

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**Performance Progress Report**

2. Award Or Grant Number

16-50-M09014

4. Report Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

04-28-2011

1. Recipient Name

EdLab Group Foundation - Idaho

6. Designated Entity On Behalf Of:

Idaho

3. Street Address

19020 33rd Avenue West, Suite 210,

8. Final Report?

Yes

No

9. Report Frequency

Quarterly

Semi Annual

Annual

Final

5. City, State, Zip Code

Lynwood, WA 98036-4754

7. Project / Grant Period  
Start Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)

11-01-2009

7a. End Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)

10-30-2014

7b. Reporting Period End Date:

03-31-2011

9a. If Other, please describe:

N/A

**10. Broadband Mapping**

10a. Provider Table

Number of Providers Identified	Number of Providers Contacted	Number of Agreements Reached for Data Sharing	Number of Partial Data Sets Received	Number of Complete Data Sets	Number of Data Sets Verified
0	0	0	0	0	0

10b. Are you submitting the required PROVIDER DATA by using the Excel spreadsheet provided by the SBDD grants office?  Yes  No

10c. Have you encountered challenges with any providers that indicate they may refuse to participate in this project?  Yes  No

10d. If so, describe the discussions to date with each of these providers and the current status

As of March 31, 2011 the third round of data collection for the State Broadband Data and Development (SBDD) program has been completed. In Idaho, the following providers have officially declined to participate:

\*\* Cactus International Inc.: Had telephone/email discussions to encourage participation. Status: Declined. Will try again in Round 4.

\*\* MicroWave DSL: Had telephone/email discussions to encourage participation. Status: Declined. Will try again in Round 4.

The following provider also declined to participate in Round 3, but we were able to estimate coverage based upon third party data sources:

\*\* Cequel Communications LLC: Had telephone/email discussions to encourage participation. Status: Estimated their coverage for Round 3.

10e. If you are collecting data through other means (e.g. data extraction, extrapolation, etc), please describe your progress to date and the relevant activities to be undertaken in the future

The LinkIDAHO team verifies and improves provider data with coverage and speed information from third party sources. At present, we do not substitute third party information for provider-supplied information unless we can independently verify that the provider information is incorrect. Instead, we use discrepancies between the two sources to identify areas where further investigation is required.

If providers do not submit data at all, but LinkIDAHO is able to obtain infrastructure information through other sources, common engineering principles are used to estimate coverage and speed.

10f. Please describe the verification activities you plan to implement

The following procedures have been described in our previous reports. However, they continue to be used in each round of provider data collection:

\*\* Third Party Data Comparison: As data arrives from providers we compare submissions against other data sources. An example would be the comparison of an Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers (ILEC) reported census blocks with the exchange area boundaries identified by the ExchangeInfo data product. If a reported block falls outside a known exchange area, the block is flagged and the provider is contacted for clarification. Due Date: Ongoing.

\*\* Provider Validation: Portable Document Format (PDF) check maps and other "check data" documents are given to providers at the beginning of each data collection round. We ask them to either verify or correct the coverage and speed information shown on the map and to add new coverage information as applicable. Offering them a view of what is already in our database helps maintain consistency of the data and makes it easier for providers to respond with changes. Due Date: Ongoing.

**\*\*Data Format Verification:** Several processing scripts have been developed, both internally and at National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), to analyze the format of the data per the NTIA Data Model. These scripts help identify anomalies such as "islands" and "donut holes" that require further investigation, and ensure that the data will be fully accepted when exported to NTIA. Due Date: Ongoing.

**\*\*Consumer Feedback/Verification:** The LinkIDAHO interactive map contains a user feedback mechanism that identifies the precise coordinates of each point of feedback. As more user feedback arrives, we are able to investigate areas where provider-reported data consistently conflicts with consumer reports. Due Date: Ongoing.

10g. Have you initiated verification activities?  Yes  No

10h. If yes, please describe the status of your activities

All of the above activities have been carried out with each round of data collection and will continue to be carried out with each round in the future.

