



# Concept Study Guidelines Science

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First things first...

**CONGRATULATIONS!**



# Schedule

- The 9-month Phase A clock will start on **Friday, 1 July 2011**
- Concept Study Reports (CSRs) will be due on **Monday, 2 April 2012**
- Michael New will be the Overall Chair of the evaluation team.
- Carlos Liceaga (SOMA) will lead the TMC evaluation & coordinate site visits.

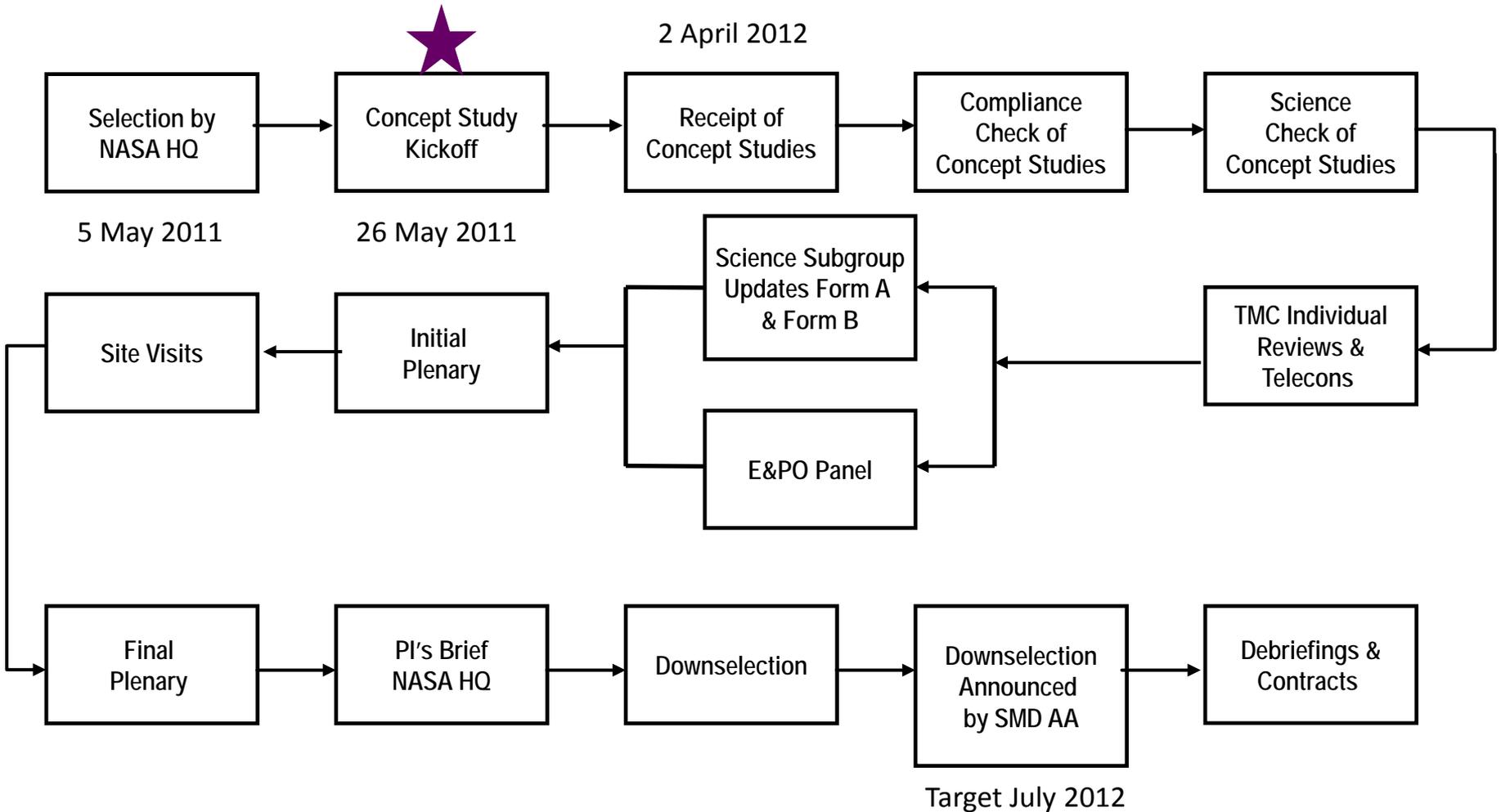


# CSR Guidelines

- Draft CSR Guidelines may be found at the Discovery Program Acquisition Website
  - Item #24 in the Discovery Program Library
  - <http://discovery.larc.nasa.gov/dpl.html>
- A revised, final set of Guidelines will be available by **Friday, 1 July 2011**
- Draft Guidelines are based on the “Standard CSR Guidelines” so changes are expected to be minimal
- Extra time is needed to include lessons learned from the recently completed NF Step 2 process



# Step 2 Process





# Major Evaluation Criteria

- All three criteria from the AO will be used:
  - Scientific Merit
  - Science Implementation Merit
  - Feasibility including Cost Risk
- Weighting between criteria will be different as will individual factors.



# Scientific Merit Evaluation Criterion

- Step 1 selections were primarily based on *science balanced by feasibility*. Unless the science has changed, the Phase A evaluation *will emphasize implementation*.
  - Unless directed or CSR results demand it, objectives of BSM/TSM should not change.
  - Science section from Step 1 proposal **must** be repeated in the CSR.
  - Any and all changes must be highlighted (change bars)



# Science Implementation Evaluation Criterion

- All of the factors defined in Section 7.2.3 of the AO apply to the CSR and will be re-evaluated from the data supplied in the CSR and at the site visit.
  - Site visit is viewed as an update to the CSR
  - Two additional factors:
    - Maturity of proposed Level 1 science requirements
      - *E.g.*, Are they quantitative and verifiable?
    - Instrument design



# Feasibility Evaluation Criterion

- See next presentation...



# Additional Criteria

- Quality of Plans for Core E/PO Program
- Overall Merit of Student Collaboration (SC), if proposed
- Small Business Subcontracting Plans



# Criteria Weighting

- Scientific merit of the investigation:  
**approximately 25%**
- Scientific implementation merit and feasibility of the investigation: **approximately 20%**
- Feasibility of mission implementation, including cost risk: **approximately 50%**
- Quality of plans for core E/PO, SDB sub-contracting, and for an optional SC, if proposed:  
**approximately 5%**



# Competition Conditions

- Communications between Study Teams and the various NASA program offices will be focused through Program Office to ensure fairness
  - But, NASA does not want to restrict these communications
  - If process outlined by Program Office proves onerous, we will reassess it
- Generic versions of questions and answers will be posted on a “Questions and Answers” document available from the Discovery Program Acquisition Website



# QUESTIONS?