

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**Performance Progress Report**

2. Award Or Grant Number

32-50-M09056

4. Report Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

01-04-2012

1. Recipient Name

Connected Nation, Inc - Nevada

6. Designated Entity On Behalf Of:

Nevada

3. Street Address

1020 College Street, P.O. Box 3448,

8. Final Report?

Yes

No

9. Report Frequency

Quarterly

Semi Annual

Annual

Final

5. City, State, Zip Code

Bowling Green, KY 42102-3448

7. Project / Grant Period

Start Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)

12-20-2009

7a.

End Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)

12-19-2014

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
0	0	0	0	0	0

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

Advanced Communications Integration: The provider was non-responsive during the October 2011 mapping cycle to National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). Thereafter, multiple contact attempts have been made, and as of November 11 the provider remains non-responsive.

Air-Internet, Inc.: The provider was non-responsive during the October 2011 mapping cycle to NTIA. Thereafter, multiple contact attempts have been made, and as of November 4 the provider remains non-responsive.

Pyramid Net: The provider refused to participate during the October 2011 mapping cycle to NTIA. Thereafter, multiple contact attempts have been made, and as of November 4 the provider remains a non-participant.

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

No data has been collected through extraction or extrapolation.

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

Esri is deploying and hosting the BroadbandStat (BBStat) web application. Esri houses the customized BBStat application in their highly available, monitored, and managed environment. The scope of services includes setting up a staging environment for data verification and compatibility as well as a production environment for client access.

Consumer feedback in the form of broadband inquiries is also collected. These inquiries represent any type of communications received from the public regarding broadband service. Once broadband inquiries are received across the state, this information is overlaid with the broadband availability information which was collected through the State Broadband Initiative (SBI) program. This allows for a real-world comparison of the broadband landscape to the information received from broadband inquiries. Broadband inquiries are able to provide three types of information: 1) residents who do not have broadband but want it; 2) residents who have broadband but want a different provider; and 3) residents who do not have broadband, but the broadband inventory maps indicate that they do. If residents within a region state that they are without broadband, but the broadband inventory maps show otherwise, this allows Connected Nation to approach the providers within that area in an effort to trim down their coverage to more accurately represent real-world availability on the ground.

(For more details, please refer to the Q4 Supplemental Answers Document.)

10g. Have you initiated verification activities?  Yes  No

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

BroadbandStat is publicly available on the Connect Nevada website (<http://www.connectnv.org>) and received a total of 507 visits between October 1, 2011 and December 31, 2011.

During this quarter, the Connect Nevada project received a total of 6 broadband inquiries. Additional information received through e-mail from consumers that can also be used for verification purposes totaled 1 for this quarter.

For this reporting period, 84 field verification tests were conducted. Thus far, project staff conducted multiple tests on the following providers: A&J Hardy Enterprises (d.b.a. Comnet Computer Services and Peak Internet Services); Arizona Nevada Tower Corporation; AT&T; Avant Wireless; Baja Broadband LLC; Beehive Telephone Company Inc.; CalNeva Broadband LLC; CC Communications; CenturyLink; Charter Communications; Citizens Telecommunications Company of Nevada (d.b.a. Frontier Communications of Nevada); Clearwire Corporation; Cox Communications; ETAN Industries (d.b.a. Clark Cablevision and CMA Cablevision); Great Basin Internet Services; High Desert Internet Services; High Speed Networks – Mound House LLC; Highlands Wireless Inc.; Hot Spot Broadband Inc.; KeyOn Wireless; Las Vegas Net; Leap Wireless (d.b.a. Cricket License Company LLC); Lincoln County Telephone; Moapa Valley Telephone Company; Mt. Wheeler Power; Oasis Online Inc.; Oregon-Idaho Utilities (d.b.a. Humboldt Telephone Company); Performance Computing Internet; Reliance Connects (d.b.a. Rio Virgin Telephone & Cablevision); Satview Broadband Ltd.; Schatnet Internet LLC; Sprint Nextel; TelePacific Communications (d.b.a. Nextweb); United Cable Management; Vegas Wi-Fi Communications LLC; Verizon Wireless; Wells Rural Electric Telephone; and Yonder Media.

To date, field validation testing has been completed against 38 companies (out of a universe of 56 viable providers) totaling 67.86% within the state.

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?

9.20

Connected Nation has numerous staff working on the Connect Nevada project, some at only a small percentage of their time. This approach is beneficial to the project in various ways: some staff provide necessary project support, many staff work together utilizing a team approach, and others are subject matter experts (SMEs) in their respective areas. The project benefits by leveraging the SMEs' knowledge and skills, without the necessity of supporting a more expensive full-time resource.

