



## **WESTAR QUARTERLY REPORT**

Reporting Period: 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2022

Report Date: October 20, 2022

EPA Grants No. XA-99T67301-0

NPS Agreement No.

P19AC01205

Regardless of funding source, all of the projects and activities conducted by WESTAR are consistent with and intended to achieve the purposes of the organization spelled out in Article 2 of WESTAR's Articles of Association, including promoting the exchange of information related to air quality management, developing procedures to meet air quality objectives and to protect environmental resources, to establish workgroups to investigate specific topics, and to develop recommendations for the consideration of the membership. This report summarizes activities and outcomes for this reporting period.

### Reporting Organization:

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## **1. EPA CORE GRANT 2017-2019**

*Note: Work on activities and spending against this grant began December 2017.*

### a. Budget Summary and Status

The following tables summarize the status of WESTAR's Core Grant budget, comparing cumulative grant awards since the inception of the current grant (October 1, 2017) through the end of the most recent quarter.

**EPA Core Grant 2017-21  
Expenses by Object Class through 9/30/2022**

<b>Object Class</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>This Quarter</b>	<b>Cumulative Expenses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
1. Personnel	1,948,513	104,548	1,957,544	100%
2. Fringe Benefits	520,484	21,819	473,654	91%
3. Travel	607,505	27,220	424,744	70%
4. Equipment	0	0	0	
5. Supplies	0	0	0	
6. Contractual	1,044,711	48,908	1,198,851	115%
7. Construction	0	0	0	
8. Other	689,250	50,559	777,679	113%
9. Indirect Expenses	1,398,853	74,702	1,299,948	93%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>6,209,316</b>	<b>327,755</b>	<b>6,132,420</b>	<b>99%</b>

a. Activity Summary: Operations Project

The purpose of the Operations project is to develop, implement, and support the policy and technical activities at WESTAR that benefit member states. Funding for this project comes entirely from member state contributions. In addition, personnel from member states and federal land management agencies contribute their time and expertise to many of the tasks performed under this project.

1) Status of work plan activities – Operations Project

<i>Expected Result for Project Period</i>	<u>Results/Outcomes</u>	
	<i>2022 Q3</i>	<i>Project Period Total</i>
<b>47</b> Air director conference calls, documented with minutes posted on WESTAR’s website	<b>2</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>10</b> Business meetings, documented with minutes and presentations posted on WESTAR’s website	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>175</b> Committee and ad hoc workgroup conference calls	<b>7</b>	<b>153</b>
<b>20</b> Trips by committee chairs to brief air directors on committee activities	<b>1</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>5</b> Specialty conference on a high priority topic	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

<i>Expected Result for Project Period</i>	<i>Results/Outcomes</i>	
	<i>2022 Q3</i>	<i>Project Period Total</i>
<b>5</b> Meetings held to address emerging topics	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>15</b> Trips by committee representatives to attend national meetings and report back to WESTAR membership	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>

2) Other Activities this Quarter – Operations Project

\*WESTAR participated in the EPA Residential Woodsmoke Conference Calls, including work groups formed to refine wood burning emission estimates and identifying clean appliances for changeout programs.

\*WESTAR staff continued participating in the Four Corners Air Quality Oversight Group calls including the annual conference in Farmington, NM.

\*WESTAR staff and states continued discussing the Western Visibility Protection and Planning Initiative. The Initiative will result in the formation of recommendations for the future of the Regional Haze program. WESTAR will engage EPA and Federal Land Management agencies in this effort.

\*WESTAR staff continue to participate in the Inventory Collaborative Coordination to decide on a new national emissions modeling platform developed through a collaboration between regional, state, and local staff and EPA.

b. Activity Summary: Training Project

The purpose of the Training Project is to: (1) deliver high quality training courses/workshops that meet the needs and expectations of state and local air agency staff within the fifteen-state WESTAR region; (2) develop needed, cost-effective, responsive, and western-states-focused training opportunities; and (3) act as the main point of contact for information and educational training opportunities related to air quality training.

1) Status of work plan activities – Training Project

<i>Expected Result for Project Period</i>	<i>Results/Outcomes</i>	
	<i>2022 Q3</i>	<i>Project Period Total</i>
100 Educational opportunities delivered:	<b>5</b>	<b>71</b>
* Principles & Practices of AP Control		

* Fugitive Dust		
* Stationary Reciprocating Engines		
* Stationary Gas Turbines		
* Industrial Boilers		
<b>3000</b> Students trained	<b>103</b>	<b>1940</b>
<b>5750</b> Student training days	<b>196</b>	<b>4941</b>
<b>1</b> Training course developed/updated	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

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Other Activities this Quarter – Training Project

