

Fiscal Planning Committee Meeting
January 24, 2023

Meeting Materials:

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[Revised MRGSCP Biennial Schedule \[follow-up\]](#)

[Draft Funding Opportunities Calendar \[follow-up, draft\]](#)

[Draft Funding Opportunities Graphic \[follow-up, draft\]](#)

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Fiscal Planning Committee Meeting
January 24, 2023

See the following meeting material on the page below:

Agenda



Middle Rio Grande Endangered Species Collaborative Program

Est. 2000

Fiscal Planning Committee (FPC)
January 24, 2023
9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Location: Zoom Meeting

<https://west-inc.zoom.us/j/8983593120?pwd=bU54V3NGeG93bXVISlJFcElzcE9wZz09>

Call-In: +1-669-900-6833

Meeting ID: 898-359-3120; Passcode: 1251

Meeting Objectives:

- Review action items from the November 1, 2022 FPC meeting.
- Approve November 1, 2022 Meeting Minutes.
- Select a new FPC Non-Federal Co-Chair.
- Hear an update on the funding opportunities tool, discuss funding strategy development, and discuss possible next steps.
- Discuss Program Portal funding options.

9:30 – 9:40	Welcome, Introductions, and Agenda Review	<i>Grace Haggerty, Non-Federal Co-Chair; Debra Hill, Federal Co-Chair</i>
	✓ Decision: Approve January 24, 2023 meeting agenda	
9:40 – 9:50	November 2022 Meeting Summary	<i>Program Support Team (PST)</i>
	• Action items review	
	Read-Ahead:	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Draft November 1, 2022 Meeting Minutes	
	✓ Decision: Approve November 1, 2022 meeting minutes	
9:50 – 10:00	FPC Co-Chair Update	<i>PST</i>
	• Volunteers and nominees for a new Non-Federal Co-Chair	
	✓ Decision: Approve a new FPC Non-Federal Co-Chair	
10:00 – 10:25	Update on the Funding Opportunities Tool	<i>PST Facilitated Discussion</i>
	• Leveraging partnerships and membership in the MRGESCP for funding opportunities	
	• Funding strategy development	
	• Funding strategy discussion	

- **Action Item:** PST develops a funding opportunities tool in coordination with FPC co-chairs

10:25 – 10:30 **Break**

10:30 – 10:45 **Program Portal Funding Options**

FPC Co-Chairs

- Develop options for funding after December 2023

- **Action Item:** FPC Co-Chairs work with PST to develop funding options to present to the Executive Committee

10:45 – 10:50 **Announcements**

10:50 – 11:00 **Meeting Summary and Action Items**

FPC Co-Chairs

11:00 **Adjourn**

[Link to full Meeting Materials List](#)

Fiscal Planning Committee Meeting
January 24, 2023

See the following meeting material on the page below:

Minutes



Middle Rio Grande Endangered Species Collaborative Program

Est. 2000

Fiscal Planning Committee (FPC) Meeting Minutes

January 24, 2023; 9:30 AM – 11:00 AM

Location: Zoom Meeting

Decisions:

- ✓ Approval of January 24, 2023 FPC meeting agenda
- ✓ Approval of November 1, 2022 FPC meeting minutes
- ✓ Approval of Anne Marken, Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District (MRGCD), as the new FPC Non-Federal Co-Chair

Announcements:

- ❖ The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) received \$2 million in funding for the Middle Rio Grande Endangered Species Collaborative Program (MRGESCP) in its budget. Funds will be available in the next couple months.
- ❖ Grace Haggerty, New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission (NMISC), reached the end of her term as FPC Non-Federal Co-Chair. Anne M. was elected as the new FPC Non-Federal Co-Chair.
- ❖ The 2023 Rio Grande Compact Commission meeting will be in New Mexico, most likely Santa Fe, in late April. More information will be available closer to the meeting date.

