

**OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES**  
**REPORT 2 NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES WORK GROUP (NASWG2)**

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**Work Group:** The Work Group is formed by the Implementing Committee of the Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan, pursuant to a specific charge which is incorporated in this document by reference. The Work Group consists of Cindy Loeffler, chair (TWPD), Mark Enders (City of New Braunfels), Kerim Jacaman (Bexar County), Patrick Shriver (SAWS), and Julia Carrillo (EAA).

**Making decisions:**

A. *Decisions by consensus.* The Work Group will attempt to make all decisions by consensus.

Consensus is a decision built by identifying and exploring all members' interests and by assembling a package of agreements which satisfies those interests to the greatest extent possible. A consensus is reached when all members of the Work Group agree that their major interest has been taken into consideration and addressed in a satisfactory manner so they can live with and support the decision of the group.

The following principles will be used to foster consensus:

- Everyone actively participates;
- Members have a common base of information;
- Members create an atmosphere where everyone can share views;
- Members respect disagreement as illuminating problems, improving decisions;
- Disagreement is used to discover unmet needs, and to find a way to meet them;
- Members are specific about a concern and why it matters, and are open to options to address it.

B. *Criteria for decisions.*

In evaluating the NAS *Report 2* recommendations, the Work Group will base its evaluation and make its decisions using the following criteria:

- Fiscally responsible – is the recommendation a reasonable expenditure of available resources;
- Feasible – is the recommendation easily or conveniently implemented (e.g., technical ability exists to implement, or is implementation possible to achieve);
- Compliance oriented – does the recommendation assist in the compliance with or implementation of the HCP and ITP.