

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Performance Progress Report

2. Award Or Grant Number

05-50-M09009

4. Report Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

12-19-2011

1. Recipient Name

Connect Arkansas

6. Designated Entity On Behalf Of:

N/A

3. Street Address

200 S. Commerce Street, Suite 400,

8. Final Report?

Yes

No

9. Report Frequency

Quarterly

Semi Annual

Annual

Final

5. City, State, Zip Code

Little Rock, AR 72201

7. Project / Grant Period
Start Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)

09-15-2009

7a. End Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)

09-14-2014

7b. Reporting Period End Date:

12-31-2011

9a. If Other, please describe:

N/A

10. Broadband Mapping

10a. Provider Table

Number of Providers Identified	Number of Providers Contacted	Number of Agreements Reached for Data Sharing	Number of Partial Data Sets Received	Number of Complete Data Sets	Number of Data Sets Verified
78	74	72	24	46	56

10b. Are you submitting the required PROVIDER DATA by using the Excel spreadsheet provided by the SBDD grants office? Yes No

10c. Have you encountered challenges with any providers that indicate they may refuse to participate in this project? Yes No

10d. If so, describe the discussions to date with each of these providers and the current status

74 Providers listed above is based on Parent or Holding Company. 78 when counted by DBA name.

Connect has not had any success in acquiring data from the following companies: 1) Alliance Communications, which has stated several occasions that they are simply too busy to provide the data requested. 2) Black Sheep Computing, Black Sheep has expressed their desire to not participate in the program as they have a "Libertarian business model" 3) HughesNet, after initial commitments to provide coverage data, HughesNet stopped responding to all forms of contact. Connect has not received any reason for HughesNet's sudden refusal to cooperate. Phone calls and emails to all 3 were unreturned for the fall 2011 Data collection. Since the last report Connect has identified the following providers as providing Broadband in the state that were previously unidentified: 1) Wavelinx Wireless, & 2) Batesville Computing; both have agreed to provided data but have not prior to Oct 1st deadline. Connect has recently identified Hightower Communications as a Fixed Wireless provider in Arkansas. Velocity Broadband submitted data past deadline for Oct 1 data submission, but data will be rolled into Spring 2012 data set.

10e. If you are collecting data through other means (e.g. data extraction, extrapolation, etc), please describe your progress to date and the relevant activities to be undertaken in the future

At this time, Connect is not utilizing any additional sources other than the actual broadband providers for collecting broadband coverage data, with exception of HughesNet which is assumed to have coverage statewide as with Wild Blue and Starband. Speeds given for HughesNet are as per providers website. Also for most providers in Arkansas the speeds are from the providers websites if not submitted with coverage data.

10f. Please describe the verification activities you plan to implement

Besides the current activities as described under 10h, we are also planning on using the results of engineering assessments to also confirm Broadband coverage at least in the case of wireline providers. However this method will only be good in the few counties that Connect Arkansas has received funding to do Engineering Assessments.

10g. Have you initiated verification activities? Yes No

10h. If yes, please describe the status of your activities

Connect Arkansas has been using Self Reported Consumer data combined with targeted surveys, FCC form 477 data and speed test data from our website to verify provider coverage data. In addition to these verification methods, Connect has been collecting feedback from the interactive version of our broadband coverage map. Connect Arkansas has also began to drive testing to verify wireless Coverage. This data is compared to coverage information gathered from providers.

10i. If verification activities have not been initiated please provide a projected time line for beginning and completing such activities

N/A

Staffing

10j. How many jobs have been created or retained as a result of this project?

5.90

10k. Is the project currently fully staffed? Yes No

10l. If no, please explain how any lack of staffing may impact the project's time line and when the project will be fully staffed

N/A

10m. When fully staffed, how many full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs do you expect to create or retain as a result of this project?

