

2015 Implementing Committee

National Academy of Sciences

Recommendations Review Work Group: Report 1

Charge:

The Edwards Aquifer Authority contracted with the National Academy of Sciences (NAS), to act as an independent Science Review Panel (SRP), in order to evaluate select components of the Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan (EAHCP). NAS is required to produce three reports. The first of these reports has been released and is entitled; “*Review of the Edwards Aquifer Habitat Conservation Plan: Report 1.*”

An official process for reviewing the NAS Report 1 was approved at the January 15, 2015, Implementing Committee Meeting. A component of this process included the creation of the Recommendation Review Work Group: Report 1 (RRWG), in order to provide Stakeholder and Implementing Committees representation during the development of an implementation plan by EAHCP staff - (*Report 1 Implementation Plan*). The Implementing Committee officially created the RRWG at their meeting on March 19, 2015.

Generally, the purpose of the RRWG is to provide staff with direction and guidance related to the development of an implementation plan for *Report 1*, including feasibility analysis, and to attend all NAS Report 1 related meetings to ensure consistency in representation of the Implementing and Stakeholder Committees throughout the implementation process.

The specific charge of the RRWG is to review the staff drafted *Report 1 Implementation Plan*, modify it as necessary, and if appropriate recommend the Plan to the Implementing Committee for adoption and implementation.

Committee Membership and Meeting Conductance:

Members include the following: *Cindy Loeffler* (Texas Parks and Wildlife Department), *Melani Howard* (City of San Marcos and Texas State University), *Roger Biggers* (New Braunfels Utilities), *Darren Thompson* (San Antonio Water System), and *Mark Hamilton* (Edwards Aquifer Authority).

The RRWG will first determine if a Chair is desired. If desired, the RRWG will nominate and select from its membership a Chair. A quorum will be necessary at the RRWG’s final meeting for official recommendation to the Implementing Committee for adoption. RRWG members will have the option of appointing an alternate to the Committee.

The RRWG will operate by consensus. In the event that consensus is not reached on the implementation of a specific recommendation, that recommendation and opposing rationales will be identified in a separate section of the *Report 1 Implementation Plan*.

The Work Group shall hold its first meeting during the week of May 25, 2015, and will meet a minimum of three times between May 25th and July 31st. The final *Report 1 Implementation Plan* will be considered for approval by the RRWG at their last meeting and will be presented to the Implementing Committee at their August 20th meeting for consideration of adoption.