South Atlantic Fishery Management Council
Citizen Science Program Update

SEP 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*

PC: NOAA

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

PC: eMOLT, Huanxin Xu

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*
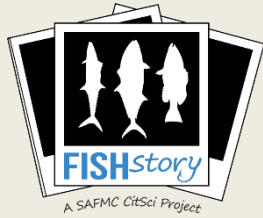
Method to estimate length composition - *underway*

For-Hire Catch Composition

as of March 25, 2021

- **1,984** volunteers

- **33,168** 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

- **2,261** photos have been retired
  - **1,374** from FISH & PEOPLE: Count workflow
  - **887** from FISH: Classify workflow

DAYTONA BEACH
CAUGHT AT INLET HARBOR

MAKO CAPTAIN JAKE-STONE

PC: Rusty Hudson

FISHERMENS wharf

PC: Rusty Hudson

FISHstory
A SAFMC CitSci Project

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

- Protocol finalized & production length analysis underway

- 5 analysts assisting with production length measurements

- Measurements completed for 700 photos

- Developing resampling method to estimate length compositions from photos

- Methods reviewed by SSC at Oct 2020 meeting
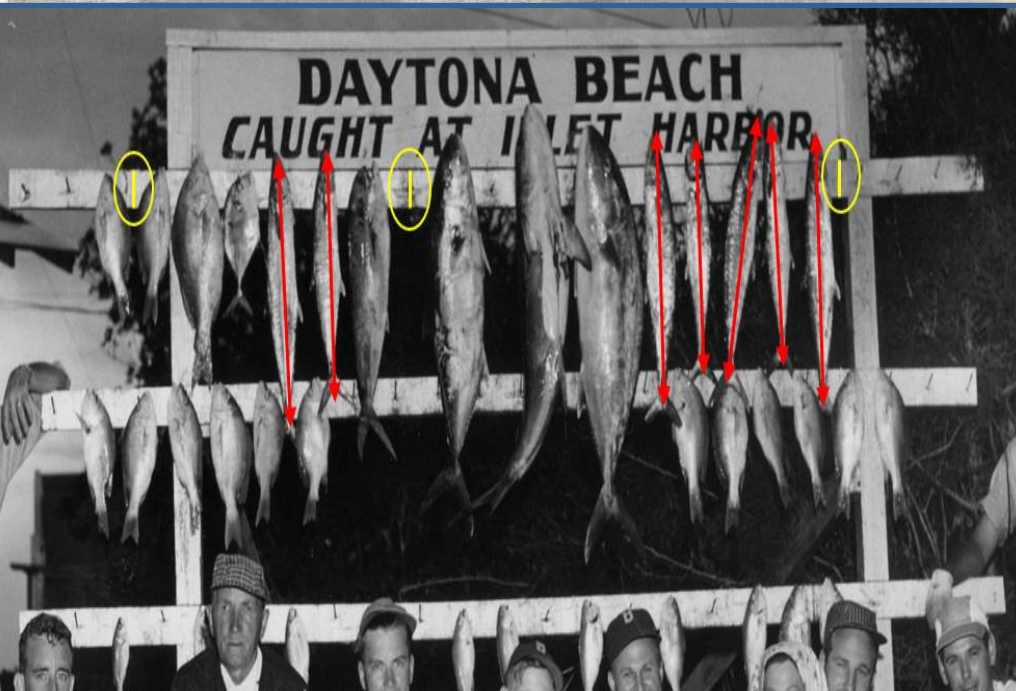
Outreach & Promotion

- FISHstory & SAFMC Outreach teams have been contacting industry, communication & education contacts

- FISHstory features:
  - NC Sea Grant's Hook Line & Science
  - Episode 74 of the Fisheries Podcast
  - SCDNR Coastal Resources blog
  - The Fishing Wire
  - SciStarter: Dive into Summer Citizen Science
  - Guest blog for Sci/Starter/Discover CitSci Salon
  - Virtual Field Trip with Earth Echo: Sept 29
  - Feature in 2020 Zooniverse 'highlights' book
  - Seven Seas Media Article: Dec 2020 Issue
  - NC State and SciStarter's Make it Count Monday
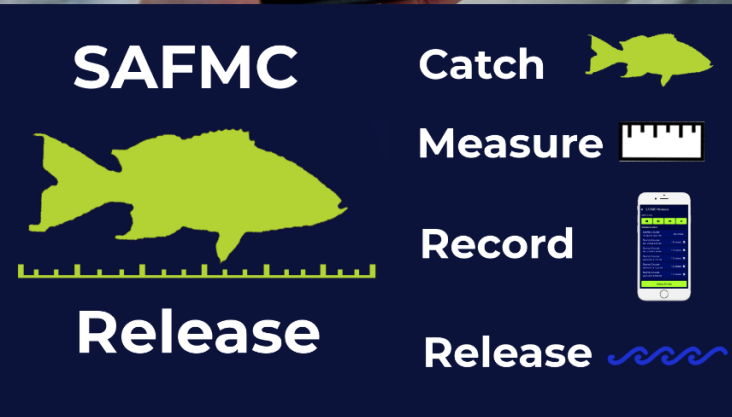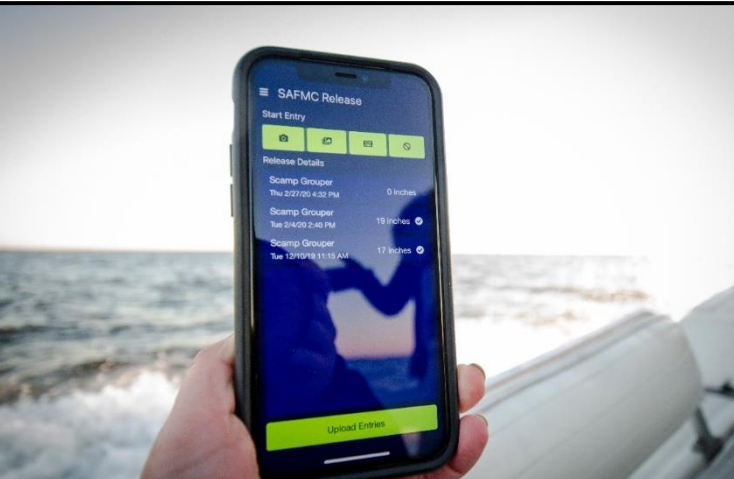
SAFMC Scamp Release

