
Report on April 22, 2015

Public Input Workshop

NAS Report 1

Review of the Edwards Aquifer HCP



The University of Texas School of Law

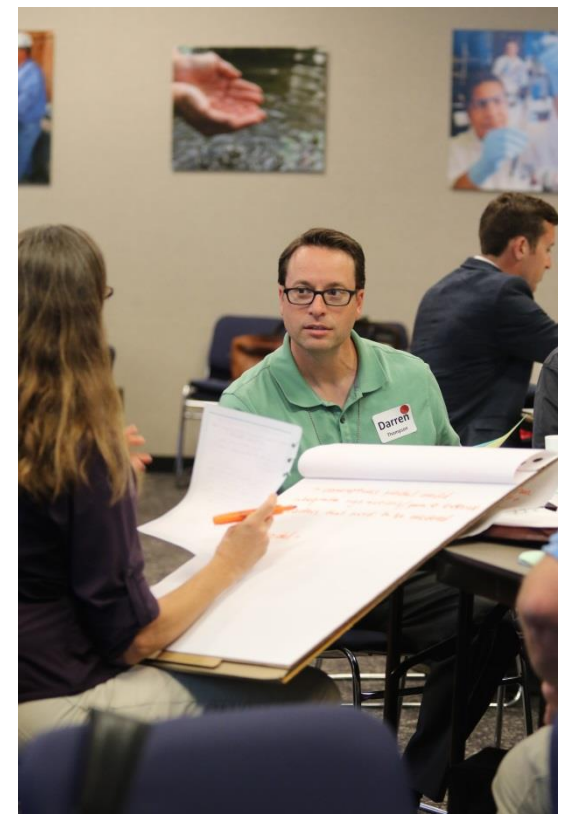
CENTER FOR PUBLIC POLICY DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Workshop goals

Receive comments to inform IC's implementation plan on NAS report



Photo credit: John Boggess



Participants gain information and discuss NAS recommendations

Hydrologic modeling

Ecological modeling

Monitoring

Applied Research

- Overview of NAS recommendations
- 30-45 minutes of small-group discussion
 - 10 minutes group summarizes major comments
- Formal oral comment period
 - Written comment through May 1



Hydrologic modeling

NAS recommendation	Comment trends
Gain efficiency with a single model	Analyze costs and benefits of one model
Quantitatively assess model uncertainty	General support
More attention to conduit modeling	General support
Hydrologic modeling should move toward daily time scale for predictions	General support, with concerns about: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cost and funding• Availability of data• Increase in uncertainty• Time needed relative to HCP phases

Ecological modeling

NAS Recommendation	Comment trends
Need a deeper understanding of CSRB	General support with concerns: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Worth the time & effort?• Responsible use of resources?
Develop an ecosystem-based conceptual model	General support

Biological, Water Quality Monitoring

NAS Recommendation	Comment trends
Expand macroinvertebrate surveys	General support
Increase coordination and integration of biomonitoring and WQ monitoring	General support
Enhance nutrient sampling	Comments fell into the following categories: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Selective monitoring• Sample at lower detection levels• New focus on nutrient sampling
New quantitative sampling methods for CSRB	General support

Applied Research

NAS Recommendations	Comment trends
More transparency in prioritizing, funding projects, including SH involvement and peer review	General support
Greater competition and collaboration with outside experts through research solicitation	General support
Longer-term projects	General support
More transparency and accessibility of results to other researchers, EAA	General support

Meeting evaluation

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The meeting:					
• achieved the goal of receiving comments on the NAS report to inform the IC.	7	10	1		
• provided an opportunity to gain information about the NAS report.	4	11	3		
• provided an opportunity to discuss key recommendations in the NAS report.	9	9			
• allowed me to understand the views of others related to the NAS report.	4	12	2		
The small group discussion about NAS report topics was beneficial.	10	6	2		
There was sufficient time to discuss the topics.	9	6	3		
I had sufficient opportunity to make formal comments.	11	6			
The meeting was well organized and run.	11	7			
The notice for the meeting was timely and sufficient.	8	9	1		

Enjoyed

- Interactive participation
- Small group discussions
- Hearing other viewpoints, opinions

Would have liked

- More discussion about topics
- More expansion or insight on issues
- Small groups to have the time to report their comments to the larger group



Questions?