

## TRANSPORTATION POOLED FUND PROGRAM QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

Lead Agency (FHWA or State DOT): Minnesota DOT \_\_\_\_\_

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

*Project Managers and/or research project investigators should complete a quarterly progress report for each calendar quarter during which the projects are active. Please provide a project schedule status of the research activities tied to each task that is defined in the proposal; a percentage completion of each task; a concise discussion (2 or 3 sentences) of the current status, including accomplishments and problems encountered, if any. List all tasks, even if no work was done during this period.*

<b>Transportation Pooled Fund Program Project #</b> <i>(i.e., SPR-2(XXX), SPR-3(XXX) or TPF-5(XXX))</i>  TPF-5(190)	<b>Transportation Pooled Fund Program - Report Period:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Quarter 1 (January 1 – March 31) <input type="checkbox"/> Quarter 2 (April 1 – June 30) <input type="checkbox"/> Quarter 3 (July 1 – September 30) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Quarter 4 (October 1 – December 31)	
<b>Project Title: North/West Passage Transportation Pooled Fund Study – Phase 3</b>		
<b>Name of Project Manager(s):</b> Cory Johnson	<b>Phone Number:</b> 651.234.7062	<b>E-Mail</b> cory.johnson@state.mn.us
<b>Lead Agency Project ID:</b>	<b>Other Project ID (i.e., contract #):</b> MnDOT Contract No. 91150 CFMS Contract No. B06319	<b>Project Start Date:</b> December 2008
<b>Original Project End Date:</b> September 2012	<b>Current Project End Date:</b> September 2012	<b>Number of Extensions:</b> None

Project schedule status:

- On schedule     
  On revised schedule     
  Ahead of schedule     
  Behind schedule

Overall Project Statistics:

Total Project Budget	Total Cost to Date for Project	Percentage of Work Completed to Date
\$435,750.36	\$206,628.82	49%

Quarterly Project Statistics:

Total Project Expenses and Percentage This Quarter	Total Amount of Funds Expended This Quarter	Total Percentage of Time Used to Date
\$6,453.14	\$6,453.14	2%

**Project Description:**

The North/West Passage Transportation Pooled Fund (TPF) Study is a multi-state cooperative program for the coordination, development, and deployment of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) along the I-90 and I-94 corridor. The states of Washington, Idaho, Wyoming, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, and Wisconsin began meeting in February 2002 to discuss the development of a North/West Passage multi-state transportation program. The states formally established as a TPF Study through the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) in 2003. FHWA serves as a monitoring body, providing strategic and technical input. Minnesota serves as the Program Administrator and a Steering Committee consists of one representative from each of the states that have financially contributed to the effort. The Steering Committee meets monthly or as necessary to provide overall program direction.

North Dakota, Minnesota, and Wisconsin contributed funding for the execution of a Phase 1 work plan. The Phase 1 work plan included eight projects, the purpose of which was to implement and evaluate integrated traveler information systems and coordinate maintenance operations across state borders. Individual reports for the projects completed under the Phase 1 work plan are available online at [www.nwpassage.info](http://www.nwpassage.info). A full Phase 1 summary report is also available online.

Additional contributions were made by all of the states for the execution of a Phase 2 work plan, which focused on developing a strategic plan for the corridor. Focusing on traveler information and maintenance operations, the plan presents an inventory of ITS deployments in the corridor; provides a high-level architecture; analyzes targeted concepts/solutions; and, proposes a coordinated deployment and operational concept for traveler information systems and maintenance operations across state borders. The Steering Committee elected to wait until the strategic plan is further developed before identifying a more complete list of projects for further implementation in the corridor.

The balance of funds contributed during the Phase 2 solicitation were applied to a Phase 3 work plan. The Phase 3 work plan included five projects that focused on continuing to develop, expand implementation, and evaluate integrated traveler information systems. The projects also continued the understanding and development of coordinated maintenance operations across state borders.

A Phase 4 work plan was approved and five projects moved forward. Projects included enhancing the traveler information website ([www.i90i94travelinfo.com](http://www.i90i94travelinfo.com)), researching call forwarding between states and exploring regional permitting for the corridor as well as detailing center to center communications between states. All five work plan 4 projects were completed by September 2010.

The Phase 5 work plan was approved in 2010. Six projects were funded from the work plan. The projects include developing a cost/benefit ITS tool, share details of Wyoming's citizen reporting program and identifying enhancements, conducting a workshop to establish a set of consistent phrases to be used on DMS along the North/West Passage Corridor, developing a best practice document summarizing mobile weather and road condition measurement and reporting systems, continuing subcommittee meeting discussions from work plan 4 to explore regional permitting, and educating North/West Passage members on how to acquire, modify, maintain and integrate open source software.