10i. If verification activities have not been initiated please provide a projected time line for beginning and completing such activities  
In years 3-5 we have budgeted for the following additional verification activities:

**\*\* Mobile Wireless Broadband Drive Testing:** This process will use a special device from a vendor to test signal strength and bandwidth/throughput on multiple mobile wireless signals at the same time. This technology will be used in areas where there is a large discrepancy between provider-reported coverage/speed and consumer-reported coverage/speed to determine the actual coverage and speed characteristics. This commences in early 2012.

**\*\* Mobile Wireless Crowd Sourced Testing:** This process will use a proprietary smart phone application, provided by a vendor, to constantly check signal strength and bandwidth/throughput on the user's mobile phone. The application will be available on multiple phone platforms and will be downloadable by consumers in each LinkAMERICA state. It runs in the background on the consumer's phone and does not impact phone performance. Data is sent from the vendor to LinkAMERICA for use in validating provider coverage and speed reports. This commences in early 2012.

### Staffing

10j. How many jobs have been created or retained as a result of this project?

In Q1 2011 the Idaho SBDD project resulted in a total of 1.1 FTEs created/retained at the Sub Recipient level and 0.23 FTEs at the Prime Recipient level for a total of 1.33 FTEs.

10k. Is the project currently fully staffed?  Yes  No

10l. If no, please explain how any lack of staffing may impact the project's time line and when the project will be fully staffed

N/A

10m. When fully staffed, how many full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs do you expect to create or retain as a result of this project?

When fully staffed, we expect to create or retain approximately 1.7 FTEs.

10n. Staffing Table

Job Title	FTE %	Date of Hire
Sub Recipient CEO - Supervisory Role	1	11/01/2009
Sub Recipient Project Director	12	11/01/2009
Sub Recipient Project Manager	33	11/01/2009
Sub Recipient GIS Director	33	11/01/2009
Sub Recipient Internal System Support/Architecture	5	11/01/2009
Sub Recipient Provider Relations Manager	26	11/01/2009
Prime Recipient Executive Director	6	11/01/2009
Prime Recipient Operations Manager	2	11/01/2009
Prime Recipient Contracts Coordinator	2	11/01/2009
Prime Recipient Project Manager	7	11/01/2009

Add Row
Remove Row

**Sub Contracts**

10o. Subcontracts Table

Name of Subcontractor	Purpose of Subcontract	RFP Issued (Y/N)	Contract Executed (Y/N)	Start Date	End Date	Federal Funds	In-Kind Funds
CostQuest Associates Inc.	Project Management/GIS Programming & Planning Services	N	Y	11/01/2009	10/31/2011	1,251,845	265,265

Add Row
Remove Row

**Funding**

10p. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? \$1,019,556      10q. How much Remains? \$3,466,658  
 10r. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter? \$280,707      10s. How much Remains? \$840,923

10t. Budget Worksheet

Mapping Budget Element	Federal Funds Granted	Proposed In-Kind	Total Budget	Federal Funds Expended	Matching Funds Expended	Total Funds Expended
Personal Salaries	\$270,095	\$287,489	\$557,584	\$41,635	\$169	\$41,804
Personnel Fringe Benefits	\$67,524	\$5,556	\$73,080	\$8,743	\$35	\$8,778
Travel	\$17,920	\$0	\$17,920	\$1,128	\$0	\$1,128
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Materials / Supplies	\$4,225	\$0	\$4,225	\$84	\$133	\$217
<b>Subcontracts Total</b>	<b>\$3,982,782</b>	<b>\$27,500</b>	<b>\$4,010,282</b>	<b>\$925,550</b>	<b>\$130,849</b>	<b>\$1,056,399</b>
Subcontract #1	\$3,982,782	\$27,500	\$4,010,282	\$925,550	\$130,849	\$1,056,399
Subcontract #2	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #3	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #4	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #5	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$0	\$701,941	\$701,941	\$27,573	\$136,032	\$163,605
<b>Total Direct Costs</b>	<b>\$4,342,547</b>	<b>\$1,022,486</b>	<b>\$5,365,032</b>	<b>\$1,004,713</b>	<b>\$267,218</b>	<b>\$1,271,931</b>
<b>Total Indirect Costs</b>	<b>\$143,667</b>	<b>\$99,145</b>	<b>\$242,812</b>	<b>\$14,843</b>	<b>\$13,489</b>	<b>\$28,332</b>
<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>\$4,486,214</b>	<b>\$1,121,630</b>	<b>\$5,607,844</b>	<b>\$1,019,556</b>	<b>\$280,707</b>	<b>\$1,399,263</b>
<b>% Of Total</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100</b>