Action Items:

WHO	ACTION ITEM	BY WHEN
Program Support Team (PST)	Incorporate FPC activities into the Biennial Schedule	1/26/2023
PST	Update the Funding Opportunities Calendar and Strategic Funding Graphic based on FPC discussion	1/26/2023
FPC	Review the Funding Opportunities Calendar, Strategic Funding Graphic, and updated Biennial Schedule	2/23/2023
PST	Explore option for putting the Funding Matrix and Funding Strategies Graphic on the Portal	2/23/2023
FPC	Volunteer to work with the PST to develop templates and standard language to use for proposals	2/3/2023
PST & FPC volunteers	Develop template letters of support with language regarding habitat restoration, adaptive management, the value of long-term monitoring, species descriptions, key uncertainties, and the value of the MRGESCP	One week prior to the April FPC meeting
PST	Confirm with Ryan Gronewold how long the USACE will fund the Program Portal, and whether USACE can accept complete pass-through funds to U.S. Geological Survey	One week prior to the March EC meeting

FPC	Request the EC task an Administrative Ad Hoc Group with discussing funding options for the Program Portal	March EC meeting
PST	Announce Anne Marken as the new FPC Non-Federal Co-Chair at the March Executive Committee (EC) meeting	March EC meeting
PST	Develop a checklist for environmental compliance considerations for project planning and implementation	April FPC meeting
Grace Haggerty	Provide information on the Rio Grande Compact commission meeting when available	Prior to the Rio Grande Compact commission meeting

Next Meeting: April 2023

Meeting Minutes

Welcome, Introductions, and Agenda Review

Debbie Lee, Program Support Team (PST), opened the meeting, led introductions, and reviewed the January 24, 2023 meeting agenda. The FPC approved the agenda with no amendments.

- ✓ **Decision:** Approval of January 24, 2023 FPC meeting agenda

November 2022 Meeting Summary

Debbie L. reviewed minutes and action items from the November 1, 2022 FPC meeting. All action items were completed. The FPC approved the November 1, 2022 meeting minutes with no amendments.

- ✓ **Decision:** Approval of November 1, 2022 FPC meeting minutes

Update on the Funding Opportunities Tool

Michelle Tuineau, PST, discussed the updated funding opportunities tools (see Funding Opportunities Calendar and Funding Strategies Graphic). The previous funding matrix was expansive, including many columns of information. The general feedback received was to reduce the number of columns, include links to additional information, and add a calendar element. The Funding Opportunities Calendar reflects the changes suggested by the FPC. In addition, the calendar categorizes the funding opportunities by their funding emphasis (e.g., habitat/ecosystem protection, drought resilience, etc.). The calendar is paired with the Funding Strategies Graphic, which organizes the opportunities by their funding emphases and eligible recipients, allowing users to strategize which opportunities to pursue.

The FPC discussed the calendar and graphic and made the following comments:

- The group was very positive about the calendar and graphic.
- The calendar indicates the period for submitting an application for a funding opportunity. Also include an indication of when an opportunity is due, such as with an X.
- Include an indicator for short-term versus multi-year funding.
- Possibly indicate types of funding (e.g., for scientific studies, programmatic funding, etc.)
- Include a column for cost share on the calendar.
- The group agreed that links should take you directly to funding information. It is best to link to the funding agency, as information on third-party sites may not be up-to-date.
- Funding deadlines should help inform the update schedule for the funding documents.
- The minimum cap for funding opportunities was agreed to be fifty thousand.

- Debbie L. suggested that the calendar could work well in an Access database, which would help users filter opportunities.

The PST will revise the funding documents based on discussion. Anything changed on one funding document will be reflected on the other as they are paired. The documents will be sent to the FPC for further review.

- **Action Item:** PST will update the Funding Opportunities Calendar and Strategic Funding Graphic based on FPC discussion
- **Action Item:** FPC will review the Funding Opportunities Calendar, Strategic Funding Graphic, and updated Biennial Schedule
- **Action Item:** PST will explore option for putting the Funding Matrix and Funding Strategies Graphic on the Portal

FPC Co-Chair Update

Grace Haggerty opened discussion on selecting a new Non-Federal Co-Chair. Grace H.'s term as FPC Non-Federal Co-Chair ended and a replacement was needed. Grace H. called for nominees or volunteers for the role. Anne Marken, MRGCD, volunteered for the position. The FPC approved Anne M. as the new FPC Non-Federal Co-Chair. The group extended a thank you to Grace H. for all her hard work.

- **Action Item:** PST will announce Anne Marken as the new FPC Non-Federal Co-Chair at the March EC meeting

Funding Strategies

Debbie L. opened discussion on developing funding strategies for the MRGESCP. According to the charter, the FPC is charged with developing a diverse financial support system for priority MRGESCP activities as set forth in the Long-Term Plan. This means coordinating and implementing MRGESCP activities, identifying and pursuing funding, and identifying and filling funding gaps. Any funding strategy undertaken by the MRGESCP should take into account the Work Plan, the administrative schedule, individual signatory calendars, and the Funding Opportunities Calendar. Debbie will revise the Biennial Schedule to include tasks for developing MRGESCP funding strategies. Information on individual signatory timing needs is also important to include.

