FORM 4

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

OMB APPROVAL OMB Number: Estimated average burden hours per response: 0.5

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>Talarico Ernest III</u>						2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol NEWLINK GENETICS CORP [(NLNK)]								Relationship leck all appli X Directo	cable)	g Pers	on(s) to Issu 10% Ow		
(Last) (First) (Middle) C/O NEWLINK GENETICS CORPORATION						3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) 05/12/2017								Officer below)	(give title		Other (s below)	pecify	
2503 SOUTH LOOP DR., SUITE 5100						4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)								6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable					
(Street) AMES	` '		50010											X Form filed by One Reporting Person Form filed by More than One Reporting Person					
(City) (State) (Zip)																			
Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned																			
1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) 2. Transar Date (Month/Date)						Execution Date			, Transaction Dispo		Disposed	rities Acquired (A) or ed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 a		Benefici Owned F	es ally Following	Form	: Direct C Indirect E str. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership	
									Code	,	Amount	(A) oi (D)	Price		saction(s) r. 3 and 4)			Instr. 4)	
Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)															•				
1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deeme Execution if if any (Month/Day	Date,	4. Transa Code (8)		5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		6. Date Exercisal Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year			nd 7. Title and Am of Securities Underlying Derivative Secu (Instr. 3 and 4)		8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number derivative Securities Beneficial Owned Following Reported Transactio (Instr. 4)	lly	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
					Code	v	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable		piration ate	Title	Amount or Number of Shares						
Stock Option (Right to Buy)	\$17.42	05/12/2017			A		13,309		(1)	05	5/11/2027	Common Stock	13,309	\$0	13,309)	D		

Explanation of Responses:

1. Automatic grant to the Reporting Person of a nonstatutory stock option under the Issuer's 2009 Equity Incentive Plan (the "Plan"). One hundred percent (100%) of the shares shall vest on the earlier of (i) the first anniversary of the date of grant and (ii) the date of the first Annual Meeting following the date of grant, in each case subject to the Reporting Person's continuous service as of such date. The option expires ten years after the date of grant.

Remarks:

/s/ Ryan Trytten, attorney-in-

05/16/2017

fact

** Signature of Reporting Person

Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

- * If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).
- ** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.