**Hardware / Software**

10u. Has the project team purchased the software / hardware described in the application?     Yes     No

10v. If yes, please list

Laptop computer and software for Sub Recipient Project Manager (ID allocated portion): \$352.78  
 Laptop computer and software for Sub Recipient Vendor Relations Manager (ID Allocated portion): \$339.48

10w. Please note any software / hardware that has yet to be purchased and explain why it has not been purchased

We do not anticipate the purchase of any additional hardware/software for the project.

10x. Has the project team purchased or used any data sets?  Yes  No

10y. If yes, please list

\*\*American Roamer: Market area boundary and speed data on mobile cellular providers - \$5147

\*\*Media Prints: Cable franchise boundary database - \$500

\*\*ExchangeInfo: Legal exchange area boundary database for Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers - \$3805

10z. Are there any additional project milestones or information that has not been included?  Yes  No

10aa. If yes, please list

\*\* Data Collection Round 3: The third round of data (current as of 12/31/10) was successfully collected, processed and submitted to NTIA on time on April 1, 2011. Status: Completed.

10bb. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the project team is employing  
As with the other LinkAMERICA states, no significant obstacles or challenges were experienced on the mapping/data collection side of the program in Q1 2011. Round 3 participation by Idaho providers was again relatively high at 72.5%.

Although not insurmountable, preparing data for final submission to NTIA was a bit more challenging this quarter than in past quarters due to the relatively late delivery of the new data submission scripts. We understand the constantly changing nature of the program but would appreciate a solidification of any data model and script changes at least 30 days in advance of the submittal deadline.

10cc. Please provide any other information that you think would be useful to NTIA as it assesses your Broadband Mapping Project  
As mentioned in other LinkAMERICA state reports, the release of the National Broadband Map (NBM) created an increase in the number of questions/complaints from Idaho consumers and providers. Most were concerned with usability issues (currently being addressed by NTIA) or failed to fully understand how census blocks and street segments are used to report and display data. We encourage expanded use of narrative, pop-up notes, frequently asked questions (FAQs) and other means, to explain how the map was developed and the limitations inherent in census-block level data. In particular, we believe there should be more messaging around the NBM to explain that it should not be used to determine coverage at the household/address level. More general tips on how to use various features on the map would also be helpful.

## 11. Broadband Planning

11a. Please describe progress made against all goals, objectives, and milestones detailed in the approved Project Plan. Be sure to include a description of each major activity / milestone that you plan to complete and your current status

\*\* Key Stakeholder Interviews: Perform interviews with 20+ influential cross-disciplinary stakeholders within the state to determine most critical barriers to broadband expansion and adoption. Due: June 2010. Status: Complete.

\*\* Publish Initial Broadband Vision Summary: Publish draft, review with stakeholders and state, and then finalize summary report of emerging state broadband priorities. Due Date: August 2010. Status: Complete.

\*\* Idaho Household Broadband Survey - a statistically significant study of household internet usage and attitudes to help direct broadband planning. Due Date: December 2010. Status: Complete.

