



Northwest Open Access Network Spring 2013 Progress Report

Construction is now complete on NoaNet's nearly 1,000 mile expansion of high-speed broadband fiber in Washington state. The project, funded with a grant from the federal Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP), is connecting nearly all unserved areas of Washington that have struggled with limited access to high-speed Internet. An additional 600 miles of expansion is scheduled for completion this summer through a second grant, BTOP II.

NoaNet was founded in 2000 by Washington state public utility districts with the mission of linking their fiber optic networks together to bring the economic benefits of broadband to rural areas of the state. Our goal is to provide as many residents, businesses and community institutions in unserved and underserved areas as possible with high capacity broadband to maximize the full potential of the new statewide network.

Through a 2010 investment of \$140 million in federal BTOP grants, NoaNet is expanding its network to reach more than 170 underserved communities and hundreds of schools, hospitals, emergency responders, libraries, colleges and universities.

This network is one of the fastest and most capable fiber optic networks available in the world today, and is built as an advanced telecommunications infrastructure capable of up to 100 gigabit Ethernet speeds.

Health Care & Public Safety

The new broadband service will expand access to critical public safety and health care services in areas that often have had only the most rudimentary Internet capabilities needed to share information among firefighters, police, hospitals, clinics and first responders. Access to reliable broadband will increase the viability of transferring real-time data over networks, allowing hospital physicians to communicate with EMTs en route from injury sites, and police officers to access records and communicate with each other and the dispatcher simultaneously.

Businesses & Broadband

Businesses are often reluctant to relocate or expand in areas not served by broadband. The new service will enable businesses to use broadband to enhance business-to-business and machine-to-machine computing requirements, allowing efficiencies in automation of processes including inventory and fulfillment systems and web oriented sales that are not currently available or extremely limited today.



▲ NoaNet construction crew building out high-speed broadband fiber in Eastern Washington.

Other Benefits of the New Broadband Infrastructure Include:

- Connecting community colleges and universities, creating opportunities for collaboration on research and information exchange.
- Making remote diagnosis, enhancing professional training with reduced travel, and making it possible to provide immediate assessment and guidance to emergency workers via videoconferencing.
- Giving farmers the ability to participate in commodities trading – a key competitive disadvantage to the family farmer.

NoaNet's broadband expansion is creating immediate jobs during construction and will attract economic investment to rural areas that have struggled from limited access to high-speed Internet. With the completion of the BTOP I expansion project and the progress being initiated on BTOP II, NoaNet is proud to help bring the opportunities of the world wide web to communities in every area of our state. NoaNet: broadband for all.

For more information please visit us at www.washingtonbroadband.org or www.noanet.net.
Northwest Open Access Network is on Facebook!

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Spring 2013 NoaNet Broadband Expansion Status Report

“The key to successful policing is information. Broadband allows for a number of functions to occur simultaneously. All officers can communicate with the dispatch center and all other public safety units at the same time. It means a safer community from a public safety perspective.”

► **Terry Gallagher, Chief of Police,**
City of Port Angeles

“NoaNet and its member public utility districts have been working for more than a decade to bring broadband access to unserved and underserved areas of our state. We know from experience that world-class broadband connectivity is essential for job creation and providing key community services like health care, education and involvement in government.”

► **Dave Siburg, General Manager,**
Kitsap PUD



“We’ve struggled to maintain communications integrity and performance while utilizing older telecommunications technologies. NoaNet’s broadband services will allow us to better fulfill the requirements of a modern day Electronic Medical Records System in an ever increasingly interconnected industry.”

► **Shane McGuire, Chief Operations Officer,**
Columbia County Health System

“Broadband technology is transformational, and seeing it deployed in both cities and rural communities means that opportunities to learn, to grow personally and professionally, to gain life skills, to develop businesses, and to connect with one another abound, regardless of where we live.”

► **Kyle Cox, Director,**
Mid-Columbia Libraries

Key Milestones:

- In 2012, NoaNet constructed over 950 miles of new broadband fiber to connect underserved communities.
- 24 broadband expansion projects were completed in nearly every part of the state.
- The project created over 200 jobs.
- For 2013, NoaNet will complete the final 11 broadband expansion projects, including laying approximately 500 miles of new fiber.

Map Key:

- CONSTRUCTION
- COMPLETE
- IN PLANNING
- EXISTING
- WIRELESS ROUTE IN PLANNING

