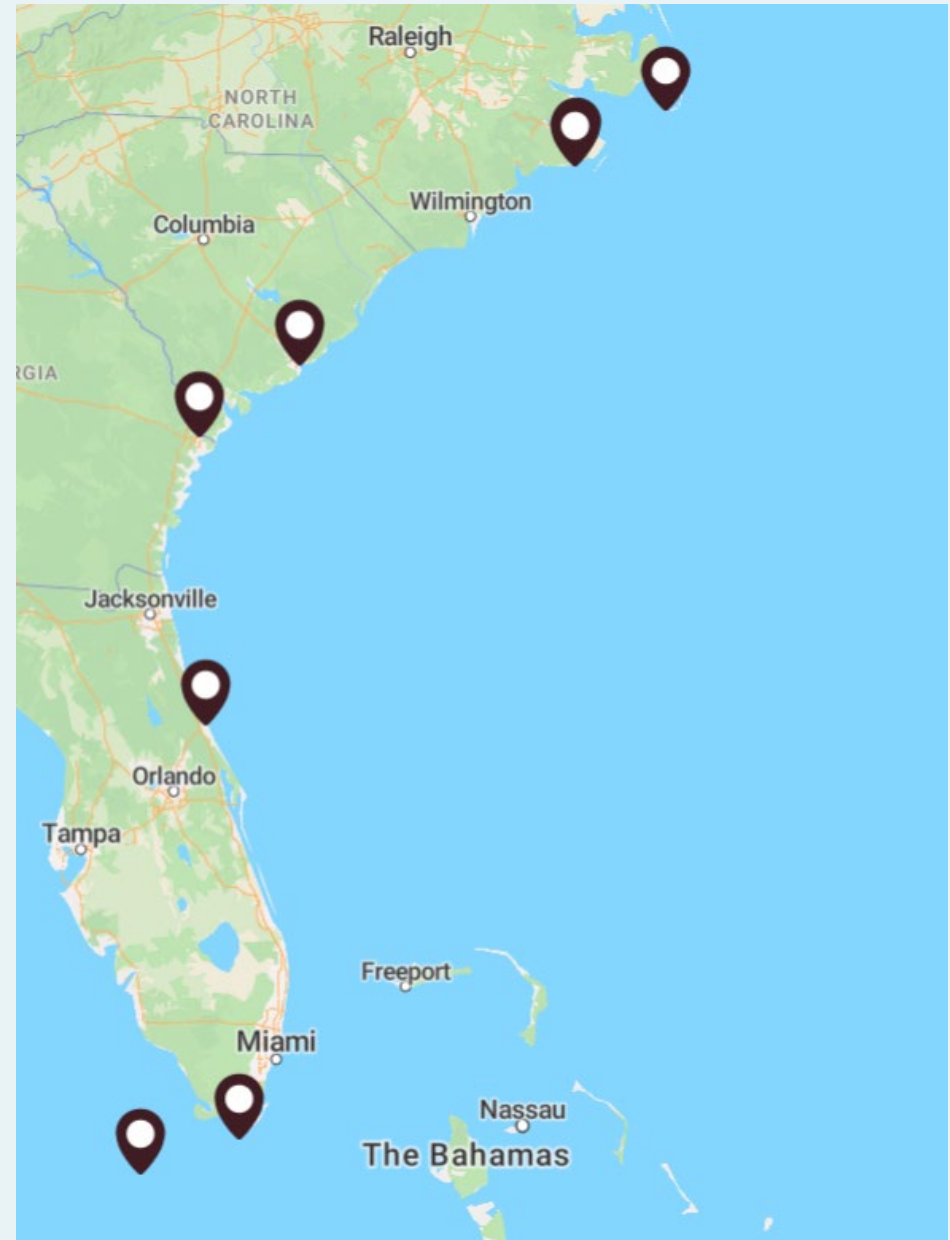
AP & Council members helped connect us to others in their communities



Members of the public reached out after seeing information via Council communication channels



FISHstory Photo Locations





Thanks to Council & AP members, partners, libraries, restaurants, & members of the public,

> 600 new photos were digitized and archived in 2023!

But we still need more!