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

The position not currently staffed is related to Connect Nevada's local and regional technology team activities that are only just beginning. A candidate for the position has been identified and an offer extended. The position will be filled during Q1 2012.

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

Connect Nevada's FTEs reported for the quarter include 2.04 FTEs for temporary, cyclical consultants and a base of 7.16 FTEs that consistently contribute to the project. There is, however, 1 base FTE position yet to be filled.

This project when fully staffed has a base of 8.16 FTEs.

10n. Staffing Table

Job Title	FTE %	Date of Hire
Associate Counsel	1	09/14/2009
Business Programmer Analyst	2	04/02/2007
CAI Coordinator	19	12/13/2004
CAI Coordinator	58	09/16/2009
CAI Data Analyst	7	03/24/2009
CAI Data Manager	2	08/09/2010

Community Tech Team Specialist	83	10/17/2011
ETS Analyst	2	11/01/2007
ETS Analyst	64	02/08/2010
ETS Manager	3	07/01/2007
ETS Sr. Analyst	3	02/18/2010
General Counsel	3	01/01/2007
GIS Analyst	1	10/19/2009
GIS Analyst	1	11/16/2009
GIS Analyst	5	04/01/2010
GIS Analyst	79	04/01/2010
GIS Services Manager	1	05/15/2007
Outreach & Awareness Manager	9	03/24/2009
Outreach & Awareness Specialist	9	02/02/2009
Outreach & Awareness Specialist	11	01/04/2010
Outreach & Awareness Specialist	15	10/01/2007
Outreach & Awareness Specialist	36	01/04/2010
Program Coordinator	95	05/16/2011
Program Director	11	08/04/2008
Project Coordinator	2	08/01/2008
Project Coordinator	3	04/01/2005
Project Coordinator	7	10/15/2007
Project Management Director	5	12/16/2009
Project Manager	2	01/14/2008
Project Manager	3	01/14/2008
Project Manager	5	12/01/2004
Project Manager	5	09/04/2007
Project Manager	9	09/01/2006
Project Manager	53	08/20/2007
Provider Relations Manager	6	02/17/2005
Research & GIS Analyst	1	05/14/2007
Research Analyst	2	03/22/2010
Research Analyst	2	09/19/2011
Research Analyst	3	06/01/2009

Research Analyst	10	02/01/2010
Research Analyst	60	10/17/2011
Research Analyst	67	02/16/2010
Research Analyst	67	02/16/2010
Research Analyst	68	02/16/2010
Research Manager	7	05/14/2007
State Services Associate	9	12/01/2009
State Services Manager	4	07/01/2007

Add Row

Remove Row

**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
Thoroughbred Research Group	Research Surveys	Y	Y	02/09/2010	02/08/2012	176,850	0
Contract Labor	Contract Labor	N	Y	12/20/2009	12/19/2014	165,628	121,282

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**Funding**

10p. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? \$1,631,589      10q. How much Remains? \$2,361,852

10r. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter? \$384,242      10s. How much Remains? \$683,731

10t. Budget Worksheet

Mapping Budget Element	Federal Funds Granted	Proposed In-Kind	Total Budget	Federal Funds Expended	Matching Funds Expended	Total Funds Expended
Personal Salaries	\$1,225,643	\$272,721	\$1,498,364	\$448,698	\$91,354	\$540,052
Personnel Fringe Benefits	\$262,898	\$0	\$262,898	\$96,300	\$23,957	\$120,257
Travel	\$260,881	\$0	\$260,881	\$73,268	\$1,344	\$74,612
Equipment	\$134,194	\$0	\$134,194	\$69,383	\$0	\$69,383
Materials / Supplies	\$42,431	\$0	\$42,431	\$22,828	\$0	\$22,828
Subcontracts Total	\$802,096	\$75,649	\$877,745	\$358,538	\$121,282	\$479,820
Subcontract #1	\$265,231	\$0	\$265,231	\$176,850	\$0	\$176,850
Subcontract #2	\$477,079	\$75,649	\$552,728	\$165,628	\$121,282	\$286,910
Subcontract #3	\$21,104	\$0	\$21,104	\$7,602	\$0	\$7,602
Subcontract #4	\$38,682	\$0	\$38,682	\$8,458	\$0	\$8,458
Subcontract #5	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$111,699	\$628,571	\$740,270	\$34,183	\$93,047	\$127,230
Total Direct Costs	\$2,839,842	\$976,941	\$3,816,783	\$1,103,198	\$330,984	\$1,434,182
Total Indirect Costs	\$1,153,599	\$91,032	\$1,244,631	\$528,391	\$53,258	\$581,649

