South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project
Charter for the Science Team (revised 01/27/05)

Mission of the Science Team:
Provide guidance on ongoing short-term planning activities and develop a Science Program for the collection, synthesis and dissemination of best possible science to support long-term restoration activities and adaptive management such that the objectives of the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project can be achieved.

Purpose of the Charter:
The mission of the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project is to provide a publicly supported and scientifically sound planning process. While long-term science implementation can be planned and executed through an appropriate scientific review process, the pace of the short-term planning process does not allow for a thorough scientific review of planning documents.

This charter clarifies the role of the Science Team in the review of documents in the short-term planning process and emphasizes the role of the Science Team in long-term adaptive management and science implementation. The roles described here mirror the recommendation of the NSP, in their November 2004 report, that "review of the consultant's products should not be a priority for the Science Team given their need to focus on the science syntheses and other tasks."

Roles of the Science Team:

1. Science Development and Implementation Role. The Science Team is best suited to developing and implementing a long-term Science Program that will provide adaptive management and scientific information needed to address uncertainties in achieving the project objectives. This primary role of the Science Team is described thoroughly in the *Draft Science Plan* (dated September 30, 2004) for the Restoration Project. Key components of science development and implementation are:
   - Develop the Adaptive Management Plan and Scientific Information Collection Program.
   - Prioritize those questions that require more scientific investigation to reduce project uncertainties for PMT review. Ultimately, the PMT will determine the questions that will be addressed through further study.
   - Design a competitive proposal process for research activities related to data collection and analysis, information synthesis, and modeling strategies, and a undertake science outreach which will include workshops, conferences and other activities that advance South San Francisco Bay ecosystem restoration science.
   - Provide and review scientific information developed for public outreach.

2. Review Role with respect to Selected Consultant Team Documents. Science Team members will review Consultant Team documents or segments of those documents as appropriate. Such review can be time consuming and will not occur for all documents nor will all Science Team members be involved in the review of any particular document. Consultant Team presentations to the Science Team and subsequent discussion do not equate to peer review by the Science Team. Formal document review by the Science Team will follow one of two procedures:

A. Science Team-Consultant Team Loop--

- The Science Team or subset of the Team reviews a specific Consultant Team document.
- Science Team comments are provided in a letter or memo to the PMT.
- The PMT gives the Science Team comments, along with their own comments, to the Consultant Team. The Consultant Team will prepare a response to Science Team and PMT comments and provide them to the PMT.
- The Science Team reviews the Consultant Team's response to Science Team comments, to determine if comments were accurately understood and whether they will be addressed appropriately, and provides a letter or memo to the PMT.
- The Consultant Team finalizes their document(s).
- The Science Team provides a synopsis of their review of the final document and the extent to which the Consultant Team addressed Science Team comments on the draft document. This synopsis should be appended to the final public review document. While the Consultant Team may not have the time to address all the Science Team comments, there may be risk to the Project when comments are not addressed. Thus, where possible, the Science Team synopsis will discuss the risks associated with comments not addressed by the Consultant Team.
- *This type of interaction equates to peer review by involved Science Team members*.

B. Public Comment Procedure—Science Team members may also provide comments on Consultant Team documents during the public comment period. The Consultant Team will address these comments just as they would any other public comment. *This type of interaction does not equate to peer review by Science Team members*.

3. Advisory Role of Individual Science Team Members. Science Team members may provide *ad hoc* advice to the Consultant Team through informal interactions or formal collaboration. In either case, the final Consultant Team documents must state clearly the specific members of the Science Team who provided advice on the document. Individual members do not speak for the Science Team and *this type of interaction does not equate to peer review by the Science Team*.

Responsibilities of the Science Team:

Members will:

- Assist in developing Science Team products that support science development and implementation. This is a primary and mandatory responsibility.
- Participate in advising the Consultant Team, to the extent that they are able.
- Participate in reviewing Consultant Team documents and provide comments, to the extent that they are able.
- Attend Science Team meetings.
- Interact in a constructive and collegial manner with all contributors to the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project. This will include occasional involvement in clarifying scientific issues during public involvement.