

1. Who are we?

- Name of State - Idaho
- Speaker's Name - Keith T. Weber
- Name of Project - [Business Plan Development for Regional Resource Centers in Idaho](#)
- Speaker's Role in Project - Principal Investigator
- State Sponsoring Agency - [Idaho State University- GIS Training and Research Center](#)
- Project Timeframe – March 7, 2010 through March 6, 2011

2. State Facts

- Land Area – about 84,000 mi²
- Population – 1.5 million or **15 people per mi²**
- Capital City - Boise
- Type of GIS Council - Council mandated by Executive Order
- State GIS Coordinator (or GIO) and Department Affiliation - Gail Ewart, GIO, Department of Administration
- Number of Counties - 44
- Something you should know about my state that you might not know

While Idaho is known for its famous ‘taters, did you know that the beef cattle industry is a far more significant economic impact?

3. Project Facts

- Briefly Characterize Stakeholder Participation
 - Tremendous participation from stakeholders across this state using e-mail, list serve, in-person meetings with teleconf, as well as a dedicated web forum.
- Planning Methods (e.g. workshops, survey, consultant or internal)
 - A *surveymonkey* survey was used as well as the consultant
- Scope (e.g. Strategic Plan, Business Plan, or both?)
 - Business plan and BP guideline for other RRC's
- Project Vision and/or Mission Statement
 - *Be a vital component of The Idaho Map and enhance geospatial capabilities in the region*
- Key Goals and/or Desired Outcomes
 - Develop a BP for the east Idaho RRC
 - Develop a BP guideline for the development of other RRC's

4. What We Did Right

What are the top three (3) things you did right?

1. Communication was key. We sought and received tremendous stakeholder participation
2. We kept the momentum going.
3. We kept an eye on our timeline and sought to achieve more than the minimum.

5. Problems We Had

What were three (3) problems you encountered?

1. Originally two RRC's were involved (east Idaho and southeast Idaho), these merged nearly half-way through the program, requiring a bit of retro-fitting. No serious setback actually occurred however.
2. In Idaho there are always barriers due to geography. The best way around this was to leverage telecommunications and the Internet
3. While seeking a consultant to take on the project with us, we sent out many, many requests but only two respondents. Luckily, both were strong and a good selection was made

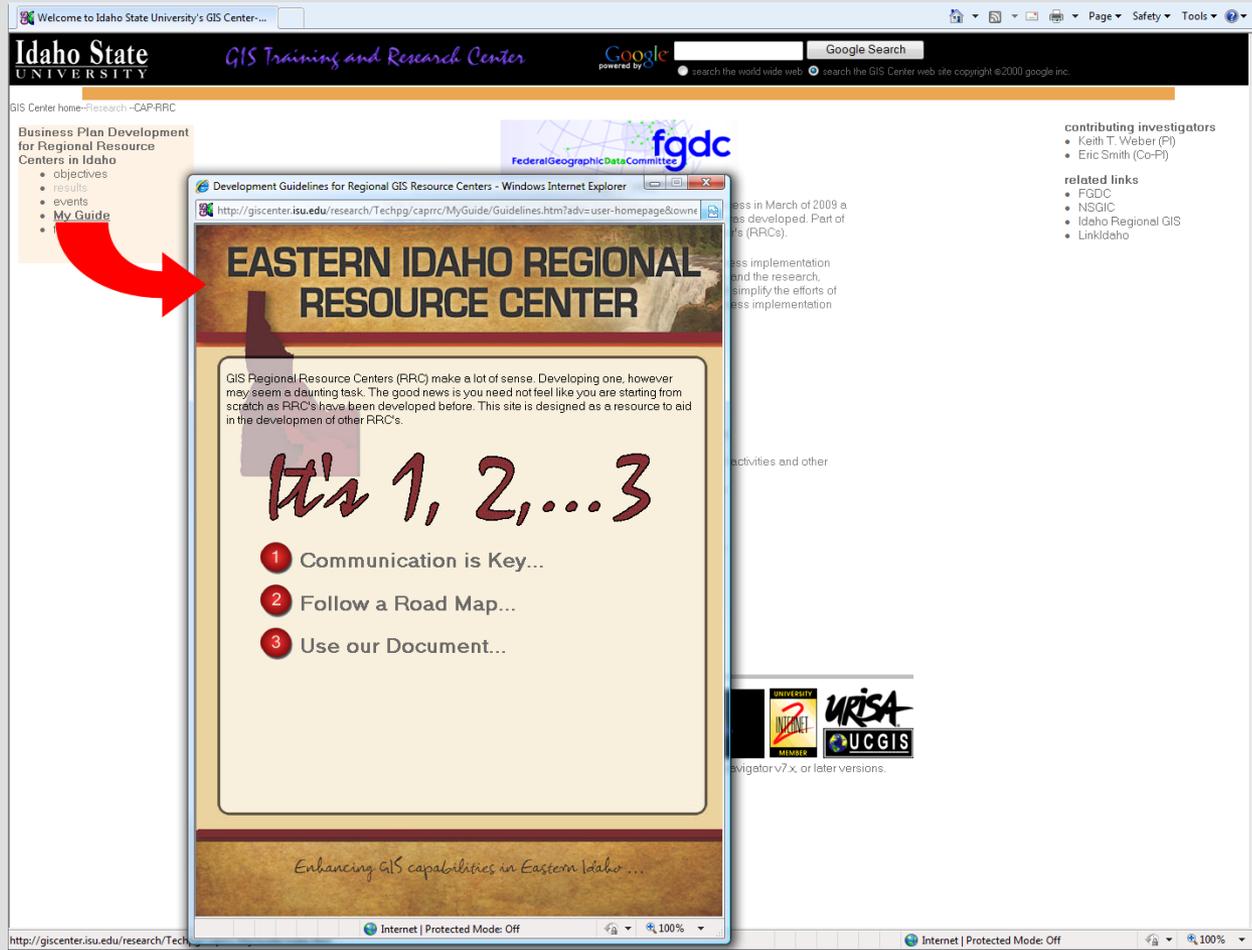
6. What I Wish We Had Done

What are three (3) things that you wish you did during the planning process?

1. While we sought legislative/decision maker input, there seemed to be little interest. I wish we had been more successful in these efforts.
2. I wish we had been able to write a business plan that was not considered a daunting document (43 pages). We are currently developing an executive summary to help facilitate a good understanding of the BP without all its “daunting-ness”.
3. I wish I could have thought of a third... but that’s a good problem to have!

7. Summary

- Favorite Discovery and/or Biggest Surprise!
 - The effectiveness of the web forum
 - Development of “My Guide”
- Key Results and/or Successful Outcomes: Did This Process Make a Difference, and How?
 - Yes, it did make a difference. We have accomplished an important step in the overall Idaho SDI strategic plan
 - We have a very well developed guideline for other RRC’s to develop
- Next Steps Going Forward: What Do You Need to Do to Move Toward Full Implementation?
 - Formal development of the EIRRC
 - Funding sponsorship especially for first year operations



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