**Progress this Quarter (includes meetings, work plan status, contract status, significant progress, etc.):**

Phase 5 Work Plan Projects

- Project 5.2 Cost/Benefit ITS Tool Evaluation  
*Evaluate New York State DOT's Evaluation Model for Freeway ITS Scoping (EMFITS) and determine if it provides a valid and acceptable approach to ITS project cost/benefit determination. In addition the project will look at how the tool can be expanded to typical rural North/West Passage applications.*
  - Comments from the North/West Passage states continued to be incorporated in the in the benefit/cost tool.
  
- Project 5.3 Consistent and Coordinated Dynamic Message Sign (DMS) Use Workshop  
*Conduct a workshop to establish a set of consistent phrases to be used on DMS along the NWP as well as develop a plan for coordinated DMS.*
  - A corridor-wide MOU was signed by all 8 states in December 2011.
  - This project was complete in December 2011. The final project deliverables are available at:  
<http://www.nwpassage.info/projects/phase5/?project=5.3>
  
- Project 5.4: Use of Mobile Sensors & Maintenance Decision Support for Automated Road Condition Reporting  
*Develop a best practice document summarizing mobile weather and road condition measurement and reporting systems, and research approaches toward automating road condition reporting using Maintenance Decision Support Systems (MDSS) and mobile monitoring devices.*
  - A contract between the Minnesota DOT and the selected contractor was signed on November 8, 2011.
  
- Project 5.5: NWP Regional Permitting – Phase 2  
*Continue subcommittee meeting discussions from Phase 1, identify opportunities to reduce confusion of regulations/requirements between jurisdictions, conduct a basic permit requirements inventory, research XML permit concepts, and work with the 5 NWP states that are not part of WASHTO to join, not join, or expand WASHTO*

*Three conference call were held with the project team.*

  - October 24, 2011 Meeting – The group reviewed the information requirements, reviewed the side-by-side comparison and discussed virtual or XML permitting.
  - November 15, 2011 – The group reviewed the weight rules, discussed efforts to reduce confusion (attempt at a single source, improve individual efforts) and continued to discuss virtual or XML permitting.
  - December 19, 2011 – The group discussed next steps and reviewed the final report paper.
  
- Project 5.6: Facilitating the Use of Open Source Software Throughout the Corridor  
*Educate NWP on how to acquire, modify, maintain and integrate open source software.*
  - Scope of work drafted.

## Steering Committee

The Steering Committee provides overall program direction. The committee held three teleconference meetings during the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter. The following bullets summarize the meeting discussions.

- Steering Committee Meeting on October 1, 2011  
The primary focus of this meeting was to review and provide comments on the eight state MOU for coordinating traveler information across the corridor from Project 5.3, review the next steps to start Work Plan 6 projects, and discuss the status of Work Plan 5 projects.
- Steering Committee Meeting on November 8, 2011  
The primary focus of this meeting was an update on Project 5.5, discuss the status of Work Plan 5 projects, discuss the first tasks of Project 6.7, and discuss submitting an application for the Multistate Corridor Operations and Management Program – Federal Register Notice.
- Steering Committee Meeting on December 6, 2011  
The primary focus of this meeting was to review the technical approach to include in the application for the Multistate Corridor Operations and Management Program – Federal Register Notice, provide updates on Project 6.1 and 6.7, and provide updates on Work Plan 5 projects.

## **Anticipated work next quarter:**

### **Status/Progress Anticipated Next Quarter**

- Steering Committee Meetings in January, February, and March.
- Project 5.1 Citizen Assisted Reporting Feasibility Study  
Project complete. Final report available at: <http://www.nwpassage.info/projects/phase5/?project=5.1>
- Project 5.2 Cost/Benefit ITS Tool Evaluation  
The next step is to present the tool in detail at the January 2012 NWP monthly conference call.
- Project 5.3 Consistent and Coordinated Dynamic Message Sign (DMS) Use Workshop  
Project complete. The final project deliverables are available at:  
<http://www.nwpassage.info/projects/phase5/?project=5.3>
- Project 5.4: Use of Mobile Sensors & Maintenance Decision Support for Automated Road Condition Reporting  
The project focus and an update of the project will be presented at the January 2012 NWP monthly call.
- Project 5.5: NWP Regional Permitting – Phase 2  
The final conference call is scheduled for January 30, 2012.
- Project 5.6: Facilitating the Use of Open Source Software Throughout the Corridor  
Finalize the project scope.

## **Significant Results:**

Project 5.3 Consistent and Coordinated Dynamic Message Sign (DMS) Use Workshop complete. The final project TPF Program Standard Quarterly Reporting Format – 7/2011

deliverables are available at: <http://www.nwpassage.info/projects/phase5/?project=5.3>

**Circumstance affecting project or budget. (Please describe any challenges encountered or anticipated that might affect the completion of the project within the time, scope and fiscal constraints set forth in the agreement, along with recommended solutions to those problems).**

N/A

**Potential Implementation:**

N/A