



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

OC AP Meeting

April 2021



# Activities 2020/2021

[Cit Sci SOPPS](#) updated with new vision, mission, goals, and objectives

[BioScience article](#) on development of Council's CitSci Program

NOAA FY19-20 CitSci & Crowdsourcing Report to Congress

- *FISHstory project highlighted*

[AFS Cit Sci Symposium](#) with NOAA colleagues

NOAA releases [Citizen Science Strategy](#)

Citizen Science Program Outreach

- *#CitSciFri social media*
- *Cit Sci email updates*
- *April 2021 Cit Sci Month campaign*



# Program Planning & Evaluation

## *Program Vision:*

**Advancing science and increasing trust, one project at a time**

**GOAL 1:** Design, implement, and sustain a program framework to guide the development of projects that support fishery management decision making.

**GOAL 2:** Facilitate development of individual projects to address specific research priorities.

**GOAL 3:** Ensure that data collected are accessible, robust, and fit for purpose.

**GOAL 4:** Foster mutual learning, collaboration, and program engagement.



# Initial Evaluation Plan

- Working with Rick Bonney to gather baseline data on knowledge, attitudes, collaborations, engagement, and trust levels of various stakeholders in three stages:



Interviews - 2021



Develop survey - 2021



Implement & analyze survey - 2022



# Projects & Collaborations Under Development



## Rare Species Observations

**Partners:** UNC, NOAA Fisheries, SECOORA, University of Tasmania  
*Looking for funding opportunities*



## Diver Observations of Data Limited Species

**Partners:** REEF & SECOORA  
**Jan 2021:** NFWF pre-proposal



## Dolphin Wahoo Participatory Workshops

**Partner:** SEFSC  
*Discussing options for FL Keys*



## eMOLT

*Industry, science, academic collaboration to collect environmental & oceanographic data*  
*Interest in expanding to South Atlantic*



## Dolphin Movement & Migration

**Partner:** Dolphinfish Research Program  
*Exploring ways to collaborate to expand tagging efforts in the Atlantic*





# ***FISHstory***

A pilot project to document historic for-hire catch and length estimates using historic photos





# FISHstory Project Components



**Digitizing historic fishing photos - *complete***



**For-hire catch composition – *underway, launch in Zooniverse May 2020***



**Method to estimate length composition - *underway***





# For-Hire Catch Composition

*as of March 31, 2021*

- **2,009** volunteers
- **33,428** classifications
- **1,374** individual photos uploaded
  - All **1,374** photos have been linked to the FISH & PEOPLE: Count workflow
  - **1000** photos have been linked to the FISH: Classify workflow
- **2,269** photos have been retired
  - **1,374** from FISH & PEOPLE: Count workflow
  - **895** from FISH: Classify workflow



PC: Rusty Hudson



PC: Rusty Hudson





# For-Hire Catch Composition

- **Validation Team**
  - Photo validation for 'live' data began January 2021
  - Shiny app developed summarizing validation data
- **'Live' Data Analysis**
  - Initial photos identified for Validation Team review
  - Shiny app developed summarizing 'live' data
  - Preliminary data analysis underway







# Length Analysis

- Production length measurements continue with 5 analysts
- King Mackerel measurements completed for 700 photos
- Methods reviewed by SSC at October 2020 meeting







# Outreach & Promotion

- New FISHstory features:
  - [Feature in 2020 Zooniverse 'highlights' book](#)
  - [Seven Seas Media Article: Dec 2020 Issue](#)
  - NC State and SciStarter's Make it Count Monday
- Developing questionnaire for volunteers to learn more about their motivations for participating

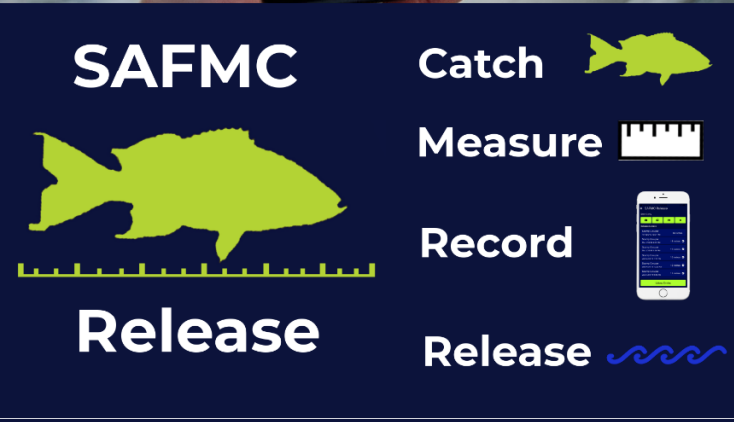
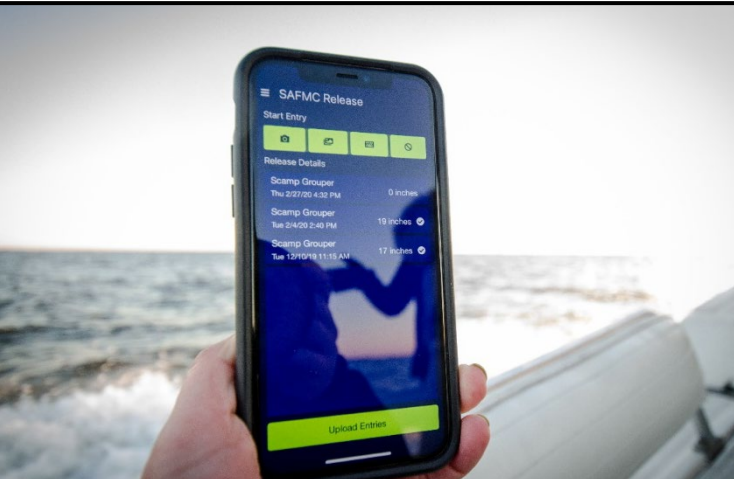
## Next Steps