PC: Paul Nelson



PC: Bill Wickers & Richard Gomez

PC: The Sanitary Restaurant & Jeff Garner



PC: Bobby Freeman



Nancy and Lucy Taylor with their grandfather, Captain David Strickland

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



For-hire Catch Composition in Zooniverse



Train volunteers to identify and count fish and people in photos



Refining project in Zooniverse based on pilot findings



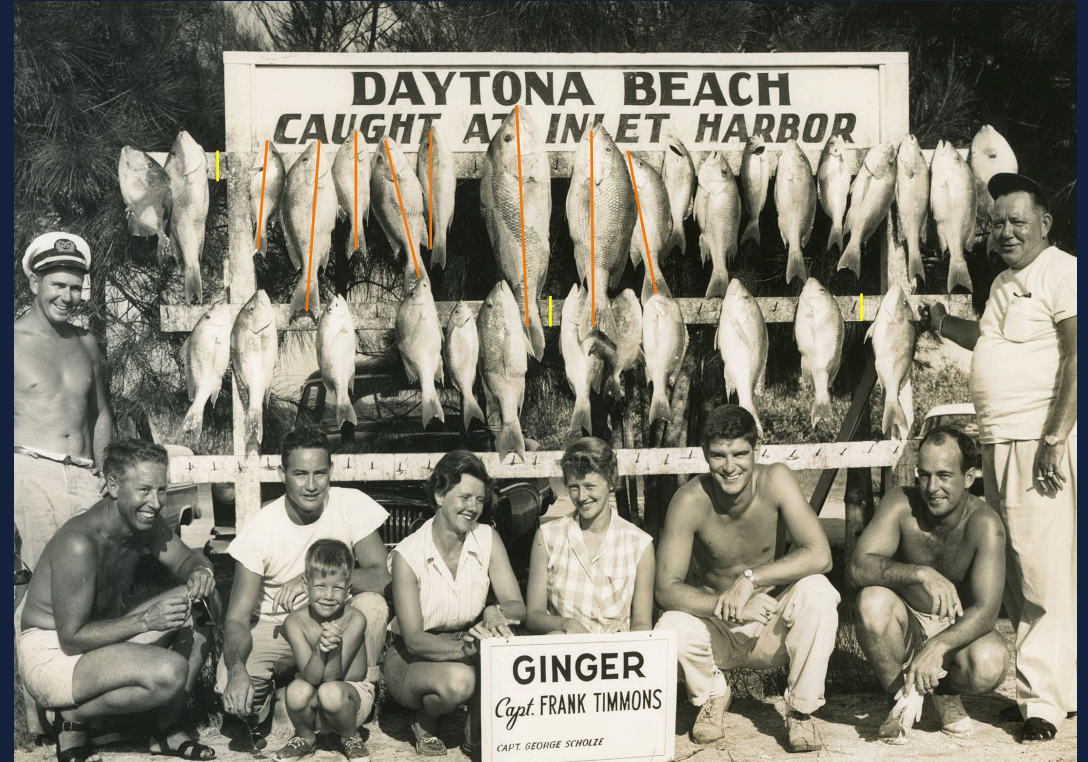
Know your South Atlantic fish? Join our Validation Team!



Target to re-launch in Zooniverse June 2024



Estimating Fish Lengths



PC: R. Hudson

Initial Program Evaluation

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



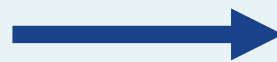
Interviews



Complete: 6 fishermen, 6 scientists, 6 managers



Gather information from broader group



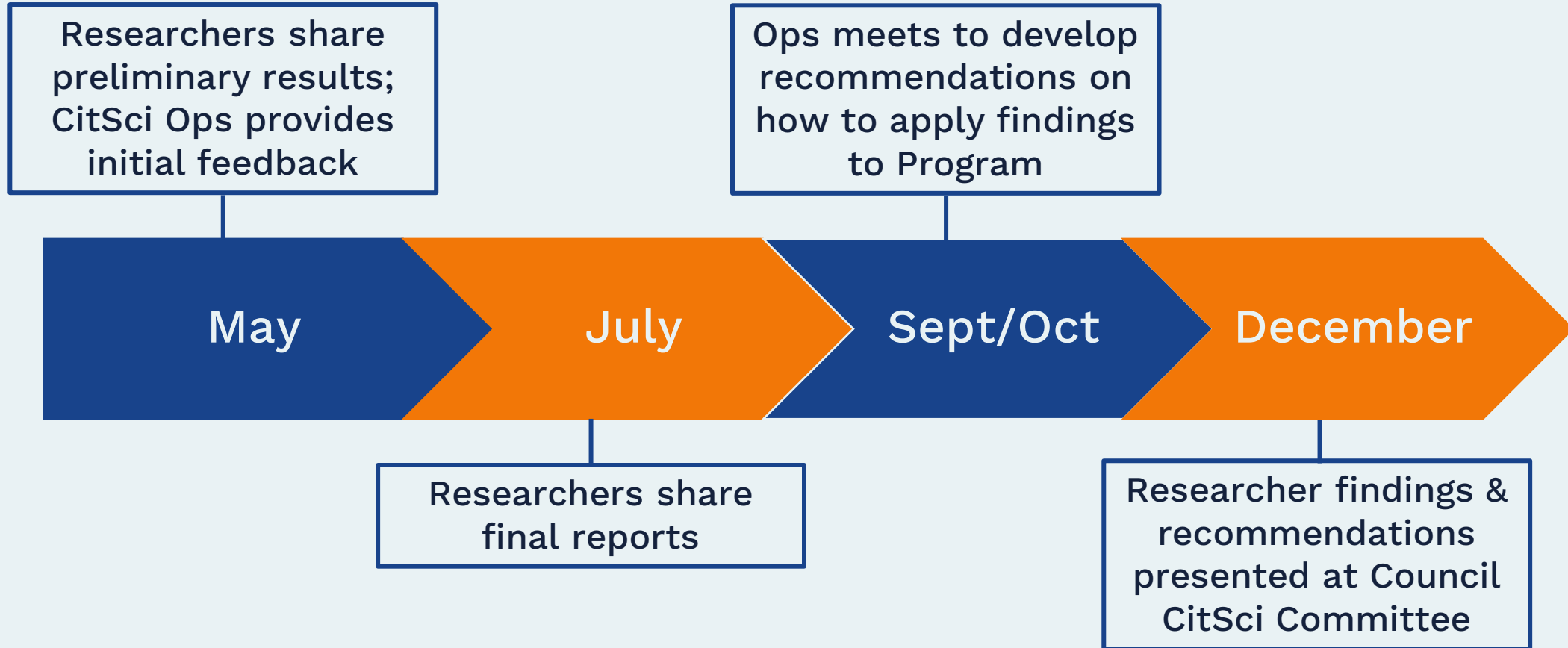
Online survey – scientists & managers
More interviews - fishermen



Implement & analyze results



Initial Program Evaluation: Next Steps



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



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