The FPC discussed changes to the Biennial Schedule and made the following comments:

- Federal agencies plan three years in advance and it would be useful to reflect that.
- The State mostly plans year-to-year unless there are multi-year grants.
- The group discussed their caps for the amount they can fund without seeking a grant or cost-share partnership, which informs the minimum cap for opportunities on the Funding Opportunities Calendar. Fifty thousand was agreed upon. Although signatories may seek lower funding amounts, the group believes the focus should be on funding collaborative work. It is difficult to do collaborative work for under fifty thousand.

The PST will update the Biennial Schedule and provide it to the PFC for review. Debbie L. discussed additional tools to help with funding. In the past, the MRGESCP has written letters of support for signatories seeking funding. The FPC may want to develop template letters of support to be used in the future. Also, the FPC could develop standard language that can be used in signatory proposals. One-pagers on the value of the MRGESCP and the value it brings to signatories may also be useful for justifying participation.

The FPC discussed template letters of support and standard language for proposals and made the following comments:

- Standard language is very useful for proposals; it can be hard for organizations to gather all the information needed.
- Demonstrating the support of other agencies weighs heavily when seeking funding. The template letters of support would speak to a high level of collaboration.
- Language on habitat restoration, adaptive management, long-term monitoring, species descriptions, key uncertainties, and the value of the MRGESCP would be helpful.
- NMISC is working on a template to describe restoration projects, which may be a useful resource for other projects. Grace H. will provide the template to the PST.

The PST and volunteers from the FPC will begin developing template letters of support and language for proposals.

The FPC discussed other information that would be helpful for proposals, for example property ownership and access needs. The group agreed to develop a checklist for environmental compliance considerations for project planning and implementation.

- **Action Item:** PST will incorporate FPC activities into the Biennial Schedule
- **Action Item:** FPC will review the Funding Opportunities Calendar, Strategic Funding Graphic, and updated Biennial Schedule
- **Action Item:** FPC will volunteer to work with the PST to develop templates and standard language to use for proposals
- **Action Item:** PST & FPC volunteers will develop template letters of support with language regarding habitat restoration, adaptive management, the value of long-term monitoring, species descriptions, key uncertainties, and the value of the MRGESCP
- **Action Item:** PST will develop a checklist for environmental compliance considerations for project planning and implementation

Program Portal Funding Options

Non-Federal Co-Chair, Anne M., and Federal Co-Chair, Debra Hill, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, opened discussion on Program Portal funding options. The USACE will fund the Portal through December 2023 and may be able to continue funding. The USACE contracts with U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) to fund baseline Portal maintenance and additional development. The EC asked the FPC to develop funding options for the Portal in the case of a lapse in funding. Baseline funding for the Portal is seventy thousand, but larger updates would not be included. The PST performs the regular Portal updates.

The group discussed potential funding options and made the following options:

- Funding will not be an issue for 2023 but long-term options are needed for the future.
- The group asked who has funded the Portal in the past. Debbie L. clarified that Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority funded it below baseline cost when USACE funding lapsed, but did so using an existing contract with U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). USGS must contract with a public agency.
- Some organizations would be able to contribute but not at the full seventy thousand. There's interest in splitting the cost or funding pieces of the Portal separately. Debbie L. clarified that the money would need to be funneled through one entity. Debbie L. will ask if the USACE may

be able to keep their contract with USGS open to funnel funds for the Portal. The Office of the Solicitor concluded that pooling money through a membership fee would be illegal, but it may be possible to pool funds specifically for the Portal.

