



## **6.0 MSHCP Implementation Structure**

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### **6.6.7 Independent Science Advisors**

#### **A. Selection**

The Executive Director shall, as appropriate, appoint independent science advisors, with input from the RMOC ("Independent Science Advisors"). The Independent Science Advisors shall be qualified biologists and conservation experts, with expertise in the Covered Species and their Habitats. The Independent Science Advisors may be independent, associated with educational institutions or public agencies, members of a non-profit organization or employees of biological science firms. To the extent feasible, the Independent Science Advisors shall have appropriate experience in land management. The Independent Science Advisors shall be retained on an annual basis and report to the Executive Director.

#### **B. Duties and Responsibilities**

The Independent Science Advisors' duties shall include but not be limited to:

1. Assist in the MSHCP implementation process at the request and direction of the Executive Director;
2. Provide recommendations based on the best available scientific information concerning scientific aspects of the Plan, at the request of the Executive Director; and
3. Coordinate with Reserve Managers and the Monitoring Program Administrator at the request of the Executive Director through review of relevant reports and data.

Any conflicts between recommendations made by the RMOC and the Independent Science Advisors shall be mediated by the Executive Director. If after a reasonable period of time the conflict cannot be resolved the Executive Director may submit the issue(s) to the Regional Conservation Authority Board of Directors for a decision.

The Regional Conservation Authority shall sponsor an annual workshop for the Independent Science Advisors. This workshop shall be a venue to exchange all current scientific information and literature that may assist in Reserve Assembly, management, Adaptive Management and monitoring.