- WESTAR staff is working with state, local and tribal air quality government agencies in the fifteen Western United States to identify each agency’s most important training need(s) for FY2023.
- WESTAR staff works with the JTC Air Quality training group to move classroom training courses to online training to better serve the current needs of state, local and tribal air quality professionals.
- WESTAR staff serves as a member of the JTC Steering Committee. The Steering Committee oversees the operations of four work groups by providing guidance, evaluating resource needs, identifies priorities, assigns projects, provides assessments, and fosters communication. The four work groups are: 1) Communications; 2) Curriculum; 3) Training Delivery; and 4) Learning Management Systems (LMS)
- WESTAR staff is a co-lead for the Training Delivery work group which is working on instructor recruitment, incorporating ADA/508 compliance, instructor evaluations, and self-instructional courses evaluation.
- WESTAR staff is a committee member on the Communications workgroup, Learning Management System (LMS) workgroup, and the Curriculum workgroup.
- WESTAR staff continues to be a member of EPA’s work team updating the Introduction to Air Toxic (APTI 400) training course. Work is focused on identifying subject matter that will be offered online and subject matter for which it is more appropriate to offer in-person, and updating topics and materials to match various teaching formats.
- WESTAR is working with EPA on updating the Introduction to Air Quality Management (BASC198/99) training course.

c. Activity Summary: Regional Technical Support Project

The purpose of the Regional Technical Support project is to provide technical support to member agencies related to analysis of monitoring data, analysis and preparation of emissions

inventories, regional modeling analyses, and operation and maintenance of web databases – all for member agencies to use in their air quality management and planning activities.

1) Status of work plan activities – Regional Technical Support Project

<i>Expected Result for Project Period</i>	<u>Results/Outcomes</u>	
	<i>2022 Q3</i>	<i>Project Period Total</i>
<b>125</b> Work Group and Subcommittee Conference calls	<b>5</b>	<b>380</b>
<b>50</b> Technical Steering Committee conference calls	<b>2</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>10</b> Face-to-face WRAP Board meetings	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>50</b> Travel support provided to local agency and tribal WRAP Board members	<b>2</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>5</b> Technical Steering Committee Face-to-face meetings	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>50</b> WRAP Board calls	<b>2</b>	<b>43</b>

2) Other Activities this Quarter – Regional Technical Support Project

- The WRAP Regional Technical Center provides access to air quality data of all types and continues to be implemented through the Intermountain West Data Warehouse (IWDW). Linked to the IWDW is the Technical Support System v2, which supports Regional Haze analysis for the WESTAR/WRAP region. Moving forward, additional regional modeling tasks and deliverables from WESTAR contracts can be supported using the WRAP Regional Technical Center framework.
- Planning for budget and scopes of work for the remainder of 2022 through mid-2023 continues. Staff continued to work with state and federal agencies, including regional EPA offices, to discuss and collect input on regional technical analysis needs in the western U.S.
- The WRAP website for Work Groups and the Technical Steering Committee continued to be used as a way to disseminate reports from projects, meetings, and calls, as well as data and summary results. Migration from the current WRAP website to the new WESTAR/WRAP website began in earnest this quarter, with hopes of full migration by the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.
- The WRAP Technical Steering Committee and the 5 Work Groups (Fire & Smoke, Oil & Gas, Tribal Data, Regional Technical Operations, and Regional Haze Planning) continued to meet regularly.
- The Technical Steering Committee and Co-Chairs of WRAP Work Groups meet monthly on a Coordination call.

The Technical Steering Committee and Work Groups continue to implement the WRAP Board-approved “Future project prioritization topics” from the Board’s December 2, 2020 meeting. In September 2021, the Technical Steering Committee updated the Board-approved topics with a status report to be used to track progress on those topics going forward and reported progress at the WRAP Board and TSC meeting on December 9, 2021. The TSC and Board have finalized the individual WGs’ Workplan Scopes to guide their activities on an ongoing basis.

The TSC and Board completed work to update WRAP organizational documents and completed a final review at the April 7<sup>th</sup> WRAP Board and TSC meeting. The revised documents were posted in April at [www.wrapair2.org](http://www.wrapair2.org).

## **2. NPS COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT**

Under these agreements, WESTAR/WRAP has agreed to cooperate with the National Park Service in furthering the understanding of air quality and air pollution formation, transport and effects in the western U.S., which includes but is not limited to ambient monitoring and data reporting, creation and operation of databases, development of emission inventories, performance of air quality modeling to understand the effects of pollution and to facilitate discussion of possible mitigation, and the development of outreach and education products toward bettering the understanding of Western air quality by the public and stakeholders. Projects and activities under this Agreement will be individually authorized by separate task agreements, with each project or activity having a separate work plan and budget developed cooperatively between the NPS and WESTAR/WRAP.