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
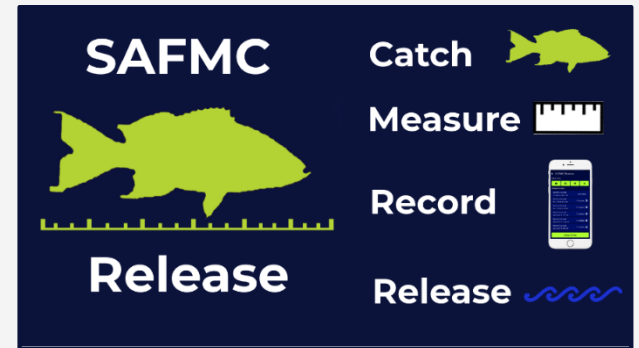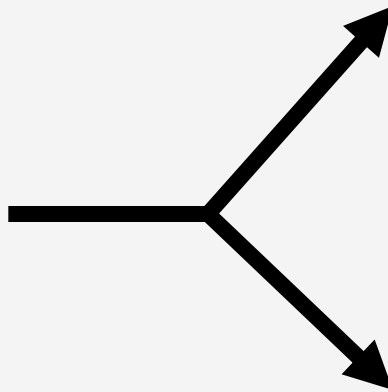
FY20 ACCSP Project - underway

- Combine SAFMC Release & NCDMF's Catch U Later under new ACCSP citizen science app

- Expand SAFMC Release to all shallow water grouper

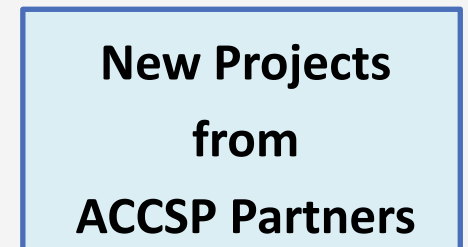- Target launch: Spring 2021
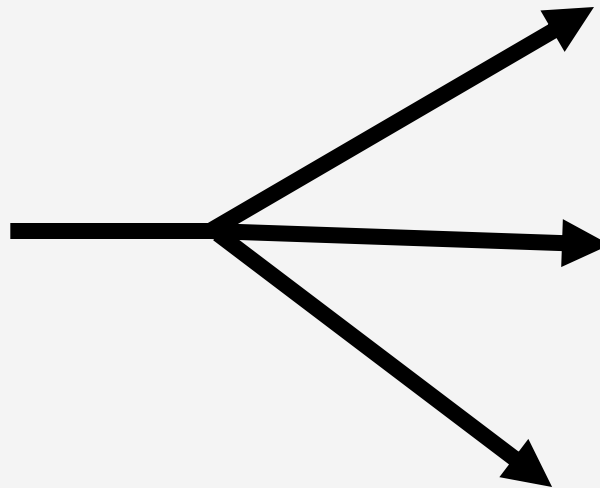
New ACCSP Citizen Science App

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Target Launch: Spring 2021

New ACCSP Citizen Science App
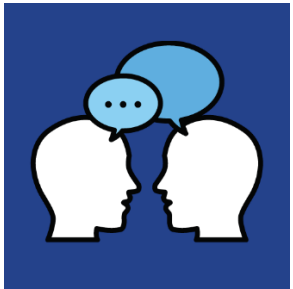
Into the future...

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

Customizable Citizen Science App Scoping Meetings

Socio-Economic Ideas from Town Hall Brainstorming

Wouldn't it be great if we had……..

- Inventory of fishing infrastructure

- Information on fishermen demographics, values, motivations, and barriers to fishing

- Wholesale and retail prices for seafood by species & size

- Monetary investment spent by recreational anglers

- Angler satisfaction over time

- Way to capture when fishermen couldn't go fishing due to storm events, water quality problems, etc.

Discussion Questions

- What niche can citizen science fill for social and economic information that is different from what we can learn through surveys and academic research?

- How can it help inform decision making?

- What information can't be collected through other means?

- Which of the socio-economic town hall ideas may lend themselves well to inclusion in the customizable citizen science app?

Keep Up with Projects & the Program!

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