



WESTAR QUARTERLY REPORT

Reporting Period: 1st quarter 2022

Report Date: April 30, 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 3/31/2022**

Object Class	Budget	This Quarter	Cumulative Expenses	Percentage
1. Personnel	1,948,513	127,953	1,721,050	88%
2. Fringe Benefits	520,484	30,985	421,286	81%
3. Travel	607,505	4,506	381,843	63%
4. Equipment	0	0	0	
5. Supplies	0	0	0	
6. Contractual	1,044,711	22,266	1,147,017	110%
7. Construction	0	0	0	
8. Other	689,250	9,000	659,060	96%
9. Indirect Expenses	1,398,853	55,195	1,144,973	82%
Totals	6,209,316	249,905	5,475,230	88%

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 Q1</i>	<i>Project Period Total</i>
47 Air director conference calls, documented with minutes posted on WESTAR’s website	3	44
10 Business meetings, documented with minutes and presentations posted on WESTAR’s website	0	8
175 Committee and ad hoc workgroup conference calls	8	137
20 Trips by committee chairs to brief air directors on committee activities	0	18

5	Specialty conference on a high priority topic	0	1
5	Meetings held to address emerging topics	0	3
15	Trips by committee representatives to attend national meetings and report back to WESTAR membership	0	4

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.

*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.

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 Q1</i>	<i>Project Period Total</i>
100 Educational opportunities developed and delivered:	0	62
*		
3000 Students trained	0	1720
5750 Student training days	0	4342
1 Training course developed/updated	0	0

Other Activities this Quarter – Training Project

- WESTAR staff continues its work 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 FY2022.
- 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 is 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 (BASC101) 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 Q1</i>	<i>Project Period Total</i>

125 Work Group and Subcommittee Conference calls	25	369
50 Technical Steering Committee conference calls	3	49
10 Face-to-face WRAP Board meetings	0	5
50 Travel support provided to local agency and tribal WRAP Board members	0	29
5 Technical Steering Committee Face-to-face meetings	0	4
50 WRAP Board calls	3	39

2) Other Activities this Quarter – Regional Technical Support Project

- The WRAP Regional Technical Center is being implemented through the Intermountain West Data Warehouse (IWDW), linked with the Technical Support System v2 and delivering the modeling results from the Western Air Quality Study, providing access to air quality data of all types and results from regional modeling studies. Regional modeling tasks and deliverables from WESTAR contracts support both the Regional Haze analysis and Western Air Quality Study. Planning for budget and scopes of work for the remainder of 2022 through mid-2023 was begun. 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.
- Dissemination of reports from projects, meetings, and calls, as well as data and summary results were also conducted via the WRAP website for Work Groups and the Technical Steering Committee.
- The WRAP Technical Steering Committee and the 5 Work Groups (Fire & Smoke, Oil & Gas, Tribal Data, Regional Technical Operations, and Regional Haze Planning) under their direction met 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 have been implementing 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 continued work on finalizing 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 plans a final review at the April 7th WRAP Board and TSC meeting. The revised documents will be posted in April and discussed further in the 2022 Q2 WESTAR Quarterly Report.

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 4th 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 3rd 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 3/31/2022**

Object Class	Budget	This Quarter	Cumulative Expenses	Percentage
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	29,771	381,595	100%
7. Construction	0	0	0	
8. Other	0	0	0	
9. Indirect Expenses	14,756	0	12,333	84%
Totals	451,063	29,771	413,067	92%

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

- Planning was completed for the WRAP 25th Anniversary Celebration held on the evening of April 5, 2022. More information on the event to follow in the 2022 Q2 WESTAR Quarterly Report.
- 2021 Wildfire Smoke and Regional PM and Ozone Impacts virtual presentation for HAQAST meeting – January 20
- IWDW-WAQS Oversight Committee Meeting – January 27
- NACAA Emissions & Modeling Committee presentation: “Western Air Data Management with the Intermountain West Data Warehouse” – February 1
- WESTAR/WRAP activities presentation at virtual “Purpose, activities, and benefits of NPS-ARD’s collaboration with Colorado State” meeting – February 2
- IMPROVE Data Analysis and Reporting Subcommittee meeting – March 3
- WRAP Board – Administrative Subcommittee on Funding meeting – March 16

4. CONSOLIDATED EXPENSE SUMMARY

Cumulative Expenses by Object Class and Funding Source through 3/31/2022 All Active Accounts

Object Class	EPA	NPS	Totals
	Core Grant 2017-22	P19AC01205	
1. Personnel	1,721,050	15,528	1,736,577
2. Fringe	421,286	3,612	424,897
3. Travel	381,843	0	381,843
4. Equipment	0	0	0
5. Supplies	0	0	0
6. Contractual	1,147,017	381,595	1,528,612
7. Construction	0	0	0
8. Other	659,060	0	659,060
9. Indirect	1,144,973	12,333	1,157,306
Cumulative Expenses	5,475,230	413,067	5,888,297
Budget	6,209,316	451,063	6,660,379
Balance Avail	734,086	37,996	772,082

¹Total of \$451,063 drawn from advance for contractor expenses; advance balance = \$37,996

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

Object Class	EPA	NPS	Totals
	Core Grant 2017-2022	P19AC01205	
1. Personnel	127,953	0	127,953
2. Fringe Benefits	30,985	0	30,985
3. Travel	4,506	0	4,506
4. Equipment	0	0	0
5. Supplies	0	0	0
6. Contractual	22,266	29,771	52,037
7. Construction	0	0	0
8. Other	9,000	0	9,000
9. Indirect	55,195	0	55,195

Total Expenses	249,905	29,771	279,676
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