



## **WESTAR QUARTERLY REPORT**

Reporting Period: 4th quarter 2022

Report Date: January 31, 2023

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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### Contents

- 1) [EPA Core Grant 2017-21 \(XA-99T67301-0\)](#)
- 2) [Other Significant WESTAR Activities](#)
- 3) [Consolidated Expense Summary](#)

## **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 12/31/2022**

<b>Object Class</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>This Quarter</b>	<b>Cumulative Expenses</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
1. Personnel	2,451,513	118,400	2,075,944	85%
2. Fringe Benefits	615,484	22,159	495,813	81%
3. Travel	675,505	16,902	441,646	65%
4. Equipment	0	0	0	
5. Supplies	0	0	0	
6. Contractual	1,044,710	58,249	1,257,100	120%
7. Construction	0	0	0	
8. Other	798,105	25,624	803,304	101%
9. Indirect Expenses	1,642,158	77,139	1,377,087	84%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>7,227,475</b>	<b>318,473</b>	<b>6,450,893</b>	<b>89%</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 Q4</i>	<i>Project Period Total</i>
<b>67</b> Air director conference calls, documented with minutes posted on WESTAR’s website	<b>3</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>14</b> Business meetings, documented with minutes and presentations posted on WESTAR’s website	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>245</b> Committee and ad hoc workgroup conference calls	<b>5</b>	<b>158</b>
<b>28</b> Trips by committee chairs to brief air directors on committee activities	<b>0</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>6</b> Specialty conference on a high priority topic	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>

<i>Expected Result for Project Period</i>	<i>Results/Outcomes</i>	
	<i>2022 Q4</i>	<i>Project Period Total</i>
<b>6</b> Meetings held to address emerging topics	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>21</b> Trips by committee representatives to attend national meetings and report back to WESTAR membership	<b>0</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 and states continued discussing the Western Visibility Protection and Planning Initiative. A face-to-face meeting was held in November to work on recommendations. The Initiative will result in the formation of recommendations for the future of the Regional Haze program. WESTAR is engaging EPA and Federal Land Management agencies in this effort.

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 Q4</i>	<i>Project Period Total</i>
100 Educational opportunities delivered:	<b>7</b>	<b>78</b>
* Fugitive Dust		
* Stationary Reciprocating Engines		
* Industrial Boilers		
* VOC Control Devices		

- \* Aggregates, HMA, Concrete
- \* Landfill Gas Control Facilities
- \* Introduction to Continuous Monitoring Systems

<b>3000</b> Students trained	<b>163</b>	<b>2103</b>
<b>5750</b> Student training days	<b>188</b>	<b>5129</b>
<b>1</b> Training course developed/updated	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

Other Activities this Quarter – Training Project

- WESTAR worked 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 assumed leadership of the National Joint Training Steering Committee in November 2022 and will remain in this position until December 2023. In this capacity, WESTAR will lead the face-to-face meeting in February 2023 and organize and lead its monthly conference calls.
- WESTAR continues to work closely with EPA on updating the Continuous Monitoring Systems training course including leading course logistics for offering the beta course on April 25-28, 2023.
- WESTAR is working with EPA on its Air Toxics e-learning training course, most recently recruiting beta testers for the NESHAPS module as well as testers for the entire course.
- WESTAR staff worked 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 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 Q4</i>	<i>Project Period Total</i>
<b>175</b> Work Group and Subcommittee Conference calls	<b>2</b>	<b>382</b>
<b>70</b> Technical Steering Committee conference calls	<b>2</b>	<b>56</b>
<b>14</b> Face-to-face WRAP Board meetings	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>72</b> Travel support provided to local agency and tribal WRAP Board members	<b>0</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>7</b> Technical Steering Committee Face-to-face meetings	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>70</b> WRAP Board calls	<b>3</b>	<b>46</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 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 was completed in the 4th quarter. The new WESTAR/WRAP page will be going live in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2023. The WRAP membership will continue to explore options to simplify data sharing within the new website's framework.

- The WRAP Technical Steering Committee meets regularly. The Fire and Smoke and Tribal Data Work Groups met once each, and the remaining the three Work Groups (Oil & Gas, Regional Technical Operations, and Regional Haze Planning) did not meet this past quarter.
- 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 provided another update to the WRAP Board in December 2022 and January 2023. In February 2022, the WRAP Board approved proposed amendments to the WRAP charter. The proposed amended Charter was sent to the membership for approval on January 20, 2023. **01205**

## 2. 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 is working with its members to develop an application for exceptional events demonstrations.

WESTAR presented to AWMA at 2 webinars in October; the first presentation was regarding the PM2.5 NAAQS and the second was on regional haze.

The WRAP Fire & Smoke Work Group was actively engaged in planning the Fire & Smoke Collaborative Meeting, held in San Diego November 2022.

## 3. CONSOLIDATED EXPENSE SUMMARY

### Cumulative Expenses by Object Class and Funding Source through 12/31/2022 All Active Accounts

Object Class	EPA	
	Core Grant 2017-23	Totals
1. Personnel	2,075,944	2,075,944
2. Fringe	495,813	495,813
3. Travel	441,646	441,646
4. Equipment	0	0
5. Supplies	0	0

6. Contractual	1,257,100	1,257,100
7. Construction	0	0
8. Other	803,304	803,304
9. Indirect	1,377,087	1,377,087
<b>Cumulative Expenses</b>	<b>6,450,893</b>	<b>6,450,893</b>
<b>Budget</b>	<b>7,227,475</b>	<b>7,227,475</b>
<b>Balance Avail</b>	<b>776,582</b>	<b>776,582</b>

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

	EPA	
Object Class	Core Grant 2017-2023	Totals
1. Personnel	118,400	118,400
2. Fringe Benefits	22,159	22,159
3. Travel	16,902	16,902
4. Equipment	0	0
5. Supplies	0	0
6. Contractual	58,249	58,249
7. Construction	0	0
8. Other	25,624	25,624
9. Indirect	77,139	77,139
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>318,473</b>	<b>318,473</b>