



WESTAR QUARTERLY REPORT

Reporting Period: 4th quarter 2019

Report Date: January 31, 2020

EPA Grants No.

XA-99T67301-0

NPS Agreement No. Task 3:

P15AC01632

Task 5: P18AC01186

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 2017-19
Expenses by Object Class through 12/31/2019**

Object Class	Budget	This Quarter	Cumulative Expenses	Percentage
1. Personnel	1,079,699	94,690	735,174	68%
2. Fringe Benefits	293,323	25,496	194,147	66%
3. Travel	762,460	50,587	322,778	42%
4. Equipment	0	0	0	
5. Supplies	0	0	0	
6. Contractual	512,260	0	468,637	91%
7. Construction	0	0	0	
8. Other	587,488	60,565	408,789	70%
9. Indirect Expenses	1,080,651	92,079	734,600	68%
Totals	4,315,881	323,418	2,864,124	66%

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>2019 Q4</i>	<i>Project Period Total</i>
27 Air director conference calls, documented with minutes posted on WESTAR’s website	2	20
6 Business meetings, documented with minutes and presentations posted on WESTAR’s website	1	4
105 Committee and ad hoc workgroup conference calls	7	78

12 Trips by committee chairs to brief air directors on committee activities	3	10
3 Specialty conference on a high priority topic	0	0
3 Meetings held to address emerging topics	0	3
9 Trips by committee representatives to attend national meetings and report back to WESTAR membership	0	2

2) Other Activities this Quarter – Operations Project

*WESTAR staff participated in an IMPROVE Steering Committee meeting and subsequent budget subcommittee discussions.

*WESTAR worked with NESCAUM and OAQPS to develop a residential wood heating workshop in conjunction with the 2020 HPBA trade show.

*WESTAR continued to convene member state agency staff to discuss issues in prescribed fire and smoke management.

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>	<u>Results/Outcomes</u>	
	<i>2019 Q4</i>	<i>Project Period Total</i>
60 Educational opportunities developed and delivered:	8	38
* Air Dispersion Modeling – Pearl City, HI		
* Effective Permit Writing (APTI 454) – Phoenix, AZ		
* MACT General Background (NACT 290) – Boise, ID		
* Coatings: Metal Parts & Products (NACT 231) – Boise, ID		
* Landfill Gas Control Facilities (NACT 285) – Boise, ID		

- * Hot Mix Asphalt (NACT 242) – Tucson, AZ
- * Agg., Concrete, HMA – Tucson, AZ
- * Compliance Assurance Monitoring – Tucson, AZ

1800 Students trained	118	921
3450 Student training days	190	2401
1 Training course developed/updated	0	0

Other Activities this Quarter – Training Project

* WESTAR staff continues to work with state, local and tribal air quality government agencies in the fifteen Western United States to identify each agency’s most important training needs for calendar year 2020. WESTAR’s upcoming year’s training schedule is developed based on these needs.

* WESTAR staff serves as a member on the Joint Training Committee (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) Planning & Support; 2) Curriculum; 3) Training Delivery; and 4) Learning Management Systems (LMS)

* WESTAR staff is a co-lead for the Training Delivery work group.

* WESTAR staff is a committee member on the Learning Management System (LMS) workgroup, and the Curriculum workgroup.

* WESTAR is involved with the training committees at AAPCA, NACAA, and EPA’s Joint Training Committee (JTC).

* WESTAR staff is an active member of EPA’s Continuous Monitoring Systems (CMS) workgroup with the responsibly of updating APTI 470 Continuous Emission Monitoring (CEM) 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>	Results/Outcomes	
	<i>2019 Q4</i>	<i>Project Period Total</i>
75 Work Group and Subcommittee Conference calls	45	168
30 Technical Steering Committee conference calls	3	25
6 Face-to-face WRAP Board meetings	1	4
30 Travel support provided to local agency and tribal WRAP Board members	5	25
3 Technical Steering Committee Face-to-face meetings	0	3
30 WRAP Board calls	2	18

