

REPORT OF SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE SELECTION PROCESS FOR THE EXPERT SCIENCE TEAM

(Members: Myron Hess (chair), Patrick Brzozowski, Deedy Huffman, Joe King, Teresa Lutes, Bob Pickens, Andy Sansom, Haskell Simon, and Suzanne Zarling)

The Subcommittee convened by conference call on Jan. 18 from approximately 2:30 to 4:00 pm and all members participated in the call, along with Ronald Gertson.

The Subcommittee developed a proposed matrix for use in helping to choose members of the expert science team. That matrix includes two primary categories of information. First, the Subcommittee identified eight “essential areas of expertise” that should be represented by the members of the expert science team. Ideally, some members of the expert science team will have expertise in more than one area. The Subcommittee also identified “other considerations” that, although of less importance than the essential areas of expertise, should bear on the selection of expert science team members. A copy of the proposed matrix is attached.

The Subcommittee identified a target size for the overall expert science team of between 7 and 10 members, with a preference for keeping it at less than 10. However, the Subcommittee also identified the need to be flexible on the overall size of the expert science team in order to ensure that all necessary areas of expertise are represented and that other considerations can be addressed. The Subcommittee acknowledged the need for the members of the expert science team to draw upon the expertise of other technical experts not included as members.

The Subcommittee also discussed the issue of naming formal non-voting members to the expert science team. Senate Bill 3 provides that, in addition to providing general technical support, representatives of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Texas Water Development Board, and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality may serve as non-voting members. Subcommittee members felt that it would be particularly important to have strong participation by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department because of the Department’s extensive expertise and institutional knowledge of the history of these systems. The Subcommittee recommends that the three agencies be given the opportunity to nominate, for consideration by the Stakeholder Committee, a knowledgeable, technical representative to serve as a formal non-voting member of the expert science team and that the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, in particular, be urged to do so. The Subcommittee recognized that one or more of the agencies may have valid reasons for choosing not to do so.

The Subcommittee developed the following selection process for choosing voting members of the expert science team that is recommended for adoption by the Stakeholder Committee at the January 27, 2010, meeting.

- 1. Adopt the proposed selection matrix for use in summarizing key considerations.**
- 2. Decide on any extension of the deadline for nominations for membership of the expert science team based on review of the nominations received.**
- 3. Direct the “Subcommittee on the Selection Process for the Expert Science Team,” with any appropriate adjustments to its membership, to summarize the information from all timely submitted nomination forms using the selection matrix.**
- 4. Direct the “Subcommittee on the Selection Process for the Expert Science Team” to develop a proposed slate of members of the expert science team for presentation, along with all supporting**

information, to the full Stakeholder Committee at the February 24, 2010, meeting, with the goal of choosing the voting members of the expert science team at that meeting. The Stakeholder Committee should be free to accept or reject any or all recommendations from the Subcommittee.

5. Consider, at the February 24, 2010, Stakeholder Committee meeting, any nomination for a formal non-voting member of the expert science team to represent the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (one nomination), Texas Water Development Board (one nomination), and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (one nomination).

6. Request that the members of the expert science team, once appointed, select a proposed Chair and Vice-Chair and submit those names for ratification by the Stakeholder Committee, ideally at the March 31, 2010, meeting of the Stakeholder Committee, which, as discussed previously, might also include a joint meeting of the expert science team and the Stakeholder Committee.