5.90

10n. Staffing Table

Job Title	FTE %	Date of Hire
GIS Manager	40	08/04/2008
GIS Analyst Specialist 1	100	11/19/2009
GIS Analyst Specialist 2	100	07/05/2011
Community Outreach Leader 1	82	08/16/2010
Community Outreach Leader 2	67	05/16/2010
Compliance Officer	46	11/19/2009
Compliance Analyst	50	02/01/2011
Administrative Assistant 1	20	07/01/2007
President (Management)	28	07/01/2007
Senior Vice President 1 (Management)	8	07/01/2007
Marketing Director (Management)	30	01/05/2010
IT Director (Management)	9	07/01/2007
Human Resources (Management)	5	07/01/2007
Senior Ex. Vice President	2	07/01/2007
Administrative Assistant 2	3	07/01/2007

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Sub Contracts

10o. Subcontracts Table

Name of Subcontractor	Purpose of Subcontract	RFP Issued (Y/N)	Contract Executed (Y/N)	Start Date	End Date	Federal Funds	In-Kind Funds
Arkansas Geographic Information Systems	Will work with 28 counties to develop geographic information system address points statewide	N	Y	12/01/2010	11/30/2013	944,400	571,792
CT&T Communications Consultant	Engineering Assessments	N	N	10/03/2011	09/30/2012	253,000	0

The Gadberry Group	Geo-code, process provider coverage data, build and manage web-based interactive broadband map	N	Y	12/31/2009	12/09/2011	250,000	0
Not selected	Statewide survey for validation	N	N	12/01/2011	03/31/2012	150,000	0
Information Network of Arkansas	County Websites	N	Y	03/01/2011	12/31/2012	104,000	0
University of Arkansas at Little Rock	Surveys	N	Y	01/01/2010	12/21/2010	40,323	0
Not selected, (work done in house)	Facilitation	N	N	09/01/2010	09/30/2011	3,397	0
Not selected	County Broadband adoption, fundraising	N	N	09/01/2011	09/30/2014	68,000	0
Information Network of Arkansas	Annual county website maintenance	N	Y	04/01/2011	02/28/2013	58,800	0
Not selected, (work done in house)	Fixed wireless propagation reports	N	N	07/01/2010	12/31/2010	10,535	0
Aristotle	Website re-development	Y	Y	05/01/2011	08/31/2011	40,000	0
Not selected	Monthly Newsletter distribution	N	N	09/01/2011	09/30/2014	36,000	0
Not selected, (work done in house)	Travel to e-Communities to facilitate mtgs.	N	N	09/15/2009	09/30/2011	6,190	0
The Political Firm	Statewide survey	Y	Y	01/03/2011	02/28/2011	25,000	0
Datamax	Plotter lease	N	Y	09/15/2010	09/30/2014	18,127	0
Not selected	Media Outreach	N	N	01/02/2012	09/30/2014	17,455	0
Not selected	Fixed wireless propagation map	N	N	09/01/2011	08/30/2012	5,400	0
Staffmark	Contractual labor	N	Y	06/01/2011	08/31/2011	8,000	0
Not selected	Data validation	N	N	10/03/2011	12/30/2011	102,741	0
Not selected	Focus Groups to assist with the efforts to educate and promote the use of broadband in rural areas	N	N	10/01/2011	04/30/2012	40,000	0

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Funding

10p. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? \$2,048,144 10q. How much Remains? \$4,127,222

10r. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter? \$780,319 10s. How much Remains? \$763,523

