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07/30/2010

Puget Sound Center for Teaching, Learning and Technology

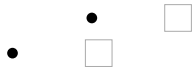
State of Wyoming

19020 33rd Ave W, Suite 210

Lynnwood, WA 98036

11/01/2009	10/30/2014	06/30/2010

35	35	26	31	0	4



We have not encountered widespread refusals to participate, but one company, Lariat.net Wireless Services Inc. has officially declined to participate. They are a relatively small WISP located in Laramie, WY and report that they do not have the time required to compile the data required of this program. There are other providers who have not responded to repeated attempts at contact, but we cannot say at this time that they are officially refusing to participate. We are beginning our second round of data collection and will be reaching out to them again - so they may choose to provide data in this new round.

As with the other LinkAMERICA states, we did not receive high quality Middle Mile data from Wyoming providers in the first round. While almost all of the providers supplied Max Advertised Speed (at least at the MSA/RSA level as a minimum) many did not supply any Typical Speed or Subscriber Weighted Nominal speed information.

Every provider had at least one "gap" in their response in Q1, so we are listing all providers as having technical "incomplete" datasets. We are also unsure of the precise definition of "verified" datasets. We are showing 4 providers who responded to our requests in Q2 to verify their own submitted data via check maps and other provider verification tools - but our broader consumer verification processes (and other processes such as drive testing) will not begin until our first interactive maps are launched. We do not believe any dataset will ever be 100% verifiable though - so we are hoping for more guidance from NTIA on how to classify provider's data as "verified".

As with the other LinkAMERICA states, we are using third party data to both verify coverage for existing providers and to fill in gaps where provider data submissions were incomplete. We are also launching drive testing efforts later this year and are collecting consumer speed test information via our state web site. Finally, we are commencing consumer surveys in Q3 and will be seeking information on consumer connectivity via those surveys through the remainder of this year.

LinkAMERICA follows similar data verification procedures in all four of it's states. In Q2 those procedures consisted primarily of three separate processes.

1) .pdf check maps showing specific coverage footprints were prepared for each provider who submited date in Q1. These maps were shared through a secure server and showed only the census blocks and street segments we derived from the data provided. Providers were asked to self-verify this data.
2) Processes were run within the data to check for "islands" and "donut holes". These are anomalies where a block is listed as covered by the provider but no adjacent or nearby blocks are reported by the same provider. Or, conversely, all but a single block in a large area are covered. We flag these suspect blocks and then investigate with providers when possible. We are using the second data collection process to investigate and correct many of these possible errors.
3) We use processes to compare third party data against data reported by providers and flag anomalies. We then investigate those

issues with providers.

With the launch of our online state maps, we will be adding addition consumer verification methods and will continue to expand our surveys and drive testing as the program goes forward.

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See above - the first three activities have already begun and we are using the second data collection process to resolve anomalies identified in the first dataset. We expect verification to be an ongoing and expanding effort as the program matures. In fact, given the collection of new data every six months, we do not believe data can ever be fully verified. We believe a form of confidence scoring is the best way to represent data and have implemented a basic confidence alert system in the beta maps to be released this summer.

N/A

SBDD funding has resulted in 1.7 total FTE. All new/retained FTEs shown here are at the EdLab Group (Prime Recipient) and CostQuest Associates (Sub-Recipient).

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N/A

N/A

Sub Recipient CEO - Supervisory Role	5	11/01/2009
Sub Recipient Project Director	17	11/01/2009
Sub Recipient Project Manager	22	11/01/2009
Sub Recipient GIS Director	15	11/01/2009
Sub Recipient Internal System Support/Architecture	6	11/01/2009
Sub Recipient Provider Relations Manager	15	11/01/2009
Prime Recipient Executive Director	15	11/01/2009
Prime Recipient Operations Manager	15	11/01/2009
Prime Recipient Contracts Coordinator	25	11/01/2009
Prime Recipient Project Manager	35	11/01/2009

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CostQuest Associates Inc./ LinkAMERICA Alliance	Project Management/ GIS Programming & Planning Services	N	Y	11/01/2009	10/30/2011	$1,206,040

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Very little hardware/software was specified in the application - outside of approximately $2500 for PCs and equipment that was included in the sub recipient budget for various positions. The sub recipient is providing all GIS, mapping, and web server hardware/ software on a contract basis in Years 1-2. Content will be transitioned to the state of Wyoming at the end of Year 2 or Year 5 depending upon the outcome of the recent Supplemental Application for Data Collection.

Software and hardware were not specified in the original application or budget outside of the limited budget for personnel PCs and related software mentioned above. Hardware and software are provided on a hosted/service basis.

American Roamer, Media Prints, and ExchangeInfo

The beta interactive map for the LinkWYOMING website was released to a state advisory board audience for review in July 2010. Public release is scheduled for August, 2010.

Data normalization and initial verification steps have taken longer than expected. Additional GIS programming resources were applied by LinkAMERICA. Several issues were uncovered in the data as the beta maps were developed. This required more extensive database work and data re-processing than was originally expected. Again, we applied additional programming resources to address this issue. As a result, the sub-budget for GIS Programming services is diminishing more rapidly than expected. However, we are monitoring the budget closely and expect the extra work at the beginning of the project will result in time savings in the later/final months.

In many cases providers have reported coverage that has already been challenged by the few Advisory Board members who have reviewed the maps. Providers are adamant the areas are covered, and Board members are adamant they have tried to get broadband in those areas and cannot. The potential number of these types of anomalies is unknown at this point. However, with the public launch of the web maps, we expect a very high volume of similar reports based on individual consumers' experience at specific locations. It may be a case where the two parties disagreed and we will need to verify who is correct. Or disputes may occur based on the fact that unserved areas in small census blocks are being shown as served. In any case, we do not intend to override a provider's coverage report based solely on consumer data. If we can use ground-truthing or other on-site techniques to verify coverage, we will consider overriding provider data. But the potential number of disputes may be too large for every report to be individually pursued/verified. We will know more about the scope of this issue as the maps are released to the public in Q3.
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The Planning team completed 26 in-depth interviews with key in-state leaders representing major sectors (government, telecom providers, business, education, health care, public safety, community support organizations) in Q1 and Q2. A comprehensive summary report was written based on interview findings. The report outlines Wyoming's readiness for broadband development, an inventory of available resources to be leveraged, and a specific strategic actions that can be considered for the Wyoming broadband planning process. The team also conducted two focused debrief sessions with interviewees regarding the accuracy, style and format of the final report of the interview process. Other meetings were held with members of the Wyoming Broadband Planning Advisory Committee, comprised of high-level leaders from around the state to advise on the statewide planning process. Finally, during Q2, a highly customizable template for building regional broadband investment plans was developed. In Q3, more focused regional planning work will begin.

The Planning process ran into no significant obstacles in Q2. on the contrary, the support from the PSC, interviewees, and other

state contacts/stakeholders has been superb.

N/A