



WESTAR QUARTERLY REPORT

Reporting Period: 4th quarter 2020
Report Date: January 29, 2021
EPA Grants No. XA-99T67301-0
NPS Agreement No.
Task 5: P18AC01186, 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 12/31/2020

Object Class	Budget	This Quarter	Cumulative Expenses	Percentage
1. Personnel	1,439,599	114,273	1,153,983	80%
2. Fringe Benefits	391,097	25,575	286,011	73%
3. Travel	805,310	84	355,094	44%
4. Equipment	0	0	0	
5. Supplies	0	0	0	
6. Contractual	545,200	209,826	932,417	171%
7. Construction	0	0	0	
8. Other	783,317	42,085	507,164	65%
9. Indirect Expenses	1,263,415	47,213	898,683	71%
Totals	5,227,938	439,057	4,133,353	79%

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>	<i>Results/Outcomes</i>	
	<i>2020 Q4</i>	<i>Project Period Total</i>
27 Air director conference calls, documented with minutes posted on WESTAR’s website	2	31
6 Business meetings, documented with minutes and presentations posted on WESTAR’s website	0	6
105 Committee and ad hoc workgroup conference calls	4	100
12 Trips by committee chairs to brief air directors on committee activities	0	16
3 Specialty conference on a high priority topic	0	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	3

2) Other Activities this Quarter – Operations Project

*WESTAR participated in the EPA Residential Woodsmoke Conference Calls

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 Q4</i>	<i>Project Period Total</i>
60 Educational opportunities developed and delivered:	4	45
* Online Effective Permit Writing (APTI 454)		
1800 Students trained	130	1110
3450 Student training days	466	3026
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 years 2021. WESTAR's upcoming year's training schedule is developed based on these needs.
- WESTAR staff works with the National 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 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).

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 Q4</i>	<i>Project Period Total</i>
75 Work Group and Subcommittee Conference calls	22	267
30 Technical Steering Committee conference calls	2	36
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	26

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.

- 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 Inventory Collaborative emissions modeling platform “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 and the Technical Steering Committee.
- The WRAP Technical Steering Committee and 3 of the 5 Work Groups (Oil & Gas, Regional Technical Operations, and Regional Haze Planning) under their direction met regularly.
- The Technical Steering Committee and Co-Chairs of WRAP Work Groups and Subcommittees meet monthly on a Coordination call.

The WRAP Board approved the [Future project prioritization topics](#) developed and recommended by the Technical Steering Committee, in the Board’s December 2nd meeting.

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.

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

a. Activity Summary

Contractual resources from this task have been used to implement the 2014-based western regional modeling with 2028 projections for Regional Haze planning, as well as to initiate planning for technical work to develop a 2017-based regional modeling platform.

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

**NPS Cooperative Agreement
P19AC01205
Expenses by Object Class through 12/31/2020**

Object Class	Budget	This Quarter	Cumulative Expenses	Percentage
1. Personnel	23,343	0	0	0%
2. Fringe Benefits	4,446	0	0	0%
3. Travel	0	0	0	
4. Equipment	0	0	0	
5. Supplies	0	0	0	
6. Contractual	358,525	14,025	17,787	5%
7. Construction	0	0	0	
8. Other	0	0	0	

9. Indirect Expenses	14,749	0	0	0%
Totals	401,063	14,025	17,787	4%

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 staff presentations and meeting participation

- U.S. Forest Service Air Resource Managers All-Hands Meeting – presentation on WESTAR-WRAP Regional Haze effort (October 7)
- IMPROVE Steering Committee Meeting participation (October 13-14)
- 1st annual Rocky Mountain Regional Wildfire Smoke Symposium participation (November 13)
- NASA TEMPO Early Adopters Workshop session lead and participation (November 18)
- IWDW/WAQS Cooperators' Technical Committee meeting hosting/facilitation (December 1)

4. CONSOLIDATED EXPENSE SUMMARY

Cumulative Expenses by Object Class and Funding Source through 12/31/2020 All Active Accounts

Object Class	EPA	NPS	Totals
	Core Grant 2017-21	P19AC01205	
1. Personnel	1,153,983	0	1,153,983
2. Fringe	286,011	0	286,011
3. Travel	355,094	0	355,094
4. Equipment	0	0	0
5. Supplies	0	0	0
6. Contractual	932,417	17,787	950,205
7. Construction	0	0	0
8. Other	507,164	0	507,164
9. Indirect	898,683	0	898,683
Cumulative Expenses	4,133,353	17,787	4,151,140
Budget	5,227,938	401,063	5,629,001
Balance Avail	1,094,586	383,276	1,477,861

¹Total of \$401,063 drawn from advance for contractor expenses; advance balance = \$383,276

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

	EPA	NPS	
Object Class	Core Grant 2017-2021	P19AC01205	Totals
1. Personnel	114,273	0	114,273
2. Fringe Benefits	25,575	0	25,575
3. Travel	84	0	84
4. Equipment	0	0	0
5. Supplies	0	0	0
6. Contractual	209,826	14,025	223,851
7. Construction	0	0	0
8. Other	42,085	0	42,085
9. Indirect	47,213	0	47,213
Total Expenses	439,057	14,025	453,082