**Program Portal Future Funding Options**

**For Fiscal Planning Committee (FPC) Review and Feedback**

Currently, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) contracts the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) to develop and maintain the Program Portal (https://webapps.usgs.gov/MRGESCP/). USACE will fund the Program Portal through December 2023, and may potentially fund it in 2024. Baseline funding for Program Portal maintenance is approximately $72,000 a year; this includes staff labor and software and hosting fees, but does not include any additional development. At the April 18, 2023 FPC meeting, members had a brief discussion on options for funding the Program Portal in the future, and requested more time to provide feedback. FPC members are encouraged to discuss each of the options with others in their organizations, including relevant legal experts. Any feedback should be provided to Debbie Lee at dlee@west-inc.com by Friday, April 28, 2023.

1. **Signatories provide pass-through funding to USACE to fund USGS to continue supporting the Program Portal.**

This option may limit who may provide money. It is easier for USACE to accept money from other federal agencies.

1. **Another signatory takes on the USGS contract.**

USGS is limited on what entities it may contract with. The contract amount is also high.

1. **Signatories pool money to fund USGS with one signatory taking on the contracting role**.

The Collaborative Program signatories have legally not been able to pool money into a general fund. However, it is unclear whether the signatories could pool money for a specific contract.

1. **Signatories rotate who holds the contract with USGS.**

This may logistically be difficult.