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, as described in the [WRAP 2018-19 Workplan update](#). The [Modeling Plan](#) summary is being use to track regional modeling tasks from WESTAR contracts supporting both the Regional Haze analysis and Western Air Quality Study.
- 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 IWDW is also hosting and distributing the [2016 National Emissions Modeling Platform Collaborative “beta” and “v1” versions](#) with future year projections, and associated data files for distribution.
- Dissemination of reports from projects, meetings, and calls, as well as data and summary results were are also conducted via the [WRAP website](#) for Work Groups, Subcommittees, and the Technical Steering Committee.
- The WRAP Technical Steering Committee and 5 Work Groups (Fire & Smoke, Oil & Gas, Regional Technical Operations, Tribal Data, and Regional Haze Planning) under their direction met regularly.
- Significant progress continues on implementation of the 2018-19 WRAP Workplan, approved by the WRAP Board on April 3, 2019. The Technical Steering Committee and Co-Chairs of WRAP Work Groups and Subcommittees meet monthly on a Coordination call.

2. NPS COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

Under this agreement, WESTAR/WRAP has agreed to cooperate with the National Park Service in furthering the understanding of air quality 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)

Under this Task Agreement, WESTAR/WRAP provides collaboration and coordination services for states, tribes, local air agencies, and federal agencies across the Western U.S. under the leadership of the agencies sponsoring the IWDW-WAQS for the federal and state agencies cooperating through the IWDW memorandum of understanding. The IWDW project builds upon and expands the Three-State Data Warehouse supported in Task 2. Tasks 3, 4, and 5 continue seamlessly from the end of Task 2. The IWDW and associated Western Air Quality Study (WAQS) modeling effort have the following shared objectives:

- Provide storage and access to consistent, sufficient, comparable and high-quality technical data.
- Provide consistent protocols for technical data and its analysis for air quality impacts to be performed by the IWDW-WAQS partner agencies.
- Initiate and support collaborative work by the federal and state partners on National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) air quality analyses relative to energy development and for a broad range of air quality planning activities, including emissions, meteorological and air quality modeling.
- Develop technical capacity and improved data sets for the cooperating agencies using standardized reproducible data collection, quality assessment, analysis and storage protocols.
- Identify, document and apply criteria for base year and future year projections.
- Assist NPS and the IWDW–WAQS Governing Board in identifying ways and means of ongoing funding to support the data warehouse when operational

- Identify the mechanisms to be used by the technical work groups to report to the Oversight Committee and Governing Board for the IWDW–WAQS.

a. Activity Summary

Work during this quarter focused on completion of the 2014 Shakeout Modeling Platform regional modeling effort, and moving into Regional Haze planning modeling scenarios as described in the [WRAP 2018-19 Workplan update](#) in alignment with the outline of the Fall 2018 IWDW-WAQS Cooperator Workplan approved by the Oversight Committee and Governing Board.

Summary of Work Plan Activities

<i>Expected Results for Project Period</i>	<u>Results/Outcomes</u>	
	<i>2019 Q4</i>	<i>Project-to-date</i>
6 Conference calls or meetings with Governing Board or Oversight Committee	0	30
5 Face-to-face meetings	1	27
4 Technical milestones requiring special communication effort	3	36

b. Budget Summary and Status

**NPS Cooperative Agreement
Task 3 – Three State Air Quality Study # P15AC01632
Expenses by Object Class through 12/31/2019**

Object Class	Budget¹	This Quarter	Cumulative Expenses	Percentage
1. Personnel	8,070	0	7,728	96%
2. Fringe Benefits	1,769	0	1,302	74%
3. Travel	1,347	0	1,292	96%
4. Equipment	0	0	0	
5. Supplies	0	0	0	
6. Contractual	462,259	147,024	452,278	98%
7. Construction	0	0	0	
8. Other	0	0	55	
9. Indirect Expenses	32,056	-2,045	30,012	94%
Totals	505,501	144,980	492,666	97%

¹ WESTAR has drawn the total amount of the agreement as an advance.

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

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

- Emission inventory development for oil and gas sources;
- Air quality modeling for base year 2014 and/or 2016 including preliminary assessment of an approach for establishing boundary conditions;
- 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.

WESTAR/WRAP staff serve as project coordinator for the IWDW-WAQS, at 0.20 FTE time.

a. Activity Summary

Contractual resources from this task will be used to implement the statement of work mentioned in Tasks 3 and 4, above, for the next increment of 2014-based western regional modeling as described in the [Modeling Plan](#).