- The group asked about baseline funding. Debbie L. clarified that it may be possible to reduce the cost some if we ask for reduced time from the USGS team, but there will need to be regular updates that are not covered by baseline funding. The geospatial mapper requires the most costly updates, but could be updated every two years. The mapper updates may potentially be funded outside of baseline funding.
 - It may work best to have federal signatories pay more than the non-federal signatories, as cost share is split 75/25 (Federal/Non-Federal) for the MRGESCP.
 - Request to check with U.S. Bureau of Reclamation again if it can secure money for the Portal for the next two years.
 - The group struggled to determine what funding options were possible and suggested asking the EC to task a group of legal experts with determining what funding options are legally possible.
- **Action Item:** PST will confirm with Ryan Gronewold how long the USACE will fund the Program Portal, and whether USACE can accept complete pass-through funds to U.S. Geological Survey
 - **Action Item:** FPC will request the EC task an Administrative Ad Hoc Group with discussing funding options for the Program Portal

Announcements:

- ❖ The USACE received \$2 million in funding for the MRGESCP in its budget. Funds will be available in the next couple months.
 - ❖ The 2023 Rio Grande Compact Commission meeting will be in New Mexico, most likely Santa Fe, in late April. More information will be available closer to the meeting date.
- **Action Item:** Grace Haggerty will provide information on the Rio Grande Compact commission meeting when available

Meeting Participants

FPC Representative

Debra Hill, Federal Co-Chair
Grace Haggerty, Non-Federal Co-Chair
Anne Marken, Non-Federal Co-Chair
Brittney Erdmann
Dustin Chavez-Davis
Lynette Giesen
Mark Kelly
Virginia Seamster

Organization

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission
Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District
Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District
City of Albuquerque, Open Space Division
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority
New Mexico Department of Game and Fish

Support

Debbie Lee
Kevin Shelley
Michelle Tuineau

Organization

Program Support Team
Program Support Team
Program Support Team

[Link to full Meeting Materials List](#)

Fiscal Planning Committee Meeting
January 24, 2023

See the following meeting material on the page below:

Revised MRGSCP Biennial Schedule [follow-up]

Middle Rio Grande Endangered Species Collaborative Program

Administrative Biennial Schedule

Draft Updated January 2023

MONTH	MEETINGS	EVERY YEAR (YEARS A & B)		YEAR A (ODD YEARS)	YEAR B (EVEN YEARS)
JANUARY	FPC	Annual Program Evaluation SAMC new member search SAMC Search Admin Ad Hoc Draft Annual Report	Determine collaborative funding opportunity to pursue based on work plan		Science Evaluation Develop proposed projects from Collaboratory
FEBRUARY ^N	SAMC HR Coord				
MARCH	EC	Signatory Contributions Report Results of Program Evaluation • Updates to charters * • Form By-Laws Admin Ad Hoc *	Appoint new SAMC members Approve Annual Report Relate MAT/hydrology forecast to Collaborative Program		Approve updated Science Objectives Approve updated Long-Term Plan
APRIL ^N	FPC	Updates to CEMs By-Laws Admin Ad Hoc *	Project priorities for NMDGF, NMISC, Reclamation	S&T Ad Hoc to work with contractor to update RioRestore	Coordinate LTP activity implementation
MAY	SAMC HR Coord		Update Program Portal datasets		
JUNE ^N	EC	Updates and recs from SAMC Work Plan update	Update By-Laws *		
JULY	FPC	Project priorities for ABCWUA, COA, MRGCD			Funding check: RioRestore, Program Portal, PASS
AUGUST ^N	SAMC HR Coord				
SEPTEMBER	EC	Updates and recs from SAMC	Work Plan update		
OCTOBER ^N	FPC	Topical Workshop	UNM legislative support letter	Update funding matrix	
NOVEMBER	SAMC HR Coord	S&T Ad Hoc progress reports and presentations	Draft Annual Report	Collaboratory (GO TO YEAR B)	Science Symposium (GO TO YEAR A)
DECEMBER ^N	EC	Hydrology and species summary SAMC summary presentation Next year's Work Plan Determine SAMC SME needs			

* If needed; ^N Newsletter

HR Coord = Habitat Restoration Coordination Group; Long-Term Plan = Long-Term Plan for Science & Adaptive Management; MAT = Minnow Action Team; PASS = Program and Science Support contract; SAMC = Science and Adaptive Management Committee; SME = subject matter expert; S&T = Science & Technical; FPC = Fiscal Planning Committee; EC = Executive Committee; ABCWUA = Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority; MRGCD – Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District; COA = City of Albuquerque; NMDGF = New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, NMISC = New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission; Reclamation = U.S. Bureau of Reclamation; Admin = Administrative

[Link to full Meeting Materials List](#)

Fiscal Planning Committee Meeting
January 24, 2023

See the following meeting material on the page below:

Draft Funding Opportunities Calendar [follow-up, draft]

