CITIZEN SCIENCE

Scientific research conducted, in whole or in part, by amateur or nonprofessional scientists.

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PARTICIPANTS & AGENDA

0 John Orcutt: Introduction

5 Julia Parrish: The role of citizen science in coastal observations

5 Mairi Best: European initiatives in Citizen Science

5 RCN discussion and future directions

5 Adjourn
The systematic collection and analysis of data; development of technology; testing of natural phenomena; and the dissemination of these activities by researchers on a primarily avocational basis.
Citizen science” is a fairly new term but an old practice. Prior to the 20th century, science was often the pursuit of gentleman scientists, amateur or self-funded researchers such as Sir Isaac Newton, Benjamin Franklin, and Charles Darwin. By the mid-20th Century, however, science was dominated by researchers employed by universities and government research laboratories.
I only found 18 projects spanning the last few years. Why is this? Partly I think it's indicative of how citizen science (as a term or identifiable field) is still not completely mainstream. So projects that may be citizen science by our definitions would not use it to describe or market themselves.

The total of all these projects came out to a mere $81,000. Citizen science can be an extremely cost effective way to do research, but $81,000 is not nearly enough to cover costs. Especially when those projects only raised $62,000 (76%) of that amount. Something is missing.

Looking even more closely at these individually, many are not specifically citizen science projects. Instead they use citizen science as one small part of the research, or it is an educational project that impacts citizen scientists as one of many audiences. Again, not enough to make a significant impact.
EXAMPLES

- Galaxy Zoo
- SETI@home
- Cornell Lab of Ornithology
- CARIB Tails
NAPA VALLEY EARTHQUAKE: JAWBONE UP
FITNESS TRACKER - 24 August 2014

SAN FRANCISCO, OAKLAND, SANTA ROSA

NAPA, SONOMA, VALLEJO, BERKELEY

SACRAMENTO, SAN JOSE

Graph showing activity levels from 11:00pm to 9:00am with data points for various cities.