**NPS Cooperative Agreement
 Task 5 – Three State Air Quality Study # P18AC01186
 Expenses by Object Class through 12/31/2019**

Object Class	Budget	This Quarter	Cumulative Expenses	Percentage
1. Personnel	62,748	10,619	40,345	64%
2. Fringe Benefits	12,468	2,440	8,800	71%
3. Travel	5,000	0	0	0%
4. Equipment	0	0	0	
5. Supplies	0	0	0	
6. Contractual	319,207	12,226	17,401	5%
7. Construction	0	0	0	
8. Other	0	0	0	
9. Indirect Expenses	61,326	12,035	26,315	43%
Totals	460,749	37,320	92,861	20%

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.

In support of the planning effort for upcoming Regional Haze implementation plans, a task team from the WRAP Regional Haze Planning Work Group prepared [The Landscape of Forever: Visibility Protection in the West](#), an educational storyboard that provides information about the unique challenges of protecting visibility at the more than 100 visibility-protected Class I Federal areas in the WESTAR-WRAP region. The storyboard was released for review and comment across all WESTAR-WRAP member agencies on November 20, 2019. Comments and input received by early January 2020 are being evaluated and prioritized for action by the task team and will then be implemented as resources allow.

WESTAR and state staff from several member agencies are participating in Workgroups to develop the 2016 National Emissions Modeling Platform Collaborative effort, particularly for Oil & Gas, Fire, as well as other sectors' workgroups. Information is at: <http://views.cira.colostate.edu/wiki/wiki/9169>. Data from WESTAR-WRAP projects on Electrical Generating Units' emissions and inventory products from the Oil & Gas Work Group have been provided for use in the 2016 platform.

WESTAR-WRAP staff and representatives of member agencies participate on calls of the Tiger Teams for Regional Haze and Background Ozone, sponsored by the NASA Health and Air Quality Applied Sciences Team (HAQAST).

Work sponsored by the Western Energy Supply and Transmission (WEST) Associates was completed by WESTAR-WRAP, to [verify base year and project future emissions data for fossil-fueled electrical generating units](#), for Regional Haze and other air quality planning in the WESTAR-WRAP region; these data are in use in the regional modeling.

4. CONSOLIDATED EXPENSE SUMMARY

Cumulative Expenses by Object Class and Funding Source through 12/31/2019 All Active Accounts

Object Class	EPA	NPS	NPS	BLM	BLM	Totals
	Core Grant 2017-19	Task 3 3-State	Task 5 3-State	Drill Rig AQM	4 Corners AQM	
1. Personnel	735,174	7,728	40,345	22,818	0	806,064
2. Fringe	194,147	1,302	8,800	3,721	0	207,970
3. Travel	322,778	1,292	0	2,205	0	326,275
4. Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0

5. Supplies	0	0	0	0	0	0
6. Contractual	468,637	452,278	17,401	233,360	40,000	1,211,676
7. Construction	0	0	0	0	0	0
8. Other	408,789	55	0	5,101	0	413,945
9. Indirect	734,600	30,012	26,315	32,795	0	823,722
Cumulative Expenses	2,864,124	492,666	92,861	300,000	40,000	3,789,652
Budget	4,315,881	505,501	460,749	300,000	40,000	5,622,131
Balance Avail	1,451,757	12,835	367,888	0	0	1,832,479

¹ Cumulative total of \$811,251 drawn from advance for contractor expenses; advance balance = \$225,723

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

Object Class	EPA	NPS	NPS	BLM	BLM	Totals
	Core Grant 2017-2019	Task 3 3-State	Task 5 3-State	Drill Rig AQM	4 Corners AQM	
1. Personnel	94,690	0	10,619	0	0	105,309
2. Fringe Benefits	25,496	0	2,440	0	0	27,936
3. Travel	50,587	0	0	0	0	50,587
4. Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
5. Supplies	0	0	0	0	0	0
6. Contractual	0	147,024	12,226	0	0	159,250
7. Construction	0	0	0	0	0	0
8. Other	60,565	0	0	0	0	60,565
9. Indirect	92,079	-2,045	12,035	0	0	102,069
Total Expenses	323,418	144,980	37,320	0	0	505,718