☒	Application is due
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[Link to full Meeting Materials List](#)

Fiscal Planning Committee Meeting
January 24, 2023

See the following meeting material on the page below:

Draft Funding Opportunities Graphic [follow-up, draft]

STRATEGIC PURSUIT OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Drafted January 2023

	Academic Institution	Business (for profit)	Individual	Local Government	Non-profit	State	Territory	Tribal Government
Climate Resilience /Adaptation	[WS] ASG⊕; NFWF★⊕; CEJB			NFWF★⊕; CEJB; CFG⊕; REPI⊕	[WS] ASG⊕; NFWF★⊕; CEJB; CFG⊕; REPI⊕	NFWF★⊕; REPI⊕; [WS] ASG⊕	NFWF★⊕; CFG⊕	CEJB; NFWF★⊕; REPI⊕; CFG⊕; [WS] ASG⊕
Disaster Recovery						[WS] DERA		[WS] DERA
Drought Resilience	[WS] ASG⊕			[WS] CWMP★⊕; [WS] DCP⊕; CFG⊕	[WS] WEE⊕; [WS] SSWEP⊕; [WS] WMSG⊕; [WS] DRP⊕; [WS] EWRP⊕; [WS] ASG⊕; [WS] CWMP★⊕; [WS] DCP⊕; CFG⊕	[WS] ASG⊕; [WS] CWMP★⊕; [WS] DCP⊕; [WS] DERA; [WS] DRP⊕; [WS] EWRP⊕; [WS] SSWEP⊕; [WS] WEE⊕; [WS] WMSG⊕		CFG⊕; [WS] ASG⊕; [WS] CWMP★⊕; [WS] DCP⊕; [WS] DERA; [WS] DRP⊕; [WS] EWRP⊕; [WS] SSWEP⊕; [WS] WEE⊕; [WS] WMSG⊕
Flood/Storm Risk Reduction				WFPO⊕				WFPO⊕
Habitat/Ecosystem Restoration	NFWF★⊕; RCPP⊕; SRP	RCPP⊕; NAWCA⊕; SRP	WRE⊕, NAWCA⊕, SRP	[WS] CWMP★⊕; NFWF★⊕; NCRRR⊕; WCPP⊕; WRE⊕; RCPP⊕; CFG⊕; RLF⊕; BMG⊕; REPI⊕; SRP	[WS] CWMP★⊕; NFWF★⊕; WRE⊕; RCPP⊕; CFG⊕; NAWCA⊕; RLF⊕; BMG⊕; REPI⊕; SRP	BAG⊕; BMG⊕; RLF⊕; NCRRR⊕; NFWF★⊕; REPI⊕; RCPP⊕; SRP; [WS] CWMP★⊕; WRE⊕; WCPP⊕	BMG⊕; RLF⊕; NFWF★⊕; RCPP⊕; SRP; CFG⊕; WRE⊕	BAG⊕; BMG⊕; RLF⊕; NCRRR⊕; NFWF★⊕; REPI⊕; RCPP⊕; SRP; CFG⊕; [WS] CWMP★⊕; WRE⊕
Innovation	RCPP⊕; SRP	RCPP⊕, SRP	SRP	RCPP⊕; SRP	RCPP⊕; SRP	RCPP⊕; SRP	RCPP⊕; SRP	RCPP⊕; SRP
Soil Health								
Water Conservation	RCPP⊕	RCPP⊕		RCPP⊕	[WS] WEE⊕; [WS] EWRP⊕; RCPP⊕	RCPP⊕; [WS] EWRP⊕; [WS] WEE⊕	RCPP⊕	[WS] WEE⊕; [WS] EWRP⊕; RCPP⊕
Water Efficiency					[WS] WEE⊕; [WS] SSWEP⊕; [WS] WMSG⊕; [WS] DRP⊕; [WS] EWRP⊕	[WS] DRP⊕; [WS] EWRP⊕; [WS] SSWEP⊕; [WS] WEE⊕; [WS] WMSG⊕		[WS] DRP⊕; [WS] EWRP⊕; [WS] SSWEP⊕; [WS] WEE⊕; [WS] WMSG⊕
Wildfire Risk Reduction	CEJB			CEJB; SEA⊕	CEJB			CEJB; SEA⊕

KEY		Funding Emphasis		Eligible Recipients	★	Highly collaborative	⊕	Cost Share
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