1) Purpose

Summit is a collaboration of the Front Range GigaPoP (FRGP), a project of the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research (UCAR), and the University of Utah, on behalf of the Utah Education Network (UEN), to establish and to maintain state-of-the-art advanced network connectivity for the universities, long-standing and emerging state education networks, and other affiliated research, development, clinical, and educational organizations in the Intermountain states of Colorado, Idaho, Utah, and Wyoming.

Summit is designed to be a flexible and nimble cooperative with lightweight, engaged governance. Summit’s initial purposes are 1) to aggregate the region’s Internet2 connectivity through Salt Lake City and Denver and 2) to continue and to enhance regional peering. However, over time, Summit also may also support commodity Internet aggregation, connections to other research and education networks (e.g., National LambdaRail, federal R&E networks), experimentation in distributed IT services, and other regional, network-based services and projects as identified.

2) Governance

The collaboration will be governed by the Summit Policy Oversight Committee (SPOC), which will receive technical and operational input from the Summit Technical Operations Committee (STOC).

a) Summit Policy Oversight Committee (SPOC)

i) Scope

The SPOC will have overall responsibility for the collaboration including strategic direction, membership matters, governance, significant capital investments, and major vendor agreements. The SPOC may delegate responsibilities and tasks to the STOC on either an ad hoc or a recurring basis. The majority of the SPOC’s business will be conducted via conference calls and electronic mail. Face-to-face meetings should be scheduled, whenever possible, to leverage existing events in the region such as the biannual Westnet meetings.
ii) Committee Membership

The SPOC will consist of six voting members – usually drawn from VPI Ts and/or CIOs at major research institutions in the region – with an equal geographic balance between the Colorado/Wyoming and Utah/Idaho regions. The SPOC will be co-chaired by representatives from Colorado and Utah (initially, Pat Burns of Colorado State University and Steve Hess of University of Utah). The two co-chairs of the STOC will serve as voting *ex officio* members of the SPOC. The other two initial members of the SPOC will be nominated by FRGP for Colorado/Wyoming and by University of Utah/UEN for Utah/Idaho, respectively. SPOC members will serve two-year terms and may be re-nominated with the provision that they may serve up to three consecutive terms.

b) Summit Technical Operations Committee (STOC)

i) Scope

The STOC will have responsibility for producing technical designs, evaluating vendor options, and overseeing Summit engineering and operations. The majority of the STOC’s business will be conducted via conference calls and electronic mail. Face-to-face meetings should be scheduled, whenever possible, to leverage existing events in the region such as the biannual Westnet meetings.

ii) Committee Membership

The STOC will be co-chaired by representatives from Colorado and Utah (initially, Marla Meehl of UCAR and Steve Corbató of the University of Utah) and will have up to six other members with an equal geographic balance between the Colorado/Wyoming and Utah/Idaho regions. The other six initial members of the STOC will be nominated by FRGP for Colorado/Wyoming and by University of Utah/UEN for Utah/Idaho, respectively. STOC members will serve two-year terms and may be re-nominated with the provision that they may serve up to three consecutive terms.

3) Collaboration Process

a) Collaboration Membership

The two initial members of the Summit collaboration will be the University of Utah (on behalf of UEN) and UCAR (on behalf of FRGP). Additional members may be added by the SPOC under the amendment procedure described below (section 3.d).

b) Quorum and voting
Within the collaboration, we will strive for decisions on a consensus basis, but when necessary, voting will be done on a simple majority basis. A simple majority of Summit committee members will be necessary for establishing a meeting quorum for the purpose of any votes or decisions by consensus.

c) Business relationship

All formal business relationships between the Summit members will be contained in separate agreements(s). Beyond the fees outlined in this agreement(s), the Summit collaboration will have no membership or participation fees.

d) Modifications and amendments to this document

This collaboration framework document may be amended at any time by a supermajority (two-thirds) vote of the SPOC.

e) Term

The agreement will remain in place as long as the contractual arrangement(s) supporting the initial Summit purpose are active. It may be abandoned at any time, however, through a supermajority vote of the SPOC.

f) Name

The formal name of the collaboration will be “Summit: The Mountain West Advanced Networking Cooperative”.

Agreed to on this day: January XX, 2009

UNIVERSITY CORPORATION FOR ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH

UNIVERSITY OF UTAH