OLAQ

July 2014

Statewide Catalog: 2004 Status Report

Pam Horan
Oregon State Library

Statewide Catalog:

2004 Status Report

by Pam Horan

Technology Planning Consultant
Library Development Services
Oregon State Library

Statewide Library Catalog

- *Make the holdings of all Oregon libraries accessible through one catalog.*

- *Encourage Oregonians to place interlibrary loans through the state-wide catalog.*

- *Deliver library materials and information directly to the customer.*

Although it appears that Oregon is some years away from offering an effective statewide library catalog to its citizens, the infrastructure necessary for such a statewide service is moving slowly into place. The goal would be to allow patrons to initiate requests for any library materials available in the state, and to receive them within two days—much as the Orbis Cascade Alliance borrowing system works now.

Figure 1 below provides a graphic representation, locating most of the public/academic library regional shared systems around the state.

Figure 2 on the following page gives a snapshot of Oregon's shared systems and larger public library systems, indicating the number of public and academic library participants, the population served or enrollment, the number of titles reported, and the variety of vendors used—Innovative, Epixtech iPac, Polaris, DRA, WebPac, Voyager and TLC.

From the table in *Figure 2* we can calculate that roughly 13 percent of Oregon's population is not currently in a service area with a public shared catalog or large library system. Moreover, roughly 20 percent (35 libraries) of Oregon's academic and legally established public libraries neither participate in a shared catalog nor are in a large library system.

The development and expansion of regional shared catalog systems that include public, academic and some school libraries has had a dramatic effect on the accessibility of library materials for patrons and the ease of requesting them, resulting in the growth of Interlibrary Loans (ILLs) throughout the state. Since 1995, the growth rate of ILLs has been consistently high, with a 2002–03 increase of over 12 percent.
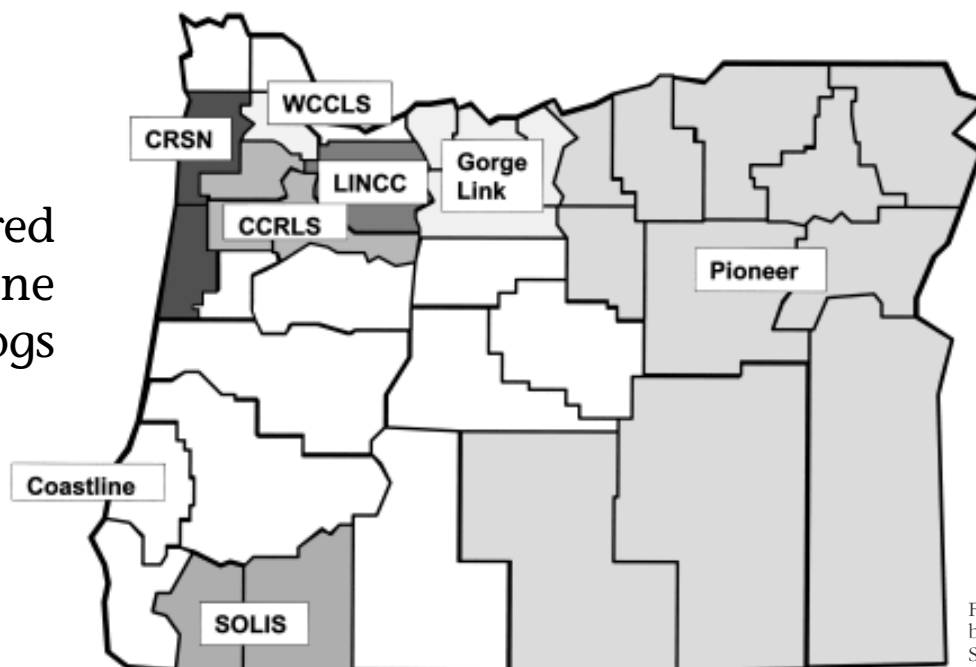

Shared
Online
Catalogs

Figure 1
by Jim Scheppke,
State Library 2003

OREGON SHARED SYSTEMS AND LARGE LIBRARY SYSTEMS 2004

SHARED CATALOG GROUP	VENDOR	OREGON PUBLIC and ACADEMIC PARTICIPANTS	PUBLIC LIBRARY POPULATION SERVED	ACADEMIC LIBRARY FTE	NUMBER OF TITLES	COUNTIES
CCRLS	WebPac	17	350,000	5,253	521,161	Marion, Polk, Yamhill pt. Linn
CRSN	DRA	13	68,630	336	395,208	Tillamook, Lincoln
Coastline	Innovative	9	62,650	1,749	300,000	Coos
Gorge Link	Epixtech iPac	4	43,517		188,000	Wasco, Sherman, Hood River
Lane County Library Consortium	Sirsi	6	98,295		260,161	Lane
LINCC	Epixtech iP	11	350,850		350,000	Clackamas
OPALL	Voyager Endeavor	7		4,027	520,000	Academic
Orbis Cascade Alliance	Innovative	18		83,498	6,632,487	Most academic
Pioneer Library System	Innovative	30	168,436	4,493	588,552	Baker, Gilliam, Grant, Harney, Malhuer, Morrow, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa, Wheeler
SOLIS	Polaris	3	265,250	2,289	278,712	Jefferson, Josephine
WCCLS	Polaris	11	455,800		489,584	Washington
Large Library Systems						
Corvallis-Benton	TLC	1	79,000		247,920	Benton
Deschutes PLS	Epixtech iPac	1	126,500		182,457	Deschutes
Douglas Cty	Epixtech iPac	2	101,300	1,021	182,596	Douglas
Eugene PL	Polaris	1	142,380		295,866	Lane
Klamath Cty	Polaris	1	64,550		128,359	Klamath
Multnomah Cty	Epixtech-iPac	1	670,250		650,000	Multnomah
Totals		**136**	**3,047,408**	**97,077**	**12,211,063**	

Oregon Pop Est. 2002   3,504,700
Total public and non-profit academic libraries: 171

Figure 2

Although this double digit rise is impressive, it is far short of the robust growth of the previous three years (minimum 19 percent per year), which has been due largely to participation in shared systems by Oregon libraries. And Oregon ranks an impressive third in the nation for ILLs (470.65 per 1,000 population), far above the national average of 70.46 per 1,000. Only Rhode Island and Wisconsin make a better showing (National Center for Education Statistics, Public Libraries in the United States: Fiscal Year 2001 Table. A2, p.110 at http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2003399).

A statewide catalog may be achieved more quickly than expected if changing technology and reduced costs allow. But local politics and political concerns may prove more daunting challenges than those of cost and technology. ✺