

## **Alea Stewardship Group Decision-Making and Ground Rules**

Modified on May 22, 2006

### **Purpose:**

To come to a decision that group members can support following a respectful hearing of all concerns.

### **Modified Consensus**

Every effort will be made to reach decisions that all parties can support, or at a minimum, live with. Some general guidelines to follow include:

- Provide general recommendations
- Every person has a say rather than many rules to follow to vote
- Strive for consensus, however after 2 meetings, go to 2/3 majority vote
- Explain if blocking or have an issue; object or stand aside

### **Fallback**

If the group cannot reach agreement after 2 meetings, the topic will be put to vote using a 2/3 majority. 2/3 of the decision-making participants present have to agree for the motion to pass.

### **Five Finger Check In**

The facilitators will use the 5-finger method (with 5 being full support and 1 meaning absolutely not) to check-in with the group to gauge their level of support or interest in a proposal.

### **Participation**

The group will have an open membership with no required representation but will strive for representation from the communities in the project area as well as key stakeholders.

A group member must have attended 2 of the last 4 meetings to be able to participate in decision-making.

Ad hoc advisory committees for information gathering and other purposes may be formed & grow into standing committees as needed.

### **Proxy**

Participating group members can send proxies to participate in decision-making if they cannot attend a meeting. Proxies must be an informed member, staff, or volunteer of the organization, business, or entity being represented.

## **Group Norms**

1. Start and end of time
2. Everyone is encouraged to participate
3. We seek common ground for collective coordinated action, not necessarily agreement
4. Have an open mind, seek to understand other's perspectives
5. Address ideas, not individuals
6. Be courteous and respectful
7. Raise your hand to speak
8. One person talks at a time
9. Speak for yourself, use "I" statements
10. Monitor your participation (limit or expand contributions, no lectures)
11. Respect role of facilitator