



WESTAR QUARTERLY REPORT

Reporting Period: 1st quarter 2020

Report Date: April 30, 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 3/31/2020**

Object Class	Budget	This Quarter	Cumulative Expenses	Percentage
1. Personnel	1,079,699	95,454	830,628	77%
2. Fringe Benefits	293,323	22,114	216,261	74%
3. Travel	762,460	28,535	351,313	46%
4. Equipment	0	0	0	
5. Supplies	0	0	0	
6. Contractual	512,260	45,403	514,040	100%
7. Construction	0	0	0	
8. Other	587,488	17,817	426,606	73%
9. Indirect Expenses	1,080,651	40,186	774,786	72%
Totals	4,315,881	249,509	3,113,633	72%

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>2020 Q1</i>	<i>Project Period Total</i>
27 Air director conference calls, documented with minutes posted on WESTAR’s website	3	23
6 Business meetings, documented with minutes and presentations posted on WESTAR’s website	0	4
105 Committee and ad hoc workgroup conference calls	8	86
12 Trips by committee chairs to brief air directors on committee activities	3	13

3 Specialty conference on a high priority topic	1	1
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 collaborated with NESCAUM, tribes and OAQPS to put on 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.

*WESTAR convened a groups of WESTAR state regulatory agency staff to review EPA 179B guidance and determined that WESTAR comments on the guidance were no

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>2020 Q1</i>	<i>Project Period Total</i>
60 Educational opportunities developed and delivered: * Enf. Case Development (NACT 345) – Sacramento, CA * Permitting Practices (APTI 334) – Pearl City, HI	2	40
1800 Students trained	50	971
3450 Student training days	150	2551
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) Communications; 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 Communications workgroup, 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>	<u>Results/Outcomes</u>	
	<i>2020 Q1</i>	<i>Project Period Total</i>
75 Work Group and Subcommittee Conference calls	28	196
30 Technical Steering Committee conference calls	3	28
6 Face-to-face WRAP Board meetings	0	4
30 Travel support provided to local agency and tribal WRAP Board members	0	25
3 Technical Steering Committee Face-to-face meetings	0	3
30 WRAP Board calls	2	20

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 now nearly complete [WRAP 2018-19 Workplan update](#). The [Modeling Plan summary](#) is being used 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 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 now nearly complete 2018-19 WRAP Workplan Update, 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)

This Task was completed on 12/31/2019.

b. Budget Summary and Status

**NPS Cooperative Agreement
Task 3 – Three State Air Quality Study # P15AC01632
Expenses by Object Class through 3/31/2020**

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	12,835	465,112	101%
7. Construction	0	0	0	
8. Other	0	0	55	
9. Indirect Expenses	32,056	0	30,012	94%
Totals	505,501	12,835	505,501	100%

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 3/31/2020**

Object Class	Budget	This Quarter	Cumulative Expenses	Percentage
1. Personnel	92,149	11,761	52,105	57%
2. Fringe Benefits	18,068	2,327	11,127	62%
3. Travel	5,000	0	0	0%
4. Equipment	0	0	0	
5. Supplies	0	0	0	
6. Contractual	319,207	208,143	225,544	71%
7. Construction	0	0	0	
8. Other	0	0	0	
9. Indirect Expenses	61,326	3,656	29,971	49%
Totals	495,750	225,886	318,747	64%

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 3/31/2020 All Active Accounts

Object Class	EPA	NPS	NPS	Totals
	Core Grant 2017-19	Task 3 3-State	Task 5 3-State	
1. Personnel	830,628	7,728	52,105	890,461
2. Fringe	216,261	1,302	11,127	228,690
3. Travel	351,313	1,292	0	352,605
4. Equipment	0	0	0	0
5. Supplies	0	0	0	0
6. Contractual	514,040	465,112	225,544	1,204,697
7. Construction	0	0	0	0
8. Other	426,606	55	0	426,661
9. Indirect	774,786	30,012	29,971	834,769
Cumulative Expenses	3,113,633	505,501	318,747	3,937,882
Budget	4,315,881	505,501	495,750	5,317,132
Balance Avail	1,202,248	0	177,003	1,379,250

¹ Cumulative total of \$811,251 drawn from advance for contractor expenses; advance balance = \$0

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

	EPA	NPS	NPS	
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Object Class	Core Grant 2017-2019	Task 3 3-State	Task 5 3-State	Totals
1. Personnel	95,454	0	11,761	107,215
2. Fringe Benefits	22,114	0	2,327	24,441
3. Travel	28,535	0	0	28,535
4. Equipment	0	0	0	0
5. Supplies	0	0	0	0
6. Contractual	45,403	12,835	208,143	266,381
7. Construction	0	0	0	0
8. Other	17,817	0	0	17,817
9. Indirect	40,186	0	3,656	43,841
Total Expenses	249,509	12,835	225,886	488,230