

**National Academy of Sciences Report Response**  
**Summary of Feedback from WQGIT and Supporting Workgroup Representatives**  
**September 9, 2011**

Q1: Based on the issues raised in the NAS report, what should be the overall top priorities of the Partnership?

R1: Overall, many respondents found that tracking and reporting of BMPs was a top priority. Other high priorities noted include:

1. Addressing the loss of credibility of Bay models, potentially by establishing the recommended modeling laboratory,
2. Working on adaptive management, and
3. Funding, relating to federal programs cut, funds necessary to establish a modeling laboratory, and funding for innovative practices.
- 3.4. Pennsylvania noted that another high priority for them is additional assistance EPA can provide for new BMPs in the model.

Q2: What are the highest priority science based conclusions to respond to?

R2: Representatives noted the follow science based conclusions as their highest priority to respond to:

- #2 reporting and tracking BMPs, and
- #24 establishing a modeling laboratory to ensure model credibility.

Q3: Are there any SBCs that should be ignored, either because you disagree with them or because it is not feasible to address the conclusion?

R3: Overall, the representatives that provided feedback found that while we should not ignore any of these conclusions, we need to prioritize. Some of the conclusions that respondents noted should have lower priority included those related to adaptive management and the modeling laboratory (given limited resources). However, the feedback on these two topics was non consists; some respondents indicated it was one of their top priorities.

Q4: Do you agree with the proposed responses to SBCs?

R4: The feedback was generally positive towards the science based conclusions from the NAS report. Some felt that we should note more specific actions that will be committed to. It was also noted that some of these responses were not complete or did not directly address the issue raised by the NAS report.

Q5: Who should be responsible for implementing the responses to the science-based conclusions? If it should be the Partnership, what part of the Partnership should lead the response?

R5: Most frequently, those that provided feedback felt that the Partnership should retain responsibility for implementing the responds to the science based conclusions. Individual entities could be assigned to carry out specific conclusions based on their capacity or those that made the request. Most conclusions were assigned to the WQGIT and its workgroups;

but it was suggested that we carefully consider which should be assigned to STAR and the Management Board.