### **TASK 1: 3-State Study Coordination and Data Warehouse (P14AC00133)**

This Task was completed on 9/30/2014.

### **TASK 2: Three State Air Quality Study (P14AC01122)**

This Task was completed on 6/30/2016.

### **TASK 3: Intermountain West Data Warehouse – Western Air Quality Study (IWDW-WAQS) (P14AC01122)**

This Task was completed on 12/31/2019.

### **TASK 4: Intermountain West Data Warehouse – Western Air Quality Study (IWDW-WAQS)**

This task was completed on 12/31/2018.

### **TASK 5: Intermountain West Data Warehouse-Western Air Quality Study (IWDW-WAQS) P18AC01186**

This task was completed on 9/30/2020.

### **Intermountain West Data Warehouse-Western Air Quality Study (IWDW-WAQS) Agreement P19AC01205**

Under this Agreement, WESTAR/WRAP serves as the project coordinator for the Western Air Quality Study and performs technical tasks through contractors to include:

- Air quality modeling;
- Support and coordination of IWDW operations and maintenance;
- Assistance in education and outreach to stakeholders and the public;
- Organization and participation in meetings, webinars and conference calls.

Beginning in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2020, WESTAR is the sole funding source for IWDW staffing and incremental task work by contractors for WAQS modeling, using resources from this agreement and supplemented by other funding streams within WESTAR. The historic approach of direct funding of IWDW staffing by NPS was completed in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter 2020. Due to funding constraints, WESTAR/WRAP staff are no longer being funded through this agreement to serve as project coordinator for the IWDW-WAQS at 0.20 FTE time. WESTAR/WRAP staff will continue to assist with IWDW-WAQS coordination as time allows. This quarterly progress report is prepared by WESTAR/WRAP and provided to the NPS.

**NPS Cooperative Agreement  
P19AC01205  
Expenses by Object Class through 9/30/2022**

<b>Object Class</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>This Quarter</b>	<b>Cumulative Expenses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
1. Personnel	41,202	0	15,528	38%
2. Fringe Benefits	11,610	0	3,612	31%
3. Travel	0	0	0	
4. Equipment	0	0	0	
5. Supplies	0	0	0	
6. Contractual	383,495	37,996	419,591	109%
7. Construction	0	0	0	
8. Other	0	0	0	
9. Indirect Expenses	14,756	0	12,333	84%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>451,063</b>	<b>37,996</b>	<b>451,063</b>	<b>100%</b>

**3. OTHER SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES**

WESTAR co-chairs the Federal/State Technical Work Collaboration Group and organizes monthly and quarterly conference calls to share information about EPA and MJO technical work.

WESTAR/WRAP significant special meetings, staff activities, presentations, and external meeting participation.

The WRAP Fire & Smoke Work Group has been actively engaged in planning the Fire & Smoke Collaborative Meeting, to be held in San Diego November, 2022. This meeting

builds from and addresses themes discussed at the 2019 WESTAR Prescribed Fire and Smoke Management Dialogue meeting.

#### 4. CONSOLIDATED EXPENSE SUMMARY

##### Cumulative Expenses by Object Class and Funding Source through 9/30/2022 All Active Accounts

Object Class	EPA	NPS	Totals
	Core Grant 2017-22	P19AC01205	
1. Personnel	1,957,544	15,528	1,973,072
2. Fringe	473,654	3,612	477,265
3. Travel	424,744	0	424,744
4. Equipment	0	0	0
5. Supplies	0	0	0
6. Contractual	1,198,851	419,591	1,618,442
7. Construction	0	0	0
8. Other	777,679	0	777,679
9. Indirect	1,299,948	12,333	1,312,281
<b>Cumulative Expenses</b>	<b>6,132,420</b>	<b>451,063</b>	<b>6,583,483</b>
<b>Budget</b>	<b>6,209,316</b>	<b>451,063</b>	<b>6,660,379</b>
<b>Balance Avail</b>	<b>76,896</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>76,896</b>

<sup>1</sup>Total of \$451,063 drawn from advance for contractor expenses; advance balance = \$0

##### Current Quarter Expenses by Object Class and Funding Source – All Active Accounts

Object Class	EPA	NPS	Totals
	Core Grant 2017-2022	P19AC01205	
1. Personnel	104,548	0	104,548
2. Fringe Benefits	21,819	0	21,819
3. Travel	27,220	0	27,220
4. Equipment	0	0	0
5. Supplies	0	0	0
6. Contractual	48,908	37,996	86,903
7. Construction	0	0	0



8. Other	50,559	0	50,559
9. Indirect	74,702	0	74,702
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>327,755</b>	<b>37,996</b>	<b>365,751</b>