Mapping Budget Element	Federal Funds Granted	Proposed In-Kind	Total Budget	Federal Funds Expended	Matching Funds Expended	Total Funds Expended
Total Costs	\$3,993,441	\$1,067,973	\$5,061,414	\$1,631,589	\$384,242	\$2,015,831
% Of Total	79	21	100	81	19	100

### Hardware / Software

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

10v. If yes, please list

Hardware/Software purchases for the project to date include the following:

BroadbandStat - \$60,000

Computers & Software - \$11,211

Spectrum Analyzer - \$4,477

Speed Test Software - \$3,893

GIS Software Maintenance - \$3,035

Google Earth Pro - \$266

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

Remaining purchases may include SQL server for mapping geodatabase, SQL server software, multiple dedicated storage server, security application, additional backup replication solution, computers, a spectrum analyzer, GPS units, interactive map upgrades/ maintenance, ESRI ArchInfo/ArcGIS maintenance, and speed test updates as well as computers and software maintenance.

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

10y. If yes, please list

Connect Nevada received a dataset as part of an in-kind contribution regarding Lyon County Student Records. This dataset provides statistics illustrating the number of parents who have checked on their child's progress via an online system setup and maintained by the school. - \$100

Connect Nevada received a total population for counties, cities, and towns dataset, as part of an in-kind contribution, from the state that will be utilized by the project to assist with its mapping and planning goals. - \$10,592

Connect Nevada received a Age, Sex, race and Hispanic Origin estimates and projections dataset from the state as part of an in-kind match contribution to assist the project with its mapping and planning goals - \$29,332

Connect Nevada received a new road dataset from the Nevada Department of Transportation that will be leveraged to assist in processing the 2010 Census road data. This dataset was received as part of an in-kind contribution. It's value is still being determined.

Connect Nevada obtained a dataset containing Nevada health care Community Anchor Institution (CAI) data. Since the dataset was developed using federal funds, it was not valued nor was it counted as match toward the program.

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

10aa. If yes, please list

Connect Nevada finalized statewide and county broadband service inventory maps from the October 2011 mapping submission to NTIA and updated the interactive map using the new provider datasets. Additionally, 2010 Census Block and road data was processed.

During Q4 2011, Connect Nevada continued gathering data on the location and broadband connectivity of Community Anchor Institutions (CAI), in accordance with the data requirements of the SBI Notice of Funds Availability (NOFA) Technical Appendix. Efforts have been focused on conducting outreach and raising awareness of this important project through a statewide campaign.

Connect Nevada continues to work closely with statewide organization and government agencies, such as the Nevada State Library and Archives and the Nevada Department of Education, to distribute the CAI survey to contacts throughout the state. Efforts during Q4 2011 were focused on increasing connectivity data for libraries (specifically rural libraries) and schools. All data collected as part of this effort will be submitted as part of the April 2012 submission.

We continue to utilize our online survey and raise awareness of the importance of CAI broadband connectivity specifically during Q4 2011 through outreach at the Nevada Broadband Summit. Connect Nevada has an ongoing mission to educate CAI throughout the

state on the importance of participating in the project and continues coordination of these activities through the work of the Nevada Broadband Task Force and its members who represent key CAI sectors throughout the state.

(For more details, please refer to the Q4 Supplemental Answers Document.)

10bb. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the project team is employing  
Connect Nevada was unable to process the 2010 Census road data for Nevada, delaying the creation of the October 2011 unserved density maps and the calculation of availability analysis. Nevada Department of Transportation has sent a new road dataset that is being leveraged to assist in processing the data.

Non-federal match amounts account for 19% of total grant expenditures. This percentage is below the required 20%. Connect Nevada is working with the state of Nevada to obtain and value datasets that have been collected using state resources in order to enhance the value and functionality of the broadband maps. The road data submitted by the state, which is being utilized by the program, has not been valued or counted as match at this time. The program saw a quarterly in-kind percentage of 26% during Q4 2011. Connect Nevada anticipates reaching the 20% required match next quarter because of the aforementioned datasets and additional match from the continued ramp up of local/regional broadband team meetings.

10cc. Please provide any other information that you think would be useful to NTIA as it assesses your Broadband Mapping Project

Connect Nevada maps were published and used to further identify unserved and underserved areas and to help communities plan for expanding service to unserved households: <http://connectnv.org/mapping/>

## 11. Broadband Planning

11a. Please describe progress made against all goals, objectives, and milestones detailed in the approved Project Plan. Be sure to include a description of each major activity / milestone that you plan to complete and your current status

Broadband Capacity Building Milestones Year 2 Quarter 4 per approved Project Plan

Milestone: State broadband program office administration complete. – This milestone was met. The state broadband program coordinator worked extensively developing partnerships locally and regionally and encouraging coordination with other state projects in addition to maintaining the office space contributed by Nevada State Library and Archives. Numerous community meetings were held across the state to assess local broadband need and begin planning for better access, adoption, and use.

