Final report : Development of Prototype Website for the Learning Center of the American Southwest (LCAS)

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The development of a prototype website with a live address (http://dev.southwestlearning.org/) for LCAS commenced June 1, 2007 and was finalized May 30, 2008. This site was developed in collaboration with the Big Sky Institute, Greater Yellowstone Science Learning Center, and the Southwest Desert and Plains Learning Center.

Initial development included user needs assessment, acquiring and managing domain names, selection of hardware and development programming tools, website, and site layout and graphics (look and feel). The next step focused on developing the draft website with initial content and an iteratively revised structure and look and feel. The final step involved populating the site with multiple levels of content and training partners in using the custom content management system.

Final Products provided for this project include:

- Selection, registration, and management of website domain name
- Live website, hosted by BSI and running on a Linux server with customized open source web content management system (drupal) and backend database (mysql)
- Drop down, pop-up menus for all parks and I&M networks
- Interactive map for all parks and I&M networks
- Website page design, layout, and content
- Custom graphics, including banner images and page images
- Functionality for tiered website content creation and editing by partners
- Functionality to upload and display video content
- Training partners to use content management system features
- Technical maintenance and troubleshooting