**Management Board Social Science Action Team**

**Draft Scope and Purpose**

**Mission Statement**

To identify, evaluate, and develop opportunities for applying social science methods and research findings into the Chesapeake Bay Program Partnership.

**Target Membership**

No more than 10 social scientists, representing the Bay Program Partnership and the Bay jurisdictions.

**Duration of Action Team**

One-year term after which time key objectives and actions will be re-evaluated to determine next steps and possible transition to a more permanent inclusion into the Bay Program structure. In addition, the performance of a self-study for this Action Team is recommended throughout the one-year period in order to identify key successes and areas for improvement.

**Proposed Actions within One-Year Timeframe**

1. Develop workplan that will articulate Team priorities, actions, and desired outcomes, as well as build upon previous social science analyses conducted by STAC.
   1. Develop overarching themes that resonate across the social science disciplines and that could be integrated with current themes under the GITs
   2. Assess where, across the GITs, there are social science needs and opportunities
      1. Work with CBP to identify opportunities that would benefit from technical assistance
      2. Link these potential Bay Program opportunities with social science expertise
   3. Report back to the Management Board on project status, accomplishments, lessons learned, and next steps
2. Identify high profile, successful case studies (e.g. those studies that could assist in the implementation of the Bay TMDL and WIPs) that would demonstrate the value of integrating and incorporating social science principles and research into to the Bay/Bay Program Partnership.
3. Facilitate a social science speaker series, connecting social science research with Bay Program priorities.
4. Identify opportunities to access and/or acquire additional funding for implementing recommendations and integrating social sciences into the Bay Program Partnership.

**Recommended Future Actions for Institutionalizing Social Science into the Bay Program Partnership**

1. Synthesize existing and ongoing social science research and demonstrate how it could be applied to Bay Program priorities.
2. Embark on a social science research effort within priority watersheds in support of the Bay TMDL and WIPs.
3. Develop a social science directory.
   1. Provide an assessment of what resources (including social scientists with ecosystem management experience) are available to tap into
   2. Make publicly available / Post on website