10t. Budget Worksheet

Mapping Budget Element	Federal Funds Granted	Proposed In-Kind	Total Budget	Federal Funds Expended	Matching Funds Expended	Total Funds Expended
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Mapping Budget Element	Federal Funds Granted	Proposed In-Kind	Total Budget	Federal Funds Expended	Matching Funds Expended	Total Funds Expended
Personal Salaries	\$2,114,056	\$370,280	\$2,484,336	\$778,190	\$231,408	\$1,009,598
Personnel Fringe Benefits	\$410,661	\$80,697	\$491,358	\$167,061	\$64,362	\$231,423
Travel	\$49,262	\$16,339	\$65,601	\$10,768	\$16,339	\$27,107
Equipment	\$65,835	\$22,479	\$88,314	\$23,996	\$22,479	\$46,475
Materials / Supplies	\$190,843	\$33,850	\$224,693	\$83,808	\$33,850	\$117,658
Subcontracts Total	\$2,371,045	\$601,065	\$2,972,110	\$639,258	\$271,416	\$910,674
Subcontract #1	\$944,400	\$571,792	\$1,516,192	\$234,741	\$242,143	\$476,884
Subcontract #2	\$253,000	\$0	\$253,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #3	\$250,000	\$0	\$250,000	\$223,000	\$0	\$223,000
Subcontract #4	\$150,000	\$0	\$150,000	\$12,303	\$0	\$12,303
Subcontract #5	\$773,645	\$29,273	\$802,918	\$169,214	\$29,273	\$198,487
Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$645,208	\$378,065	\$1,023,273	\$222,848	\$140,465	\$363,313
Total Direct Costs	\$5,846,910	\$1,502,775	\$7,349,685	\$1,925,929	\$780,319	\$2,706,248
Total Indirect Costs	\$328,456	\$41,067	\$369,523	\$122,215	\$0	\$122,215
Total Costs	\$6,175,366	\$1,543,842	\$7,719,208	\$2,048,144	\$780,319	\$2,828,463
% Of Total	80	20	100	72	28	100

Hardware / Software

10u. Has the project team purchased the software / hardware described in the application? Yes No

10v. If yes, please list

The Connect Arkansas Mapping Team has brought the Interactive Broadband Map for Arkansas in house. Previously Gadberry Group, LLC, hosted the Interactive Map, but the move to bring the Map in house allows for greater flexibility, more control over design, and primarily a better outlook in regards to sustainability. The new interactive map will be online in the first week of February. To facilitate this move, the mapping team is making use of an Amazon EC2 Windows Server instance for maximum availability as well as a license of ESRI ArcServer to manage and serve the data as the users interact with the map. The extended flexibility will allow us to display more items in the future such as Community Anchor Information, Wireless Connectivity Points, and other Demographics that are pertinent to Broadband users in the state of Arkansas.

10w. Please note any software / hardware that has yet to be purchased and explain why it has not been purchased

All equipment has been purchased.

10x. Has the project team purchased or used any data sets? Yes No

10y. If yes, please list

ESRI Internet Usage Survey Data was purchased to be used alongside the MicroBuild Broadband Indicator data obtained from the Gadberry Group, LLC that was purchased in the Q4 2010 quarterly report. Since then Demographic data from data warehouse ACXIOM has been purchased to take an analytical approach to predictive modeling of broadband subscription. We are working with the University of Central Arkansas Math Department to take this approach.

10z. Are there any additional project milestones or information that has not been included? Yes No

10aa. If yes, please list

During this quarter, Data from Fall 2011 was collected from Broadband Providers and submitted to NTIA prior to October 1 deadline. Coverage areas in censusblocks greater than 2 square miles was shown in address point format in areas where address points have

11i. Planning Worksheet

Subcontract #5	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Direct Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Indirect Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
% Of Total	0	0	0	0	0	0

Additional Planning Information

11j. Are there any additional project milestones or information that has not been included?

See the Attached Document title "Connect Arkansas Planning Report 4Q2011" for more details

11k. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the Project Team is employing

See the Attached Document title "Connect Arkansas Planning Report 4Q2011" for more details

11l. Please provide any other information that you think would be useful to NTIA as it assesses your Broadband Mapping Project

None

12. Certification: I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that this report is correct and complete for performance of activities for the purpose set forth in the award documents.

12a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Authorized Certifying Official

Grace Morrissey

12c. Telephone
(area code, number, and extension)

12d. Email Address

gmorrissey@connect-arkansas.org

12b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official

Submitted Electronically

12e. Date Report Submitted
(Month, Day, Year)

02-22-2012