Milestone: Meeting of the Year 2 Quarter 4 Nevada Broadband Task Force complete. – This milestone was met. Connect Nevada met with the Nevada Broadband Task Force where National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) project plan deliverables were discussed, updates provided, and broadband planning components of the program were reviewed in detail. Feedback was garnered and next steps identified. Additionally, Connect Nevada unveiled a new interactive website (<http://www.connectnv.org>). Among other benefits, the site provides a medium for sharing blog posts, press releases, and reports.

Broadband Capacity Building Annual Objectives Year 2 per approved Project Plan

Objective: Connect Nevada, in coordination with the Nevada Broadband Task Force, will develop, initiate, and execute a comprehensive and detailed project plan in an effort to successfully meet the objectives of the SBI Grant Program. This plan will outline activities, milestones, and timelines that ultimately will provide the roadmap to the state's vision to participate in the digital economy through the use of broadband and information technology, and pursuant to the joint goals of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and the Broadband Data Improvement Act. – This objective was met.

(For more details, please refer to the Q4 Supplemental Answers Document.)

11b. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the project team is employing  
Broadband Capacity Building  
Nothing to report.

Technical Assistance

Procurement activities took longer than expected which held up peer reviewing of survey results and analyses. At this time, Connected Nation (CN) has identified a potential peer reviewer and talks are underway to come to a mutually acceptable agreement for the scope of work. During the quarter Q1 2012, scope of work will be confirmed and procurement activities will be completed.

Additionally, the Task Force could not meet after release of the 2011 residential and non-adopter surveys and before the end of the quarter due to holiday scheduling conflicts. This delayed development of the research plan for years 3 through 5. The Task Force is set to meet during the quarter Q1 2012.

Local/Regional Technology Planning Teams

Nothing to report.

11c. Does the Project Team anticipate any changes to the project plan for Broadband Planning?  Yes  No

11d. If yes, please describe these anticipated changes. Please note that NTIA will need to approve changes to the Project Plan before they can be implemented

Broadband Capacity Building  
Nothing to report.

Technical Assistance

Peer reviews are expected to be completed during Q1 2012.

Additionally, the research plan for years 3 through 5 will be developed when the Task Force meets during Q1 2012.

Local/Regional Technology Planning Teams

Nothing to report.

**Funding**

11e. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? \$0                      11f. How much Remains? \$0

11g. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter? \$0                      11h. How much Remains? \$0

11i. Planning Worksheet

Personal Salaries	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Personnel Fringe Benefits	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Travel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Materials / Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontracts Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #1	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #2	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #3	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #4	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
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?

No additional project milestones to report.

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

No additional challenges or obstacles to report.

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

The Wired for Success: Nevada Broadband Summit armed State leaders with new tools and connections that will help put broadband expansion plans into motion across Nevada. The state's first-ever broadband summit drew more than a hundred attendees to Dayton Intermediate School in November to focus on job creation and the economic development that comes from expanding broadband access, adoption, and use. <http://www.connectnv.org/broadband-summit>

Genoa Lakes is celebrating new high-speed Internet connection after contacting the Connect Nevada initiative for help. Connect Nevada's Engineering & Technical Services (ETS) staff investigated a flood of requests from Genoa Lakes and helped facilitate a relationship between the community and an interested local broadband provider. Thanks to new broadband connections, many of the professionals who call this community home can now support their business needs from home, which they anticipate will help generate new employment in the region. <http://www.connectnv.org/blog/post/connecting-genoa>

Connect Nevada unveiled a new interactive website to help support the building of Connected Communities across the state. <http://www.connectnv.org/>

#### Technical Assistance

Connect Nevada released a new e-health report on broadband and how online connectivity impacts the cost and availability of quality healthcare services. The report, titled e-Health: Empowering Nevadans Across All Walks of Life, revealed that half of all Nevada's Internet users go online for medical information and help with their health issues. Furthermore, e-Health is a vital tool for Nevadans with disabilities, as approximately 129,000 use the Internet to access e-Health tools, and 38,000 use cell phones or mobile devices. [http://www.connectnv.org/sites/default/files/connected-nation/Nevada/nv\\_ehealth.pdf](http://www.connectnv.org/sites/default/files/connected-nation/Nevada/nv_ehealth.pdf)

(For more details, please refer to the Q4 Supplemental Answers Document.)



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

Bernie Bogle

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

12d. Email Address

bbogle@connectednation.org

12b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official

Submitted Electronically

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

01-30-2012