# **Recommendations……….**

We are aware of the fact that when looked at from different aspects, our study of the salt marshes has numerous shortcomings. We also realize that it is not possible to perform a complete study on the restored state of the salt marshes in the time period that we had. In order to get substantial results and concrete data, this study would need to be conducted over a period of a several years. There is no sure way to tell if by simply looking at the status of the marshes during one year, if the marshes have been restored to full health. The seasonal changes could have had a large effect of our data and results. In the FUTURE this type of project would need a longer time span and more frequent visits to the marshes to collect data. Perhaps once a month collecting data for a few years would give a small view of their health state.   
      Another way to help this project would be to team up with professors and scientists studying the same problem. The salt marsh restoration project wasn't to begin until next year. We were unfortunate with our timing but in the future researchers will be working on this problem and most likely will offer some of their data to the researching students. This would be extremely helpful for this project. When we first visited the marshes at the Don Edwards San Francisco Wildlife Refuge, we were told that our study would be appreciated and very helpful to their own study. However we were off with our timing and didn't get the chance to work closely with the scientists. Here are some of the shortcomings that we came across as we were working. Students looking into similar projects in future years should take these points into consideration when designing their project.

1. As we were choosing sites for our project, we choose them during a different season than when we actually collected our data. This caused us much difficulty in re-identifying the sites after when we came back in the spring. In order to accommodate this I would recommend counting the plants in the sites the same season that the sites are chosen.
2. Another precaution that could be taken into consideration when selecting the sites is to measure their distances from a specific landmark. This would prevent slight discrepancies from the sites measured and the sites pictured.
3. Perhaps the main recommendation for this project is to plan it so that all counting occurs either before the winter or after it. During the late fall and winter there is a signifigant decrease in the numbers of plants. The diversity in the plant life can be best seen in the spring, as we have observed. Perhaps it would be beneficial to any group planning on completing a similar project to take into consideration that the greatest diversity and optimal time for counting, is at the same time that the science fair and other deadlines occur.
4. Maybe counting the plants in more than once could yield some interesting results?????