\*\* Facilitate Regional Planning Teams: Divide the state into appropriate regions and recruit local stakeholders and other in-state partners to draft regionally specific broadband development plans. Due Date: January 2010. Status: Complete

\*\* Recruit Durable In-state Sponsor: Identify and formalize relationship with educational or economic development entity that can assist in regional plan develop across the state and that can work to implement plans beyond Year 2. Due Date: Dec 2010. Status: Ongoing (and initial relationship with Economic Development Districts of Idaho (EDDI) has been placed on hold while procurement and other contractual issues are investigated by the EdLab Group. Also, an extension has been granted for the filing of the Supplemental period project plan, so formalization of the in-state partner relationship is not immediately required).

\*\* Publish Regional Broadband Investment Plans: Work with Regional Planning Teams (RPT) to identify most productive short-term activities to expand broadband access and adoption in each region. Document steps to implement those activities and release final report to the public. Due Date: Q4 2011. Status: Underway.

11b. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the project team is employing

No significant obstacles were encountered by the Regional Planning Team. The planning process continues to move forward on schedule in all six Idaho regions.

11c. Does the Project Team anticipate any changes to the project plan for Broadband Planning?  Yes  No

11d. If yes, please describe these anticipated changes. Please note that NTIA will need to approve changes to the Project Plan before they can be implemented

N/A

**Funding**

11e. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? \$0                      11f. How much Remains?                      \$0

11g. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter?    \$0                      11h. How much Remains?                      \$0

11i. Planning Worksheet

Personal Salaries	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Personnel Fringe Benefits	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Travel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Materials / Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontracts Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #1	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #2	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #3	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #4	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #5	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Direct Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Indirect Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
% Of Total	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Additional Planning Information**

11j. Are there any additional project milestones or information that has not been included?

As mentioned above, the LinkIDAHO program has been granted an extension for filing the Year 3-5 Detailed Project Plan. We anticipate full details of the Capacity Building effort to be included in that plan when filed on or before July 31, 2011. However, the key elements of the Capacity Building efforts are as follows:

**\*\* Build in-state Capacity Training Resources:** Partner with in-state training partner(s) to design, build and deploy specialized training resources to: 1) Expand capacity of Idaho's small business sector to access, adopt and utilize broadband, 2) Improve capacity of Regional Planning Teams to advance current and future targeted broadband investments, 3) Strengthen regional leadership capacity to successfully identify and receive broadband-related grant resources, 4) Build in-state capacity for the sustainable use and future development of the broadband planning tools developed for Regional Planning Teams, 5) Build capacity to access, adopt and utilize monitoring and evaluation tools created for Idaho in years 3 through 5.

**\*\* Develop robust Broadband Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) modules to track program achievement:** LinkIDAHO will seek a qualified vendor to assist with the design and implementation of a research process to monitor the progress of broadband investment activities and evaluate the resulting outcomes and impacts.

**\*\* Establish a State Broadband Coordinator's office to facilitate and coordinate the activities of the Capacity Training, M&E, and the ongoing Regional Planning Process.** This full time, in-state staff member will: 1) Provide a "statewide awareness clearinghouse" for broadband development activities and funding opportunities, 2) Track best practices from within state and coordinate the

implementation of those practices within each region, 3) Log and communicate policy-related developments to the LinkIDAHO advisory team, regional teams, and all other stakeholders, 4) implement statewide program communications strategy.

11k. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the Project Team is employing

No challenges have yet been encountered in promoting the Year 3-5 goals.

11l. Please provide any other information that you think would be useful to NTIA as it assesses your Broadband Mapping Project

N/A

12. Certification: I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that this report is correct and complete for performance of activities for the purpose set forth in the award documents.

12a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Authorized Certifying Official

Kyle Foreman

12c. Telephone  
(area code, number, and extension)

12d. Email Address

kyle.foreman@fedarra.com

12b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official

Submitted Electronically

12e. Date Report Submitted  
(Month, Day, Year)

07-07-2011