- Current grant funding will end mid-2021
- Looking for future funding opportunities



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# ***SAFMC Scamp Release***

**Continue work to recruit and retain commercial, for-hire, and recreational fishermen**

## **Graduate student research**

- Identify best strategies to market self-report apps to fishermen
- Interviews with SAFMC Release participants
- Analysis of MyFishCount survey results & marketing strategies

## **FY20 ACCSP Project - underway**

- Combine SAFMC Release & NCDMF's Catch U Later under new ACCSP citizen science app
- Expand SAFMC Release to all shallow water grouper
- Target launch: Spring 2021

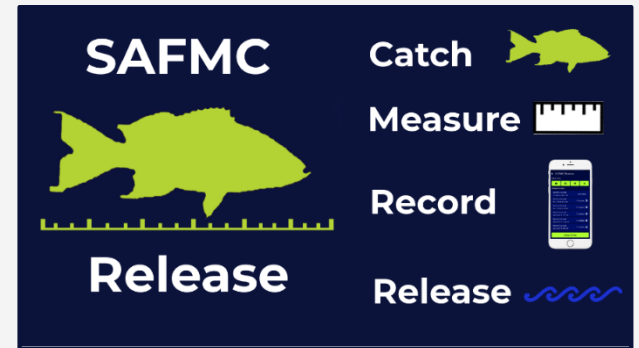
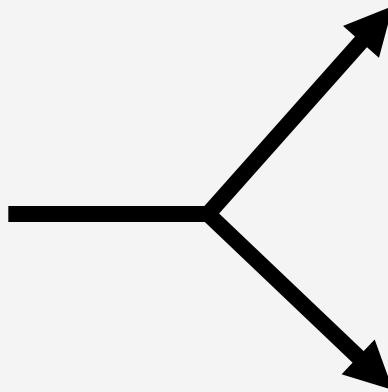
# *New ACCSP Citizen Science App*

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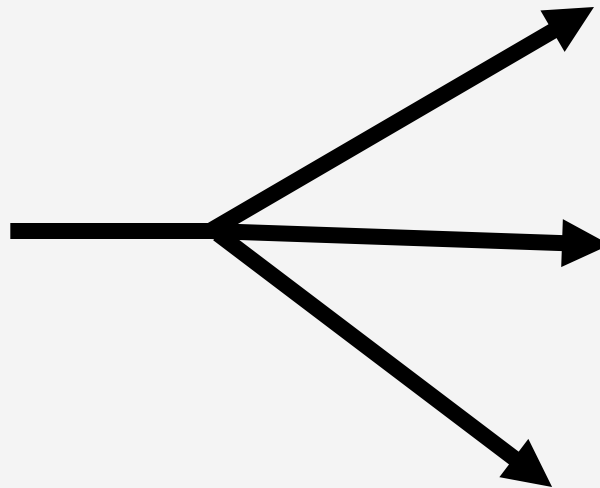
Target Launch: Spring 2021





# *New ACCSP Citizen Science App*

Into the future...



**New Projects  
from  
ACCSP Partners**

# *Customizable Citizen Science App Scoping Meetings*

*To develop a mobile application that encourages & supports the capture and sharing of information about Atlantic coast fish*



## **Online questionnaire**

- To gather information from broad group of fishermen, scientists, and managers



## **Virtual town hall meetings**

- March 9 at 5pm EST
- March 11 at 10am EST



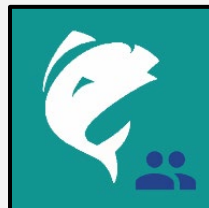
## **Half day virtual workshops**

- April 1 at 9am EST
- April 14 at 9am EST
- April 20 at 1pm EST

# *SciFish Demo*



CITIZEN SCIENCE POWERED BY ACCSP





## *Discussion Questions*

- Are there resources you could share relevant to branding architecture we could apply to the SAFMC Release Project in relation to the SciFish app?
- Once the SAFMC Release Project in the SciFish app is available, would you be willing to share with your networks? If so, what materials would you need in order to share?
  - News release
  - Social media posts
  - Articles
  - Media packet
  - Images
  - Blog posts



# Keep Up with Projects & the Program!

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