



South Atlantic Fishery Management Council **Citizen Science Program Update**

Mackerel Cobia AP Meeting

October 2019



Activities 2019



Updating Citizen Science Research Priorities

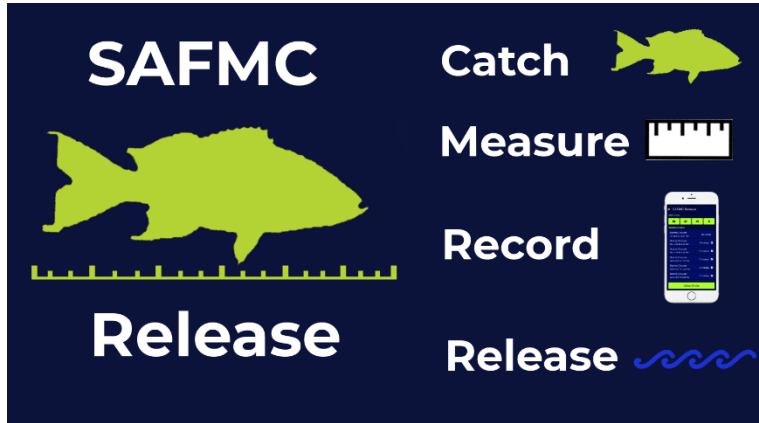
SAFMC Citizen Science Research Needs		
TOPIC	DATA NEEDED:	POTENTIAL OUTCOME:
Age Sampling	Otolith collection	Age of catches
Maturity Data	Gonad collection	Improved reproductive information
Discard information	Length, depth, # of fish, reason, devices used	Improved discard removal estimates, size comps of discards
Genetic Sampling	Fin clips	Stock I.D.
Bottom habitat mapping	Imagery	Improved resolution of habitat
Monitoring in managed areas	Species, length, depth	Changes in fish abundance
Fishing infrastructure	Location and type of infrastructure	Document social/economic impacts of regulations over time
Historical Fishing Photos	Images (electronic)	Length comps; improved historical information
Oceanographic/ Environmental Conditions	Bottom temperature; weather	Build database on climate and changing conditions
Rare species observations	Point observations	Baseline for species shift



Activities 2019



SAFMC Scamp Release Pilot Project



- Collect info on scamp releases via mobile app
- App launched June 20, 2019
- Recruiting commercial, for-hire, and recreational fishermen to participate
- **Need help recruiting fishermen and promoting app!**



Project FISHstory

Photo credit: Rusty Hudson



Documenting historic catch and length estimates from historical photos in the for-hire sector using electronic data collection and imagery analysis platforms and crowdsourcing approaches.



Photo credit: Rusty Hudson

PROJECT OBJECTIVES/METHODS:

- Fill in historical data gap – headboat photos from 1940s-70s; prior to fishery dependent surveys
- Species composition analysis
- Crowdsourcing
- Expert validation team
- Length analysis of one key species

ZOONIVERSE

Crowdsourcing Platform

- Build project online
- Develop tutorials/training
- Citizen Scientists analyze images
- Validation
- I.D. key species for length analysis

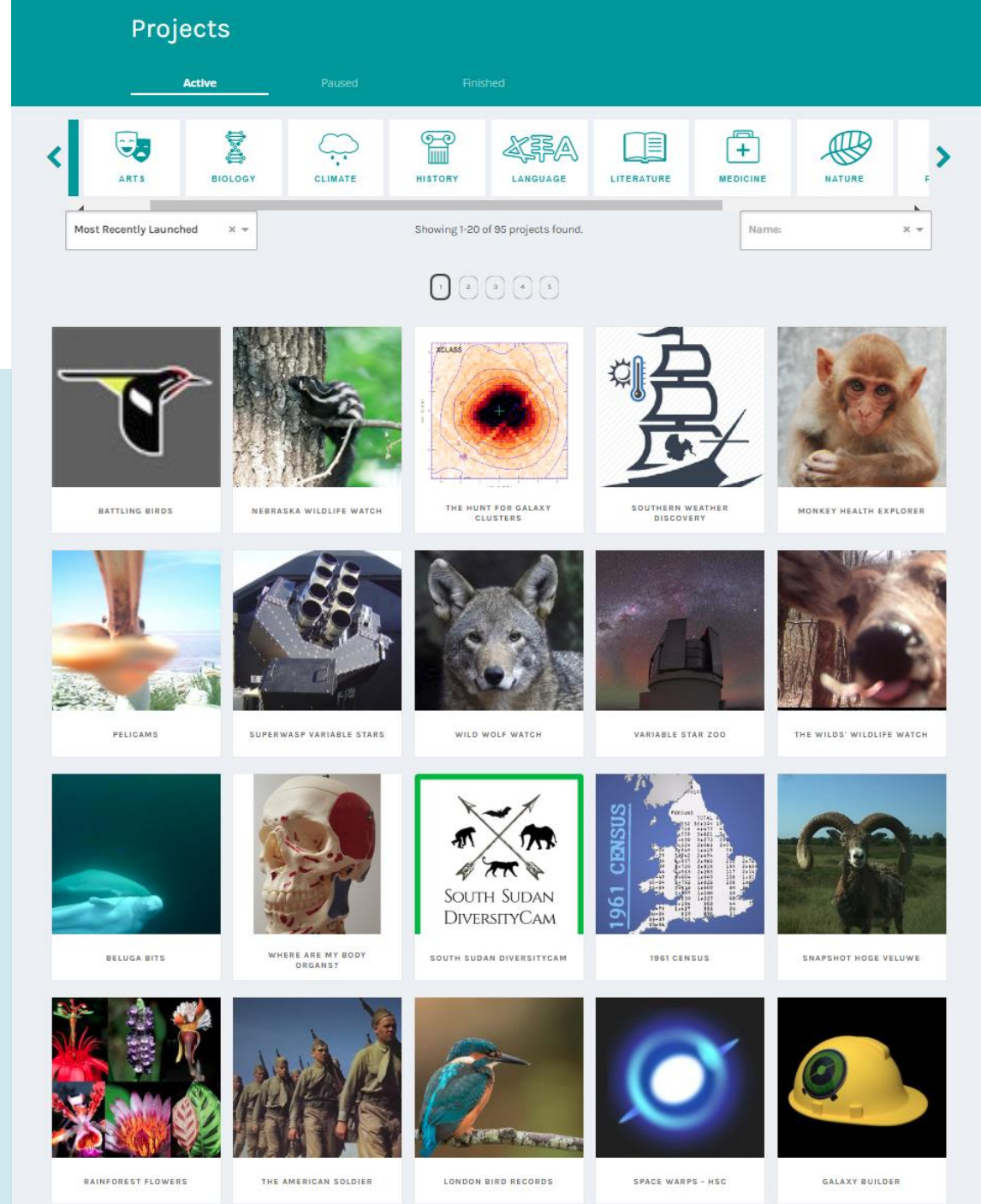


IMAGE 'J'

- Open source image processing program

Methods:

- Establish standards
- Measure lengths





Photo credit: Rusty Hudson

- Project Coordinator, Allie Iberle, hired
- Project Design Team formed; held 2 meetings
- Zooniverse project & training materials under development
- **Need species ID experts for validation team!**

FISHstory Zooniverse Demonstration



Keep Up with Projects & the Program!

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